



MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

Date: May 2, 2023

Re: City Council Bill 23-0359 Rezoning - 600 North Paca Street

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 23-0325 for the purpose of changing the zoning for the property known as 600 North Paca Street (Block 546, Lot 032), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat, from the OS Zoning District to the R-8 Zoning District; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, City Council Bill 23-0359 would allow for the rezoning of the property located at 600 North Paca Street from the OS Zoning District to the R-8 Zoning District to allow the applicant to build a cultural center addition onto the existing structure.

The property is currently used as a spiritual center and historic site for the Associate Sulpicians of the US, the property contains a chapel visitor center, historic home, and park space. The applicant would like to construct an addition to the spiritual center in the southeast corner of the property.

At its regular meeting of March 16, 2023, the Planning Commission concurred with the recommendation of its Departmental staff and recommended the Bill be approved by the City Council. Planning staff noted in their report that the rezoning of 600 North Paca Street would not be detrimental to or endanger public health, safety, or welfare. The Seton Hill Association has provided a letter of support of this action.

The property at 600 North Paca Street is not located within any of DHCD's Impact Investment Areas or Streamlined Code Enforcement Areas. The rezoning may expand spiritual opportunities for area residents.

DHCD **supports** the passage of City Council Bill 23-0359.

AK/sm

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

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

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