



# MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE  
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,  
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,  
Executive Director, HAABC  
Commissioner, HCD

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: March 25, 2014

Re: **City Council Bill 14 – 0319 – Franchise – Baltimore Red Line**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 14-0319, which was introduced for the purpose of granting franchise rights to the Mass Transit Administration of the Department of Transportation of the State of Maryland for the location, construction, operation, and maintenance in good condition of a Red Line Light Rail System within the boundaries of the City of Baltimore; setting the terms, conditions, and requirements of the Mayor and City Council pertaining to the location, construction, operation, and maintenance in good condition; authorizing the Mass Transit Administration to make use of streets and other public areas within the City of Baltimore for these purposes, in accordance with the plat, as prepared by the Mass Transit Administration of the Department of Transportation of the State of Maryland and filed with the Department of Transportation of the City of Baltimore on January 13, 2014; and providing for a special effective date.

The Maryland Transit Administration is developing the Red Line Light Rail Transit Project, a 14-mile addition to the current light rail transit system, which will provide connectivity for City residents and visitors needing access to education, housing, and jobs.

City Council Bill 14-0319, if approved, would provide franchise rights from the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to the Maryland Transit Administration for the construction and operation of the Baltimore Red Line Light Rail transit Project within the City of Baltimore.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 14- 0319.

PTG:sd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*  
Ms. Kaliopé Parthemos, *Deputy Chief*

