



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Chris Ryer, Director, Department of Planning <i>Chris Ryer</i>
DATE	September 5, 2024
SUBJECT	City Council Bill #23-0363

Position: No objection, defer to DHCD

SUMMARY OF POSITION

This bill will establish a Land Bank Authority of Baltimore City. A land bank is an entity that can recover vacant and abandoned properties, by allowing the created authority to acquire those lots, and to provide for their redevelopment for the betterment of the community.

One concern staff has concerns the requirement on Page 23, in lines 10-13, discussing the composition of the appointed members, including “(VI) 2 individuals living in neighborhood statistical areas determined by the Baltimore City Department of Planning, where 10% or more of the properties are abandoned or were abandoned in the past 10 years.” We are not sure that we have the ability to make these determinations, and would need to rely on DHCD for that information. Given that, we would defer to DHCD on how best to make that determination.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric Tiso, Division Chief, Land Use and Urban Design Division at eric.tiso@baltimorecity.gov or at 410-396-8358.