



BALTIMORE HOUSING

SHEILA DIXON
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO
Executive Director, HABC
Commissioner, HCD

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: October 17, 2008

Re: **City Council Bill 08-0207 Urban Renewal Plan - Uplands (Corrective)**

The Department of Housing and Community Development has reviewed City Council Bill 08-0207, which was introduced for the purpose of amending Ordinance 04-887 to correct, clarify, and conform certain language that was inadvertently omitted.

Ordinance 04-0887 established the Uplands Urban Renewal Plan that authorized the City to redevelop the 52-acre Uplands Apartments site with the intent of developing a new mixed income neighborhood that offers a modern, urban rental and for-sale housing product for families of all income levels. The planned community includes the construction of 1,101 new units, including 481 affordable and market-rate for-sale units as well as replacement housing for those displaced by the closing of the former Uplands complex. To bolster the development and neighborhood revitalization potential of this site, the City negotiated an agreement to acquire the New Psalmist Baptist Church and several properties owned by the church, as well as the "Triangle" parcel at the intersection of Swann Avenue, Old Frederick Road, and Edmondson Avenue. The acquisition of these properties brings the size of the total development site to over 100 acres.

City Council Bill 08-0207 would add to the existing ordinance language that was inadvertently omitted from the Urban Renewal Plan for the purpose of clarifying that property acquired through condemnation or purchase is for urban renewal purposes. Additionally, the bill adds a list of exhibits that includes a land use plan, acquisitions, dispositions, and existing zoning.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 08-0207.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson
Mr. Demaune Millard

