




BALTIMORE CITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner 

Date: April 2, 2020

**Re: City Council Bill 19-0465 Port Covington District and Port Covington Community Benefits District Management Authority**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0465 for the purpose of creating a community benefits district for Port Covington; specifying the boundaries of the district; creating a community benefits district management authority and providing for its rights, duties, and powers; providing for the selection and composition of the Authority's Board of Directors; designating the initial interim board of the authority and providing for the selection and approval of a full board, including authority to establish up to three classes of board memberships with certain approval rights granted to each class; creating the administrator for the authority and approving a potential administrator; mandating the financial responsibilities of the Authority and the City in conjunction with the operation of the district; providing for a supplemental tax to be collected for the Authority; authorizing the creation of separate classes and subclasses of property for the purpose of establishing different rates of supplemental tax; authorizing the creation of credits to facilitate a diverse residential mix; incorporating the assessment; collection and enforcement process for the supplemental tax within the procedures and processes already existing; specifying the role of the City and maintaining and enhancing existing services; encouraging the creation of partnerships between and among the Authority, the City, the state, the federal government and other property owners not subject to the supplemental tax; establishing the Board of Estimates as the agency charged with reviewing and approving various matters relating to the District and the Authority; providing for the renewal, expiration, termination and approval of the District and the Authority; otherwise providing for the existence, operation and control of the District and the Authority; and providing for a special effective date.

At its regular meeting of January, 30, 2020, the Planning Commission concurred with the recommendations of its departmental staff, and recommended that City Council Bill 19-0465 be passed by the City Council. The Bill creates a Business Improvement District (BID) for the purpose of funding specific additional services. The additional services to be provided within the BID will include; beautification and landscape maintenance, snow removal, sanitation services, additional security, marketing and promotions, events, and fundraising efforts. DHCD does not anticipate that the provision of these additional services within the BID will have an adverse fiscal or operational impact on the Department.

DHCD **has no objection** to the passage of City Council Bill 19-0465.

MB:sm

cc: Mr. Blendy, Nicholas, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*