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TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Corren Johnson, Director – Department of Transportation
DATE	June 11, 2024
SUBJECT	24-0530 Transit-Oriented Development - West Baltimore

Position: No Objection

Introduction

For the purpose of supporting a State Transit-Oriented Development designation for the area surrounding and including the West Baltimore MARC Station; and providing for a special effective date.

DOT Analysis

Council Bill 24-0530 would designate parts of West Baltimore, including West Baltimore MARC, as a transit-oriented development (TOD). As per Maryland law, the City must designate an area as a TOD in conjunction with the State. This is important because TOD designation would open the door for tax incentives, State funding, and other resources for area projects. The Development would support and allow for commercial uses, residential uses, parking, and other supporting facilities. Furthermore, the Development would provide for sustainable development that maximizes use of transit and alternative transportation modes such as walking and biking.

The Development area would overlap a large portion of the West Baltimore United project area. Additionally, the area would be served by the Maryland transit Administration's planned Red Line project. TOD designation would complement these transformative transportation projects by supporting development and driving investment in the TOD area.

Conclusion

The Department is invested in the long-term success of sustainable transportation and transit-oriented development in the City. This aligns with the Department's mission and goals for West Baltimore. The Department supports the advancement of Council Bill 24-0530.