Zoning

CITY of BALTIMORE

MEMO



TO

DATE:

March 27, 2013

The Honorable President and Members of City Council City Hall 4th floor 100 N. Holliday Street

Please be advised of the following comments offered on behalf of the Baltimore Commission on Sustainability (CoS). The CoS has reviewed the **City Council Bill # 12-0152** TransForm Baltimore - Zoning and is offering the following comments.

The intent of this bill is to establish a new Zoning Code for the City of Baltimore - modifying the laws governing the agencies and officials who administer the City's zoning processes providing for the respective powers and duties of these agencies and officials; establishing new zoning districts for the City, including Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Open Space, Environmental, Special Purpose, and Overlay Districts; adopting maps and profiles for the various districts; establishing use regulations for various districts, including permitted uses, conditional uses, and prohibited uses; establishing off-street-parking requirements, sign regulations, and other regulations for various districts; requiring special reviews for certain proposed developments, including site plan review, environmentally sensitive areas review, design review, and landscape review; providing for the establishment and regulation of planned unit developments; providing for conditional uses (special exceptions), variances, and other modifications or approvals; defining certain terms; establishing certain rules of construction; prohibiting certain conduct; establishing enforcement procedures, including civil and criminal penalties; conforming crossreferences in other articles; correcting, clarifying, and conforming related provisions; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to zoning and development laws of the City of Baltimore.

The Commission on Sustainability has been briefed by Planning Department staff, and has worked with Office of Sustainability staff to ensure that sustainability has been adequately addressed in the new code. The new code addresses the all of the chapters and goals of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan as approved by City Council on March 2, 2009.

On March 26, 2013, the Commission on Sustainability called a vote regarding this legislation. Support In-Favor: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

It was the consensus of the Commission on Sustainability to support City Council Bill # 12-0152.

CC:

Alexander M. Sanchez, Chief of Staff Kaliope Parthemos, Mayor's Office Angela Gibson, Mayor's Office Karen Randle, Council Services Larry Greene, Council Services Thomas J. Stosur, Department of Planning

