



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 1, 2020
TO: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee
FROM: Colin Tarbert, President & CEO
POSITION: Support
SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 20-0537 – Sale of Property – 3200 East Biddle Street

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is reporting on City Council Bill No. 20-0537, Sale of Property – 3200 East Biddle Street, introduced by The Council President.

PURPOSE

This Bill authorizes the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property known as 3200 East Biddle Street (Ward 26, Section 20, Block 6150A, Lot 004) and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

BRIEF HISTORY

At the request of the community and on behalf of the City of Baltimore, BDC acquired 3200 E. Biddle Street, formerly Ainsworth Paint Factory, and entered into the Voluntary Cleanup Program with the Maryland Department of the Environment. Buildings on the property were demolished by BDC, while underground storage tanks and pipes remain for remediation by a developer. The property is fenced, secured and has been vacant since demolition. Neither the City of Baltimore nor the BDC intended to develop the site for City use. BDC issued a RFP for the site and received a single proposal from a Baltimore City-based, minority owned business that would use the property to expand their operations. With the passage of this Sales Ordinance, BDC will enter into a land disposition agreement with the local business to dispose of the property on behalf of the City of Baltimore and return this property to productive use.

FISCAL IMPACT

Positive. Sale of the property will relieve the City (and BDC) from any obligation for the ongoing maintenance and security of the property, in addition to having the broader benefit of returning the property to the tax rolls.

AGENCY POSITION

The BDC supports City Council Bill No. 20-0537.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kim Clark at 410-837-9305 or kclark@baltimoredevelopment.com

cc: Nicholas Blendy

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