

FROM	NAME & TITLE	William M. Johnson, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation 417 East Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 14-0377		

TO

The Honorable President and Members
of the City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 City Hall

May 15, 2014

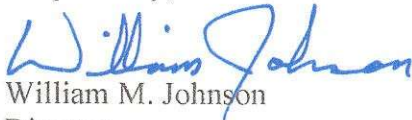
I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 14-0377, Charter Amendment - Transfer of Powers and Duties, which transfers from the Department of General Services (DGS) to the Department of Transportation (DOT) certain Charter powers and duties relating to streets and rights-of-way, including the approval of new streets, the naming or renaming of streets, the opening and closing of streets, the numbering of buildings, the preparation of street plats and plans, and the maintenance of plats and records of all parcels of real property and underground structures, and the maintenance a system of uniform property identification; and submits this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

DOT supports this bill. The DGS Right of Way Division provides permits and other agreements that allow usage of the City's roads, alleys, and sidewalks. It also maintains a real property database for the City and sets property address numbers. Now, DOT maintains the City's streets, alleys and sidewalks, yet DGS permits the use of the streets, alleys and sidewalks. This creates a disjointed system where each request must be reviewed by both DOT and DGS. Moving all functions over to DOT would:

- Streamline internal review processes, investigations and inspections by eliminating duplicative efforts.
- Simplify and expedite consumers' permit application process.
- Align DOT's and DGS's operations more closely with their respective missions.

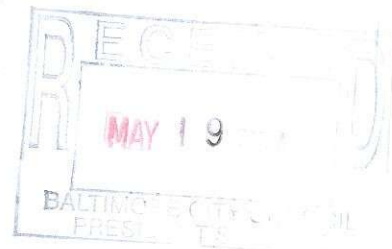
DGS and DOT have discussed this potential transition with a myriad of stakeholders, and have only received positive feedback. Therefore, we respectfully request that you grant this bill a favorable report.

Respectfully,



William M. Johnson
Director

WMJ/BZ



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