CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
ANDRE M. DAVIS, CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

November 6, 2017

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

Re:City Council Bill 17-0133 – City Streets – Closing –Water Street and Hollingsworth Street

Dear Mr. President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 17-0133 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would allow the City to condemn and close Water Street, extending from Grant Street easterly 157.3 feet, more or less, to South Calvert Street, and Hollingsworth Street, extending from Water Street southerly 159.6 feet, more or less, to East Lombard Street, as shown on Plat 234-A-37A in the Office of the Department of Transportation. The bill also provides for a special effective date.

Section (34)(a) 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 conforms to the applicable sections of the Charter, the Law Department approves it for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Victor K. Tervala Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre M. Davis, City Solicitor

Karen Stokes, Director, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

Kyron Banks, Mayor's Legislative Liaison

Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division

Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor

Jennifer Landis, Assistant Solicitor