

<b>FROM</b>	<b>NAME &amp; TITLE</b>	Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., Director	CITY of BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	<b>AGENCY NAME &amp; ADDRESS</b>	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	<b>SUBJECT</b>	Mayor and City Council Resolution 18-0288		

**DATE:** April 5, 2019

**TO**

**TO** Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

**INTRODUCTION**

I am herein reporting on Mayor and City Council Resolution 18-0288 introduced by Council Member Henry and Council President Young.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Bill, among other things, is to create a community benefits district, to be known as the York Corridor Business Improvement District; specify the boundaries of the District; create an Authority and provide for its rights, duties and powers; provide for the selection and composition of the Authority’s Board of Directors and for an Administrator for the Authority; mandate the financial responsibilities of the Authority and the City in conjunction with the operation of the District; provide for the assessment, collection and enforcement of a supplemental tax to be collected by and for the Authority; specify the City’s role in maintaining and enhancing existing services; designate the Board of Estimates as the agency charged with reviewing and approving various matters relating to the District and the authority; provide for the renewal, expiration, termination and approval of the District and Authority; provide for a special effective date; and generally relating to the existence, operation and control of the York Corridor Business Improvement District and Authority.

**BRIEF HISTORY**

Article II of the Baltimore City Charter authorizes the City to establish up to six community benefit district management authorities by ordinance, provided that 58 percent of the people in the proposed district concur. The purpose of these authorities is to promote and market the district areas, provide supplemental security and maintenance services, and other public amenities. City Council Bill 18-0288 proposes to add a fifth benefit district to be known as the York Corridor Business Improvement District and Authority. The proposed new District and Authority grew from a planning process which began in 2012 with representatives of the City of Baltimore, Baltimore Development Corporation, Govanstowne Business Association, York Road Partnership, Notre Dame University of Maryland, Loyola University Maryland, and others interested in a corridor-wide plan to improve and better serve the communities adjacent to the York Road commercial corridor. The Planning Commission adopted the York Corridor Vision and Action Plan in 2015.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The Department of Public Works is an active partner with the existing four Districts and Authorities, providing baseline services through individual baseline services agreements, and it is anticipated that a similar process would be implemented with the York Corridor Business Improvement District and Authority should City Council Bill 18-0288 be approved and enacted. Typically, one baseline service agreement stipulates what each affected agency commits to provide within the defined district. For the Bureau of Solid Waste, these services include curbside mixed refuse and recycling collection, placement and emptying of corner cans, frequency of street cleaning along the corridor and identified portions of side streets, graffiti removal, rat abatement, and any other services routinely provided.

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION**

The bill report submitted by the Department of Law recommends amending the legislation in order to approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency. The Department of Public Works defers to the Department of Law in this regard, and therefore supports passage of Mayor and City Council Resolution 18-0288 as proposed to be amended by Law.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Marcia Collins at 410-396-1960 ([Marcia.Collins@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Marcia.Collins@baltimorecity.gov)).

Sincerely,



Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.  
Director

RSC:MMC