

TRANSMITTAL MEMO

TO: Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, President, City Council
Members of City Council

FROM: Peter Little, Executive Director

DATE: February 27, 2009

RE: ORDINANCE 09-0275



PARKING
OF BALTIMORE CITY
AUTHORITY

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 09-0275 introduced by Council Members Curran, Henry, Young, Kraft, Middleton, Reisinger, Holton, Cole, Clarke, Conaway, Welch and Branch.

The purpose of this bill is to impose certain conditions on the right of a parking facility to use towing services to enforce parking restrictions and generally relating to the licensing and regulation of parking facilities.

The Baltimore City Parking Authority, Inc. has reviewed the proposed legislation and understands the problems the bill tries to remedy, but has a concern about its possible negative impact on the availability of public parking. We are concerned that, because of the costs associated with the purchase, installation, maintenance and operation of the parking revenue control equipment that would be mandated by this bill, owners of many parking lots may decide to simply not offer transient parking opportunities, thereby reducing public parking opportunities in neighborhoods in need of that public parking.

Based on the concern noted above, the Baltimore City Parking Authority, Inc. does not support the passage of city Council Bill 09-0275 at this time. We would welcome the opportunity to work with City Council on this legislation so that its admirable intent, to stop the predatory towing of vehicles from parking lots, is met, but with limited impact on the availability of public parking.

