

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor

BOARD OF MUNICIPAL AND
ZONING APPEALSDAVID C. TANNER, Executive Director
417 E. Fayette Street, Room 1432
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

March 8, 2010

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall

Re: City Council Bill # 09-0429 – Required Parking for Bicycles

Ladies and Gentlemen:

City Council Bill # 09-0429 has been referred by your honorable body to the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals for study and report.

The purpose of this legislation is to require certain new or expanded structures, premises, and uses to provide bicycle parking that meets certain standards; requiring certain employers to provide their employees with bicycle parking that meets certain standards; defining and redefining certain terms; imposing certain penalties; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to required parking spaces for bicycles.

Mandatory and secure bicycling would most likely encourage more people to cycle as a form of transportation. Clarification is needed to define the responsibilities of the Department of Transportation from those of citizens, especially in the design, location and cost of bicycle parking on city streets and sidewalks.

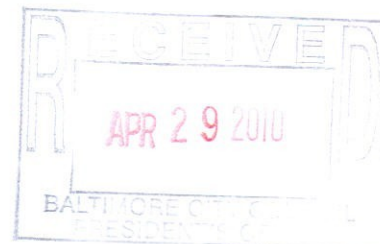
The Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals has reviewed this legislation and the Planning Commission report. The Board supports establishing regulations requiring parking for bicycles however, a provision to provide for a variance of the regulation should be included. There will be, because of a particular physical surrounding, shape, or topographical conditions of specific structures or land involved, an unnecessary hardship or practical difficulty that would result if these regulations are carried out. The Board recommends that an amendment to Title 15 "Variances" of the Zoning Code should added to this Bill. as follows:

- - Section 15-208 (d) - A variance may authorize a reduction in the number of bicycle parking spaces that are required by the applicable regulations.

The Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals recommends that City council Bill # 09-0429, be amended and approved.



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F/A

c.c. # 09-0429
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David C. Tanner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

David C. Tanner

DCT/lag
C.c. Mayors Office of Council Relations
Legislative Reference