




MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM: William H. Cole, President and CEO
Baltimore Development Corporation 

DATE: August 3, 2017

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 17-0092
Morgan State University - Approving Application for Designation as a RISE Zone -
Granting Enhanced Local Property Tax Credit

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) supports City Council Bill 17-0092. If passed, the bill will support the application of Morgan State University (MSU) as a “qualified institution” under the State’s Regional Institutional Enterprise Zone (“RISE Zone Program”), approve and join in the application for designation of a RISE Zone at 1500 Havenwood, and grant an enhanced local property tax credit.

The proposed RISE Zone is the site of the Northwood Shopping Center and abuts Morgan State University’s new West Campus. This campus expansion, a current investment of over \$165 million, has brought additional state-of-the-art educational facilities to this Historically Black College and University (HBCU).

The designation of the RISE Zone and approval of the enhanced property tax credit will help advance the proposed mixed-use redevelopment project of the existing Northwood commercial center, an economic development effort that will bring hundreds of temporary and permanent jobs, increase the tax base, provide more neighborhood retail options and establish a physical connection to the West Campus for students, faculty and visitors.

The BDC supports this resolution and respectfully requests that favorable consideration be given by the City Council for Bill No. 17-0092.

cc: Kyron Banks