

Andrew Kleine

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Andrew W. Kleine, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432 City Hall (396-4941)
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill No. 08-0112 – Late-Night Commercial Operations – Licensing

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO

DATE:

Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
C/O Karen Randle
Room 409, City Hall

January 9, 2009

City Council Bill 08-0112 proposes the implementation of a new license to be required to certain late-night commercial operations. The proposed annual fee of \$250 will be charged to all businesses operating in any Residence, Office-Residence, and B-1 and B-2 Business Zoning Districts. The license will be administered by the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals.

Fiscal Impact

- BBMR estimates that about 400 late-night commercial operation businesses will be potentially subject to this new license, generating about \$100,000 of new revenue to the City.
- According to the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals, administering the new license will require the hiring of at least two new zoning officers, at a cost of \$162,500 per year.
- Current and new staff will be required to receive special training in order to administer the annual issuance of this new license, as well as dealing with the application, renewal, appeals and penalties related to its administration. Details about required software and training costs are yet to be defined.

Analysis

- The proposed Late-Night Commercial Operations license will not generate the necessary funds to offset administrative costs. Given the City's challenging budget situation, the City cannot afford to increase expenses that are not fully offset by revenues.

Finance Department Position

The Finance Department does not support Council Bill 08-0112 in its current form. We agree with the proposed policy, but recommend a higher fee, or that a fee analysis study needs to be completed.

Cc: Edward Gallagher
Angela Gibson
Pedro Aponte

Jan. 9/09

