

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Honorable President and Members of the City Council

Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM:

William H. Cole, President and CE

DATE:

May 27, 2015

SUBJECT:

City Council Bill No. 15-0529

Historical and Architectural Preservation – 50th Anniversary Reauthorization

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is in general support of City Council Bill 15-0529. If passed, the bill will reauthorize the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP), repeal certain obsolete provisions, and replace the "Special List" with a short-lived "Potential-Landmark List."

BDC is interested in whether a tighter deadline to enact a landmark ordinance than the current 365-day limit could be explored, as this would provide greater confidence to affected property owners and allow their projects to move along more expeditiously. BDC is also interested in whether language allowing the Commission to re-propose or reinstate a property for the Potential-Landmark List upon the start of a new 4-year term of office for members of the City Council is necessary, provided that the City Council may pass a resolution to authorize CHAP to do so at any time.

cc:

Colin Tarbert Angela Gibson

sandra.blake/ccbill15/15-0529



