


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 17-0068		

DATE: May 18, 2017

TO

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 17-0068 introduced by the Council Members Cohen and Costello on behalf of the Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore, Inc.

The purpose of the Bill is to extend the Waterfront Management District to encompass certain adjoining blocks; clarify a description of certain properties excepted from the Supplemental Tax; make this ordinance subject to certain contingencies; provide for a special effective date; and generally relating to the Waterfront Management District and Authority.

Article II of the Baltimore City Charter authorizes the City to establish up to six community benefit district management authorities. The purpose of these authorities is to promote and market the district areas, provide supplemental security and maintenance services, and other public amenities. The Waterfront Partnership Inc. was formed in October of 2005 at the recommendation of the Mayor’s Inner Harbor Task Force. This nonprofit corporation was to provide cohesive and focused management of the Inner Harbor area and enhance the condition and use of Baltimore’s waterfront area. Two years later, Ordinance 07-417 created the Waterfront Management District and Authority which encompasses the Inner Harbor, Harbor East, Harbor Point and a portion of Fells Point (roughly from the Rusty Scupper to the Bond Street Wharf). Resolution 11-29 renewed the District and Authority for another four year term that expired on April 23, 2015. Resolution 15-21 renewed and continued the District and Authority for an additional four years, ending April 23, 2019. Ordinance 15-433 expanded the boundaries into two adjacent areas and clarified the size and membership criteria of the Board of Directors.

City Council Bill 17-0068, if approved, would extend the District into Fells Point to include additional waterfront properties from Bond Street to South Chester Street; properties fronting along South Broadway, from Thames Street to just above Eastern Avenue; as well as several properties deep along the intersecting streets with Broadway (Lancaster Street, Aliceanna Street, Fleet Street, and Eastern Avenue). The Bill clarifies that properties within the District and used exclusively for residential purposes (unless a building contains four or more residential rental units) are not subject to the supplemental tax.

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The Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore, Inc. administers the Authority, helping to keep the Inner Harbor an attractive and welcoming environment for those who visit, work and live in the area. Since creation of the Authority, the Department of Public Works has worked together with the Waterfront Partnership to meet the needs of the District, and is particularly aligned with the Partnership's goal of promoting a clean and healthy harbor.

The Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 17-0068.



Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.
Director

RSC/MMC