



MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

Date: October 17, 2022

Re: City Council Bill 22-0266 - Sale of Property - 1200 North Freemont Avenue

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0266 for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property that is located at 1200 North Freemont Avenue (Block 0046; Lot 001) and is no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

DHCD strategically acquires, manages, and disposes of real property to create housing and economic development opportunities for Baltimore's neighborhoods. DHCD's Development Division is tasked with disposing of City owned real property on behalf of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City.

DHCD uses RFP's to seek developers or development teams for large scale projects that require extensive experience in urban revitalization initiatives, a proven track record of community partnerships, and financial and organizational capacity to successfully implement and complete complex redevelopment projects within a timely period.

If enacted, City Council Bill 22-0266 would allow for either the public or private sale of 1200 North Freemont Avenue. The property is estimated at 3.6 acres and is located in the Sandtown Winchester neighborhood in the 9th District. The property is zoned R-8. The two-level property was formerly an elementary school building, constructed in 1973. This ordinance would provide for the authority to sell the property to the Salvation Army of Central Maryland.

DHCD supports the Administration's disposition of the property as the site is no longer needed for public use.

We respectfully request a **favorable** report on Council Bill 22-0266.

AK/sm

cc: Ms. Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations