
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

May 6, 2019

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 19-0363 – Closing Variable Width Alley

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0363 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would allow the City to condemn and close a variable width alley that it no longer needs. The bill expressly reserves the rights the Mayor and City Council has in the structures located under the street bed, including access rights.

Section (34) of Article II of the City Charter grants the Mayor and City Council the power to “construct, open, extend, widen, straighten or close streets, bridges, tunnels or approaches to them and other public ways of every kind within the bounds of the City.” Section 116(b)(2) of Article VII of the City Charter requires the Department of Transportation to prepare all ordinances for the opening and closing of streets.

The Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

Hilary Ruley
Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre M. Davis, City Solicitor
Jeffrey Amoros, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor