TITLE	Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., Director
AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 14-0347
	NAME & ADDRESS

CITY of

BALTIMORE

MEMO



TO

DATE:

March 28, 2014

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

I am hereby reporting on City Council Bill 14-0347 introduced by Council Vice-President Reisinger on behalf of 859 Washington Blvd, LLC.

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the Urban Renewal Plan for Washington Village to modify the responsibilities of the Commercial District Review Panel and to amend certain exhibits to reflect the change of zoning, upon approval by separate ordinance, for the property known as 859 Washington Boulevard; waive certain content and procedural requirements; make the provisions of this Ordinance severable; and provide for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances.

Ordinance 79-1128 established the Urban Renewal Plan for Washington Village and was last amended by Ordinance 07-533. The Urban Renewal Area is generally bounded by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to the east, Russell and Paca Streets and the Camden Carroll Industrial Park to the south, Bush Street and Carroll Park to the west, and the Mt. Clare Junction and B&O Museum complex to the north. The purpose of the Urban Renewal Plan is to establish a positive and identifiable image for Washington Village and the Mount Clare areas, promote historic and architectural preservation and homeownership opportunities, general physical improvements to the area, and where possible, provide training and employment opportunities to residents. The Urban Renewal Area includes residential, community business, institutional, public and industrial land uses.

City Council Bill 14-0347, if approved, would modify Exhibits 1 and 4 to reflect a change in zoning for the property known as 859 Washington Boulevard provided companion legislation (City Council Bill 14-0348) is approved. The Exhibit 1 would change the land use category for this property from Residential to Community Business, and Exhibit 4 would change the zoning from R-8 to the B-2-3 Zoning District. In addition, the Community Review Panel for the B-2-3 zoned properties would be modified to require expedited review and approval of all rehabilitation plans and permits.



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The Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 14-0337, but recommends that the recitals be corrected to reflect the last amending ordinance number for this Urban Renewal Plan as Ordinance 07-533 (page 1, line 17).

Respectfully,

Rudolph S. Chow. P.E.

Director

RSC/MMC:ela