

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BOARD OF ESTIMATES

Room 204, City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
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STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE
PRESIDENT, CITY COUNCIL

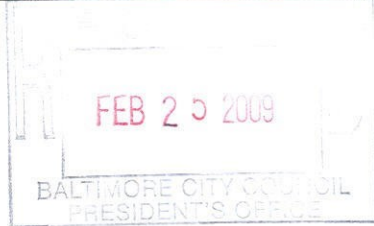
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DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
AND CLERK TO THE BOARD



February 25, 2009

Honorable President and Members
of the City Council

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On February 25, 2009 the Board had before it for consideration the following Pending City Council Bills:

08-0236 - An Ordinance concerning Sale of Property - the Former Bed of Diamond Street for the purpose authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all of its interest in a certain parcel of land known as the former bed of Diamond Street, extending from Fayette Street, northernly 195.2 feet, more or less, and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

ALL REPORTS RECEIVED WERE FAVORABLE. THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUPPORTS BILL NO. 08-0236 PROVIDED THE COMPANION OPENING AND CLOSING ORDINANCES (BILL NOS. 08-0234 AND 08-0235) ARE APPROVED.

08-0239 - An Ordinance concerning Sale of Property - the Former Beds of 2 10-Foot Alleys for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain parcels of land known as the former beds of (1) a 10-foot alley laid out in the rear of the properties formerly known as Nos. 2203 and 2227 North Howard Street and (2) a 10-foot alley laid out contiguous to the north outline of the property known as No. 2214 Mace Street and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.



CITY COUNCIL BILLS - cont'd

ALL REPORTS RECEIVED WERE FAVORABLE. THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUPPORTS BILL NO. 08-0239 PROVIDED THE COMPANION OPENING AND CLOSING ORDINANCES (BILL NOS. 08-0237 AND 08-0238) ARE APPROVED.

08-0242 - An Ordinance concerning Sale of Property - Subterranean Rights Under Pleasant Street for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in a certain parcel of land known as the subterranean rights under Pleasant Street, 23.35 feet east of St. Paul Place and extending Easterly 26.00 feet and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

ALL REPORTS RECEIVED WERE FAVORABLE. THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUPPORTS BILL NO. 08-0242 PROVIDED THE COMPANION OPENING AND CLOSING ORDINANCES (BILL NOS. 08-0240 AND 08-0241) ARE APPROVED.

09-0263 - An Ordinance concerning Tax Credits - Historic Restorations and Rehabilitations for the purpose of extending the period within which applications may be accepted for the tax credit for historic restorations and rehabilitations; and providing for a special effective date.

ALL REPORTS RECEIVED WERE FAVORABLE. THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL NOTING THAT THE HISTORIC TAX CREDIT HAS HELPED TO SPUR DESIRABLE DEVELOPMENT IN BALTIMORE, AND THE STATE HAS GRANTED THE CITY AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE THE PROGRAM. IN LIGHT OF THESE FACTS, AND DESPITE THE CONCERN ABOUT THE COST OF THE CREDIT IN DIFFICULT BUDGET TIMES, THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT OPPOSE THE SUNSET EXTENSION PROPOSED BY CITY COUNCIL BILL 09-0263. THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ASSESS THE COST AND BENEFITS OF THE CITY'S TAX EXPENDITURES AND ADVISE THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF ITS FINDINGS.

CITY COUNCIL BILLS - cont'd

After NOTING AND CONCURRING in all favorable reports received, the Board approved the Bills and referred them to the City Council with the recommendation that they be approved and passed by that Honorable Body.

The President ABSTAINED from voting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bernice H. Taylor", written over a horizontal line.

Bernice H. Taylor
Clerk to the Board of Estimates

BHT/amq