

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE  
Mayor



THOMAS J. STOSUR  
Director

MEMO

December 4, 2013

TO: The Honorable President Bernard C. "Jack" Young  
and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

FROM: Ms. Kathleen G. Kotarba, Executive Director

RE: City Council Bill No. 13-0287-Tax Credits-  
Historic Restorations and Rehabilitations

This legislation will extend the period within which applications may be accepted for the Baltimore City tax credit for historic restorations and rehabilitations. The current legislation does not allow acceptance of applications after February 28, 2014. If approved by the Mayor and City Council, applications for the credit could be accepted through February 29, 2016. The Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) supports this legislation that will allow this valuable Baltimore City economic development incentive to continue for two more years.

Baltimore City's Historic Tax Credit Program was established by ordinance in 1996. The program is administered by the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) in coordination with the Department of Finance.

- The credit has fostered the rehabilitation of historic structures (residential and commercial) throughout Baltimore City.
- To date, 3000 rehabilitation projects have been included in the program.
- The substantial investment in historic buildings supports the economy of Baltimore and enhances the appearance of our neighborhoods.



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- The 10 year credit is granted on the increased assessment, directly resulting from qualifying rehabilitation work. All work must be pre-approved and meet CHAP's Design Guidelines.
- Approximately \$606 million dollars has been invested in City historic properties since 1997. There are currently over 1,000 restorations underway in many of the 76 historic districts throughout the City. An additional \$600 million dollar investment can be expected at the time of project completions.
- Every \$1 of historic preservation tax credits issued in the State of Maryland leverages an additional \$6.70 worth of economic activity in the state.
- By the current sunset date, the tax credit will have leveraged \$620 million in investment.
- The \$600 million in investment will leverage more than \$4 billion worth of additional economic activity.

The Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation respectfully requests the City Council's favorable review of this legislation. The City's Historic Tax Credit fosters homeownership and substantial investment in neighborhoods throughout the city. It is a valuable tool in strengthening the local economy and attracting new residents. Thank you for your consideration.

For additional information contact Kathleen Kotarba, Executive Director-CHAP or Stacy Montgomery, CHAP City Planner and Program Administrator at (410) 396-4866.

Cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council  
Ms. Kaliope Parthemos, Mayor's Deputy Chief for Economic Development  
Mr. Colin Tarbert, Deputy Director Mayor's Office of Economic Development  
Mr. Andrew Smullian, Deputy Chief of Legislative and Government Affairs  
Mr. Thomas J. Stosur, Director, Department of Planning  
Ms. Laurie Feinberg, Assistant Director, Department of Planning  
Mr. Tom Liebel, Chairman, CHAP  
Ms. Stacy Montgomery, CHAP City Planner