


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	William M. Johnson, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (DOT) 417 East Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 15-0263R – Improving Broadband Internet Access in Baltimore		

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

February 22, 2016

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 15-263R – Improving Broadband Internet Access in Baltimore for the purposed of supporting efforts to improve access to broadband internet service in Baltimore and calling for the development of City polices to advance these efforts as well as a comprehensive broadband development and implementation plan for Baltimore City. .

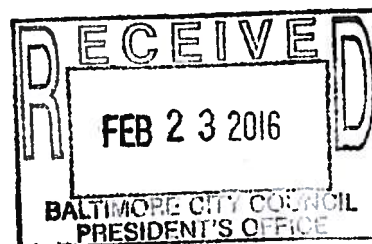
This bill will promote citywide access to Wi-Fi infrastructure, which will increase quality of life for visitors and residents of Baltimore. The bill advocates for the City to retain ownership of fiber assets while allowing for the designation of an impartial body, such as a Broadband Authority, to deploy fiber optic infrastructure and oversee fiber network operations.

The Department of Transportation supports the approval of City Council Resolution 15-0263R, with the note that we support the bill in concept without committing to specific site plan or methodology.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,


William M. Johnson
Director



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