



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Veronica P. McBeth, Director, Department of Transportation
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	April 17, 2025
SUBJECT	DOT 25-0039 • City Streets – Closing – A 16 Foot Alley and a Portion of a 10 Foot Alley

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

Council Bill 25-0039 would close two alleys in the block bounded by Presstman Street, Brunt Street, Robert Street, and Pennsylvania Avenue. These closures would facilitate the creation of a proposed cultural facility in the area.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

These alley closures will assist in the creation of a singular parcel for the future development of The Sanaa Center, a proposed arts and cultural institution within the Black Arts District. The proposed building will be located over the portions of the alleys proposed for closure. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the closing of a ten-foot and a sixteen-foot alley in Block 320 on August 31, 2023. The closing of two alleys to accommodate the plans for the Sanaa Center are in direct alignment with the mission of the Black Arts District. The Black Arts District was established to recognize the significance of West Baltimore as a place of great importance in African American music, art, and culture within the City.

The Department recognizes the value of supporting development in historically underserved City neighborhoods and respectfully requests a favorable bill report.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Department projects no fiscal impacts as a result of the proposed legislation.