L	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 12-0081
0	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
5	NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director

CITY of
BALTIMORE





TO

May 21, 2012

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council c/o Karen Randle Room 400 – City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 12-0081 introduced by Council Members Cole, Kraft, Middleton, Branch, Stokes, Scott, Mosby, Spector, Reisinger, Curran, Henry, Holton, Welch, and President Young.

The purpose of the Bill is to regulate the provision of valet parking services; require valet parking operators to be licensed; require permits for valet parking zones; establish certain standards of operation; define certain terms; impose certain penalties; provide for certain appeals and reviews; correct, clarify, and conform related provisions governing passenger loading zones and freight loading zones; designate passenger loading zones, freight loading zones, and valet parking zones as impoundment areas; clarify responsibility for collecting applicable parking taxes; provide for a special effective date; and generally relating to the licensing and regulation of valet parking services.

City Council Bill 12-0081, if approved, would amend and add to Article 31 of the Revised Baltimore City Code a Subtitle 14 to address controls for and the licensing of valet parking services, as well as creating valet parking zones and permits. The Director of Transportation, in consultation with the Parking Authority, would be authorized to adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of the new subtitle. Public notice and opportunities for a public hearing for valet parking zone requests are part of the legislation's provisions. While page 3 of the legislation mentions the Department of Public Works under § 6-16(B), the establishment of zones, these responsibilities and all of Article 31 were transferred to the Department of Transportation with its creation as an Executive Department (notation by Legislative Reference preceding the Article). The authority for implementing the provisions of the proposed Subtitle 14 is appropriately assigned to the Department of Transportation. It is worth noting, however, that any signage designating valet parking zones and hours of operation should be done in the same manner in which freight and passenger loading zones are posted. Any signage provided by the valet parking service operator must not be placed in the public right of way.

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Other than the comments offered for signage, the Department of Public Works defers to the Department of Transportation, the Parking Authority, and the Law Department on City Council Bill 12-0081.

Director

AHF/MMC