



HOMELESS PERSONS REPRESENTATION PROJECT, INC.

201 North Charles Street, Suite 1104, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 (Headquarters)
(410) 685-6589 Toll Free (800) 773-4340 Fax (410) 625-0361
PO Box 1787, Rockville, Maryland 20849 (410) 387-3126 (Satellite Office)
www.hprplaw.org info@hprplaw.org

Staff

Kirsten Gettys Downs, Esq.
Executive Director

Carolyn P. Johnson, Esq.
Managing Attorney

Julian Garcia
*Director of Finance and
Operations*

Ingrid Löfgren, Esq.
*Director of Homeless Youth
Initiative*

Michelle S. Madaio, Esq.
Director – Economic Justice

Javaneh Pourkarim, Esq.
*Director – Montgomery County
and Prince George's County
Office*

Michael C. Stone, Esq.
Director of Pro Bono Programs

Laura Wellford
*Director of Development and
Communications*

Alexandra Curd, Esq.
Audrey Lynn Martin, Esq.
Staff Attorneys

Dee Rucker, Esq.
*Equal Justice Works Fellow
in Homeless Youth Initiative*

Phillip Clark
Heather Strauss
Katherine Guzmán
Paralegals

Edward Blackstone
Youth Collaboration Coordinator

Yuné Aroni
Administrative Assistant

Audreina Blanding
Linda Kennedy
*Fellow
In Economic Justice*

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Nick Mosby, Council President
Baltimore City Council

RE: Support for 22-0195 – Inclusion Housing for Baltimore City

Dear President Mosby and Councilmembers.

Please accept this written testimony in support of the proposed Inclusionary Housing bill. On behalf of the Homeless Persons Representation Project, I am writing to urge the City Council to support Council Bill 22-0195. We believe that the amendments proposed by Councilwoman Ramos promote and encourage necessary accessibility and inclusion within the City's Inclusionary Housing policy through the implementation of these rules and regulations and will create a meaningful amount of affordable housing for Baltimore City residents.

CB 22-0195 will prove beneficial to Baltimore City by removing past barriers within the City's preceding Inclusionary Housing policy. It will remove those barriers by:

- Removing loopholes and waivers that made the prior Inclusionary Housing policy ineffective.
- Marketing Inclusionary Housing to residents who have been historically excluded from new development.
- Increasing the amount of available affordable housing by applying Inclusionary Housing requirements to smaller projects.
- Shifting costs to the projects developers who seeks to develop in the City.

Each of these amendments will directly impact homelessness in Baltimore City.

The Homeless Persons Representation Project has been representing persons experiencing homelessness and housing instability for decades and for decades we have seen the impact of homelessness on the residents of Baltimore City. We believe that Housing is a right that everyone is deserving of no matter the circumstances. The impact of homelessness not only permeates throughout a person's life, but it also permeates throughout the city. The reality is that Baltimore City has a problem with homelessness and this bill would directly impact that reality. The amendments in this bill will ensure that Baltimore City's Inclusionary Housing policy will not go another 14 years creating only 37 affordable housing units for residents in need.