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|-------------|-----------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>FROM</b> | NAME & TITLE          | David E. Scott, P.E., Director                                   | CITY of<br><b>BALTIMORE</b><br><b>MEMO</b> |  |
|             | AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS | Department of Public Works<br>600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building |  |   |
|             | SUBJECT               | <b>CITY COUNCIL BILL 08-0235</b>                                 |  |   |

DATE: February 12, 2009

**TO**

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Karen Randle  
Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 08-0235 introduced by Council President Rawlings Blake on behalf of the Administration (Department of Public Works).

The purpose of the Bill is to condemn and close Diamond Street, extending from Fayette Street, northerly 220.2 feet, more or less, to Shad Alley, as shown on Plat 346-A-63A in the Office of the Department of Public Works.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is developing graduate student housing on properties adjacent to and on either side of the 100 block of Diamond Street. UMB would like to close and purchase Diamond Street, from West Fayette Street to the south property line of 121 North Greene Street (south of Shad Alley), to provide control of and safe access to the newly constructed and renovated graduate student housing structures. Diamond Street would still be accessible by the public from West Lexington Street to Shad Alley. Shad Alley would continue to provide access to Diamond Street, from the end of the proposed closed portion of Diamond Street, west to Greene Street.

City Council Bill 08-0235 and companion legislation (City Council Bills 08-0234 and 08-0236), if approved, would open and close a portion of Diamond Street to public use and authorize its sale. The portion of right-of-way to be closed to public use is located perpendicular to and between West Fayette Street and Shad Alley, and measures approximately 20 feet wide by 220.2 feet long. City-owned utilities not to be abandoned or relocated are protected in Sections 3 and 4 of the legislation.

Based on these findings, the Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 08-0235.

  
David E. Scott, P.E.  
Director

DES/MMC:pat

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