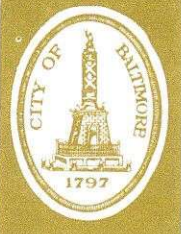


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	CHERYL CASCIANI, CHAIR, COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY <i>CC</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET, 8 <sup>th</sup> Floor		
	SUBJECT	<b>City Council Bill 13-0122R</b> Coordinating Resources to Effectively Align and Transform Energy Services (CREATES)		

**TO**

DATE:

October 15, 2013

The Honorable President and Members of City Council  
City Hall 4<sup>th</sup> floor  
100 N. Holliday Street

Please be advised of the following comments offered on behalf of the Baltimore Commission on Sustainability (CoS). The CoS has reviewed the **City Council Bill # 13-0122R** Coordinating Sources to Effectively Align and Transform Energy Services (CREATES).

In August, the City began accepting millions of dollars from Exelon's State-mandated Customer Investment Fund (CIF) to be used for energy saving programs in Baltimore. City government will eventually receive nearly \$53 million for its Coordinating Resources to Effectively Align and Transform Energy Services (CREATES) program.

The multiple awards to CREATES from the CIF will support mutually reinforcing initiatives such as the Baltimore Energy Challenge, Baltimore's Weatherization Assistance Program, Energy Assistance at Community Action Centers, and Non-Profit and Small Business Grant & Loan program, which together will assist tens of thousands of Baltimoreans. The intent of this bill addresses the following goals of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan as approved by City Council on March 2, 2009, and the Climate Action Plan (CAP), adopted on November 29, 2012 by Planning Commission:

- Sustainability Plan, Pollution Prevention Goal 1: Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 15% by the year 2015.
- Sustainability Plan, Resource Conservation Goal 1: Reduce energy usage by 15% by the year 2015.
- Climate Action Plan (CAP), ESS1: Reduce energy consumption of existing buildings.
- Climate Action Plan (CAP), ESS2: Promote the generation of renewable energy.

CCB #13-0122 will assist in creating a more sustainable Baltimore. Funded initiatives include financing of co-generation facilities at the City's wastewater treatment plants, urban heat island mitigation efforts, energy efficiency assistance for city non-profits and others serving low-income populations, improved weatherization capabilities for low-income residences, distribution of programmable thermostats and energy efficient light bulbs, widespread energy efficiency education, and, improved coordination and case management to assist households with chronic energy payment difficulties

The Baltimore Energy Challenge (BEC), which launched in 2009 as a program of the Office of Sustainability, is an integral aspect of the CREATES program as it helps the City attain its goal of a 15% reduction in energy use, as well as GHG emissions reductions, by increased community engagement through community-based social marketing and peer-to-peer outreach and education. The connection of education and awareness to every aspect of energy retrofits and upgrades is critical to long-term sustained savings throughout the City.

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