



MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

Date: February 7, 2023

A blue ink handwritten signature of Alice Kennedy, which appears to be the letters 'AK' enclosed in a circle.

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

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0265 for the purpose of designating 3818 Roland Avenue (Block 3563A, Lot 039), as an historical landmark: exterior.

If enacted, City Council Bill 22-0265 would designate the exterior of 3818 Roland Avenue as a historical landmark. The property is not located within any of DHCD's Impact Investment Areas or Community Development Zones.

At its regular meeting of October 13, 2022, the Planning Commission concurred with the recommendation of its departmental staff and recommended approval of City Council Bill 22-0265. The Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) heard this Bill on October 11, 2022 and unanimously recommended approval of Landmark designation.

The property at 3818 Roland Avenue is located in Hampden, a neighborhood of two-story brick rowhouses accompanied by nearby churches, schools and a large 55 and over apartment tower. The building is significant for its length of female ownership in the early 20th century and is an historical reminder of the progress towards financial independence for women in early 20th century Baltimore. It's a story that should continue to uplift those seeking security and mobility through homeownership.

DHCD provides a variety of resources and opportunities for homeowners and future homeowners in Baltimore City such as Homeownership Incentives closing cost and down payment assistance, to make buying a home more affordable for low income and historically marginalized communities through the Baltimore City Employee Homeownership Program, Buying into Baltimore and the First-Time Homebuyers Incentive Program. Preserving historically significant structures and stories supports the wellbeing and overall health of neighborhoods.

DHCD recommends a **favorable** report on the passage of City Council Bill 22-0265.

AK/sm

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

Brandon M. Scott, Mayor • Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

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