

CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

101 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

March 30, 2017

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Attn: Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 17-0008 – Baltimore City Landmark List: Exteriors –  
George W. King/Abraham Briscoe/Bethel Community House

Dear President and City Council Members:

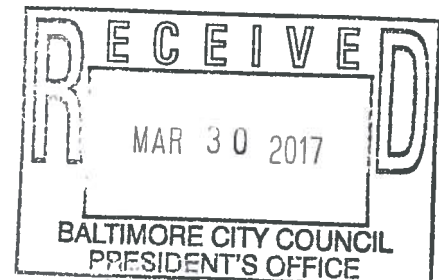
The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 17-0008 for form and legal sufficiency. It would designate the George W. King/Abraham Briscoe/Bethel Community House, 1232 Druid Hill Avenue, as an historical landmark.

An ordinance of the Mayor and City Council is required to add a structure to the “Landmark List: Exteriors.” BCC, Art. 6, §4-2(1). The City Council must refer the bill for written reports and recommendations to the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP), the Planning Commission, and any other agency that the Council President designates. BCC Art. 6, §4-5(a). Section 4-6 of Article 6 sets forth the public notice and hearing requirements. Receipt of the CHAP report is a prerequisite to the holding of a hearing on a bill seeking to add a structure to the “Landmark List: Exteriors” when the bill was not initiated by CHAP, as is the case here. BCC, Art. 6, §4-8(b). However, if CHAP does not submit a report within 100 days of the referral, the Council may proceed to set a hearing on the bill without a CHAP report. BCC, Art. 6, §4-8(c).

CHAP has reviewed this bill and has submitted a report approving the landmark designation. The Planning Commission has also provided a favorable report. Assuming the notice and hearing requirements are satisfied, the Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Landis  
Assistant Solicitor



cc: David Ralph, Acting City Solicitor  
Karen Stokes, Director, Mayor's Office of Government Relations  
Kyron Banks, Mayor's Legislative Liaison  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division  
Victor Tervalo, Chief Solicitor  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor