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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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January 14, 2022

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

Re: City Council Bill 21-0162 – Urban Renewal - Brooklyn-Curtis Bay - Amendment

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0162 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill amends the Urban Renewal Plan for Park Heights (“URP”) for Brooklyn-Curtis Bay to reauthorize the acquisition of properties within the Project Area and to extend the life of the Plan. It waives certain content and procedural requirements, makes the provisions of this Ordinance severable, and provides for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances. The bill has an immediate effective date.

Section 2-6(g)(l) of Article 13 of the City Code requires that any change to an Urban Renewal Plan be made by ordinance. This bill is the appropriate mechanism to amend the URP.

In accordance with the URP:

Prior to passage of any ordinance amending the Renewal Plan, two public hearings, one before the Planning Commission and one before City Council must be held. The Concerned Citizens for a Better Brooklyn, Inc., The Community of Curtis Bay Association, The Brooklyn and Curtis Bay Coalition, Inc., The South Baltimore Business Alliance, Inc., and any other organizations listed in the Community Association Directory or their successors, must receive, at least 10 days prior to the hearing, written notice of the time and place of the hearing. With respect to any land in the Project Area previously disposed of by the City for use in accordance with the Renewal Plan, the then owner of the land whose interests are materially affected by the changes must receive at least 10 days prior to the hearing, written notice of the time and place of the hearing and information as to where a copy of the proposed amendments may be inspected.

URP, ¶ F. In fact, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on October 28, 2021, to consider the amendment. The hearing before the City Council on February 1, 2022, will serve as a second public hearing of the proposal. Furthermore, the Planning Commission Report, dated October 29, 2021 (“Report”), states that all relevant parties were notified in accordance with the URP. Report, p. 3.

The Law Department therefore is prepared to approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency as drafted and as proposed for amendment by the Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

*Victor K. Tervala*

Victor K. Tervala  
Chief Solicitor

cc: James L. Shea, City Solicitor  
Nina Themelis, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations  
Nikki Thompson, Director of Legislative Affairs  
Matthew Stegman, Director of Fiscal and Legislative Services  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor