

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

October 31, 2011

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

Re: City Council Bill 11-0758– Urban Renewal – Canton Industrial Area –
Amendment

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 11-0758 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would amend the existing Urban Renewal Plan (hereinafter the “UR”) for Canton industrial Area to add a new land use category to the permitted land uses in the Plan and to revise Exhibits 1 and 4 to reflect the change in zoning, upon approval by separate ordinance, for certain properties, waiving certain content and procedural requirements, making the provisions of the ordinance severable, providing for the application of the ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances, and providing a special effective date.

Section 2-6(g) of Article 13 of the Baltimore City Code requires that substantial changes to any UR be approved by the Mayor and City Council. Section 2-6(h) provides that any councilmember may submit a bill proposing an amendment to an existing Renewal Plan. Art. 13, § 2-6(h)(2)(ii). The same section requires that any such amendment be sent to the Department of Housing and to the Planning Commission for recommendation and report. 2.6(h)(4). As both Departments have reviewed and provided recommendations based on consideration of the required standards as set forth in Section 2-6 (h), the Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

The Law Department approves the technical amendment offered by Planning revising “Community Business” to read “Commercial.”

Very truly yours,

Ashlea Brown
Special Assistant Solicitor

FA



cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor
Victor Tervalá, Assistant Solicitor