


MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President 

DATE: July 2, 2010

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 10-0522  
Required Parking for Bicycles

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The purpose of City Council Bill 10-0522 (Required Parking for Bicycles) is to create a requirement for bicycle parking spaces, and to explain the ways in which these spaces are to be provided. The bill is compatible with the goals of the Baltimore City Comprehensive Master Plan and the Baltimore City Sustainability Plan in that it helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy use, makes Baltimore more bicycle friendly, and improves transportation choice and mobility for City residents.

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) concurs with the Planning Department's staff report. While the provision of dedicated bicycle parking is unequivocally supported, the proposed offsets in vehicle parking spaces for bike parking spaces may be too generous. An area-for-area calculation is therefore preferable. Since eight bicycle parking spaces occupy the same amount of area as one car parking space, an offset of one parking space for eight parking spaces seems appropriate. This will ensure that adequate parking spaces are provided for businesses outside of Downtown, while allowing flexibility for additional parking space offsets at Downtown businesses where bicycle commuting and car congestion will both be greater.

cc: Kaliopé Parthemos  
Angela Gibson

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