

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Honorable President and Members of the City Council

Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM:

M. J. Brodie, President MJBaldie/Kr

DATE:

July 9, 2012

SUBJECT:

City Council Bill No. 12-0098

Urban Renewal Plan - Inner Harbor Project I - Amendment

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is pleased to support City Council Bill No. 12-0098. The bill is necessary in order to amend the Urban Renewal Plan for Inner Harbor Project I to allow for additional land use categories within the Development Areas.

The amendment will allow for the expansion of the permitted land uses to include "commercial" uses to the already permitted "public" uses for areas: 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, and 24 of the Urban Renewal Plan. The amendments are necessary so that the City-owned development parcels along Pratt Street may be potentially redeveloped as street-level retail in the form of 1-3 story additions to the existing building frontages, thus increasing retail offerings in the Central Business District and Inner Harbor Area. This concept was envisioned as part of the Pratt Street Redesign Plan and will be further implemented in the Transform Baltimore Zoning Code.

BDC has reviewed the ordinance and supports the proposed ordinance and is respectfully requesting that Bill No. 12-0098 be given favorable consideration by the City Council.

cc:

Kaliope Parthemos Angela Gibson