CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor 101 City Hall Baltimore, Maryland 21202

December 10, 2013

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

Attn: Karen Randle **Executive Secretary**

> City Council Bill 13-0269 - Zoning - Conditional Use Parking, Re: Open Off-Street Parking Area – 4001 Roland Avenue

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 13-0269 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill permits the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a parking, open off-street area on the property known as 4001 Roland Avenue.

The subject property is zoned R-7 (General Residence District). The conditional uses that require the enactment of an ordinance in an R-7 District include an open offstreet parking area for 3 or more automobiles. ZC § 4-1004 (4). The Report of the Planning Commission ("Report") establishes that the site will be used for additional parking for an adjacent retirement community. An ordinance therefore would be required to approve the use.

The Report recommends that Council Bill 13-0269 be amended as outlined in the Staff Report, which is attached to the Planning Commission's bill report. The proposed amendment, which requires a designated site plan be attached to the bill, does not appear to present any legal obstacle to its adoption.

Pursuant to the City Zoning Code, a bill concerning a conditional use is classified as a "legislative authorization." ZC § 16-101. Legislative authorizations require that certain procedures be followed in the bill's passage. Specifically, certain notice requirements apply to the introduction of the bill. See ZC § 16-203. The bill must be referred to certain City agencies, which are obligated to review the bill in a specified manner. See ZC §§ 16-301, 16-302 & 16-304. Additional public notice and hearing

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requirements also apply to the bill. See ZC § 16-402. Finally, certain limitations on the City Council's ability to amend the bill apply. See ZC § 16-403.

Assuming all the procedural requirements are met, the Law Department will approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

Victor K. Tervala Assistant Solicitor

cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor
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