
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON, CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

January 6, 2026

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 25-0102 – Charles Village Community Benefits District and Authority

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 25-0102 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would renew and continue the Charles Village Community Benefits District and Management Authority. It also requires the Mayor and City Council to review the continuation of the District and the Authority in December 2029. The bill takes effect 30 days after the date it is enacted.

The District and its Authority were created by Ordinance 94-414 pursuant to authorization from the Maryland General Assembly that allowed the City to create community benefits districts. *See* 1994 Md. Laws ch. 732. In 1997, the General Assembly passed a law requiring that it reauthorize community benefits districts every four years, but in 2000, it transferred the reauthorization function to the Mayor and City Council. *See* 1997 Md. Laws ch. 655; 2000 Md. Laws ch. 89; *see also* 2000 Md. 16 Laws ch. 475; 2018 Md. Laws chs. 226 and 227. This reauthorization requirement has been codified in Section 6-16 of Article 14 of the City Code. *See also* City Charter, Art. II, §(63)(h)(1)(i). In 2022, by Ordinance 22-141, the Mayor and City Council again continued the District and its Authority through June 30, 2026.

City Council Bill 25-0102 is the required reauthorization of the Charles Village Community Benefits District and Management Authority pursuant to Section 6-16 of Article 14 of the City Code. Accordingly, the Law Department can approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Desiree Luckey

Assistant Solicitor

Cc: Ebony Thompson, City Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Jeff Hochstetler, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
Michele Toth, Assistant Solicitor