



SHEILA DIXON
Mayor
PAUL T. GRAZIANO
Executive Director, HABCD
Commissioner, HCD

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: August 21, 2008

Re: City Council Bill 08-0148 Sale of Property - 121 North Greene Street

The Department of Housing and Community Development has reviewed City Council Bill 08-0148, which was introduced for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property known as 121 North Greene Street (Block 617, Lot 15) and no longer needed for public use.

In April 2006, the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) issued a Request for Proposals for creative mixed-use developments at seven scattered sites including 121 N. Greene Street in the Westside Initiative Area. The University of Maryland, Baltimore was selected as the developer and proposes to acquire the building and improve the three upper floors as the annex for the School of Medicine's Biomedical Research Facility located across the street at 108 N. Greene Street. The University intends to lease the first floor to a compatible retail tenant.

The property was acquired by the City in 2003 by condemnation. In 2004, the Market Center - West Urban Renewal Plan merged with Market Center Urban Renewal Plan. Unfortunately, this property was excluded inadvertently from the disposition listing in the revised urban renewal plan. Therefore, BDC seeks to remedy this oversight by gaining City Council authority to sell this property in order to proceed with acquisition for the UM Biomedical Research Facility.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 08-0148.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson
Mr. Demaune Millard

