

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 11, 2022

TO: Economic and Community Development Committee

FROM: Colin Tarbert, President and CEO //

POSITION: Favorable

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 22-0096R

Approving the Submission of an Application to the State of Maryland for the Redesignation of Baltimore City's Modified Consolidated Enterprise Zone and its

Focus Areas

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is reporting on City Council Bill No. 22-0096R - Approving the Submission of an Application to the State of Maryland for the Redesignation of Baltimore City's Modified Consolidated Enterprise Zone and its Focus Areas - introduced by Council President Nick Mosby.

PURPOSE

The Bill is to approve BDC's application to the State of Maryland to redesignate Baltimore City's modified Consolidated Enterprise Zone and its Focus Areas. The regulations of the Enterprise Zone Program, as set by the State of Maryland, require the written expression of the sentiment of the Baltimore City Council endorsing the Enterprise Zone and Focus Area application to the Maryland Department of Commerce.

BRIEF HISTORY

The General Assembly of the State of Maryland established an Enterprise Zone Program to focus State and local resources on the encouragement of economic growth in economically distressed areas and employment opportunities for the unemployed. The current designated Enterprise Zone will expire on June 14, 2022 and the redesignated Enterprise Zone will exist for a term of ten years.

The redesignation of the Enterprise Zone and Focus Areas will increase opportunities for revitalization, property rehabilitation, and job creation in underutilized commercial areas in Baltimore City. The objective of the bill is to ensure the continued availability of Enterprise Zone and Focus Area benefits to businesses in affected areas.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

AGENCY POSITION

The Baltimore Development Corporation respectfully requests a **favorable** report on City Council Bill No. 22-0096R. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Clark at 410-837-9305 or KClark@baltimoredevelopment.com.

cc: Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations Sophia Gebrehiwot, Mayor's Office of Government Relations