



BALTIMORE HOUSING

SHEILA DIXON
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO
Executive Director, HABC
Commissioner, HCD

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: January 11, 2010

Re: **City Council Bill 09-0412 - Zoning - Cell Towers**

The Department of Housing and Community Development has reviewed City Council Bill 09-0412, which was introduced for the purpose of requiring that conditional use applications for antenna towers, microwave relay towers, and similar installations for communications transmission or receiving be referred to the Historical and Architectural Preservation Division, Department of Planning.

This proposed legislation represents a positive and proactive step to assure that the placement of various transmission towers remain in compliance with historic and architectural preservation requirements. The key benefit of the bill is that the review occurs *prior* to the approval of the conditional use rather than after the fact in which it may be too late to make a modification to the design and placement of the tower.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 09-0412 with the amendment proposed by the Planning Department.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Ms. Diane Hutchins, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Mr. Andrew Frank, *First Deputy Mayor*

