

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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

January 19, 2016

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

Re: City Council Bill 15-0595 – City Streets – Closing – Baylis Street

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 15-0595 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would allow the City to condemn and close Baylis Street from Boston Street to the CSX right-of-way as described in the bill. Although the street bed was previously conveyed to a private owner, the current owner will be granting the Mayor and City Council an easement over the property for utilities as described in the bill. Additionally, the bill expressly reserves the rights the Mayor and City Council has in the structures located under the street bed, including access rights.

Section (34) of Article II of the City Charter grants the Mayor and City Council the power to “construct, open, extend, widen, straighten or close streets, bridges, tunnels or approaches to them and other public ways of every kind within the bounds of the City.” Section 166(b)(2) of Article VII of the City Charter requires the Department of Transportation to prepare all ordinances for the opening and closing of streets.

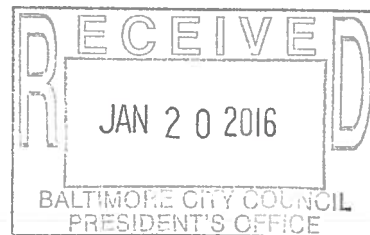
As this bill meets with the applicable sections of the Charter, the Law Department approves it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hilary Ruley".

Hilary Ruley
Chief Solicitor

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cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor
Jennifer Landis, Assistant Solicitor