


FROM	NAME & TITLE	THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR <i>Stosur / for T.J.S.</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 E. FAYETTE STREET, 8 th FLOOR		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #10-0500/ZONING LEGISLATION-AMENDMENTS		

TO

DATE:

May 28, 2010

The Honorable President and
 Members of the City Council
 City Hall, Room 400
 100 N. Holliday Street

At its regular meeting of May 27, 2010 the Planning Commission considered City Council Bill #10-0500, which is for the purpose of excepting from the requirement for rehearsing amended zoning legislation if the amendment consists only of a change in punctuation, grammar, or spelling or otherwise does not in any way alter the substance of the ordinance; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to legislative authorizations and amendments.

In its consideration of this Bill, the Planning Commission reviewed the attached staff report which recommended approval of City Council Bill #10-0500 and adopted the following resolution, nine members being present (nine in favor).

RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission concurs with the recommendation of its departmental staff, and recommends that City Council Bill #10-0500 be passed by the City Council.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Wolde Ararsa, Division Chief of Land Use and Urban Design Division, at 410-396-4488.

TJS/WYA/ttl

Attachments

cc:

- Ms. Kaliopé Parthemos, Deputy Mayor
- Ms. Sophie Dagenais, Chief of Staff
- Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Office
- The Honorable Bill Henry, Council Rep. for Planning Commission
- Mr. David Tanner, BMZA
- Mr. Geoffrey Veal, Zoning Administration
- Ms. Nikol Nabors-Jackson, DHCD
- Ms. Karen Randle, City Council Services
- Mr. Larry Greene, City Council Services



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Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Wilbur E. "Bill" Cunningham, Chairman

STAFF REPORT



Thomas J. Stosur
Director

May 27, 2010

REQUEST: City Council Bill #10-0500 / Zoning Legislation – Amendments:

For the purpose of excepting from the requirement for rehearing an amended zoning legislation if the amendment consists only of a change in punctuation, grammar, or spelling or otherwise does not in any way alter the substance of the ordinance; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to legislative authorizations and amendments.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

STAFF: Eric Tiso

INTRODUCED BY: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke, Stokes, Curran, D'Adamo, Middleton, Conaway, and Branch

HISTORY:

There have been no previous Planning Commission actions related to this subject.

CONFORMITY TO PLANS:

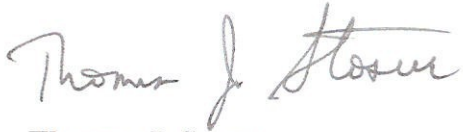
This bill is consistent with the Baltimore City Comprehensive Master Plan LIVE Goal 2: Elevate the Design and Quality of the City's Built Environment, Objective 2: Streamline and Strengthen the Development Process.

ANALYSIS:

Purpose: This bill modifies §16-403 of the Zoning Code, to clarify provisions of the Amendments section. Generally speaking, if there are amendments made to a bill are made after a public hearing, another public hearing must be held, and the notice requirements, and reading of reports are required. Today, §16-403 provides for an exception to this re-hearing rule in the case that the amendment is either made in committee, or in the case that the amendment consists only of a change in punctuation, grammar, or spelling that does not in any way alter the substance of the ordinance. This bill further clarifies this exception to add the phrase "or that otherwise" to indicate that an amendment that is not punctuation, grammar, or spelling, but that likewise does not in any way alter the substance of the ordinance, does not require a re-hearing.

This amendment should help in administering the Zoning Code by further clarifying that amendments not affecting the substance of the ordinance need not be re-heard, which will save time and cost for duplicative procedural reviews that was an unintentional potential outcome in the original phrasing. Staff recommends approval of this bill.

Notification: Notice of this hearing was sent to 212 City-wide community organizations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Stosur".

Thomas J. Stosur
Director