

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Rudolph S. Chow, P.E. Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 19-0398		

July 9, 2019

TO:

Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

INTRODUCTION

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 19-0398 introduced by Council President Scott and Council Member Bullock on behalf of the University of Maryland Baltimore, UMB Health Sciences Research Park Corporation, and BioPark Fremont LLC.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the Urban Renewal Plan for Poppleton to modify the boundaries of the Renewal Plan to remove certain properties, revise certain exhibits to the Plan to reflect the change in boundaries and to delete a certain exhibit, and to conform, clarify, or correct certain references in the Plan; waive certain content and procedural requirements; make the provisions of this Ordinance severable; provide for the application of the Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and provide for a special effective date.

BRIEF HISTORY

Ordinance 75-837 established the Urban Renewal Plan for Poppleton and was last amended by Ordinance 18-184. The area of the Plan is generally bounded by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Carey Street, West Mulberry Street, and West Pratt Street. Ordinance 03-605 amended the Urban Renewal Plan for Poppleton to make provisions and controls of the University of Maryland BioPark Planned Unit Development (PUD) the controlling land use document for the area known as Disposition Lot 33, the area proposed for biomedical research development. The main campus of the University of Maryland Baltimore is located directly across from the Poppleton area, along the east side of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The PUD extended the campus to the west side of the Boulevard for the biopark development. Ordinance 18-184 reauthorized the Urban Renewal Plan's power of acquisition and condemnation until December 31, 2022 so that these actions would legally continue in compliance with § 12-105.1 of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

FISCAL IMPACT

City Council Bill 19-0398, if approved, would realign the Urban Renewal boundaries to remove properties roughly bounded by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to the east; Fayette Street and Fairmount Avenue to the north; Schroeder Street to the west; and Lombard Street to the south. Exhibits would be modified to support these changes. Companion legislation would change the R-8 zoning designation for certain properties to BSC (City Council Bill 19-0399) and would repeal the University of Maryland BioPark PUD (City Council Bill 19-0397).

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AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION

The Department of Public Works has no objection to the passage of City Council Bill 19-0398, but recommends that a technical correction be made on page 1, line 17 to correctly identify the last amending ordinance as 18-184, rather than 18-243 (the original bill number).

Should the Committee have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Marcia Collins at 410-396-1960, or via email at Marcia.Collins@baltimorecity.gov .



Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.
Director

RSC:MMC