



# MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE  
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,  
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,  
Executive Director, DHCD  
Commissioner, HCD

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: February 9, 2011

Re: **City Council Bill 11-0646 - Urban Renewal - Oliver - Amendment** \_

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 11-0646, which was introduced for the purpose of amending the Urban Renewal Plan for Oliver to reauthorize the acquisition of properties within the Project Area and to correct and clarify certain language; waiving certain content and procedural requirements; making the provisions of this Ordinance severable; providing for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and providing for a special effective date.

An amendment to the Urban Renewal Plan for Oliver is necessary to reauthorize the Plan's powers of acquisition and condemnation so that these actions may legally continue, in compliance with § 12-105.1 of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Without this reauthorization, the authority to acquire property under the Plan will terminate on July 1, 2011. In addition to obtaining the reauthorization of general acquisition authority of the properties already located within the existing land disposition map, the proposed legislation would also further clarify the City's ability to acquire adjacent streets or alleys that abut or are adjacent to these properties including all rights, title and interest or any private rights of use.

The City has already acquired 134 properties in the Oliver neighborhood, bounded by Hoffman (north), N. Caroline (west), E Chase (south), and Broadway (east) in support of a BUILD/TRF development for a mix of new construction and rehab homes for affordable homeownership. TRF Development Partners, Inc. is a non-profit subsidiary of The Reinvestment Fund, a Pennsylvania-based company. TRF has partnered with BUILD to create a revitalized neighborhood using a home-ownership strategy.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 11-0646.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*  
Ms. Kaliop Parthemous, *Deputy Mayor*

