

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

November 6, 2009

The Honorable President and
Members of the Baltimore
City Council
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary
409 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202

RE: City Council Bill 09-0410 – Urban Renewal –Carroll Camden-Amendment

Dear President and Members

You have requested the advice of the Law Department regarding City Council Bill 09-0410. City Council Bill 410 amends the Carroll Camden Urban Renewal Plan to revise an exhibit to reflect the disposition changes in the Plan. The ordinance also waives certain content and procedural requirements, makes the provisions of the ordinance severable, provides for the application of the ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances and provides for a special effective date.

Art.13, Section 2-6 of the Baltimore City Code provides that an Urban Renewal Plan becomes effective “on approval by the Director of Planning, as required by subsection (c) of this section, and the enactment of an appropriate ordinance.” Amending an Urban Renewal Plan also requires approval by an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council. An ordinance seeking to amend a Renewal Plan must be adopted and approved in the same manner as the adoption and approval of a new Renewal Plan. If, however, the Planning Commission determines that the proposed amendment is a technical correction or a minor modification that would not substantially affect the Plan or the size, use, or disposition of any property subject to the Plan, the proposed amendment need not be posted or advertised as otherwise required. When an amendment is proposed by a Councilmember, Sec2-6(h) requires that the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Department of Planning review any amendments to an Urban Renewal Plan for compliance with certain criteria.

Accordingly, to revise an exhibit to reflect disposition changes in the Carroll Camden Urban Renewal Plan, City Council legislation is required. Since the Planning Department and the Department of Housing have reviewed the amendment and approve it, the bill will proceed for



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approval and adoption in the same manner as the original Urban Renewal Plan. The Law Department, therefore, approves City Council Bill 09-0410 for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,



Ashlea H. Brown
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison
George A. Nilson, City Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor
Minda Goldberg, Assistant Solicitor

