


<b>F R O M</b>	NAME & TITLE	Corren Johnson, Interim Director	<b>CITY of BALTIMORE  M E M O</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (BCDOT) 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	Council Bill 23-0365		

DATE: 6/21/2023

TO: Mayor Brandon Scott  
TO: Economic and Community Development Committee  
FROM: Department of Transportation  
POSITION: **Support**  
SUBJECT: Council Bill 23-0365

**INTRODUCTION** - Rezoning - 601 through 621 East Biddle Street

**PURPOSE/PLANS** - For the purpose of changing the zoning for the properties known as 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, and 621 East Biddle Street, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, and 1129 Forrest Street, 602 East Chase Street, and 1100 Nursery Place (Block 1168, Lots 15 through 42) from the R-8 Zoning District to the C-1 Zoning District; and providing for a special effective date.

**COMMENTS** – Council Bill 23-0365 seeks to rezone several lots on the 600 block of East Biddle Street, 1100 block of Forrest Street, 600 block of East Chase Street, and 1100 block of Nursery Place from the R-8 Zoning District to the C-1 Zoning District in the Johnston Square Community. The proposed rezoning will transfer properties from the R-8 Zoning District, which is traditional form urban rowhouses, to the C-1 Zoning District, which allows for commercial clusters and pedestrian-oriented corridors of commercial uses that serve the immediate neighborhood. This property rezoning is in alignment with the Johnston Square Vision Plan, allowing for the construction of roughly 110 mixed-income housing units above 9,000 square feet of ground floor retail. Additionally, this legislation has letters of support from both Rebuild Johnston Square Neighborhood Organization and St. Frances Academy.

**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSTION** – The Baltimore City Department of Transportation foresees no direct operational or fiscal impact resulting from the advancement of the legislation. This rezoning effort aligns with BCDOT’s Complete Streets mission, looking to foster denser, walkable development with access to local transit routes. As such BCDOT **supports** the advancement of Council Bill 23-0365.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liam Davis at [LiamF.Davis@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:LiamF.Davis@baltimorecity.gov) or at 410-545-3207

Sincerely,

Corren Johnson,  
Interim Director