



March 9, 2021

Nick J. Mosby, President  
Baltimore City Council

Sharon Green Middleton, Vice President  
Baltimore City Council

Eric Costello, Chair  
Ways & Means Committee  
Baltimore City Council  
VIA EMAIL

RE: AGAINST CCB 21-0029

Dear Council Members,

On behalf of the Market Center Merchants Association (MCMA), I want to express our opposition to City Council Bill 21-0029 and request that you oppose the bill. The 490% increase in commercial parking facility license fees will be passed on to parking patrons and lead to business and residential departures from downtown Baltimore.

MCMA represents 270+ small, mostly independent businesses on the west side of downtown Baltimore which have suffered from decades of large-scale disinvestment and related loss of resident, employee, and student foot traffic. A dramatic increase in parking fees will cause more residents and businesses to flee, exacerbating the losses of the past several decades and hurting these small businesses that are already struggling to survive the pandemic.

While we understand and support the need for Baltimore to become a more multi-modal city, dramatic increases to parking fees will actually create more vacancies, thereby make walking and bicycling far less palatable.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me at 443-478-3014 or [executivedirector@marketcenterbaltimore.org](mailto:executivedirector@marketcenterbaltimore.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristen Mitchell".

Kristen Mitchell  
Executive Director

MarketCenterBaltimore.org  
443-478-3014  
[Executivedirector@marketcenterbaltimore.org](mailto:Executivedirector@marketcenterbaltimore.org)