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5	NAME & TITLE	Steve Sharkey, Director	
0	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of General Services 800 Abel Wolman Municipal Building	
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CITY of

BALTIMORE

MEMO



TO

DATE:

May 19, 2015

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

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 15-0536 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 a certain parcel of land known as the former bed of Worcester Street, extending from CSX Transportation Railroad Right-of-way toward Ridgely Street, and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

City Council Bill 15-0536 would authorize the sale of an approximately 66-foot wide by 301-foot long portion of the bed of Worcester Street, beginning at the property line between 1822 and 1820 Worcester Street and extending westerly to its terminus at the CSX railroad right-of-way. The portion of Worcester Street proposed for sale is located in the Carroll-Camden Industrial Area. The requestor, 1400 Hull Street LLC, asked that this portion of Worcester Street be closed to public use under companion legislation (City Council Bill 15-0535) and that they purchase the street bed from the City. The 1400 Hull Street LLC owns various properties on either side of Worcester Street that are adjacent to the area of street bed they wish to purchase. The requestor has an existing contracting business and would like to close and purchase the proposed portion of Worcester Street, incorporate it into its properties and use the area to provide parking for its business. The Mayor and City Council own a parcel adjacent to Worcester Street (Lot 1A) which the requestor is in the process of purchasing. The property known as 1450 Ridgely Street touches upon the closed portion, but the business located there uses Ridgely Street to access their property. Worcester Street does have City-owned utilities located in its right-of-way, but only a small portion of a 6-inch cast iron water main would be in the area proposed for closure and sale. The legislation protects any City-owned utilities that are not to be abandoned or relocated in the affected area with a full width Perpetual Easement.

Based on these findings, the Department of General Services supports passage of City Council Bill 15-0536 provided the closing ordinance is approved.

Respectfully,

STEVE SHARKEY

SS/MMC:ela