
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

EBONY M. THOMPSON, ACTING CITY SOLICITOR
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

October 11, 2024

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 24-0593 – Revenue Obligations – Water Projects – Repeal and Replace

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 24-0593 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would repeal and replace Ordinance 24-362 (City Council Bill 24-0482) enacted in January 2024 due to clerical errors in the prior Ordinance.

Revenue bonds and obligations are authorized by Section (50) of Article II of the City Charter, which contains the City's home rule powers enacted by the General Assembly. *See, e.g., Kimball-Tyler Co. v. Baltimore*, 214 Md. 86, 94 (1957); 87 Op. Atty Gen. Md. 187, 191, n. 8 (2002). The debt is secured by revenues "arising in connection with the property, facilities, developments and improvements whose financing is undertaken," which can include refunding obligations. City Charter, Art. II, § (50)(a).

The Charter permits the City to authorize this funding by enactment of an ordinance that can provide any details about the bonds, including issuance and sale, as well as empowering the Board of Finance to permit or carry out any functions related to the bonds. City Charter, Art. II, § (50)(b). Since this bill complies with these requirements, the Law Department can approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hilary Ruley".

Hilary Ruley
Chief Solicitor

cc: Ebony M. Thompson, Acting City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Assistant Solicitor
Desiree Lucky, Assistant Solicitor