NAME & TITLE	Theodore Atwood, Acting Director
AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of General Services 800 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 10-0572

CITY of BALTIMORE





TO

DATE: July 16, 2010

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council c/o Karen Randle Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 10-0572 introduced by the Council President on behalf of the Administration (Department of General Services).

The purpose of the Bill is to authorize the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in a certain parcel of land known as the former bed of Diamond Street, extending from Fayette Street, northerly 220.2 feet, more or less, to Shad Alley, and no longer needed for public use.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) developed graduate student housing on properties adjacent to and on either side of the 100 block of Diamond Street. UMB would like to purchase a portion of Diamond Street, from West Fayette Street to the south property line of 121 North Green Street (south of Shad Alley), to provide control of and safe access to the newly constructed and renovated graduate student housing structures. Diamond Street would still be accessible by the public from West Lexington to Shad Alley. Shad Alley continues to provide access to Diamond Street, from the end of the closed portion of Diamond Street, west to Greene Street.

Ordinances 09-157 and 09-158 opened and closed this portion of Diamond Street to public use. The former right-of-way is located perpendicular to and between West Fayette Street and Shad Alley, and measures approximately 20 feet wide by 220.2 feet long. City-owned utilities not to be abandoned or relocated are protected under a full width Perpetual Easement (lines 10 and 11 on page 2 of the legislation).

Based on these findings, the Department of General Services supports passage of City Council Bill 10-0572.

Theodore Atwood Acting Director

TA/MMC:pat