

CITY OF BALTIMORE
STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 18, 2015

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 15-0521 – Poppleton Development District

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 15-0521 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill proposes to create the Poppleton Development District (“the District”) and a special tax increment fund for the District. That fund would pay for or reimburse the City for debt service on special obligation bonds for the District.

The Baltimore City Charter authorizes the creation of development districts and tax increment funds for those districts by Ordinance. City Charter, Art. II, §(62)(b)(10). The City can then issue bonds for the purpose of financing the development of industrial, commercial or residential areas in the District. In order to issue such bonds, however, the City must first: (1) designate by ordinance an area or areas within the City as a “development district”; and (2) provide that until the bonds have been fully paid or thereafter, a specified increment of the property taxes on real property within the development district shall be paid into a special fund and applied only to certain authorized purposes. City Charter, Art. II, §(62)(d)(1).

Council Bill 15-0521 is authorized by and consistent with the Baltimore City Charter. Therefore, the Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,


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Chief Solicitor

cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor’s Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Victor Tervalva, Chief Solicitor
Jennifer Landis, Assistant Solicitor