

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

August 29, 2019

TO:

FROM:

Colin Tarbert, President and CEO

POSITION:

Oppose

SUBJECT:

City Council Bill #19-0374 - Rezoning - 1641 North Bond Street

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is reporting on City Council Bill 19-0374, the purpose of which is to change the zoning for the property known as 1641 North Bond Street (Block 1118, Lot 021), from the R-8 Zoning District to the C-1 Zoning District.

PURPOSE

The property is a non-conforming liquor store and the intention of the applicant is to change the zoning so that the grocery/liquor store can continue to operate.

BRIEF HISTORY

Under the Transform Baltimore Zoning Code, which was enacted in June of 2017, the R-8 zoning prohibits liquor stores that are located within residential neighborhoods. During the spring and summer of 2018, BDC conducted outreach to all non-conforming liquor stores and offered assistance to bring their businesses into compliance. BDC discussed options with each business that included eliminating liquor sales at the non-conforming location and converting the business into a grocery/retail use, applying for a hardship waiver, if applicable, or by relocating the business to a location where a liquor store use is permitted.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

AGENCY POSITION

BDC opposes passage of City Council Bill # 19-0374. However, BDC is readily available and willing to assist all non-conforming businesses to be in compliance at their present location or with relocation to properties where a liquor store use is permitted.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kim Clark at kclark@baltimoredevelopment.com and 410-837-9305.

CC:

Nicholas Blendy

[MJF]