



BALTIMORE CITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner 

Date: June 5, 2020

### **Re: City Council Ordinance 20-0502 Woodberry Historic District**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Ordinance 20-0502 for the purpose of designating the area located within certain boundaries as the Woodberry Historic District; providing for Planned Unit Development review by the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation; and providing for a special effective date.

After a series of public hearings, on March 10, 2020, the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) voted unanimously in support of the Bill. At its regular meeting of March 26, 2020, the Planning Commission concurred with the recommendations of its departmental staff and recommended approval of City Council Ordinance 20-0502.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century Woodberry Neighborhood, with its rich mill-village history, once served as a center of commerce for the State, and currently supports a variety of residential and commercial uses. The neighborhood continues to thrive with a number of adaptive reuses of large-scale industrial buildings that support new residential housing and rising small businesses. Designation as a Historic District will provide the opportunity for neighborhood preservation and reinvestment.

DHCD supports the Administration's efforts to designate the area as the Woodberry Historic District. DHCD **supports** the passage of Council Ordinance 20-0502 and recommends that the Ordinance be passed by the City Council.

MB:sm

cc: Mr. Blendy, Nicholas, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*