


FROM	NAME & TITLE	William Vondrasek, Acting Director <i>W Vondrasek</i>	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Baltimore City Recreation & Parks 3001 East Drive		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #16-0671 / Port Covington Special Taxing District		

DATE: July 26, 2016

TO The Honorable President and Members of Baltimore City Council, Room 400, Baltimore City Hall

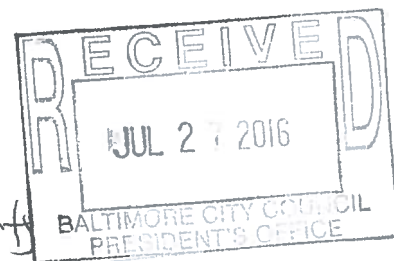
With respect to Bill #16-0671: "AN ORDINANCE FOR the purpose of designating a "special taxing district" to be known as the "Port Covington Special Taxing District"..." the Baltimore City Recreation & Parks Department supports the legislation #16-0671, establishing the "Port Covington Special Taxing District", with the understanding that the dedication and development of public parks, plazas and multi-use recreational trails are important components of public "infrastructure" and will be important quality of life, environmental and economic contributors to the success of the "Project". Exhibit 4 of the legislation: "Special Tax Allocation Report" by Muncip Inc dated May 6, 2016, supports this goal, listing a proposed series of parks, public open space and trails projects whose implementation is valued at almost \$160M dollars. Most of these proposed projects appear to be funded at a level which will allow for high quality spaces and amenities.

Expectations for the level of maintenance for these intensely developed, high quality parks and recreational facilities may exceed that which the Department can provide at current funding levels, so consideration will need to be given to alternative or supplementary arrangements.

In addition, the open space projects at Port Covington will become benchmark projects and it is likely they will spur community calls for upgrades in Recreation and Parks services and facilities elsewhere in the City.

While the Department has not been involved in the preparation of the conceptual plans and cost estimates included in the appended Exhibit 4 report, it would expect to be consulted throughout the process of planning and development of these park and recreation amenities and approve final development and operational plans.

- cc Angela Gibson, Liaison to City Council
- Colin Tarbert, Deputy Mayor for Economic and Neighborhood Development
- Tom Jeannetta, Chief of Parks
- Paul Taylor, Chief of Capital Development & Planning



Fav w/ comments