

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Acting Housing Commissioner AK

Date: September 9, 2020

Re: City Council Bill 19-0434 – City Streets - Closing - Air Rights over a Portion of the Public Right of Way of the 200 Block of North Broadway

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0434 for the purpose of condemning and closing the air rights area over a portion of the public right of way of the 200 block of North Broadway, as shown on Plat 306-A-23A in the Office of the Department of Transportation; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, Council Bill 19-0434 would allow for the condemning and closing of certain air rights. Council Bill 19-0434 is a companion bill to Council Bills 19-0433 and 19-0435, collectively allowing for the opening, closing and sale over a portion of the public right-of-way of the 200 Block of North Broadway.

In their meeting of September 4, 2019, the Planning Commission approved an amendment to the Johns Hopkins South of Orleans Planned Unit Development as well as a Final Design Approval for the Skip Viragh Building.

The design of the recently constructed Skip Viragh Building, at 201 North Broadway, requires encroachment into the air rights over the public right of way because it includes a bay of windows that projects over the eastern edge of the 200 block of North Broadway above the second-floor level.

DHCD **has no objection** to the passage of City Council Bill 19-0434.

AK:sm

cc: Mr. Blendy, Nicholas, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*