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SUBJECT

Steve Sharkey, Acting Director

Department of General Services 800 Abel Wolman Municipal Building

CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO

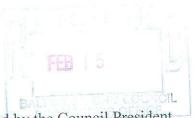


CITY COUNCIL BILL 13-0179

TO

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

February 12, 2013



I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 13-0179 introduced by the Council President on behalf of the Administration (Department of General Services).

The purpose of the Bill is to authorize the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain parcels of land known as the former beds of certain streets and alleys or portions of them bounded by North Avenue, Warwick Avenue, Baker Street, and the CSX Transportation Inc. Railroad Right-of-way, and no longer needed for public use.

The Coppin State University is constructing a new Science and Technology Center building as part of the University's Facilities Master Plan. The approximately 152,305 square foot building is planned to address critical needs in science and related disciplines, provide a campus data center and general classroom space. The building will be located at the southwest corner of West North Avenue and North Warwick Avenue. The site is currently supporting a temporary surface parking lot and includes vacant townhouses. City Council Bill 13-0179, if approved, would authorize the sale of the following portions of former rights-of-way:

- An approximately 66 foot wide by 1,071.8 foot long portion of the former bed of Thomas Avenue, located perpendicular to and between Baker Street and West North Avenue;
- An approximately 66 foot wide by 115 foot long portion of the former bed of Presbury Street, located perpendicular to and between Thomas Avenue and a 10 foot alley;
- An approximately 66 foot wide by 100 foot long portion of Whitmore Avenue, located perpendicular to the south side of West North Avenue and adjacent to the property known as 2551/2553 West North Avenue;
- An approximately 20 foot by 80 foot by 10 foot by 30 foot by 10 foot by 110 foot portion of Presbury Street, located perpendicular to and between North Warwick Avenue and a 10 foot alley.

The parcels to be sold would be subject to full width Perpetual Easements for all municipal utilities not to be abandoned or relocated in these former rights-of-way. Companion legislation would condemn and open and condemn and close to public use certain of these rights-of-way (City Council Bill 13-0177 and 13-0178). The portions of streets and alleys to be opened, closed, and sold are to accommodate the new Science and Technology Center building.

comment

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The Department of General Services supports passage of City Council Bill 13-0179 provided the opening and closing ordinances are enacted.

Respectfully,

STEWE SHARKEY ACTING DIRECTOR

SS/MMC:ela