

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President *M. J. Brodie*

DATE: April 19, 2012

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 12-0041R
Application to the State of Maryland for the Renewal of Baltimore City's
Modified Consolidated Enterprise Zone and its Focus Areas

On April 16, 2012, the City of Baltimore submitted an application to the State of Maryland for the renewal of the State Enterprise Zone and the designation of the Jones Falls, Oldtown, and Carroll Camden Focus Areas. As mandated by the State, the Enterprise Zone and Focus Areas must be reevaluated every 10 years for renewal. The Enterprise Zone allows the City to offer businesses tax incentives for investment/improvement to real property and wage income credits. In addition to real property and wage income credits, the Focus Areas also offer tax incentives for investment/improvement to personal property.

The objective of the Enterprise Zone is to provide additional tax incentives for businesses, further encouraging the creation of new jobs, stimulate capital investments by new and existing businesses and property owners (which will significantly add to the City tax base), and promote the reuse of vacant and underutilized industrial and commercial properties in the area. The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) concurs with the demonstrated need for industrial and commercial revitalization in the areas indicated in the Enterprise Zone application.

The Enterprise Zone meets the requirements for designation by fulfilling the poverty criteria as set by the State of Maryland. Each Focus Area also qualifies by 1) being fully contained within the Enterprise Zone, and 2) meeting at least three of the five demographic sets of criteria as mandated by the State of Maryland.

As a part of the application, written approval of the Local Governing Body in the form of a resolution is required. The BDC requests that favorable consideration is given by the City Council for the renewal of the Baltimore City Enterprise Zone and the designation of the Jones Falls, Oldtown, and Carroll-Camden Focus Areas.

cc: Kaliope Parthemos
Angela Gibson

