


FROM	NAME & TITLE	William M. Johnson, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE  MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation 417 East Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 14-0382		
TO				

The Honorable President and Members  
of the City Council  
c/o Karen Randle  
Room 400 City Hall

June 25, 2014

I am herein reporting on City Council Resolution 14-0382, Charter Amendment – Minor Privileges. This resolution requests a Charter amendment from the voters of Baltimore City to amend the provisions regulating franchises to authorize the Mayor and City Council to regulate, by local law, minor privileges and the issuance of minor privilege permits; define certain terms; and conform, correct, and clarify related language governing franchises.

DOT respectfully defers to the Department of General Services (DGS) for its position on this Charter amendment.

DOT and DGS jointly requested and support City Council Resolution 14-0377, Charter Amendment - Transfer of Powers and Duties, which transfers the DGS Right of Way Division, including oversight of minor privileges, to DOT. This transfer will include along with it all operations personnel and expertise associated with awarding minor privileges. These personnel are most knowledgeable about the rights, duties and restraints that the law currently imposes over the minor privilege process. They have undertaken substantial efforts to overhaul the minor privilege process, so that these rights may be awarded in a manner that is efficient, consistent, and incentivizes such public interests as ADA compliance and accommodations for bicycles. DOT defers to these subject matter experts for a position on how to best accommodate improvements to the minor privilege process, as it will continue to do if City Council Resolution 14-0377 is ultimately enacted and those same personnel ultimately join the DOT team.

DOT looks forward to continuing to engage with the Council and DGS in any and all subsequent efforts to codify processes concerning how these minor privileges are granted, and to develop a comprehensive process that will ultimately make acquiring minor privileges from the City easier and more efficient.

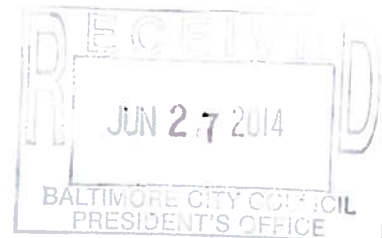
Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,



William M. Johnson  
Director

WMJ/BZ



Defers to  
DGS