

TO

DATE

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council City Hall, Room 400 March 20th, 2024

Position: Does not oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 24-0494, Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Overlay Zoning District – Prohibited Uses, the purpose e purpose of amending certain prohibited uses within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Overlay Zoning District; defining certain terms; and establishing a special effective date.

Background

The Baltimore City Critical Area Management Program was established in 1987. It was repealed and replaced in 2002, with a program of the same name. In 2013, the General Assembly enacted the State Critical Area Commission allowing counties to permit certain non-water dependent structures on State-or privately-owned wetlands. The Baltimore City Critical Area Management Program was last amended by 20-464, passed by the City Council on December 7th, 2020. This update conformed the Baltimore City Critical Area Management Program with the State Critical Area Commission.

The State Critical Area Commission was updated on February 7th, 2022. This legislation seeks to bring the City's program in line with the State program.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Finance estimates that this will have minimal to no fiscal impact.

Conclusion

This legislation allows for property owners in the designated areas to provide shade along the waterfront. The Department of Finance expects minimal to no fiscal impact

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 24-0494.

cc: Michael Mocksten Nina Themelis