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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT

Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
JAMES L. SHEA, CITY SOLICITOR  
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET  
SUITE 101, CITY HALL  
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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October 24, 2022

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Attn: Executive Secretary  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 22-0265 – Landmark List: Exteriors – 3818 Roland Avenue

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0265 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill places 3818 Roland Avenue on the Landmark List: Exteriors.

An ordinance of the Mayor and City Council is required to add a structure to the “Landmark List: Exteriors.” City Code, Art. 6, § 4-2(1). The ordinance must indicate the structure’s boundaries in one of three ways, including “by street address, which indicates that all appurtenant land or other property at that street address and on the same lot is included in and protected by the Landmark designation” or “by Section, Block, and Lot Number, which indicates that all land or other property on that lot is included in the Landmark designation.” City Code, Art. 6, § 4-3(a)(2)(ii). The bill contains the street address and the Block and Lot number.

The City Council must refer the bill for written reports and recommendations to the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP), the Planning Commission, and any other agency that the Council President designates. City Code, Art. 6, § 4-5(a). The First Reader version of the bill indicates that it was referred to CHAP and the Planning Commission, among other agencies.

If a bill that seeks to add a structure to the “Landmark List: Exteriors” was not initiated by CHAP, the City Council may not take action without receiving CHAP’s written report and recommendations. City Code, Art. 6, § 4-8(b). However, if the Council does not receive CHAP’s report and recommendations within 100 days of the referral, it may proceed. City Code, Art. 6, § 4-8(c). The online bill report from the Planning Commission indicates that CHAP has reviewed and recommended approval of the designation, but CHAP’s report is not yet included in the online bill file.

Assuming CHAP’s report is received before the Council acts, or 100 days have elapsed since referral to CHAP, and assuming the Council adheres to the public notice and hearing

requirements in Section 4-6 of Article 6 of the City Code, the Law Department can approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Hochstetler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeffrey Hochstetler  
Chief Solicitor

cc: James L. Shea, City Solicitor  
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor  
D'Ereka Bolden, Assistant Solicitor  
Michelle Toth, Special Solicitor