

CITY OF BALTIMORE MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director
DATE	September 19, 2024
SUBJECT	Fiscal 2025 Supplemental Appropriation - Center Place Extension Project

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 24-0585, Fiscal 2025 Supplemental Appropriation - Center Place Extension Project, the purpose of which is to request approval for a \$2,165,000 Supplemental Appropriation to proceed with the purchase by condemnation of the Fee Simple interest in Block 6990, Lots 1 through 7, Block 6991, Lots 1 through 26, and the bed of Woodhouse Avenue. The funding for this acquisition comes from Baltimore County, which was received on June 14, 2024.

Background

The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and Baltimore County are working together on a project known as the Center Place Extension Project that will provide a new transportation connection between Baltimore City and Historic Dundalk in Baltimore County. The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and Baltimore County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), approved by the Board of Estimates on April 5, 2023, providing for the acquisition of the subject property for the project. Pursuant to Ordinance 24-321 dated March 17, 2024, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore authorized the acquisition by purchase or condemnation of the Fee Simple interest in Block 6990, Lots 1 through 7, Block 6991, Lots 1 through 26 and the bed Woodhouse Avenue needed for the purpose of laying or extending a public road and widening of Ralls Avenue as shown on Plat No. 240-A-56-A in the Office of the Department of Transportation. Based on two independent appraisals for the project, it was determined that the highest fair market value for the acquisition of the properties of interest is \$2,165,000.00.

Funding for the acquisition of the lots in reference has been received from Baltimore County; however, the Fiscal 2025 Adopted Budget does not include an appropriation allowing the disbursement of these funds. This request for a Supplemental creates the appropriation authority to spend the received \$2,165,000 on its intended purpose.

Fiscal Impact

The proposed supplemental creates a Special Fund appropriation that will allow the City to spend these funds. There is no anticipated recurring General Fund impact associated with this project. This action was approved by the Board of Estimates at their August 7th, 2024 meeting.

Conclusion

The supplemental appropriation request of \$2,165,000 intended by this legislation will allow the City execute the acquisition or condemnation of the lots involved in the Center Place Extension Project, which

will provide a new transportation connection between Baltimore City and Historic Dundalk in Baltimore County.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 24-0585.

cc: Michael Mocksten Nina Themelis