

CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

March 24, 2017

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

Re: City Council Bill 17-0035 – City Streets – Closing – West Trenton Street

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 17-0035 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would allow the City to condemn and close West Trenton Street from Shirk Alley westerly to Falls Road, as shown on Plat 61-A-30A in the Department of Transportation Office. The bill expressly reserves the rights the Mayor and City Council has in the structures located under the street bed, including access rights.

Section (34) of Article II of the City Charter grants the Mayor and City Council the power to “construct, open, extend, widen, straighten or close streets, bridges, tunnels or approaches to them and other public ways of every kind within the bounds of the City.” Section 116(b)(2) of Article VII of the City Charter requires the Department of Transportation to prepare all ordinances for the opening and closing of streets.

As this bill meets with the applicable sections of the Charter, the Law Department approves it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

Hilary Ruley
Chief Solicitor

cc: David E. Ralph, Acting City Solicitor
Karen Stokes, Director, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Kyron Banks, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor
Jennifer Landis, Assistant Solicitor

