


FROM	NAME & TITLE	David E. Scott, P.E., Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 09-0299		

TO

DATE: April 30, 2009

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 - City Hall

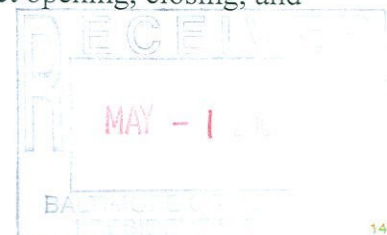
I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 09-0299 introduced by Council President Rawlings Blake on behalf of the Administration (Department of Public Works).

The purpose of the Bill is to condemn and close Hunter Street, from the north side of a 10-foot alley, laid out in the rear of the properties known as 210 through 218/220-222 East Preston Street, northerly 94.1 feet, more or less, to the south side of a 7-foot alley, laid out in the rear of the properties known as 209 through 217 East Mount Royal Avenue, as shown on Plat 338-A-21A in the Office of the Department of Public Works.

Printer's Square Apartments, LLC owns the buildings known as 1310 Guilford Avenue and 1300/1314 Hunter Street. These buildings have been renovated as rental apartment buildings. Two elevated and enclosed multi-story bridgeways, built over Hunter Street, connect these two buildings and are authorized to be used and maintained by Printer's Square Apartments, LLC (Ordinances 05-31 and 05-32). Printer's Square Apartments, LLC is requesting to open and close a portion of the 1300 block of Hunter Street, located perpendicular to and between a 10-foot alley and a 7-foot alley. If approved for closure, Printer's Square would like to purchase the former street bed to create a secure, private courtyard between the two apartment buildings. This portion of right-of-way primarily provides access to the apartment buildings' residents and to the buildings' dumpsters. Purchase of the street bed would also allow Printer's Square to consolidate their lots bordering this portion of Hunter Street.

City Council Bill 09-0299, if approved, would condemn and close an approximately 20 foot wide by 94.1 foot long portion of Hunter Street right-of-way to public use. Any City-owned utilities not to be abandoned or relocated are protected under Sections 3 and 4 of the legislation. Companion legislation would condemn and open Hunter Street to public use and authorize its sale (City Council Bills 09-0298 and 09-0300, respectively).

Should this ordinance and companion ordinances be approved, the franchise ordinances which grant authority to Printer's Square to maintain and use the connecting elevated bridgeways would no longer be required. City Council Bills will be introduced to extinguish these franchise ordinances, contingent upon approval of the Hunter Street opening, closing, and sales ordinances.



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Based on these findings, the Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council
Bill 09-0299.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

David E. Scott, P.E.
Director

DES/MMC:pat

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