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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
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January 29, 2024

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 23-0391 – City Streets – Closing – A Portion of Boston Street

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 23-0391 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would allow the City to condemn and close a portion of Boston Street, bounded by the east side of Haven Street, the southernmost property line of 1202 South Haven, LLC, the west side of Canton Railroad Right-of-Way, and the north side of Boston Street, as shown on a plat numbered 307-A-22A. The bill provides for a special effective date.

Article I, Section 4, and Article II, Sections 2, 34(a) and 35 of the City Charter grants the Mayor and City Council the power to condemn and “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. Thus, this is the appropriate bill to effectuate the condemnation and closing of portions of Boston Street as enumerated above and therefore, as this bill conforms to the applicable sections of the Charter, the Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

Teresa Epps Cummings

cc: Ebony Thompson, Acting City Solicitor  
Nina Themelis, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor  
Jeffrey Hochstetler, Chief Solicitor  
Michelle Toth, Assistant Solicitor