


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Beth Strommen, Manager, Office of Sustainability <i>BJS</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Planning Room 800, 417 E. Fayette Street		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #09-0323 – Conservation Land		

TO

President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
And Members of the City Council

DATE:
June 4, 2009

Please be advised of the following comments offered on behalf of the Baltimore Commission on Sustainability (CoS) in support Bill #09-0323.

The intent of this bill addresses the following goals of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan as approved by City Council on March 2, 2009:

- Cleanliness Goal #3: Transform vacant lots from liabilities to assets that provide social and environmental benefits;
- Greening Goal #3: Provide safe, well-maintained public recreational space within a ¼ mile of all residents; and
- Greening Goal #4: Protect Baltimore’s ecology and bio-diversity.

There are numerous examples of community managed open space throughout Baltimore that have been adopted and rehabilitated for recreation, food production, and other environmentally beneficial uses. This bill would assist these community groups by safeguarding their ability to retain these assets.

Given that this legislation would further the goals of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan, the CoS voted to recommend approval of City Council Bill #09-0323 at the May 4th 2009 meeting.

CC: Cheryl Casciani, Chair, Sustainability Commission
Andrew Frank, Deputy Mayor
Angela Gibson, Mayor’s Office
Thomas J. Stosur, Department of Planning
Sarah Zaleski, Office of Sustainability

