



MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

Date: March 7th, 2024

**Re: City Council Resolution 24-0209R Informational Hearing - Examining Baltimore's
Bike Infrastructure**

Introduction

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Resolution 24-0209R Informational Hearing – Examining Baltimore's Bike Infrastructure for the purpose of inviting representatives of the Baltimore City Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Parking Authority of Baltimore City, the Mayor's Office on Infrastructure Development, the Office of Equity and Civil Rights, the Baltimore City Public School System, Bikemore, community leaders, local business owners, and other interested parties to discuss a variety of topics related to bike infrastructure.

City Council Resolution 24-0209R invites various representatives with an interest in the development of new bike infrastructure to discuss:

- the process of developing new bike infrastructure;
- the rationale for investing in bike infrastructure and its relationship to larger public transit infrastructure needs and goals;
- how to achieve greater neighborhood engagement from private citizens and business owners; and
- strategic planning of new infrastructure for all communities, including updated funding models and consideration of public safety ramifications of existing and proposed infrastructure, before developing new bike infrastructure.

DHCD Analysis

DHCD supports the full implementation of the Complete Streets law and Complete Streets Manual. As a member of the Complete Streets Advisory Committee a representative of DHCD has participated in meetings throughout the year to discuss proposed Complete Streets projects and to assist with interagency collaborations. DHCD understands the significant place that bicycle infrastructure plays in connecting communities throughout our city. Complete Streets sets standards that provide safe and accessible accommodations for all travel modes, including pedestrian, bike, transit, and vehicular traffic.

A part of successful community development is tied to access to an equitable, accessible transit development plan that accommodates all users and expands free transit options to improve mobility and reliability. We support the Administration's efforts to ensure that every neighborhood can access safe, reliable public transportation options, along with quality streets and sidewalks.

We will continue to collaborate with partner agencies around Complete Streets however, the questions posed within this Resolution do not specifically pertain to the work or purview of our agency or any of the divisions therein.

Conclusion

DHCD supports the intent and respectfully **defer** to the Department of Transportation on City Council Resolution 24-0209R.

AK/sm

cc: Ms. Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

Brandon M. Scott, Mayor • **Alice Kennedy**, Housing Commissioner

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