


MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM: William H. Cole, President & CEO 

DATE: October 17, 2018

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 18-0288
York Corridor Business Improvement District – Establishment

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill No. 18-0288, an ordinance for the purpose of creating a community benefits district, to be known as the York Corridor Business Improvement District and specifying the operation of such District.

This bill is a result of the York Corridor Vision and Action Plan adopted by the Planning Commission in 2015. Baltimore Development Corporation participated in meetings surrounding these efforts, along with representatives from the City of Baltimore, Govanstowne Business Association, York Road Partnership, Notre Dame University of Maryland, Loyola University Maryland, and other stakeholders.

Business Improvement Districts can be an important component of a vibrant commercial corridor; creating the mechanism required for the collection of adequate supplemental funding, structured engagement of appropriate stakeholders, and proper administration necessary to maintain its health, safety, and vitality.

BDC supports the proposed ordinance under the following conditions:

- 1) The current York Road Retail Business District be abolished through legislation
- 2) The rates under the proposed BID do not adversely impact existing small businesses

If the conditions outlined are met, BDC respectfully requests that Bill No. 18-0288 be given favorable consideration by the City Council.

Cc: Kyron Banks, Mayor's Office