

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM: Brenda McKenzie, President and CEO *BK*

DATE: July 15, 2013

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 13-0243
Building Code – Permit Fees for Construction Work

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) supports City Council Bill No. 13-0243 Building Code – Permit Fees for Construction Work.

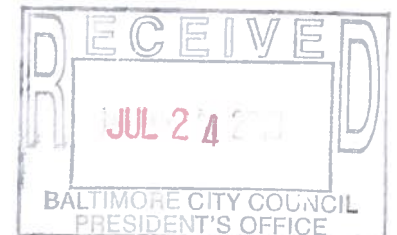
By establishing a maximum height in calculating building permit fees, particularly for industrial buildings, Baltimore City will be able to be competitive with surrounding Maryland jurisdictions in business retention and attraction of industrial businesses. Modification of the formula will provide serious consideration of new construction or expansion of existing industrial facilities, stimulating development near the Port of Baltimore.

This change in the building permits is very timely given the recent completion of a massive infrastructure improvement project at the port's main container facility, Seagirt Marine Terminal. The combination of berth length, water depth, and crane size makes the Seagirt Marine Terminal one of only two facilities on the US East Coast ready to handle the larger vessels of the future that are expected with the expansion of the Panama Canal and the continued emergence of the Suez Canal. With this new port business, the availability of warehouse and industrial space within Baltimore City becomes very important in the retention, expansion and attraction of industrial business and jobs.

BDC requests that favorable consideration is given by the City Council.

cc: Kaliope Parthemos
Angela Gibson

sandra.blake/ccbill13/13-0243



Sandra Blake