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TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Corren Johnson, Director – Department of Transportation
DATE	September 23, 2024
SUBJECT	24-0575 City Streets – Closing – Certain Streets and Alleys in the Poppleton Urban Renewal Area

Position: Support

Introduction

For the purpose of condemning and closing certain streets and alleys, bounded by West Mulberry Street, North Schroeder Street, West Fairmount Avenue and North Stockton Street, lying within the Poppleton Urban Renewal Area, as shown on a plat numbered 343-A-27A, Sheets 1 through 6, dated January 16, 2024, prepared by the Survey Section and filed in the Office of the Department of Transportation; and providing for a special effective date.

DOT Analysis

Council Bill 24-0575 would facilitate new development by closing some streets and alleys in the Poppleton neighborhood. The Poppleton area is a historically underserved part of the City. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has been working to promote redevelopment in the area for some time, and the closing of certain streets and alleys in the area is now needed to advance certain development goals. This initiative was reviewed favorably by the Planning Commission in 2020. Several sets of streets and alleys within the area bounded by W Mulberry St, N Schroeder St, W Fairmount Ave, and N Stockton St would be closed in accordance with the Poppleton Urban Renewal Area.

Conclusion

The Department supports efforts to better underserved neighborhoods and address vacancy issues. The Department has no objection to the advancement of Council Bill 24-0575.