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STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE,

To:

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council

c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T Graziano, Commissioner

Date:

November 3, 2011

Re:

City Council Bill 11-0784 - City Streets - Certain Streets and Alleys Bounded by Poppleton

Street, Fayette Street, Fremont Avenue, and Baltimore Street

The Department of Housing and Community Development has reviewed City Council Bill 11-0784, which was introduced for the purpose of condemning and opening certain streets and alleys bounded by Poppleton Street, Fayette Street, Fremont Avenue, and Baltimore Street, as shown on Plat 341-A-44 in the Office of the Department of General Services; and providing for a special effective date.

In 2003, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore enacted an ordinance to have certain properties known as 800-946 West Baltimore Street, 803-927 and 802-812 West Fairmount Avenue, 3-15 and 6-16 north Poppleton Street, 4-12 North Fremont Avenue, 3-11 North Schroeder Street, 3-15 North Amity Street, and 801 West Fayette street—designated at Business Planned Unit Development (PUD) and approved a development plan. This PUD, immediately west of the University of Maryland Baltimore on the westerly side of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, were part of what has become the BioPark facilities for the campus.

Earlier this year, the Mayor and City Council enacted Ordinance 11-0697, which repealed the old development plan and approved a new plan, which expanded the boundaries of the PUD to include 72 additional properties and two open-space areas along the north and south sides of Baltimore Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. Among other things, this new development plan included plans for a new Proton Therapy Center.

This bill, along with companion legislation closing (City Council Bill 11-0785) the subject properties, would consolidate the parcels—former rights-of-way—which will ultimately be sold via legislation (City Council Bill 11-0786) to the developer of the Proton Therapy Center in the BioPark campus, an advanced technology cancer treatment center that will be the first in the Baltimore/Washington D.C. region. The \$200 million facility will include a hotel to accommodate patients who will require extended stays for

The Department of Housing and Community Development has no objection to the adoption of City Council Bill 11-0784.

PTG:nb

cc:

Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

Ms. Kaliope Parthemos, Deputy Mayor