CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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September 20, 2024

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

Re: City Council Bill 24-0585 – Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –

M-R: Miscellaneous General Expenses – \$2,165,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 24-0585 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$2,165,000.00 to M-R: Miscellaneous General Expenses – Service 122 (Miscellaneous General Expenses), Project Fund 6000-SPC006011-RC0609 (SI002046 - Baltimore County – Center Place Road Extension Project), to provide funding for the purchase of real property. The money for this supplementary appropriation is from a grant from Baltimore County in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty when the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated. The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and Baltimore County are working together on a project known as the Center Place Extension Project to provide a new transportation connection between Baltimore City and Historic Dundalk in Baltimore County. Under an MOU with Baltimore County, the City will oversee the real estate transaction associated with the project. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

City Charter Art. VI, § 8(b)(2)(ii) provides:

Grants from private or governmental sources that could not be expected with reasonable certainty at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates may be made available to the appropriate municipal agency for expenditure by a supplementary appropriation ordinance recommended to the City Council by the Board of Estimates, duly passed by the City Council by a majority vote of its members and approved by the Mayor.

The ordinance must identify the source of the funds and may only involve a "single program, purpose, activity or project." City Charter, Art. VI, § 8(c). Council Bill 24-0585 satisfies these requirements. The Law Department approves this bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

Michele Toth Assistant Solicitor

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cc: Ebony Thompson

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