

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 22-0280  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: The Council President  
At the request of: Department of Housing and Community Development  
Introduced and read first time: September 19, 2022  
Assigned to: Economic and Community Development Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Public Works, Department of Transportation, Planning Commission, Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Urban Renewal – Johnston Square –**  
3 **Amendment \_\_\_\_**

4 FOR the purpose of amending the Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston Square to reauthorize the  
5 acquisition of properties within the Project Area, to extend the life of the Plan, and to remove  
6 certain properties from the list in Appendices A and B; waiving certain content and  
7 procedural requirements; making the provisions of this Ordinance severable; providing for  
8 the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and providing  
9 for a special effective date.

10 BY authority of  
11 Article 13 - Housing and Urban Renewal  
12 Section 2-6  
13 Baltimore City Code  
14 (Edition 2000)

15 **Recitals**

16 The Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston Square was originally approved by the Mayor and City  
17 Council of Baltimore by Ordinance 77-357 and last amended by Ordinance 14-295.

18 An amendment to the Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston Square is necessary to reauthorize  
19 the Plan’s powers of acquisition and condemnation so that these actions may legally continue, in  
20 compliance with § 12-105.1 of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, to  
21 extend the life of the Plan, and to remove certain properties from the lists in Appendices A  
22 and B.

23 Under Article 13, § 2-6 of the Baltimore City Code, no change may be made in any approved  
24 renewal plan unless the change is approved in the same manner as that required for the approval  
25 of a renewal plan.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1       **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
2 following changes in the Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston Square are approved:

3           (1) In the Plan, amend C.1.c. to read as follows:

4                   C. TECHNIQUES USED TO ACHIEVE PLAN OBJECTIVES

5                           1. Acquisition

6                                   . . . .

7                                   c. The authority to acquire the Properties within the Project Area is expressly  
8 confirmed and reauthorized through and including [December 31, 2022]  
9 DECEMBER 31, 2026.

10          (2) In the Plan, amend D. To read as follows:

11                   D. Duration of Provisions and Requirements

12                           The Johnston Square Urban Renewal Plan, as amended from time to time, is in  
13 full force and effect through and including [December 31, 2018] DECEMBER 31,  
14 2026.

15          (3) In the Plan, in Appendix A, delete the following from the list of properties:

16                   702 E. Biddle Street  
17                   704 E. Biddle Street  
18                   706 E. Biddle Street  
19                   709 E. Biddle Street  
20                   710 E. Biddle Street  
21                   714 E. Biddle Street  
22                   716 E. Biddle Street  
23                   718 E. Biddle Street  
24                   720 E. Biddle Street  
25                   722 E. Biddle Street

26                   902 E. Biddle Street  
27                   904 E. Biddle Street  
28                   906 E. Biddle Street  
29                   924 E. Biddle Street  
30                   938 E. Biddle Street

31                   1323 E. Biddle Street  
32                   1325 E. Biddle Street

33                   700 E. Chase Street  
34                   707 E. Chase Street  
35                   713 E. Chase Street  
36                   715 E. Chase Street  
37                   717 E. Chase Street

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1 719 E. Chase Street  
2 725 E. Chase Street

3 803 E. Chase Street  
4 815 E. Chase Street  
5 817 E. Chase Street  
6 819 E. Chase Street

7 1306 E. Eager Street  
8 1308 E. Eager Street

9 1022 N. Eden Street  
10 1024 N. Eden Street

11 1114 N. Eden Street

12 1316 Greenmount Avenue

13 1124 Homewood Avenue

14 1216 Homewood Avenue

15 725 E. Preston Street  
16 743 E. Preston Street  
17 745 E. Preston Street  
18 751 E. Preston Street

19 911 E. Preston Street

20 (4) In the Plan, in Appendix B, delete the following from the list of properties:

21 13. 1024 North Eden Street  
22

23 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston  
24 Square, as amended by this Ordinance and identified as “Urban Renewal Plan, Johnston Square,  
25 revised to include Amendment \_\_\_\_, dated September 19, 2022”, is approved. The Department of  
26 Planning shall file a copy of the amended Urban Renewal Plan with the Department of  
27 Legislative Reference as a permanent public record, available for public inspection and  
28 information.

29 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That if the amended Urban Renewal Plan  
30 approved by this Ordinance in any way fails to meet the statutory requirements for the content of  
31 a renewal plan or for the procedures for the preparation, adoption, and approval of a renewal  
32 plan, those requirements are waived and the amended Urban Renewal Plan approved by this  
33 Ordinance is exempted from them.

34 **SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That if any provision of this Ordinance or the  
35 application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, the  
36 invalidity does not affect any other provision or any other application of this Ordinance, and for  
37 this purpose the provisions of this Ordinance are declared severable.

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1       **SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That if a provision of this Ordinance concerns  
2 the same subject as a provision of any zoning, building, electrical, plumbing, health, fire, or  
3 safety law or regulation, the applicable provisions shall be construed to give effect to each.  
4 However, if the provisions are found to be in irreconcilable conflict, the one that establishes the  
5 higher standard for the protection of the public health and safety prevails. If a provision of this  
6 Ordinance is found to be in conflict with an existing provision of any other law or regulation that  
7 establishes a lower standard for the protection of the public health and safety, the provision of  
8 this Ordinance prevails and the other conflicting provision is repealed to the extent of the  
9 conflict.

10       **SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is  
11 enacted.