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| FROM | NAME & TITLE | Henry Raymond, Director <i>S/Kraus / for HCR</i> | CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO |  |
| | AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS | Department of Finance Room 454, City Hall (410-396-4940) | | |
| | SUBJECT | City Council Bill #16-0704 – Water, Sewer, and Stormwater-Remediation Charges – Billings and Collections | | |

TO

DATE:

July 18, 2016

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
Room 400, City Hall

Attention: Ms. Natawna Austin

City Council Bill 16-0704 has been introduced for the purpose of providing that water charges, sewer charges, and stormwater-remediation charges be assessed, billed, due, and payable on a monthly basis; deleting certain obsolete or obsolescent references; correcting, clarifying, and conforming certain related provisions; providing for special effective dates; and generally relating to billings for and collections of water, sewer, and stormwater-remediation charges and all increases, interest, and penalties on those charges.

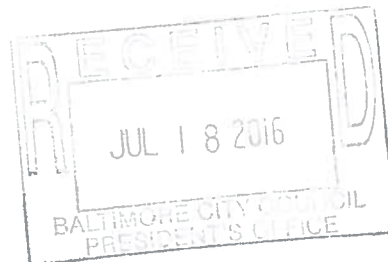
The Department of Public Works is approaching completion of the BaltiMeter project, which allows for detailed collection and measurement of water usage. Upon completion of this project, and with the introduction of a new water billing system, the City will be able to provide customers with monthly billing statements. As current City Code references billing on a quarterly basis, the language will be updated to reflect monthly billing; adjustments to the penalty rates and payment deadlines are also recommended based on the new language.

The Department of Finance would recommend that the following draft language within the bill be addressed:

- Page 2, §1-2(a) of the bill identifies bills to be collected by the Department of Finance. Bills should continue to identify the Director of Finance as the collecting entity.
- Page 5, §4-5(b) of the bill identifies that upon breach of the water payment agreement, all subsequent penalties shall continue to accrue. However, the language does not address impacts to potential penalties such as tax sale.
- Within the bill, water and sewer charges are identified as lienable, but the language includes not specific reference to stormwater fees as lienable.

Upon address of the above items, the Department of Finance would have no objection to the bill.

cc: Steve Kraus
Janice Jones-Simmons
Andrew Kleine
Angela Gibson



*No
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