



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Bill: 22-0280

Urban Renewal - Johnston Square - Amendment ____

Sponsor: *President – Administration (Department of Housing and Community Development)*

Introduced: *September 19, 2022*

Purpose:

For the purpose of amending the Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston Square to reauthorize the acquisition of properties within the Project Area, to extend the life of the Plan, and to remove certain properties from the list in Appendices A and B; waiving certain content and procedural requirements; making the provisions of this Ordinance severable; providing for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and providing for a special effective date.

Effective: The date of enactment.

Agency Reports

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|---|----------------------|
| City Solicitor | Favorable / Comments |
| Department of Housing and Community Development | Favorable |
| Baltimore Development Corporation | No Objection |
| Department of Public Works | No Objection |
| Department of Transportation | |
| Planning Commission | Favorable |

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|---|--------------------|
| Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation | No Objection |
| Board of Municipal Zoning Appeals | Defers to Planning |

Analysis

Current Law

Article 13 - Housing and Urban Renewal; Section 2-6; Baltimore City Code; (Edition 2000)

Background

Urban Renewal Plans (URP), which are adopted by the Mayor and City Council, set forth redevelopment goals, design guidelines, land use restrictions, as well as authority for property acquisition and disposition. URPs are often used by urban centers to generate financing for community improvements and the creation of jobs and income.

The Maryland Annotated Code requires all Urban Renewal Plans (URPs) that have designated properties for acquisition and disposition that have not yet been acted upon to be expressly confirmed and reauthorized every four years, for the life of the URP. The Johnston Square Urban Renewal Plan was established in 1977 via Ordinance 77-357 and last amended via Ordinance 14-295. Any changes to the URP must be approved by the Mayor and City Council.

Bill 22-0280 proposes to amend the current URP to:

- allow acquisition of certain properties within the project area for an additional four years, which is through and including December 31, 2026; and
- delete certain properties from the Plan;
- allow the Plan to remain in full force and effect through and including December 31, 2026; and
- provide for a special effective date.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Not Available

Information Source(s): Reporting Agencies, Bill 22-0280

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Analysis Date: December 1, 2022

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