



MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

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Date: February 7, 2023

Re: City Council Bill 22-0277 Landmark List - Reed Calloway House

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0277 for the purpose of designating the Reed Calloway House, 1316 North Carey Street, as an historical landmark: exterior.

If enacted, City Council Bill 22-0277 would designate the Reed Calloway House located at 1316 North Carey Street as a historical landmark. The property is connected to a series of rowhouses many of which are city owned vacant properties that are presently open to bid and some privately owned vacants. The 1300 block also contains a mix of residential rental with some homeownership.

At its regular meeting of October 11, 2022, the Planning Commission concurred with the recommendation of its departmental staff and recommended that City Council Bill 20-0548 be passed by the City Council. On the same day, the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) held a public hearing during which the Commission reviewed and recommended approval of Landmark designation.

The property is located a few blocks away from the “West Impact Investment Area,” which is undergoing significant community development. This area is endowed with significant architecture and history and is the heart of Baltimore’s African American Community. It was a center for jazz age entertainment and the home to Baltimore’s Civil rights movement. The designation of the Reed Calloway House as a historical landmark will add to the economic and social development of the Sandtown-Winchester neighborhood by strengthening the stewardship of historical and cultural resources and protecting and enhancing the preservation of Baltimore’s Historic buildings.

Preserving historically significant structures will support the wellbeing and overall health of the neighborhood while it experiences growth, and community revitalization. The landmark designation may open up additional opportunities for redevelopment in the surrounding blocks including some of the vacant buildings that are presently open to bid and encourage the rehab of additional surrounding vacant buildings.

DHCD recommends a **favorable** report on the passage of City Council Bill 22-0277.
AK/sm



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