

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Honorable President and Members of the City Council

Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM:

William H. Cole, President and CEO

DATE:

April 13, 2015

SUBJECT:

City Council Bill No. 15-0505

Rezoning - 5601 Eastern Avenue

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill No. 15-0505, an ordinance for the purpose of changing the zoning for the property known as 5601 Eastern Avenue, from the M-3 Zoning District to the B-2-3 Zoning District. The proposed amendment is required for the creation of a proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) at the former Pemco International Site, located at 5601 Eastern Avenue.

Once completed, the formerly vacant 20-acre site will include a mixed-use residential, retail and hotel development. BDC has had the opportunity to meet with the Development Team on numerous occasions to provide input and feedback which is reflected in the proposed PUD (City Council Bill 15-0506). Additionally, BDC understands there has been an extensive community outreach effort for the Project and that the proposed PUD has gained support from organizations such as Greater Greektown Neighborhood Alliance, the Greektown Community Development Corp and Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

The Project will create a thriving and vibrant community with high-caliber retail offerings. In addition, the Project will activate a vacant stretch of Eastern Avenue and provide much needed amenities for the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and surrounding community. These types of projects are crucial for the advancement and growth of this City. They serve as a catalyst to attract and retain residents, create jobs and support economic growth.

BDC has reviewed the Bill and supports the proposed ordinance and is respectfully requesting that Bill No. 15-0505 be given favorable consideration by the City Council.

cc: Colin Tarbert Angela Gibson APR 2 2 2015

BALTIMORE CITY COCATOIL
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

sandra.blake/ccbill15/15-0505