



MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,
Executive Director, HABC,
Commissioner, HCD

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

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: October 25, 2011

Re: **City Council Bill 10-0620 - Zoning - Department of Transportation Plot Plan Review**

The Department of Housing and Community Development has reviewed City Council Bill 10-0620, which was introduced for the purpose of clarifying the legal responsibilities of the Departments of Public Works and Transportation for the review of plot plans for parking lots.

In the Zoning Article of the Baltimore City Code, § 10-301 requires that when a proposed new or expanded use provides for five or more new off-street parking spaces, the Zoning Administrator must forward the plot plan for that use to both the Department of Planning (Planning) and the Department of Public Works (DPW). These Departments have ten (10) days within which they must return the plot plan to the Zoning Administrator with written approval or recommended modifications. This bill, if enacted, would remove DPW as a reviewing agency and replace it with the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Ordinance 03-501 transferred certain powers and duties from DPW to the Office of Transportation—established by a 2001 Executive Order by then-Mayor Martin O'Malley. Subsequently, Resolution 04-56 was a referendum endorsed by the qualified voters of the City of Baltimore in 2004 to re-establish DOT. Certain powers, duties and responsibilities assigned to DPW would now be more ably accomplished by DOT. This bill would correct one such agency responsibility by assigning plot plan review to the DOT.

The Department of Housing and Community Development has no objection to the adoption of City Council Bill 10-0620.

PTG:nb

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Ms. Kaliope Parthemos, *Deputy Mayor*

