

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b> <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation 417 E. Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 08-0049		

**TO**

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

DATE: June 9, 2008

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill No. 08-0049.

**City Trees – Protective Measures**

**For the purpose of extending certain laws for the protection of trees along public ways to apply also to trees in parks, squares, and other public places; prohibiting excessive or unnecessary cutting, trimming, or pruning of public trees; authorizing the City Arborist to adjudicate complaints of unauthorized or improper treatment of public trees and to impose civil penalties and remedies for violations; redefining certain terms; increasing certain criminal penalties; conforming agency references to reflect reallocations established by prior enactments; correcting, clarifying, and conforming related language; and generally relating to trees, shrubs, and other plants in the public ways and in the parks, squares, and other public places of the city.**

In keeping with Mayor Dixon's desire to do more in the greening of Baltimore, the Department of Transportation (DOT) is committed to an aggressive program of landscaping our gateways and public spaces. With the exception of park land and the building grounds of various City agencies, DOT maintains all of the public spaces in the City. We inspect all public footways in the City. We cite property owners for failure to properly maintain the footway. We make repairs to all public sidewalks uprooted by street trees. This fiscal year (2009) we will double the number of sidewalks repaired. It is our intention to preserve the existing tree canopy and to expand the greenery of public ways throughout the City.

We have no objection to the amendments suggested by the Department of Public Works; they are the agency responsible for the Right of Way (ROW) permitting process. As to the duties of the City Arborist, we defer to the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Administration.

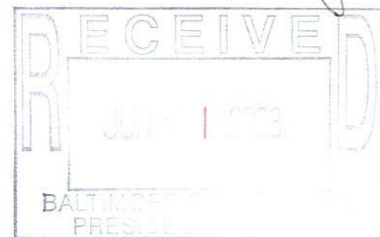
Respectfully,

  
ALFRED H. FOXX  
DIRECTOR

AHF/WD:zs

cc: Ms. Angela C. Gibson  
Mr. Anthony P. Wallnofer, Jr.  
Mr. Bill Driscoll  
Mr. Jamie Kendrick

*No obj/comment*



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