

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 22-0223
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Costello

Introduced and read first time: April 25, 2022

Assigned to: Economic and Community Development Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Public Works, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Planning, Board of Estimates, Department of Transportation

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

2 **Downtown Management District and Downtown Management Authority**

3 FOR the purpose of renewing and continuing the Downtown Management District and
4 Downtown Management Authority, subject to certain conditions, for an additional 5 years;
5 generally relating to the activities and authority of the Downtown Management District
6 and Downtown Management Authority; and providing for a special effective date.

7 **Recitals**

8 City Code Article 14, Subtitle 1 (the “Enabling Statute”) authorizes the creation of the
9 Downtown Management District (the “District”) and the Downtown Management Authority
10 (the “Authority”), subject to certain terms, conditions, and limitations.

11 Art. 14, § 1-20, provides that, no sooner than 4 years and no later than 5 years from the
12 passage of the Enabling Statute, and periodically after that, the City Council must hold a
13 public hearing to evaluate the activities and undertakings of the Authority and the District.

14 Art. 14, § 1-20, further provides that, at the conclusion of the hearing, the City Council must
15 use the procedures described in Art. 14, § 1-19 to determine whether opposition to
16 continuation of the District exists in excess of certain levels.

17 By Resolution 96-005, Resolution 02-026, Resolution 07-022, Resolution 12-001, and
18 Resolution 17-002, the District and Authority have been renewed and continued for
19 successive 5-year terms, the most recent of these ending June 30, 2022.

20 For purposes of determining whether to again renew and continue the District and the
21 Authority, the City Council has held a hearing, as required by Article 14, § 1-20.

22 The City Council finds that, since its establishment, the Authority has initiated and carried
23 out numerous activities and undertakings in support of the objective of the Enabling Statute,
24 including the implementation of public safety, clean-up, maintenance, streetscape
25 improvements, beautification, and marketing activities and programs. These include:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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- 1 (1) Downtown Baltimore Guides, who patrol the streets every day to check on businesses,
2 assist the public, and provide safety escorts to downtown employees, residents, and
3 visitors;
- 4 (2) Clean Sweep Ambassadors, who remove graffiti, pick up several tons of trash each
5 week, and ensure a clean downtown environment;
- 6 (3) Park Stewards, who improve and oversee Downtown’s major open spaces;
- 7 (4) Supervision of court-mandated community service workers;
- 8 (5) Workforce Development Programs, which provide dozens of trainings and jobs
9 through the Youthworks initiative and to the formerly homeless or incarcerated;
- 10 (6) Homeless and substance abuse outreach in conjunction with the Baltimore Police
11 Department and Baltimore Homeless Services, Inc.;
- 12 (7) Streetscape and beautification programs, park and green-space maintenance, and
13 flower planting and maintenance;
- 14 (8) Capital improvements, including streetscape and infrastructure improvements and
15 remediation of empty City-owned properties;
- 16 (9) Master planning and urban design initiatives, relying on comprehensive demographic
17 data;
- 18 (10) Comprehensive advertising and marketing campaigns promoting Downtown
19 Baltimore as the place to live, work, visit, and invest; and
- 20 (11) General constituent services work.

21 The programs and activities listed above all support the redevelopment of Downtown and
22 address challenges specific to the District.

23 Having evaluated the activities and undertakings of the Authority and the District, the Mayor
24 and City Council believe that further renewal and continuation of the District and the
25 Authority is in the best interests of the City of Baltimore.

26 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That,
27 subject to the Renewal Process described in Section 2 of this Resolution, the District and the
28 Authority are renewed and continued for an additional 5 years, from July 1, 2022, through
29 June 30, 2027. However, the Authority may not impose any taxes or charges, other than those in
30 effect on the date of enactment of this Resolution, until the Renewal Process is completed and
31 certified by the Board of Estimates.

32 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Board of Estimates must use the
33 procedures described in Article 14, § 1-19, to determine whether opposition to continuation of
34 the District exists in excess of the Base Level Protests. If this excess opposition exists, the Board
35 of Estimates must then conduct a referendum, comparable to that described in § 1-19, to
36 determine whether the District should be renewed and continued for another 5 years.

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1 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Resolution takes effect on the date it
2 is enacted.