

Andrew Kleinie

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Andrew Kleinie, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432 City Hall (396-4941)
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #10-0504, Sewer Exceptions

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO

DATE: March 7, 2011

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
Room 400, City Hall

Attention: Ms. Karen Randle

The purpose of the Council Bill 10-0504 is to allow residential properties to make use of an exception to City sewer service charges currently available to commercial and industrial customers. Article 25 Subtitle 13 of the Baltimore City Code prescribes the manner in which sewer service charges are applied to customers receiving City sewer service. The sewer charges are based on the amount of water supplied to a particular property as recorded by a City-approved water meter, multiplied by the rate periodically set for sewer service as adopted and established annually by the Board of Estimates.

City Council Bill 10-0504, if approved, would alter an exception to the City sewer charge available to commercial and industrial customers by making all customers eligible to receive the exception if they have City sewer service. The exception noted in § 13-4 was to address commercial or industrial customers whose usage of metered water was redirected either to a storm drain (e.g. cooling water, under a storm drain discharge permit issued by the City), into product production (e.g. beverage), or to an on-site facility for treatment and discharge to receiving waters under an NPDES permit issued by the State of Maryland.

A letter requesting an exception to the sewer service charges is required to be sent to the Director of Public Works. An exception requires the customer to install a City-approved water meter to gauge the amount of water not to be discharged into the City's sanitary sewer. Due to the cost of installing a separate water meter, we expect very few additional customers to request exceptions, and at minimal cost to the City. Currently, there are only 228 industrial/commercial and 11 residential customers with partial sewer use exceptions.

Based on these findings, the Department of Finance has no objection to the passage of City Council Bill 10-0504.

cc: Edward J. Gallagher
Angela Gibson

No obj.

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