

The Baltimore City Department of  
**HOUSING & COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**

## MEMORANDUM

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

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner 

Date: June 11, 2018

Re: **City Council Bill 18-0175 - City Streets – Closing – All Streets and Alleys Bounded by East Biddle Street, Greenmount Avenue, East Chase Street, and Fallsway**

---

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 18-0175, for the purpose of condemning and closing all streets and alleys bounded by East Biddle Street, Greenmount Avenue, East Chase Street, and Fallsway, as shown on Plat 331-A-14A in the Office of the Department of Transportation; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, this bill would support the consolidation of properties to assist with blight elimination efforts in the Johnston Square neighborhood. The streets and alleys that are proposed for closing are surrounded by properties that are currently owned by the City, in the process of being purchased by the City and/or are vacant lots or unoccupied structures that no longer serve a need for use by the public.

The Department of Housing and Community Development strongly encourages the passage of City Council Bill 18-0175.

MB:sd

cc: Ms. Karen Stokes, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*  
Mr. Kyron Banks, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*