CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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

February 3, 2015

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council Attn: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary Room 409, City Hall 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

> Re: City Council Bill 14-0452 -- Sale of Property – 17, 19, and 23 South Gay Street

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 14-0452 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would allow the City Comptroller to sell 17, 19 and 23 South Gay Street Avenue. The bill also provides for an immediate effective date.

Article II, Section 15(b) of the City Charter grants the City the power to sell property no longer needed for public use. Section 5(b) also provides that "any such disposition shall be authorized by ordinance, shall be approved by the Board of Estimates with the approval entered in its minutes, and shall be made at public sale unless a private sale or other manner of disposition shall be expressly authorized by the Board of Estimates and entered in its minutes."

Provided that the requirements of Art. V, Sec. 5(b) are complied with, the Law Department can approve City Council Bill 14-0452 for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Elena R. DiPietro Chief Solicitor

Elena R. Di Retro

George Nilson, City Solicitor Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison Victor Tervala, Chief Solicitor Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor Jennifer Landis, Special Assistant Solicitor

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

1 n/comm

cc: