

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

Date: January 31, 2023

Re: City Council Bill 22-0299 Tax Credits - Historic Properties - Application Extension

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0299 for the purpose of extending the period within which applications may be accepted for the historic improvement tax credit and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, City Council Bill 22-0299 would extend the deadline for applications for an additional 5 years. In 2020 and 2021, the Council approved one-year extensions. The current deadline for applications is February 28, 2023, this legislation would extend the deadline until February 28, 2028.

CHAP Tax Credits incentivize homeowners and small businesses to rehabilitate buildings in historic neighborhoods, from rowhomes to the adaptive reuse of commercial properties, it provides for the preservation of historically significant buildings in the City of Baltimore.

The Historic Tax Credit has been an important neighborhood revitalization tool particularly beneficial for rehabbing vacant buildings. Groups such as Black Women Build, ReBuild Metro, Parity Homes, and Druid Heights CDC have used the credit to rehab vacant properties in east and west Baltimore.

DHCD supports the passage of City Council Bill 22-0299.