

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the City Council

c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Christine Griffin, Deputy Director of Policy and Government Relations

Date: September 9, 2024

Re: 24-0564 Sale of Property – Subterranean portions of Streets and Alleys bounded by

portions of Linden Avenue, W. North Avenue, Eutaw Place, Ducatel Street, Brookfield Avenue, Reservoir Street, Whitelock Street, Newington Avenue, Callow Avenue, Park

Avenue, and Mt. Royal Terrace (Group 4)

Position: Favorable

The Department of Real Estate is responding to the request for a report on City Council bill 24-0564 which is for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain parcels of land known as subterranean portions of streets and alleys bounded by portions of Linden Avenue, W. North Avenue, Eutaw Place, Ducatel Street, Brookfield Avenue, Reservoir Street, Whitelock Street, Newington Avenue, Callow Avenue, Park Avenue, and Mt. Royal Terrace, as shown on Plat 306-C-3B, Sheets 1-5, filed with the Department of Transportation, and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

City Council bill 24-0564 would allow the sale of certain subterranean rights-of-way. This action will facilitate the transfer of the referenced rights-of-way from the City to Amtrak, which will in turn allow for their use in the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program. This Bill is part of a series of Bills that close and transfer the right-of-way to be used by the proposed tunnel, thereby allowing Amtrak to operate the tunnel in perpetuity.

The Department of Real Estate has reviewed the ordinance and supports the passage of City Council bill 24-0564.