



STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKIE
Mayor



THOMAS J. STOSUR
Director, Department of Planning

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Director, Office of Sustainability

Baltimore Office of Sustainability Staff Report

June 8, 2011

The Sustainability Commission meets monthly and was unable to schedule this project. Please accept the following comments offered on behalf of the Baltimore Office of Sustainability. The Sustainability Commission has approved the process of planning staff incorporating the elements of sustainability into the development of Planned Unit Developments.

REQUESTS:

- City Council Bill #11-0697/Planned Unit Development - Designation - University Of Maryland BioPark

RECOMMENDATIONS:


The intent of this bill addresses the following goals of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan as approved by City Council on March 2, 2009:

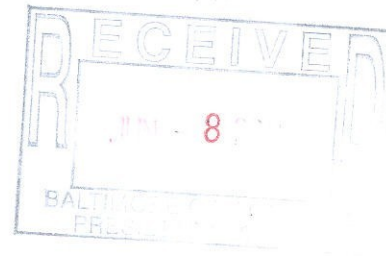
- Cleanliness Goal 3: Transform vacant lots from liabilities to assets that provide social and environmental benefits;
 - Strategy D: Return abandoned properties to productive use.
- Greening Goal 1: Double Baltimore's Tree Canopy by 2037;
 - Strategy F: Identify and pursue opportunities for increasing trees planted on private property;
 - Strategy G: Increase tree plantings in sidewalks, medians, and other public right of ways;

The Master Plan for the Bio-Tech Park includes many sustainable elements, including:

- A 53,000 square foot (± 1.2 acres) open space network that retains the landscaped island parcel at MLK, Baltimore and Fremont, two connecting open spaces along Baltimore Street in the center of the area and two "gateway spaces" that flank Baltimore Street at the western end of the PUD at Schroeder Street;
- Streetscape plans along Baltimore and adjoining streets that create a consistent streetscape and tree canopy standard for the BioPark;
- The University of Maryland BioPark has indicated that they are firmly committed to developing a sustainable research park since its inception. Building I, for example, has a green roof and that project was developed before the standards were adopted and required by the City. Additionally, streetscape standards for the development use larger tree pits and/or continuous green areas to reduce stormwater sheet flow, heat island effect and to contribute to Tree Baltimore. Lastly, the pedestrian lighting standard chosen for the BioPark meets LEED design standards, and were selected prior to the City's green build legislation.
- All new development within the BioTech Park will comply with City Green Building Standards.

CC:


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