

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 16-0675
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke, Middleton, Henry, Welch, Mosby

Introduced and read first time: May 16, 2016

Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Department of Housing and Community Development, Planning Department, Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, Health Department, Commission on Sustainability, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, Baltimore City Parking Authority Board, Department of Public Works, Board of Estimates

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

2 **Public Development Subsidies – Fair Development Standards**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a framework to guide the approval, rejection, modification, and
4 creation of publicly subsidized economic and community development plans and projects in
5 Baltimore; expressing the intent of the City of Baltimore that economic and community
6 development subsidies provided by the City shall not be provided to private interests unless
7 certain standards are met; and setting a special effective date.

8 **Recitals**

9 City public subsidies in the form of grants, bonds, tax increment financing (TIFs), payments
10 in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) and tax credits, abatements, and expenditures have been provided in the
11 past to private developers with few, if any, standard criteria for determining public value or
12 benefit. The lack of such criteria gives rise to the belief that these subsidies are provided in an
13 arbitrary manner.

14 Publicly subsidized projects should promote and fulfill the public values of the City and shall
15 abide by the principles of universality, equity, participation, transparency, accountability, and
16 environmental sustainability.

17 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the
18 improvement of the standards of living of the citizens of Baltimore, particularly those with the
19 greatest need, shall be regarded as the principal objective in the planning and provision of public
20 city subsidies for economic and community development, including tax expenditures.

21 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That all Baltimore citizens have the right to the
22 fair distribution of benefits that are the direct or indirect result of any publicly subsidized
23 economic or community development plan or project, in such manner that citizens' fundamental
24 needs of good jobs, education, health care, food, housing, and social security are enhanced and
25 realized. As these needs are indivisible, no single fundamental need shall be pursued to the
26 detriment of other fundamental needs.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the citizens of Baltimore, particularly
2 those with the greatest need, have the right to active, free, and meaningful participation in the
3 planning and provision of economic and community development.

4 **SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That workers who are directly or indirectly
5 employed in Baltimore as a result of publicly subsidized economic and community development,
6 have the right to fair and living wages, health care benefits, and opportunities for skill
7 enhancement, the right to organize collectively and the right to labor peace so as to protect the
8 City's proprietary interest in the subsidized development project.

9 **SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That all city residents have the right to be
10 protected from the risk of involuntary displacement that is the direct or indirect result of any
11 publicly subsidized economic or community development plan or project.

12 **SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That all Baltimore citizens have the right to
13 publicly subsidized economic or community development plans or projects that increase racial
14 and ethnic inclusion.

15 **SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That all Baltimore citizens have the right to
16 clean air, water, and protection from harmful toxins, and no publicly subsidized economic or
17 community development project shall abridge these rights.

18 **SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That all Baltimore citizens have the right to
19 publicly subsidized economic or community development projects that further and promote
20 environmental sustainability.

21 **SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That all Baltimore citizens have the right to
22 transparency in the discussion, planning, implementation, and monitoring of publicly subsidized
23 economic or community development plans or projects.

24 **SECTION 10. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Baltimore City Council has the duty
25 to assess all publicly subsidized economic or community development projects that come before
26 it according to these rights, and shall set enforceable performance standards and duties relative
27 thereto for private developers who receive public economic or community development
28 subsidies.

29 **SECTION 11. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this Resolution takes effect on the date it
30 is enacted.