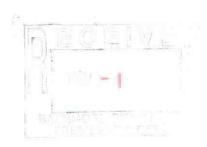


October 30, 2013

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council City Hall, Room 409 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202



Attn. Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

Re: City Council Bills 13-0263, 0264, and 0265 - Supplemental General Obligation **Bond Appropriation**

Dear President and City Council Members:

Lexington Market supports the amendments (CB 13-0263, 0264, and 0265) that would restore three Capital Improvement Project funds to Downtown Partnership of Baltimore. These projects were previously approved by the Planning Commission but inadvertently excluded from the Fiscal 2014 Ordinance of Estimates.

I manage Lexington Market, one of three projects that will receive funding once it is restored. Improving the market is a priority for the community and Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake. It is also key to improving the western portion of Downtown Baltimore, which is one of the fastest growing residential and cultural centers in Baltimore. While Lexington Market is physically in Downtown, it's location at a major transit nexus allows the market to serve residents from all over the city who rely on us for access to fresh foods that are not available where they live.

As with each of the three projects deserving of restored funding, the Lexington Market project is important to the community and will bring necessary repairs

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and design improvements to the public right of way. The public funds will also leverage significant private funding to complete this work for the common good.

Each of bills listed above corrects an oversight by the City Agency during its budget submission. I sincerely hope the Council will approve each bill so that the important capital projects they will help fund may continue without delay.

Sincerely,

Casper J. Genco Jr.

Executive Director