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MAYOR
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TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Corren Johnson, Director – Department of Transportation
DATE	August 19, 2024
SUBJECT	24-0563 City Streets - Closing - Subterranean Portions of Certain Streets and Alleys Bounded by Portions of Linden Avenue, W. North Avenue, Eutaw Place, Ducatel Street, Brookfield Avenue, Reservoir Street, Whitelock Street, Newington Avenue, Callow Avenue, Park Avenue, and Mt. Royal Terrace

Position: Support

Introduction

For the purpose of condemning and closing subterranean portions of certain streets and alleys bounded by portions of Linden Avenue, W. North Avenue, Eutaw Place, Ducatel Street, Brookfield Avenue, Reservoir Street, Whitelock Street, Newington Avenue, Callow Avenue, Park Avenue, and Mt. Royal Terrace as shown on plat number 316-C-3A Sheets 1 through 5 and dated June 8, 2023, prepared by Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP and filed in the City of Baltimore Department of Transportation; and providing for a special effective date.

DOT Analysis

The legislation will allow the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to close the subterranean rights-of-way. This will facilitate the transfer of these rights-of-way from the City to Amtrak, which will allow for their use in the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program. This bill is part of a series of bills that close and transfer the right-of-way to be used by the proposed tunnel, which will allow Amtrak to operate the tunnel in perpetuity.

Conclusion

The Department supports the advancement of Council Bill 24-0563.