Committee Vote:

Date: November 9, 2017

S. Middleton:	Yea
President Young:	Yea
Z. Cohen:	
B. Scott:	
R. Dorsey:	Yea
B. Henry:	
I. Schleifer:	
L. Pinkett, III:	Yea
K. Burnett:	Yea
J. Bullock:	Yea
.E. Reisinger:	
E. Costello:	
R. Stokes:	
S. Sneed:	Yea
M. Clarke:	

Jennifer L. Coates, Committee Staff

cc: Bill File

OCS Chrono File

CITY OF BALTIMORE CIL HEARING ATTENDANCE RECORD

PLEASE PRINT PLEASE PRINT TIFY PLEASE CHEC DDRESS/ORGANIZATION NAME APIN STATE APIN STATE APIN STATE ASELLeville Z1205 Rent	ECK HERE EMAIL ADDRESS Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	CC Bill Number: 17-0020R WHAT IS LOBB YOUR ARE: POSITION ON REGIST THIS BILL? IN THE	020R
S E		WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THIS BILL?	
L E A S E			(*) LOBBYIST: ARE YOU REGISTERED IN THE CITY
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CITY OF BALTIMORE ICIL HEARING ATTENDANCE RECORD

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City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21202

Meeting Agenda - Final Committee of the Whole

Thursday, November 9, 2017

10:00 AM

Du Burns Council Chamber, 4th floor, City Hall

17-0020R

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

17-0020R

Oversight Hearing - Private Development Incentives

For the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to the Council on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens

in how incentives are awarded.

Sponsors:

Bill Henry, Mary Pat Clarke, Edward Reisinger, Sharon Green Middleton, Zeke Cohen, Brandon M. Scott, Leon F. Pinkett, III, Ryan Dorsey, Kristerfer Burnett, Shannon Sneed,

John T. Bullock

ADJOURNMENT



BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mission Statement

On behalf of the Citizens of Baltimore City, the mission of the Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee of the Baltimore City Council is to legislate policy that will deter unnecessary tax burdens while seeking and supporting projects and initiatives that will generate and increase our tax base. Reviewing and considering financing tools that impact the retention and sustainability of our economic base is essential. Introducing and enhancing legislation that perpetuates equal access to economic development for African Americans/Minorities/Women and other members of our community that will result in an improved quality of life for all citizens of Baltimore is a critical component of Baltimore's success.

The Honorable Sharon Green Middleton Chairwoman

PUBLIC HEARING

TELEVISED

Thursday, November 9, 2017 10:00 AM Clarence "Du" Burns Council Chambers

Bill 17-0020R

Oversight Hearing – Private Development Incentives

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

Eric Costello - Chair Leon Pinkett - Vice Chair Bill Henry Sharon Green Middleton Brandon M. Scott Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer Shannon Sneed Staff: Marguerite Currin

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

Zeke Cohen – Chair Mary Pat Clarke – Vice Chair John Bullock Kristerfer Burnett Ryan Dorsey Staff: D'Paul Nibber

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Robert Stokes – Chair Kristerfer Burnett– Vice Chair Mary Pat Clarke Zeke Cohen Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer Staff: Marguerite Currin

HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

John Bullock – Chair Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer – Vice Chair Kristerfer Burnett Bill Henry Shannon Sneed Zeke Cohen Ryan Dorsey Staff: Richard Krummerich

JUDICIARY AND LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Eric Costello – Chair
Mary Pat Clarke – Vice Chair
John Bullock
Leon Pinkett
Edward Reisinger
Brandon Scott
Robert Stokes
Staff: D'Paul Nibber

LABOR

Shannon Sneed – Chair Robert Stokes – Vice Chair Eric Costello Bill Henry Mary Pat Clarke Staff: Marguerite Currin

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION

Edward Reisinger - Chair Sharon Green Middleton - Vice Chair Mary Pat Clarke Eric Costello Ryan Dorsey Leon Pinkett Robert Stokes Staff: Jennifer Coates

PUBLIC SAFETY

Brandon Scott – Chair Ryan Dorsey – Vice Chair Kristerfer Burnett Shannon Sneed Zeke Cohen Leon Pinkett Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer Staff: Richard Krummerich

TAXATION, FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sharon Green Middleton – Chair Leon Pinkett – Vice Chair Eric Costello Edward Reisinger Robert Stokes Staff: Jennifer Coates

- Larry Greene (pension only)

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

LARRY E. GREENE, Director 415 City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 410-396-7215 / Fax: 410-545-7596 email: larry.greene@baltimorecity.gov

BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Bill 17-0020R

Resolution – Oversight Hearing – Private Development Incentives

Sponsor: Councilmember Henry, et al

Introduced: April 3, 2017

Purpose:

For the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to the Council on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.

Hearing Date/Time/Location: November 9, 2017 / 10:00 a.m. / Clarence "Du" Burns Chambers

Agency Reports

Baltimore Development Corporation

Department of Finance

Department of Housing and Community Development

*

*

ANALYSIS

Background

Baltimore City works in partnership with the State of Maryland to provide programs to spur private sector development. Incentives are directed at specific industries and geographic areas and include programs which fall mainly under four categories: tax credits, Tax Increment Financing (TIFs), Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTs) and grants and loans.

Council Resolution 17-0020R requests Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) the Department of Finance and other City agencies to brief the Council on City incentives that spur private sector development. The committee will discuss incentive strategies and review the following:

- the current and planned uses of incentives for private sector development including:
 - o <u>a comprehensive and detailed account of existing incentives awarded in the City's private development portfolio</u>
 - o information about the nature of each project's specific incentives in revenue awarded/delayed
 - o the <u>specific returns negotiated by and for the City's fiscal benefit</u> in return for these incentives including timetables, amounts, and conditions
- how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future including:
 - O BDC and City efforts to address widespread concerns about the equitable distribution of City supported development by shifting subsidy priorities to neighborhood-based development projects for affordable housing and mixed-use development projects focusing on:
 - an <u>overview of required affordable housing and local commercial</u> <u>infrastructure</u> to meet the needs of our city's current and future population
 - available and specific subsidy capacity and geographic priorities
 - a <u>timeline and strategy to incentivize</u> city-wide private sector and private/public partnership implementation
 - citywide goals and objectives by geographic quadrants and neighborhoods; and
 - discussion of <u>channels for private interest applications</u> based on these criteria.

- options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded with a focus on:
 - o the City's <u>process for creating Tax Increment Financing (TIFs) and Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILOTS)</u> including a discussion on:
 - increasing transparency and accountability,
 - expanding the process to either <u>allow the City Council greater flexibility in</u> <u>altering the size of the incentives</u> during the legislative process, or
 - involving the City Council in the process prior to introduction of legislation.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note:

Information Source(s): Bill 17-0020R

Analysis by:

Jennifer L. Coates 4LC

Analysis Date:

November 3, 2017 (

Direct Inquiries to: (410) 396-1260

CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 17-0020R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke, Reisinger, Middleton, Pinkett, Dorsey, Burnett, Sneed, Bullock, Cohen, Scott

Introduced and read first time: April 3, 2017

Assigned to: Committee of the Whole

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of

Finance, Department of Housing and Community Development

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1	A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning
2	Oversight Hearing – Private Development Incentives
3 4 5 6 7 8	FOR the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to the Council on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.
9	Recitals
10 11 12 13	In recent years Baltimore has made use of a variety of incentives to attempt to spur private sector development in our City. While these efforts have undoubtedly spurred some development, they have not been without controversy and it is not clear which approaches have been most successful and which may be falling short.
14 15	In order to properly assess the City's incentive strategies, the Council needs a thorough briefing from the relevant City agencies on what has been done to date including:
16 17	 a comprehensive and detailed account of existing incentives awarded in the City's private development portfolio;
18 19	 information about the nature of each project's specific incentives in revenue awarded/delayed/foregone; and
20 21 2 2	 the specific returns negotiated by and for the City's fiscal benefit in return for these incentives, including timetables, amounts, and conditions – in other words, the schedule of projected positive fiscal impact on City revenues, if any.
23 24	Beyond these questions about the incentive strategies in general, the Council also requires information about BDC and City efforts to address widespread concerns about the equitable

EXPLANATION: <u>Underlining</u> indicates matter added by amendment.

Strike out indicates matter deleted by amendment.

distribution of City supported development by shifting subsidy priorities to neighborhood-based

development projects for affordable housing and mixed-use development projects. This

information should include:

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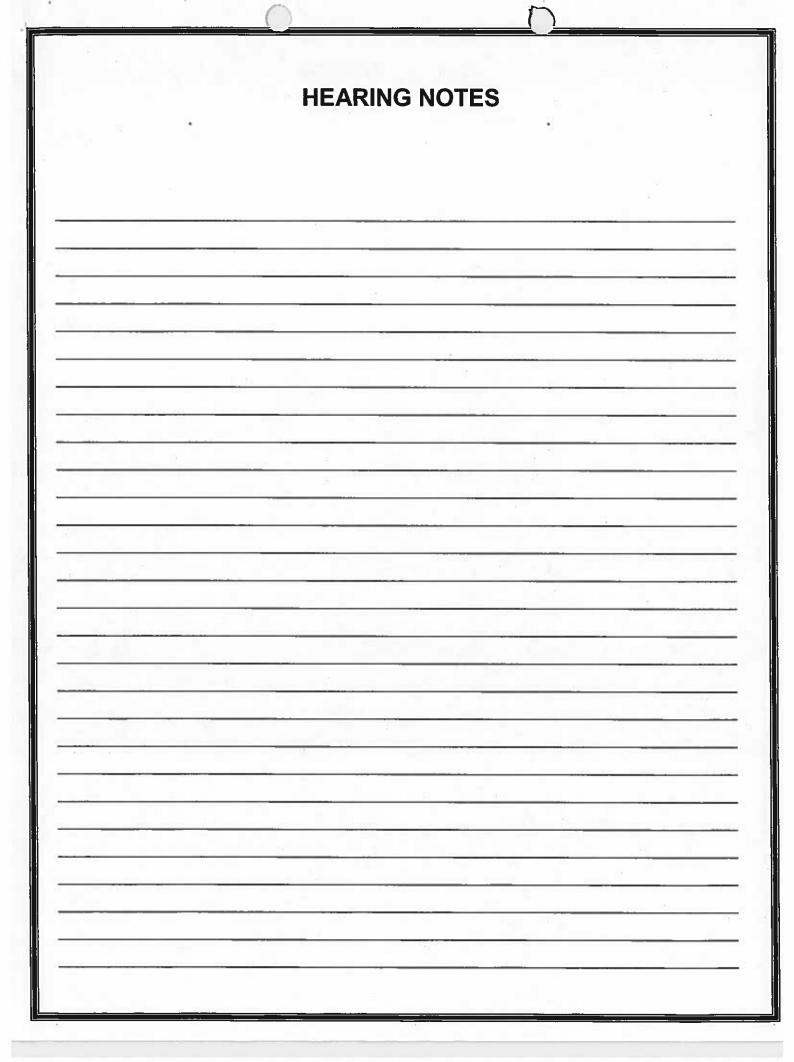
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Council Bill 17-0020R

1 2	 an overview of required affordable housing and local commercial infrastructure to meet the needs of our city's current and future population;
3	 available and specific subsidy capacity and geographic priorities;
4 5	 a timeline and strategy to incentivize citywide private sector and private/public partnership implementation;
6	 citywide goals and objectives by geographic quadrants and neighborhoods; and,
7	 discussion of channels for private interest applications based on these criteria.
8 9 10 11 12 13	Finally, any discussion about current and future private development incentive strategies would be incomplete without an examination of the City's process for creating TIFs and PILOTs. Specifically, there needs to be discussion about increasing transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens by expanding this process to either allow the City Council greater flexibility in altering the size of incentives during the legislative process, or involving the City Council in some formal fashion prior to the introduction of legislation.
14 15 16 17 18 19	Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council requests that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to it on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.
20 21 22	AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation, the Director of Finance, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

AGENCY REPORTS

(No Agency Reports have been received as of November 7, 2017)



CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 17-0020R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke, Reisinger, Middleton, Pinkett, Dorsey, Burnett, Sneed, Bullock, Cohen, Scott

Introduced and read first time: April 3, 2017

Assigned to: Committee of the Whole

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Finance, Department of Housing and Community Development

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EXPLANATION: <u>Underlining</u> indicates matter added by amendment.

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Council Bill 17-0020R

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INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL _____R (Resolution)



Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke, Reisinger, and Middleton

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Oversight Hearing - Private Development Incentives

FOR the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to the Council on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.

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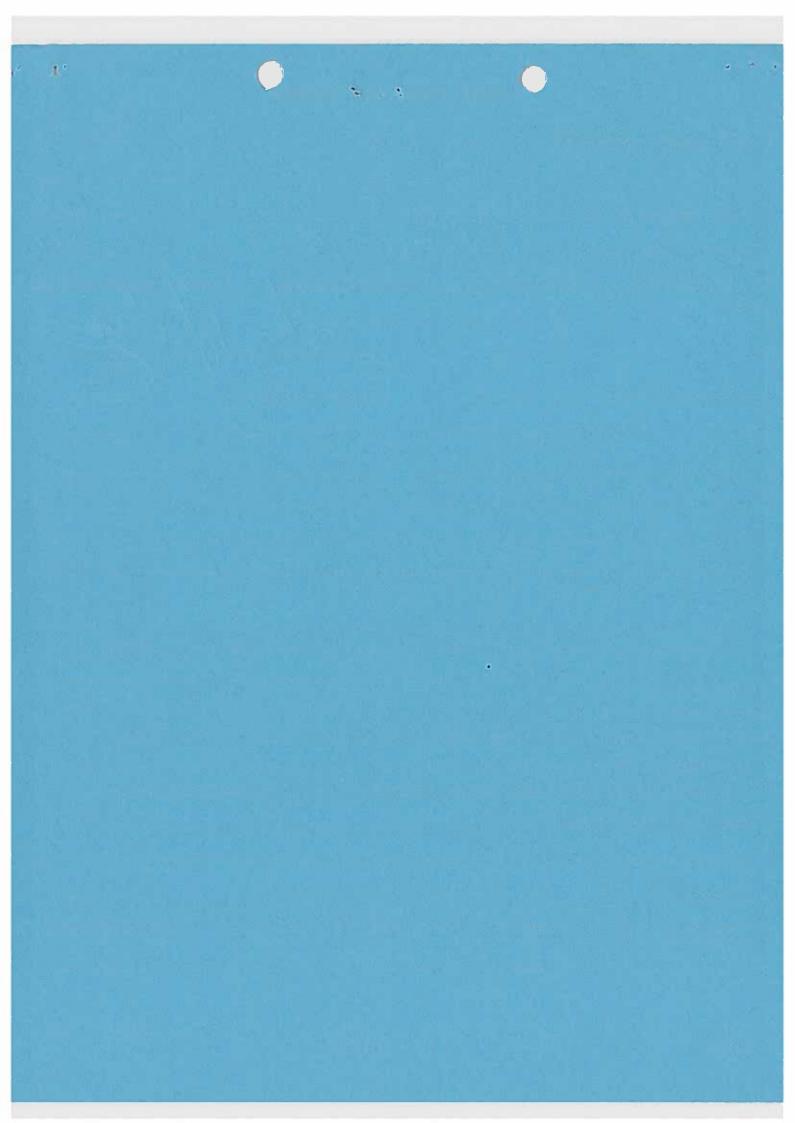
* WARNING: THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL, INTRODUCTORY COPY OF THE BILL.
THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.

- an overview of required affordable housing and local commercial infrastructure to meet the needs of our city's current and future population;
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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation, the Director of Finance, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.





FIRST READING (INTRODUCTION)	APR 0:	3 2017
PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON Movember	9	20 17
COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF	mber 4	20
FAVORABLE INFAVORABLE FAVO	Chair	9
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	
SECOND READING: The Council's action being favorable (un Third Reading on: Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as it	DEC 0	
THIRD READING		. 20
Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as i	indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.	
THIRD READING (ENROLLED)		20
Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as i	indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.	
THIRD READING (RE-ENROLLED)		
WITHDRAWAL		
There being no objections to the request for withdrawal, it from the files of the City Council.	t was so ordered that this City Council Ordinance be	withdrawn
President	Chief Clerk	

CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 17-0020R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke, Reisinger, Middleton, Pinkett, Dorsey, Burnett,

Sneed, Bullock, Cohen, Scott Introduced and read first time: April 3, 2017 Assigned to: Committee of the Whole

Committee Report: Favorable Adopted: December 4, 2017

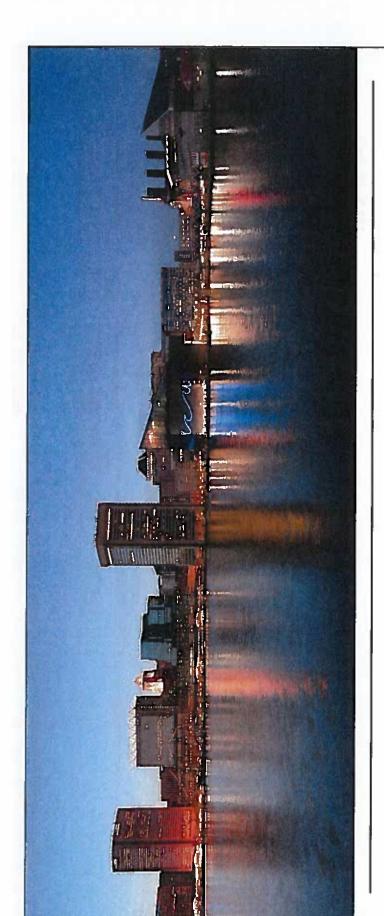
A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

1	Oversight Hearing - Private Development Incentives
2 3 4 5 6 7	FOR the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to the Council on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.
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EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment. Strike-out indicates matter stricken by amendment.

Council Bill 17-0020R

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Tax Increment Financing Program City of Baltimore

Department of Finance November 2017



Authorizing TIF Legislation

- The City's authority to establish a TIF and issue TIF Bonds is provided under Article II, Section 62 of the Baltimore City Charter.
- The Act itemizes the eligible uses of TIF proceeds and states Council that TIF Bonds shall be approved by an ordinance of the City
- In most cases, TIF Bonds are also secured by a special tax Article II Section 62A of the Baltimore City Charter. levied on properties in the development district, pursuant to
- the City's Board of Finance of indebtedness. Such matters are specified in a resolution of shall determine all matters pertaining to the issuance and sale Article VII, Section 19-21 states that the Board of Finance

Legislation Continued (Uses of Proceeds)

- Under the Enabling Act, the proceeds of the TIF Bonds may be used to
- The cost of purchasing, condemning, or otherwise acquiring land or other property, in the designated development district or for a rightof-way or other easement;
- .. Site removal;
- 3. Surveys and studies;
- Demolition, site removal, relocation of businesses or residents; 4
- other necessary improvements including streets and roads to, from, Installation of utilities, construction of parks and playgrounds and or within the development district, parking, lighting and other
- buildings (i) are to be devoted to a governmental use or purpose, (ii) are abandoned property, (iii) are distressed property, or (iv) will Construction or rehabilitation of buildings provided that such provide units of affordable housing; 9
- Certain structured and surface parking facilities.
- RISE zone Innovation/Lab facilities with restrictions; ∞

Current TIF Debt

- Currently there are 15 TIF districts within the City limits. Not all have debt associated with them.
- West Baltimore is pledged to a HUD 108 Loan;
- Charles Village and Westport did not move forward;
- Convention Center Hotel was for operating support;
- development. UM Bio Park and Port Covington are under

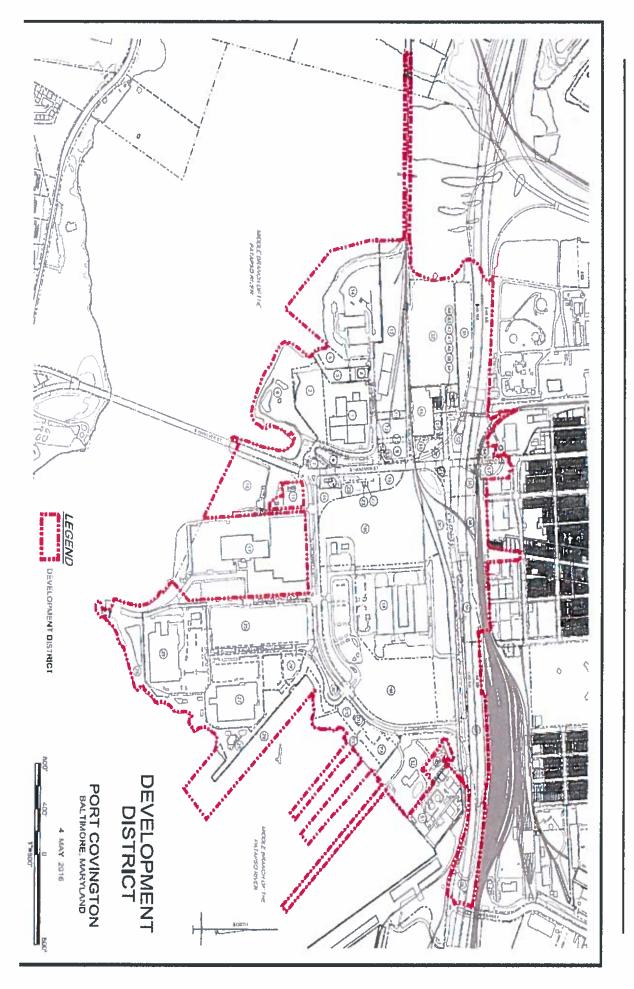
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Current TIF Debt

□ Total TIF debt outstanding is \$199 million distributed among the following projects:

Project	È	Dob+ 6/17	To Do Leaned	
110 201	킨	/ 1 /0 1/12	To De Issued	
1. Belvedere (2003)	\$ 1,5	1,580,575		
2. Clipper Mill (2004)	6,5	6,500,000		
3. East Baltimore Development (2008)	81,6	81,640,000		
4. Harbor Point (2014)	75,3	75,310,333	\$ 49,689,667	
5. Harborview (2003)	5,2	5,260,000		
6. Locust Point (2006)	2,(2,090,000		
7. Mondawmin Mall (2008)	10,6	10,650,000		
8. Poppleton (2017)	12,(12,000,000	46,311,000	
9. Port Covington			000,000,099	
10. Strathdale (2003)	4,8	4,845,000		
11.UM Bio Park			17,500,000	
	\$ 199,8	\$ 199,875,908	\$ 773,500,667	

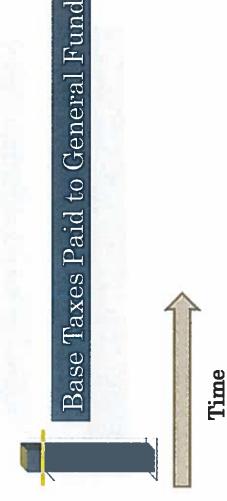
How Do TIFs Work



Flow of Funds

Project Initiated

- TIF boundary defined
 - Tax base frozen
- Redevelopment starts



Annual Tax Revenues

Flow of Funds

Short-Term

- Construction underway
- Assessed value of property increases
- Issuance of TIF bonds

Time

Annual Tax Revenues

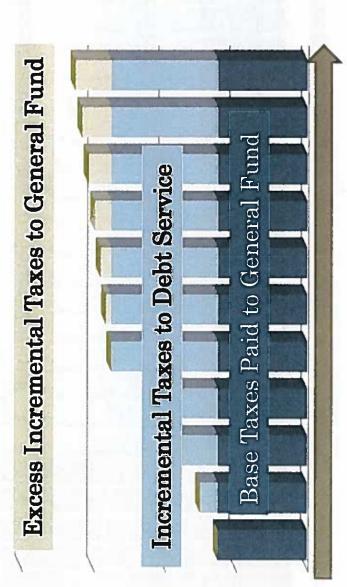
Generating New Tax Revenue Increases Assessed Value

Base Taxes Paid to General Fund

Flow of Funds

Mid-Term

- Project Completed
- TIF bond amortization begins

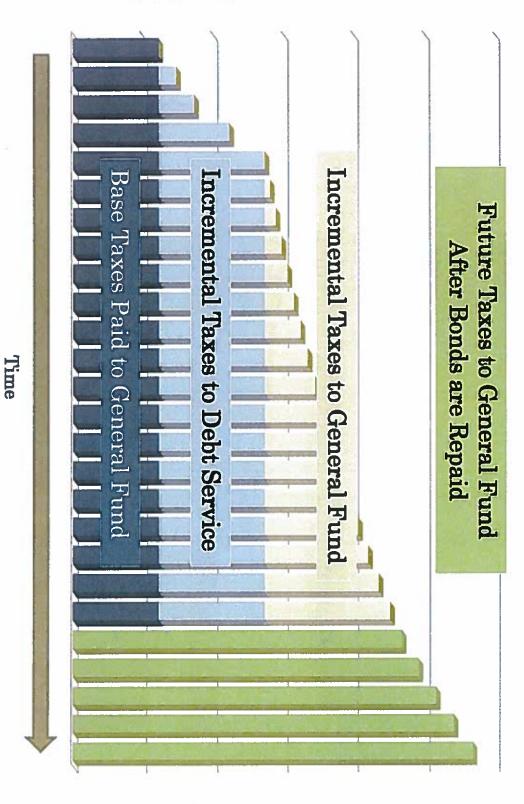


Annual Tax Revenues

Time

Annual Tax Revenues

Flow of Revenues



Ξ

Board of Finance - TIF Approval Process

Step 1:

- Community Development. The coordinating agency is responsible The first step is the development of the preliminary TIF plan and proposal by the City coordinating agency, such as the Baltimore Development Corporation or the Department of Housing and for the following:
- proposing the amount of TIF assistance, confirming the project requires this assistance (the "but for" test);
- ensuring the proposed TIF will advance the City's strategic land use, economic development and public improvement goals;
- satisfies the criteria for TIF debt set forth in Section I of these policies;
- preparing other analysis and documentation to be submitted to the Board of Finance for step two.

TIF Approval Process

Step 2:

- The second step consists of presentation of the proposed TIF to the Board of Finance for concept approval.
- The Board of Finance shall be responsible for ensuring that TIF presentation is described below. requests comply with the policy. The information required for this
- The purpose of this step is for the Board of Finance to confirm that the proposed TIF will be consistent with the City's policies early in legislation and moving the TIF forward. the process before significant City efforts are expended preparing
- The Board's independent financial advisor reviews all the financial assumptions and projections

TIF Approval Process

Step 3:

- The third step is presenting the proposed legislative package creating the TIF (and related special taxing district) to the Board of Finance for approval.
- be updated with detailed project information. The legislative In addition to the legislation the Board of Finance shall also package typically includes:
- Establishment of the Development District
- Establishment of the Special Taxing District
- Authority to Issue TIF Bonds
- The City Council must approve the above legislation before the TIF is created and the bonds issued.

TIF Approval Process

Step 4:

- The fourth step is the submission for approval of documents authorizing the issuance of bonds to the Board of Finance.
- A substantially complete offering document, trust indenture, presented in step 2. and other project related documents are submitted to the Board of Finance, along with any updates to information
- Financial projections shall be provided showing bonds issued revenues, and debt service coverage. or debt incurred, projected assessed value and tax increment
- These projections are developed by the Board's independent financial advisor.

TIF Due Diligence/Risk Mitigation

- Prior to issuing the bonds the City and it's legal/financial team conduct a thorough due diligence that includes the following
- market study and appraisals of the project;
- developer financial capacity/experience;
- private financing/equity requirements;

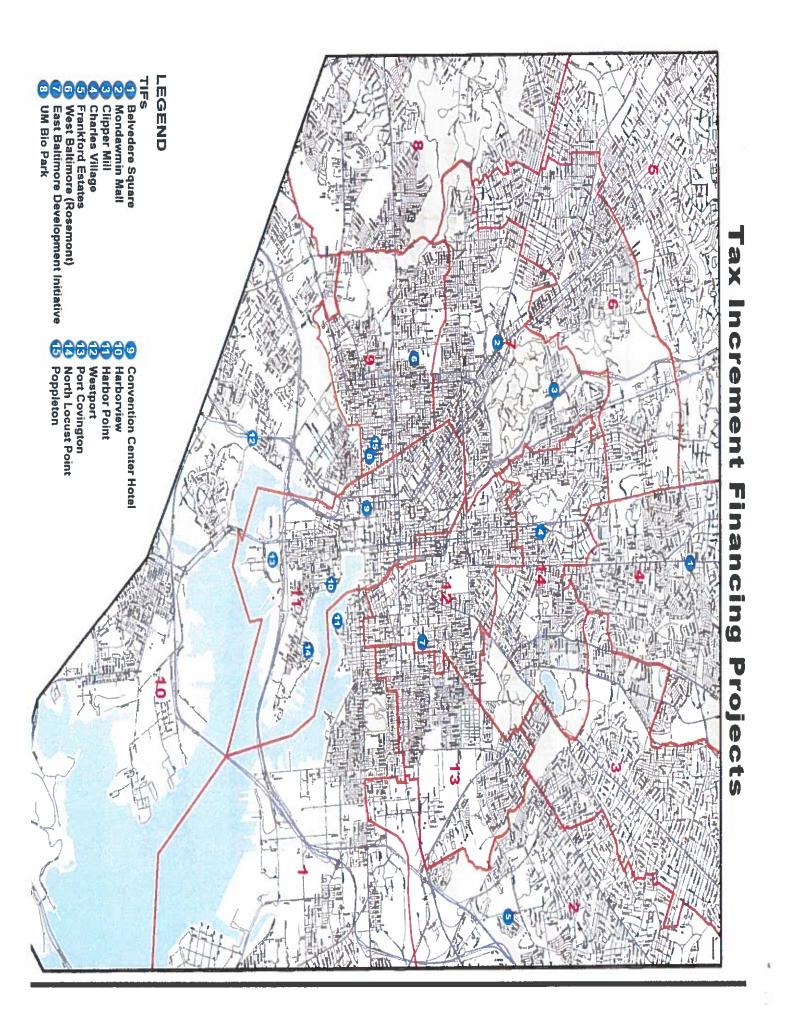
- disclosure of any pending litigation;
- engineering reports;
- permitting and governmental approvals for the development;
- estimates of the costs required to complete the project;
- value of the property that will serve as collateral to the bonds.
- SEC laws require that all pertinent information relating to the project be accurate and fully disclosed.
- The results of this research will also be reported to the Board of Finance when approval to issue the bonds is requested under step 4 of the Policy.

TIF Due Diligence/Risk Mitigation

- development district equal to the debt service on the A special tax will may be levied on private property in the funds to repay the bonds. revenues to the tax increment to ensure there are sufficient bonds. This special tax will provide a backup source of
- Conditions are imposed prior to issuing the bonds: Contracts executed with other developers and/or builders, Equity and other financing must be in place,
- deemed appropriate for the project. Discretionary permits to be obtained, and other requirements as

On-Going TIF Monitoring

- annual tax computation is completed to determine if the After the bonds are issued and the project is finished an increment is sufficient to pay debt service.
- each property in the development district and compares it This computation tabulates the property tax payments of to the debt service due on the bonds.
- If there is a deficit and special tax bill is processed.
- Revenues in excess of the amount due on the bonds is reverted to the general fund.
- Compete application is fully disclosed on the BOF website.



The Board of Finance of Baltimore City Department of Finance Bureau of Treasury Management

Tax Increment Financing Policy and Project Submission Requirements January 23, 2012





Constitution of the state of th

PART I: TAX INCREMENT FINANCING POLICY

I. Introduction and Purpose

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is an important and useful tool available to Baltimore City to encourage development of certain projects that are desirable and in the public interest, and that would not occur without assistance from the City. The Board of Finance of Baltimore City ("Board of Finance") considers it essential that this mechanism be implemented consistent with the City's land use and economic development goals, and in order to encourage development that would otherwise not occur but for the City's participation in the financing structure ("but for" test).

The Board of Finance shall consider a TIF for projects with a significant public purpose and benefit, i.e., City-sponsored projects, or, otherwise, for developer-sponsored projects when the project:

- (1) Is consistent with the City charter and the TIF Enabling Act;
- (2) Includes a significant developer/private sector contribution to the project;
- (3) Has approval of the coordinating agency Project Review Committee, or other such Oversight Board (if applicable);
- (4) Advances the City's strategic land use, economic development and public improvement goals;
- (5) Is not feasible and would not be completed (within a reasonable time frame) without the proposed TIF assistance ("but for" test) and assistance is limited to the amount required to make the project feasible;
- (6) Satisfies economic and risk requirements;
- (7) Will create positive tax revenues to the City, taking into consideration the costs of public services to be provided to the new development and the tax increment revenues that will be required to repay the bonds.

City-sponsored projects will be defined by their size and scope, i.e., large public purpose projects. City-sponsored projects are further defined as projects where the City controls or will acquire the property for the project, and where the City issues the Request for Proposals to select the developer for the project. The evaluation process for City-sponsored projects will be separate from the evaluation process to be used for developer-sponsored projects. The merits of such projects shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.



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II—

Because there is a potential that TIF projects may defer potential gains in general fund revenues, the Board of Finance will proceed with caution when reviewing TIF proposals. City agencies and departments are strongly encouraged to contact the Bureau of Treasury Management as early as possible in the project development process. The Board of Finance considers it to be the sole responsibility of the coordinating agency to brief Treasury Management on details of the TIF proposal well in advance of a formal submission to the Board of Finance. The Board of Finance shall not consider, and the Clerk to the Board of Finance shall not submit to the Board of Finance, TIF proposals that do not adequately address the requirements of this policy. TIF is not a right under the City charter, and these guidelines do not create any right or entitlement in connection with an application for a TIF.

The Board of Finance reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to amend or waive certain provisions in these guidelines, when it is determined to be in the best interest of the City.

II. Legal Framework

The City's authority to issue TIF Bonds is established under Article II, Section 62 of the Baltimore City Charter (1996 edition) (the "Enabling Act"). The Enabling Act itemizes the eligible uses of TIF Bond proceeds and states that TIF Bonds shall be approved by an ordinance of the City Council. The ordinance shall describe the basic terms of the TIF Bonds or will provide that such terms are to be specified in a resolution of the City's Board of Finance. The City may also, acting through the Board of Finance, issue bonds to refund outstanding TIF Bonds.

In most cases, the City will require that the TIF Bonds also be secured by a special tax levied in the development district, pursuant to Article II Section 62A of the Baltimore City Charter (1996 edition). The establishment of a special taxing district ensures that if the anticipated benefit to be derived by proposed development does not occur, such that the tax increment revenues are not sufficient to pay debt service on the TIF Bonds, the City will levy a special tax on the property owners in the district (i.e., the developer) to make up any shortfall. A special tax requires the approval of 2/3 of the property owners, in both number and property value, within the special tax district.

In accordance with Article VII, Sections 19-21, of the Baltimore City Charter (1996 edition), the Members of the Board of Finance are the financial advisors to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore. The Board of Finance is comprised of the Mayor, who serves as President, the Comptroller, and three



persons appointed by the Mayor pursuant to the City Charter. As the City's financial advisor, the Board of Finance is responsible for approving all TIF proposals prior to consideration by the City Council or the Board of Estimates.

III. <u>TIF Description</u>

In general, TIF Bonds are special obligations of the City secured by the incremental increase in property taxes resulting from the proposed improvement. The City utilizes this financing option by designating within its borders a TIF district. The base property valuation (assessable base) is then established and certified, and the property taxes from that assessable base continue to be collected and used for general governmental purposes. As the assessed valuation within the district increases, the taxes derived from the increased valuation (tax increment) pay debt service on the bonds used to fund TIF project costs within the district. When the TIF debt is repaid, the district is dissolved and the taxes collected from the increased assessed valuation flow directly to the City's general fund.

Under the Enabling Act, the date of the determination of the assessable base for the calculation of the tax increment is January 1 of the calendar year prior to the year in which the City adopts an Ordinance establishing the development district. For example, if an Ordinance is adopted in March of 2008, the assessable base will be determined as of January 1, 2007. Payment by the City to the holders of the TIF bonds is contingent upon appropriation by the City Council of tax increment revenues sufficient to cover the amounts due each year.

TIF functions by pledging property tax increments gained as a result of new development within the tax increment district. The City continues to collect the tax revenues that it had historically received from the district, but the incremental taxes collected from the enhanced value of the real estate is used to pay debt service on the TIF Bonds.

Under the Enabling Act, the proceeds of the TIF Bonds may be used to finance:

- The cost of purchasing, condemning, or otherwise acquiring land or other property, or an interest in them, in the designated development district area or as necessary for a right-of-way or other easement to or from the development district area;
- 2. Site removal;
- 3. Surveys and studies;
- 4. Relocation of businesses or residents;



- 5. Installation of utilities, construction of parks and playgrounds and other necessary improvements including streets and roads to, from, or within the development district, parking, lighting and other facilities;
- 6. Construction or rehabilitation of buildings provided that such buildings (i) are to be devoted to a governmental use or purpose, (ii) are abandoned property, (iii) are distressed property, or (iv) will provide units of affordable housing;
- 7. Reserves and capitalized interest on the bonds;
- 8. Necessary costs of issuing the bonds;
- 9. Structured and surface parking facilities that are: (i) publicly owned; or (ii) privately owned but serve a public purpose; and
- 10. Payment of the principal and interest on loans, money advanced or indebtedness incurred by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for any of the purposes set out above.

TIF Bonds may be issued as "tax-exempt" or "taxable" obligations. The qualification of the bonds as "tax-exempt" involves an analysis that will include the review of, among other things, ownership, amount of private use of the facilities constructed, nature of the improvements, and any additional sources of payment of the debt service on the TIF Bonds.

IV. Considerations for New Tax Increment Financing Projects

The City regularly issues general obligation debt to finance important public improvements required by the City. An important purpose of this policy is to ensure that TIF projects, when added to other tax supported debt, do not negatively impact the City's general debt ratings. This shall require a consistent implementation of this policy. Elements of the TIF Policy of particular importance to this purpose are (i) use of TIF to advance the City's land use, economic development, and public improvement goals, (ii) preparation of a fiscal impact analysis that confirms the project produces sufficient tax revenues over and above repayment of the TIF bonds to cover the costs of public services required for the project, and (iii) ensuring the "but for" test is met and that assistance is limited to a reasonable amount that makes the project feasible.

TIF debt is considered by the rating agencies as debt of the City, and included in the calculation of the City's tax supported debt burden. Moody's Investor Service has established guidelines for a city's debt burden as measured by the ratio of total tax supported debt to the estimated actual value of taxable property of the jurisdiction. In general, a city's total tax supported debt burden, including outstanding TIF debt, should remain below 4% of the estimated actual value of the taxable property of the jurisdiction. It is the intention of this policy that the City's total tax supported debt burden, including outstanding TIF debt,



should remain below 4% of the City's estimated actual value of property as established by Moody's.

In addition, the City shall use its best efforts to pursue other funding programs or financial arrangements with developmental agencies that, particularly for large projects, minimize the overall aggregate level of the City's TIF debt.

V. <u>Limited Size TIF projects</u>

Certain TIF applications may be for projects of a scale that require a minor amount of participation by the City. The Board of Finance recognizes, that however worthy such projects may be, there are inherent risks associated with smaller projects. These risks include a lower probability of increment tax growth and resultant debt repayment from the tax increment, and the greater likelihood of higher interest rates from investors based on their assessment of risk. Smaller projects are also more likely to have a higher cost of issuance as a percentage of total project cost.

The Board of Finance recognizes that in such circumstances, it may be prudent for the City to issue a bond or note to the developer rather than to sell TIF bonds to investors as a means of providing project funding. Bonds issued by the City to the developer do not provide an up-front cash contribution by the City, but can be used to offset the future tax liability of the development by providing annual redemption of serial bonds based on the incremental tax revenues generated by the project.

The Board of Finance recommends this approach for TIF projects of \$10,000,000 and less.

VI. Third Party Fees

Each TIF applicant shall be required to execute a letter of intent with the City's bond counsel and financial advisor to include the scope of work and fees associated with the development of the TIF application before any legal or financial work has commenced. The applicant shall assume all risk for the full payment all third party fees for the TIF development to include legal review/document preparation, financial analysis and financial projections. While certain of the fees may be reimbursed from bond proceeds, they shall be due and payable by the applicant in the event the project does not secure the required City approvals or in the event bonds are not sold.





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VII. Conclusion

Tax increment revenues are an important funding source for infrastructure improvements that can advance development in targeted areas of the City. It is the intention of the Board of Finance to use TIF as one of the incentive tools to encourage revitalization of Baltimore City. The Board of Finance shall exercise caution in the evaluation of each TIF proposal ensuring that the benefits of the project are appropriate for the risks and costs of the project, and that they are equitable and in the best interest of the City.

PART II: PROJECT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Approval of tax increment financing projects by the Board of Finance will be a four-step process.

Step 1:

The first step will consist of the development of the TIF plan and proposal by the appropriate City coordinating agency, such as the Baltimore Development Corporation or the Department of Housing and Community Development. The coordinating agency will be responsible for the following:

- 1. proposing the amount of TIF assistance, confirming the project requires this assistance (the "but for" test);
- 2. ensuring the proposed TIF will advance the City's strategic land use, economic development and public improvement goals;
- 3. satisfies the criteria for TIF debt set forth in Section I of these policies;
- 4. preparing other analysis and documentation to be submitted to the Board of Finance for step two.

The coordinating agency may, and is encouraged to, consult with the City's financial advisor and bond counsel for this stage of development; however, these agencies shall be responsible for any costs incurred by these firms during this step.



Step 2:

The second step consists of presentation of the proposed TIF to the Board of Finance for conceptual approval. The Board of Finance shall be responsible for ensuring that TIF requests comply with these policies. The information required for this presentation is described below. The purpose of this step is for the Board of Finance to confirm that the proposed TIF will be consistent with the City's policies regarding TIFs early in the process before significant City efforts are expended preparing legislation and moving the TIF forward.

Step 3:

The third step shall be presenting the proposed legislative package creating the TIF (and related special taxing district) to the Board of Finance for approval. This step will require the proposal legislation to be submitted to the Board of Finance with any appropriate update on the information submitted in the second step. The coordinating agency shall be responsible for scheduling and obtaining approval of the required legislation from the Board of Estimates, and the City Council as required.

Step 4:

The fourth step shall be the submission for approval of documents authorizing the proposed issuance of bonds to the Board of Finance. A substantially complete offering document, trust indenture, and funding agreement should be submitted to the Board of Finance for this step, along with any updates of the information presented in the second step that is not included in the offering document. If not included in the offering document, financial projections shall be provided showing bonds issued or debt incurred, projected assessed value and tax increment revenues, and debt service coverage. Citysponsored projects should demonstrate a strong public purpose; while developer-sponsored projects should demonstrate that incremental revenues will provide a minimum of 1.25x annual debt service coverage (not including special tax revenues) unless the Board approves an exception. Financial projections shall normally include two scenarios, including the expected scenario and a sensitivity scenario.

Information should be provided either in the offering document or separately to allow a risk assessment. This information should include a description of the risks associated with the project and how these risks are mitigated.



Board of Finance TIF Submission Requirements for Step 2

The Board of Finance shall be responsible for ensuring that TIF requests comply with these policies. The criteria a TIF project request must satisfy are identified in Part I of this policy, and specifically, Section I. Board of Finance review of a TIF proposal should occur early in the proposal before significant resources are spent preparing legislation. This review is the second step in the TIF approval process, following the preparation of the TIF proposal by the coordinating agency. The information to be submitted to the Board of Finance for it to confirm a proposed TIF is in compliance with the City's TIF policies, shall be as follows:

- I. <u>Transmittal Letter:</u> Each TIF request shall include a transmittal letter from the development agency head formally requesting the Board of Finance consider and conceptually approve the application. This letter should also include other pertinent information such as the amount of the TIF bond, approvals of internal review committees, the Mayor, and the Department of Planning if appropriate.
- II. Approval of the Coordinating Agency Board (if applicable): Provide evidence of approval of a request for a TIF for the project by the coordinating agency internal project review board or other such oversight committee. The approval shall include a description of the project and the public purpose being served by the TIF, and that the board is satisfied other funding sources are not available (the project would not occur "but for" the TIF funding).

III. <u>Development Team:</u>

- Name of applicant/developer/owner, construction manager, project manager, operator (lender and any other significant team participants);
- 2. Background information on each of the above;
- 3. Summarize developer's experience with similar projects.

IV. <u>Project Information:</u>

- 1. Describe the project, including the location, size, phases, and proposed land uses.
- 2. Describe existing property uses and any required demolition and relocation.
- 3. Provide information and evaluation of any site constraints.
- 4. Identify any environmental issues or constraints. Each project must comply with applicable requirements of local, state and federal environmental laws and regulations.



- 5. Provide a schedule and describe any time constraints that affect the project.
- 6. Identify any permits and other governmental approvals required for the development of the property.
- 7. Provide evidence of site control. This should include a detailed list of all addresses in the district. If the project is located on a scattered site the address list should be broken down by parcel.
- 8. Provide a preliminary sources and uses of funds for the project.
- 9. Identify whether the project is expected to receive any other public assistance. Other forms of public assistance should be taken into consideration in the amount of TIF assistance provide to ensure that the total assistance provided does not exceed the assistance required and justified.
- 10. Provide letters of intent to provide financing for all construction and permanent funding sources (loans, grants and equity) associated with the project. At a minimum, letters of intent must be specific to the project and detailed concerning terms and conditions.
- 11. Include detailed maps of the TIF and special taxing districts, and graphic depictions of the finished project.
- 12. Other information critical to the success of the project.
- V. <u>City Charter and TIF Enabling Act:</u> Provide information to show the proposed TIF will be consistent with the City charter and the TIF Enabling Act.
- VI. <u>Inclusionary Housing:</u> City Council ordinance 07-474, stipulates housing development projects receiving TIF funding be subject to the Department of Housing and Community Development Inclusionary Housing Rules. Prior to Board of Finance approval the developer shall coordinate with Department of Housing and Community Development the implementation of this requirement. The inclusionary housing shall be incorporated into the project fiscal analysis (item XIII below).
- VII. Private Sector Contribution: Identify the public assistance as a percentage of total development costs and a comparison to other development projects of similar scope and magnitude whenever possible. All development proposals should seek to maximize the amount of private investment per dollar of public assistance. Each project must evidence substantial private resources (debt and/or equity) for the development (evidence will be required prior to the Phase II approval). In general, the Board of Finance recommends that developer-sponsored projects have an 8:1 to 12:1 ratio of non-City funding sources to City funding sources. Ratios of lower than 8:1 represent project participation levels by the City that may be unacceptable to the Board of Finance; while ratios of greater



than 12:1 call into question the need for the City to be a meaningful participant. The non-City contribution may be in terms of cash, land, buildings or other equivalent forms. This analysis shall also include an expected rate of return for the developer and City.

- VIII. Advances the City's Land Use, Economic Development and Public Improvement Goals: Each TIF proposal shall be submitted to the Department of Planning for review and consistency with the City's economic development and public improvement objectives. A letter from the Department of Planning evidencing their approval is recommended. The coordinating agency should specify how the project is consistent with the City's economic development and public improvement objectives.
- XI. But For Test: The coordinating agency shall provide an explanation of why the TIF is needed to make the project feasible—why the project would not occur "but for" the TIF funding. The intent is to prevent TIF funds from being used in place of available private financing, grants, or other non-tax supported funding sources. The Board of Finance will also need assurance that the TIF is not unnecessarily subsidizing a private enterprise. Evidence shall also be provided showing that the TIF assistance provided is limited to the assistance required to make the project feasible. Detailed reasoning will be required.

Examples of justification that may be used by the coordinating agencies includes the following:

- Persistent lack of development at the project site;
- Unusual development costs;
- Lack of private funds for the project;
- Lack of other forms of public assistance;
- A projected pro-forma indicating that the projected return on investment (without the TIF assistance) is below a market rate of return.
- X. Public Benefit: Describe the project's public purpose benefit. The direct and indirect benefits of the development proposal shall be determined and quantified to the degree possible. Benefits shall include, but are not limited to, employment benefits (number of jobs retained or created, percentage of jobs held by City residents, wage and salary information, etc.), tax base benefits (estimated market value of new development, new property taxes generated, etc.), housing benefits (number of new rental or ownership units, number of affordable units, etc.), and other benefits relating to transportation, parking, blight remediation, environmental



cleanup and historic preservation. This description should also address whether these impacts are being shifted from other locations in the City or would be provided by other projects without TIF assistance.

TIF dollars are a finite resource and each proposed TIF will be required to compete with other TIF proposals. The public purpose benefit description should demonstrate that the proposed TIF compares well on a cost benefit basis to other TIF projects approved and contemplated by the City.

- XI. <u>Positive Tax Revenues</u>: A summary fiscal impact analysis shall be provided that demonstrates the project will create positive tax revenues to the City, taking into consideration the costs of public services to be provided to the new development, and the tax increment revenues that will be required to repay the bonds. Projects that do not show a positive fiscal impact shall require a demonstration of extraordinary public purpose to be approved. It is recommended this analysis be completed by the City's TIF advisor or other such qualified consultant, and shall be at the expenses of the coordinating agency.
- XII. Risk to the City: A detailed discussion of the risks associated with the TIF project as it pertains to the City's participation. Risks may include (but are not limited to) interest rate and market risk. For example, a new housing project may be required to sell a certain number of units within a particular time frame in order to generate the increment to pay debt service on the TIF bonds. If the developer does not sell the required number of units, revenues may not be sufficient to pay debt service. Additionally, if interest rates rise to a certain level, the cost of the debt may exceed the project's ability to repay.
- XIII. <u>Project Fiscal Analysis</u>: It is expected that the coordinating development agency shall conduct a financial review of the project prior to recommending it to Board of Finance. This review is expected to include a formal written analysis of financial feasibility of the project. The report shall provide projections that demonstrate quantitatively the project development can in fact support the requested TIF debt. Subject matter to be included are; debt service projections, project absorption assumptions, projection of market value, projection of net incremental property taxes and projected payment of debt service. It is recommended that this report be completed by the City's TIF advisor or other such qualified consultant, at the expenses of the coordinating agency.

Since every project is unique, additional evaluation criteria may become necessary for either phase and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.



Alternatively, some of the information described above may not be applicable to every TIF. Treasury Management shall be responsible for reviewing information submitted to the Board of Finance by the coordinating agency, ensuring the information is complete, and formalizing a recommendation to the Board of Finance. The coordinating agency should submit information to Treasury Management with sufficient time for it to be reviewed prior to being forwarded to the Board of Finance, and with sufficient time for the Board of Finance to review the information prior to any expected action.





NATIONAL ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RIGHTS INITIATIVE

November 9, 2017

The Committee on the Whole 100 Holliday St. #400 Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Council Bill 17-0020R

Dear Committee Members:



On behalf of the Baltimore Housing Roundtable (BHR), a coalition of persons who rent, own property or are homeless in Baltimore City, I submit the following in support of Council Bill 17-0020R, a resolution concerning Oversight on Private Development Incentives.

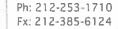
The BHR welcomes any move toward improved transparency and accountability relative to private development incentives. Indeed, the BHR embraces a principled development framework of universality, equity, participation, transparency, and accountability to human needs and human rights. It is for these reasons that we issued a report in January 2016 articulating a community-driven development roadmap for Baltimore: a commitment to prioritize human needs, creation of a housing trust fund, additions and revisions to the City's vacant property disposition program (Vacants to Values), community capacity building, and 20/20--\$20 million in bond money annually for the creation of community land trusts and \$20 million annually for vacant property deconstruction, demolition, and greening through projects that prioritize the hiring of returning citizens.

20/20 is more than resources for neighborhoods; it is an equitable development plan that attempts to address the structural racism and structural inequality that first led prior policy makers down the pathway of private development subsidies. It addresses two issues that are fundamental to municipal equitable development: the control of land and the distribution of resources.

Land values are the bellwether to equitable development. If we succeed in policies that create jobs, raise wages, improve education, remove blight, and ensure environmental sustainability all objectives of prior development subsidies—we raise land values. And if we don't address the speculative pressures that come with this, the rising tide can flip over the boats of those who rent, own (on fixed-incomes), and are trying to get off the street. Community land ownership, through Community Land Trusts that equitably "right-size" property resale values, is a key means to address this, and a key to transforming neighborhoods from bystanders to active agents of development.

Resources, of course, are another key. For the last 40 years, the federal government has become an estranged partner in local development. The decline in Community Development Block









Grants, HOME, and housing subsidies has been consistent, regardless of administration, and looks, at this point, to be irreversible.

20/20 recognizes this, and asks the City to fill the gap where it does have capacity—through bonds, a subsidy tool that historically has been used to spur private, economic development.

This resolution sets on this road to critically examining the lessons of those subsidies. It should be complemented with a principled equitable criteria for evaluating those subsidies, to determine not simply how many jobs were created at what wages and terms, but what happened with property values, who was involuntary displaced, and what public resources were supplanted or lost because of blind devotion to a single development goal?

We look forward to working with the council as it moves toward a holistic equitable development framework centered on fundamental human need.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Peter Sabonis

Steering Committee Member **Baltimore Housing Roundtable Coalition Director of Legal Strategies**

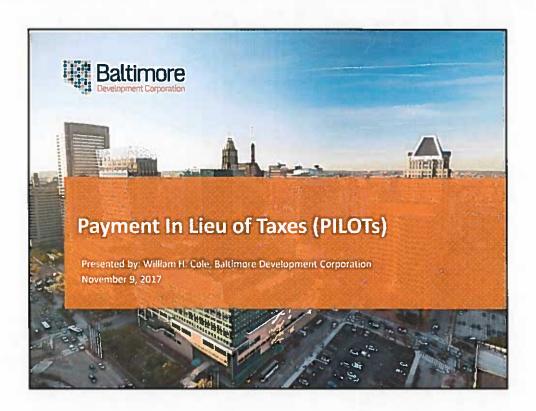
National Economic and Social Rights Initiative

90 John Street, Ste. 308 ** New York, NY 10038 Fx: 212-385-6124

Ph: 212-253-1710

www.nesri.org info@nesri.org /NESRlorg @NESRlorg

Baltimore Housing Roundtable, Community + Land + Trust; Tools for Development without Displacement. (Jan. 2016)



PILOT Laws



- City or State-owned Land Leased to Private Entity (Tax Property Article 7-501)
- Vacant and Underutilized Property in Downtown (1998) (7-504.2)
- Economic Development in Certain Urban Renewal Areas (1999) (7-504.3)
 - Camden Station
 - Charles Center
 - Financial District
 - Harbor Campus
 - Inner Harbor East; Inner Harbor Project I; Inner Harbor West
 - Market Center ; Market Center West
 - Municipal Center
 - Key Highway
- Hippodrome Performing Arts Center (2000) (7-504.4)
- State-related Economic Development Project (2007)
- Economic Development Projects in Baltimore City (2013)
 - Deleted Urban Renewal requirements; authorized PILOTs Citywide

received

Tax Property Article 7-504.3



Economic Development PILOTs

The majority of BDC's PILOTs are considered "Economic Development PILOTs" under state law. To be PILOT-eligible, a project must be:

- A hotel that
 - Provides at least 100 FTE Jobs and at least \$20M of private capital investment
- An office building that
 - Provides at least 150 FTE Jobs and at least \$20M of private capital investment.
- A retail facility that
 - Provides at least 100 FTE Jobs and at least \$10M of private capital investment
- A multifamily residential facility that
 - Provides at least \$5M of private capital investment
- An off-street parking facility that
 - Contains at least 250 Parking spaces and at least \$2.5M of private capital investment
- A mixed use facility containing one or more of the above

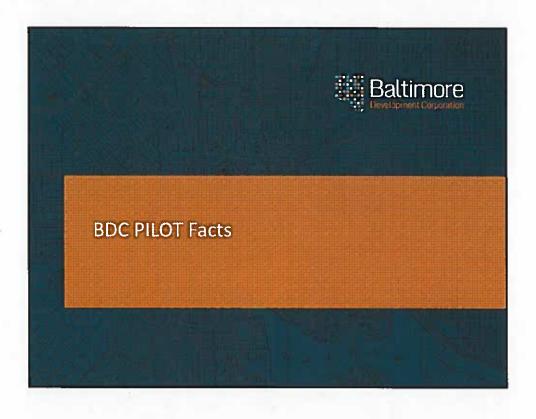
Baltimore

High Performance Tax Credit

In 2013, Baltimore City approved the "High Performance Tax Credit for Market Rate Rental Housing" in target areas of the City. A similar credit was later added for projects City-wide. This credit functions as a "By-Right" PILOT and effectively eliminated new PILOT applications for Economic Development projects.

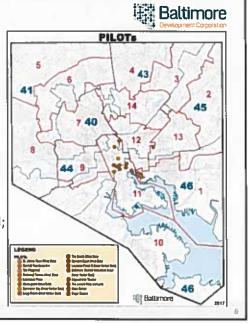
- Since 2014, the City has only reviewed and approved one (1) PILOT, for a project in EBDI that would have taken the High Performance Credit, but was ineligible for being located in a TIF District.
- The Targeted High Performance Credit (15 Years) expires on December 31, 2017
- A five-year renewal of the Citywide High Performance Credit (10 Years) was approved by the City Council on June 5, 2017.

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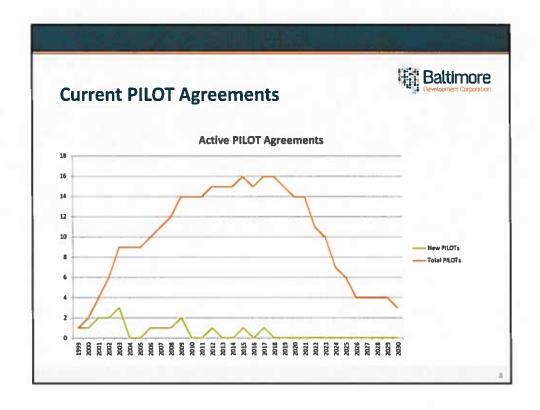
BDC PILOTs

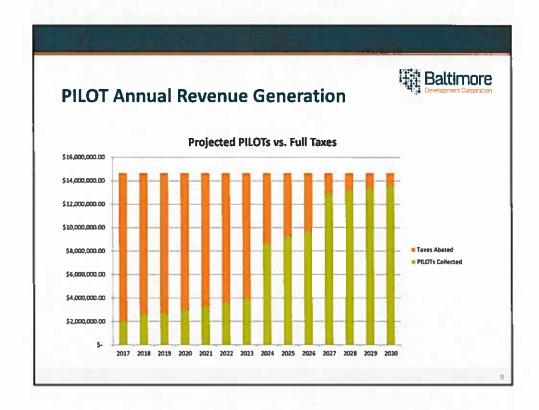
- 16 Authorized PILOTs
 - 14 Active
- \$652M in Assessed Value
- \$14.6M Full Tax Value
- \$2.1M Taxes Paid (2017)
- \$12.5M Taxes Abated (2017)
- PILOTs include Profit Sharing in event of Sale
- Additional tax generation: Hotel; Resident Income; Parking; Personal Property; Utility; Admissions & Amusement

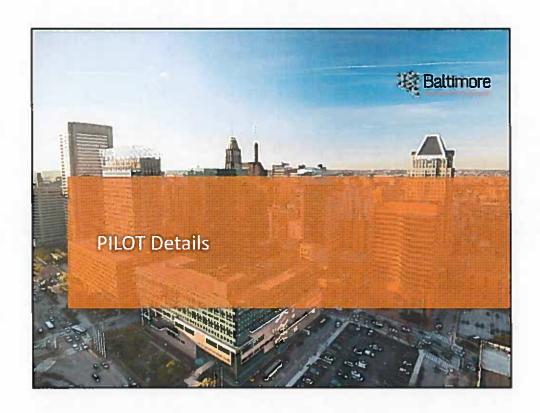




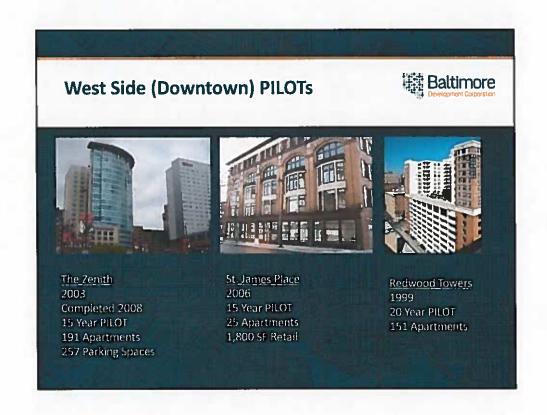
C PILOTs			1 to 1	Baltir Development
Project	Address	Year	Completion Yr	Expiration
Redwood Towers	11 S Eutaw St	1999	1999	201
Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel	700 Aliceanna St	2000	2001	202
Lockwood Place Office & Garage	124 Market PI	2001	2004	202
Centerpoint	B N Howard St	2001	2005	202
	701-729 South			
Spinnaker Bay Inner Harbor East Parcel P-1		2002	2006	202
Hippodrome Performing Arts Center	12 N Eutaw St	2002	2002	202
Residence inn by Marriott	17 Ught St	2003	2005	201
The Zenith	511 W Prett St	2003	2008	202
Camden Court Apartments	300 W Lombard St	2003	2005	202
St. James Place	1418-422 M. Howard 5t) 301 W Franklin St	2006	2007	202
Laureate Office & Garage	650 S Exeter St	2007	2007	202
The Rizgerald	1201 W Mt Royel Ave	2008	2010	203
Legg Meson Office Building	100 International Dr	2009	2009	202
Legg Meson Gerage		2009	2009	203
The Lenore Flets & Lofts	114 E Lexington St	2012	2014	203
State Center	300 W Preston St	2015		
Eager Square	1900 - 1901 E Eager St	2017		



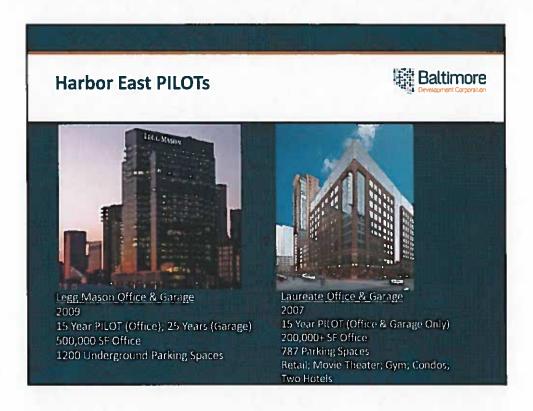


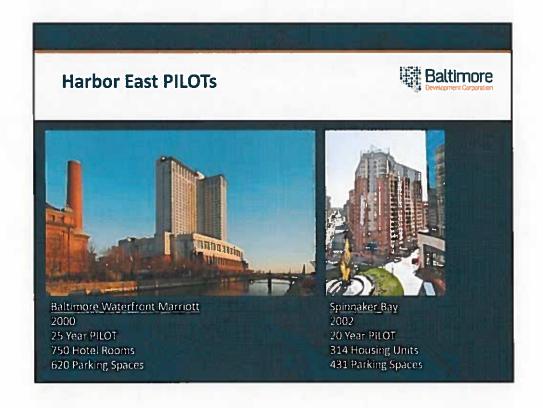


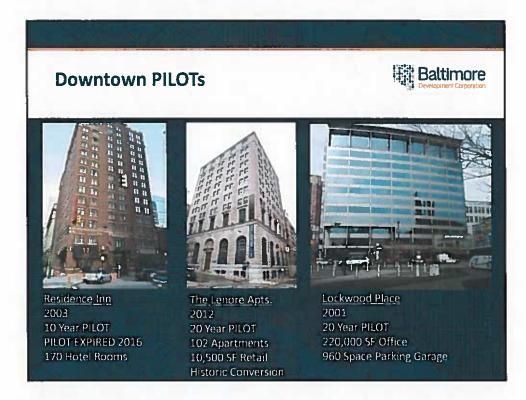


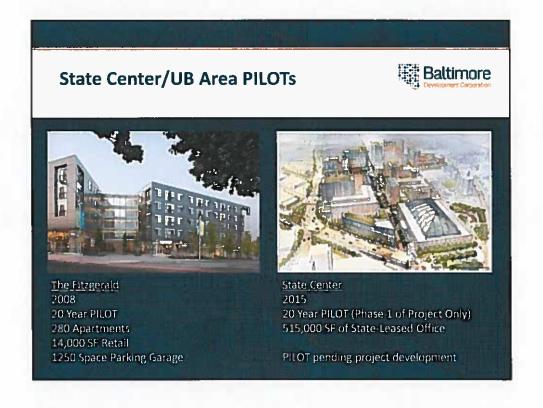




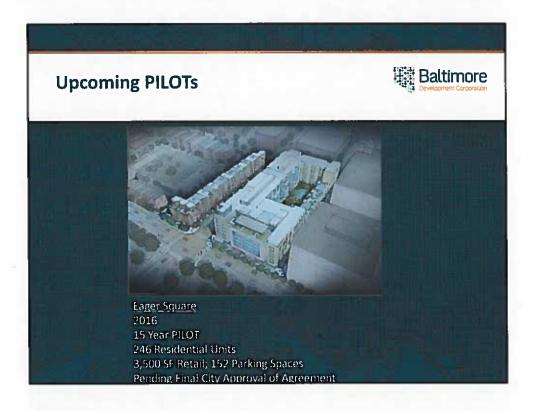


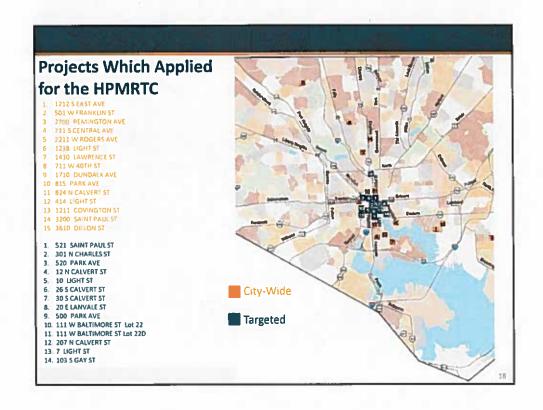






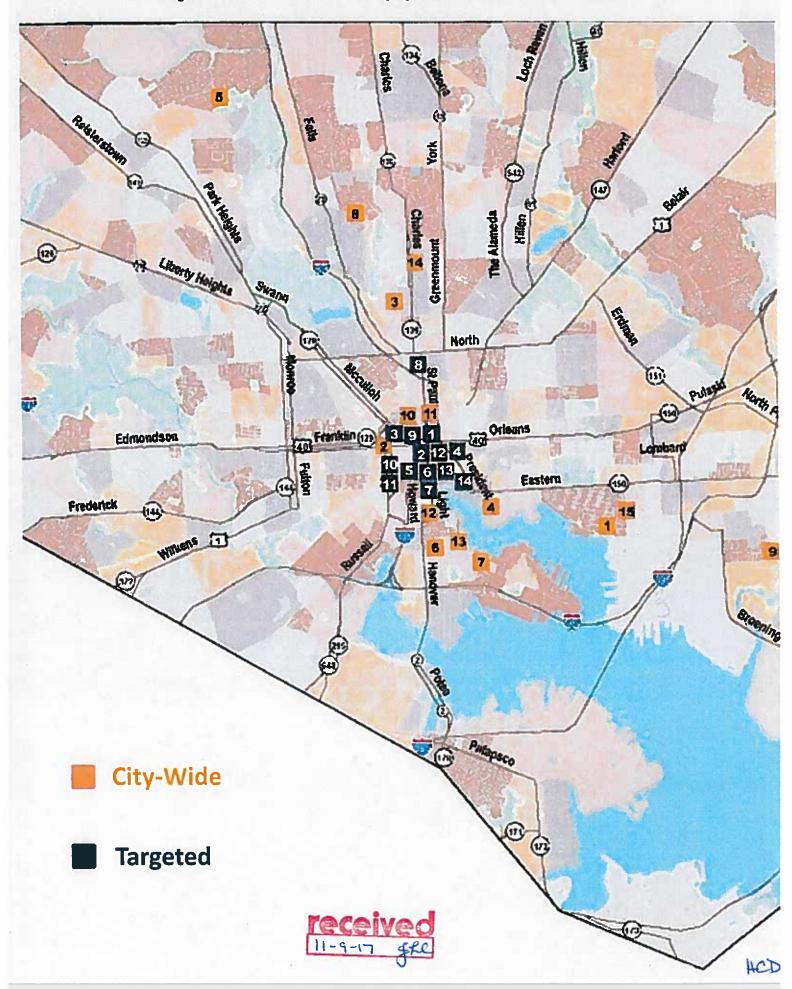


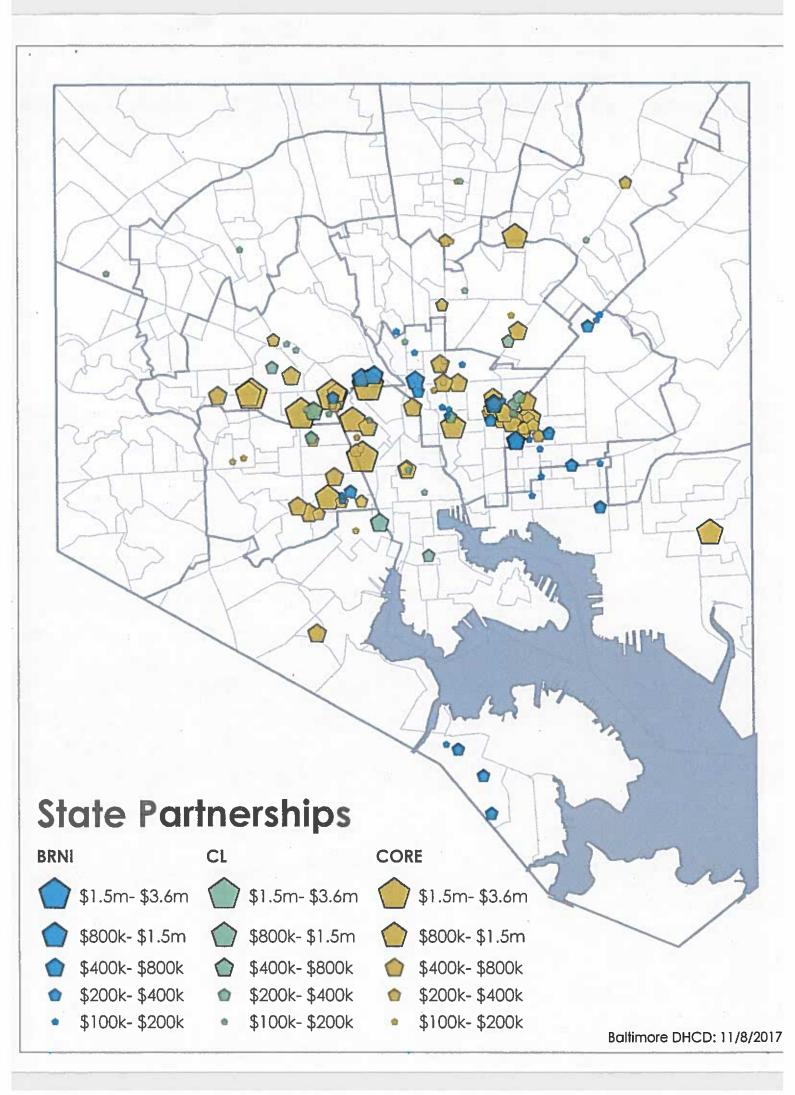




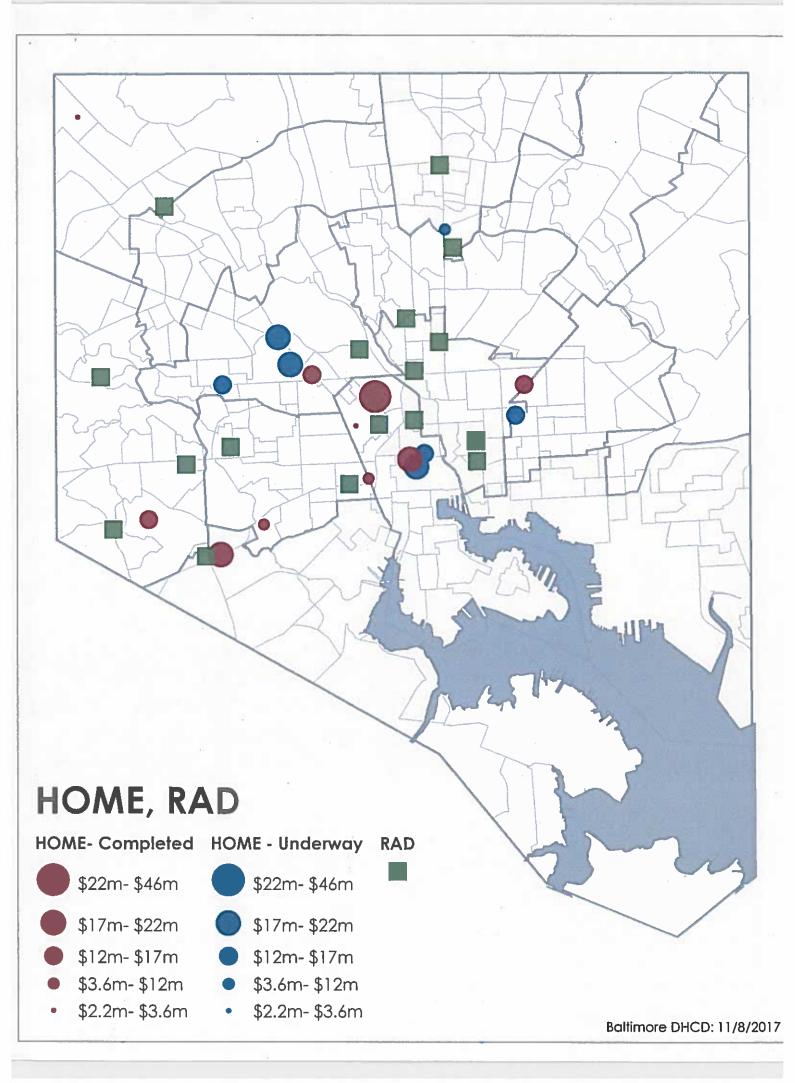


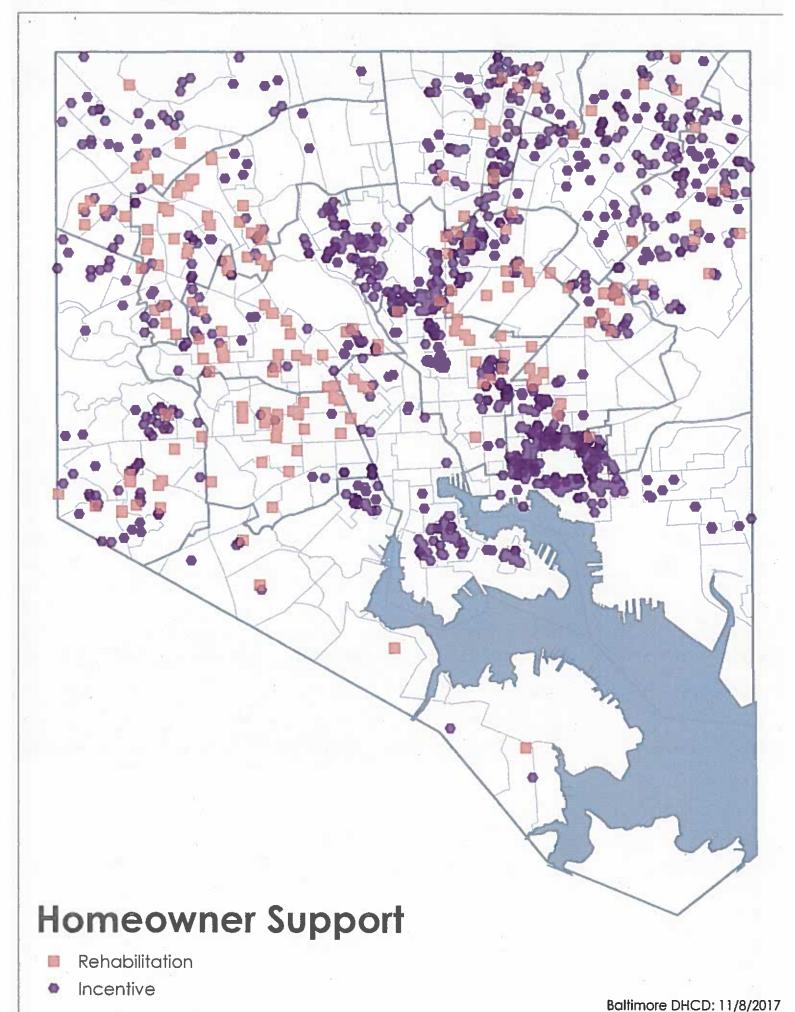
Projects Which Applied for HPMRTC

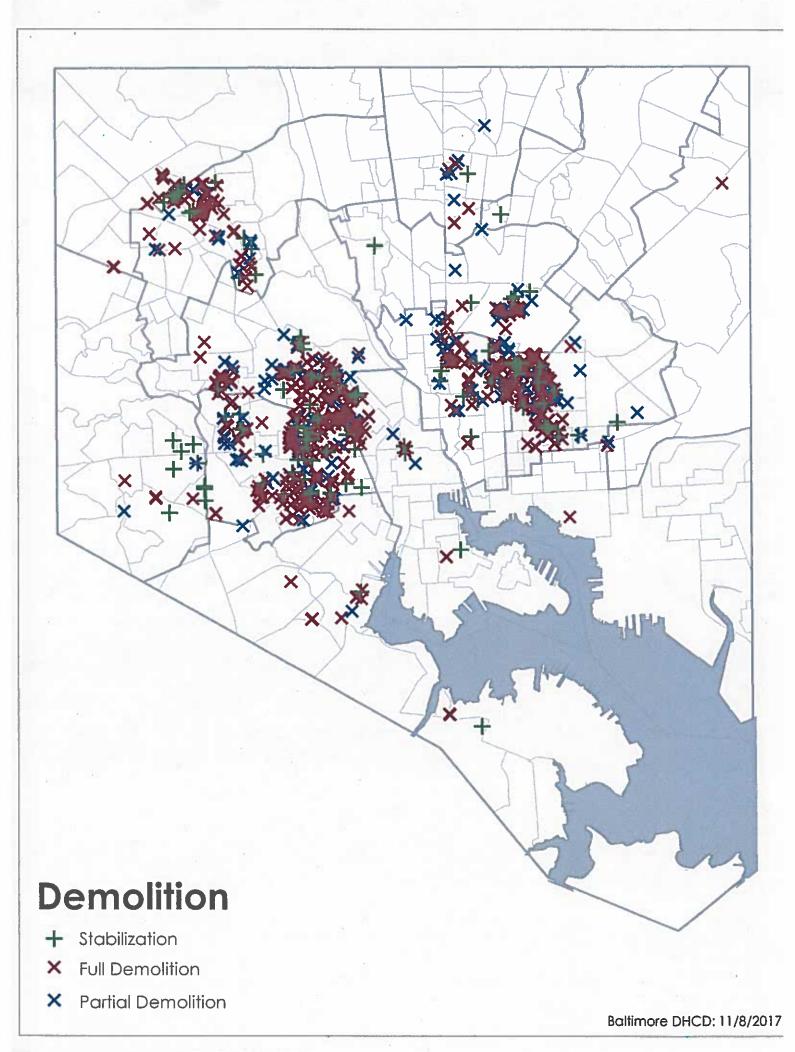


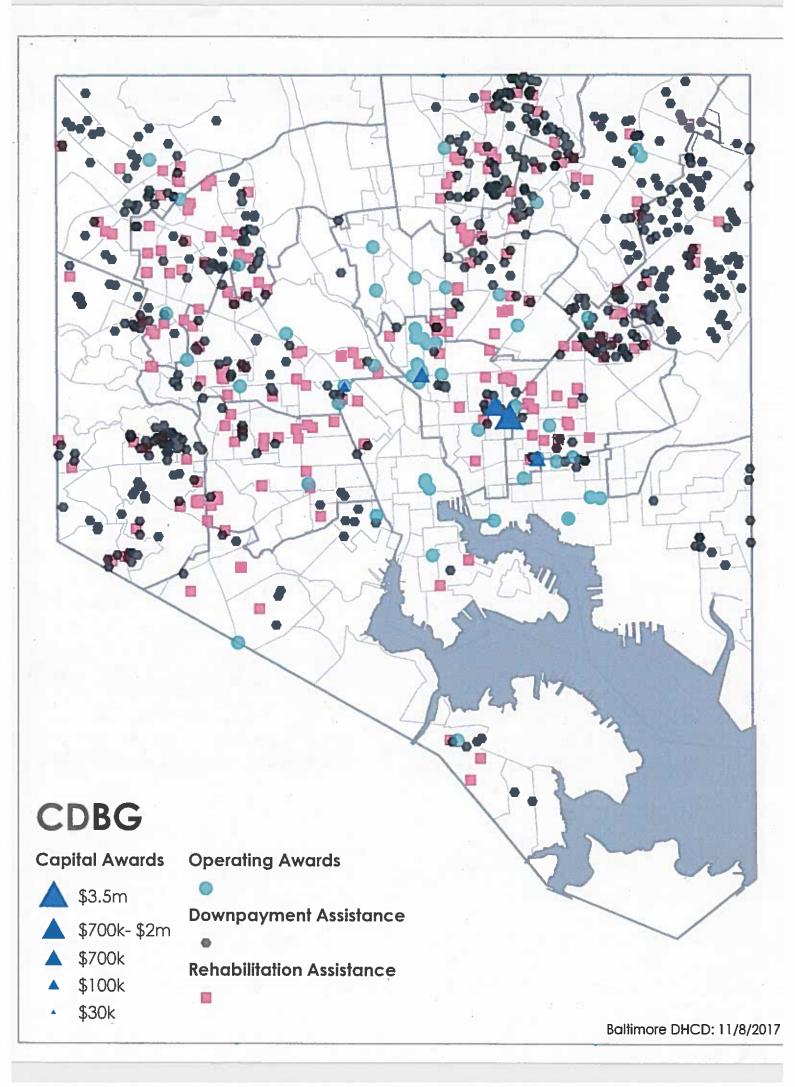


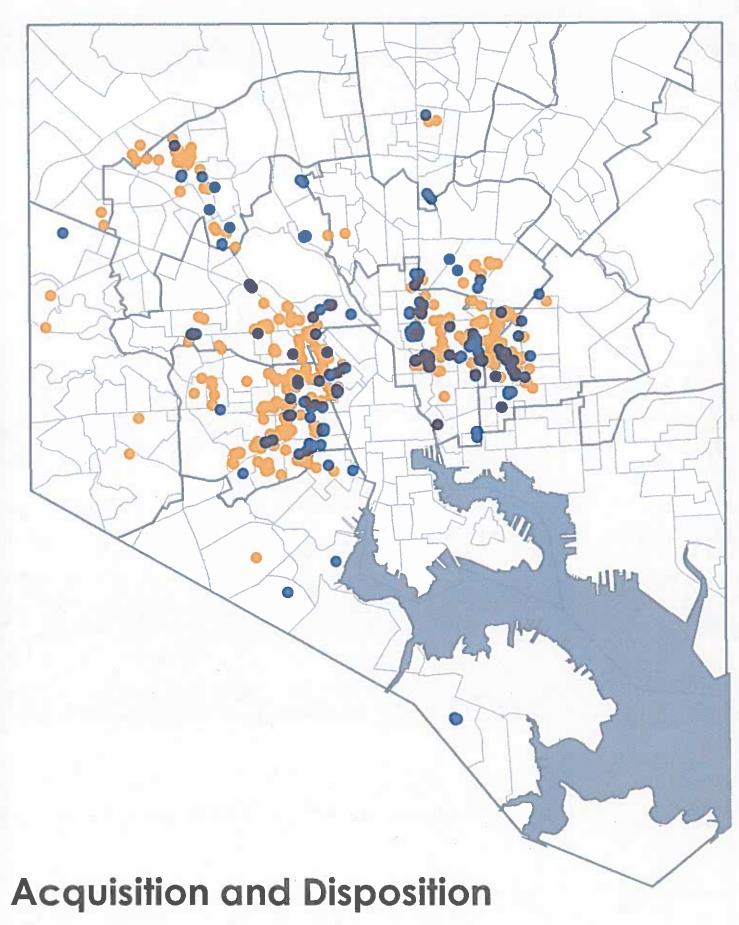
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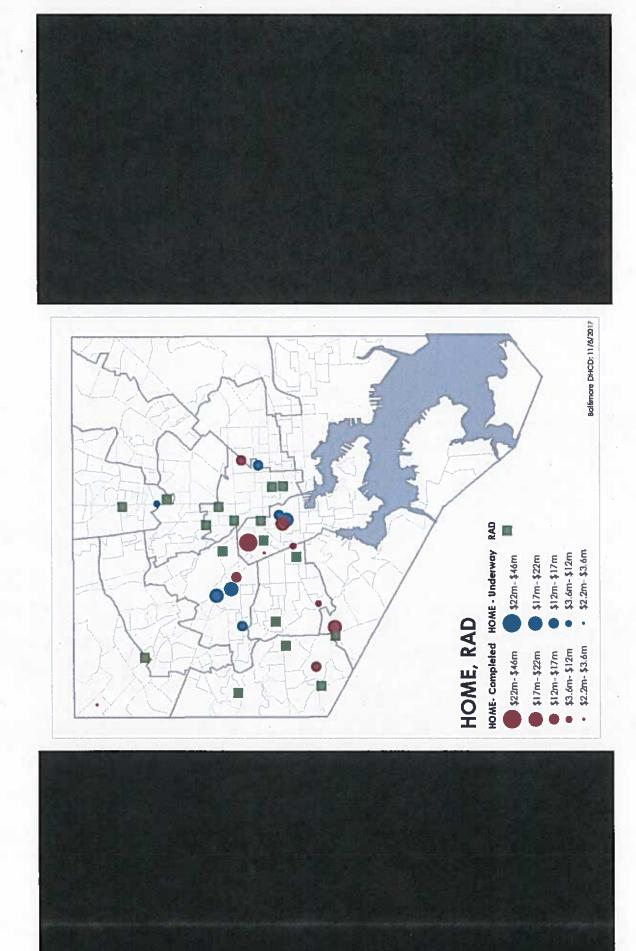


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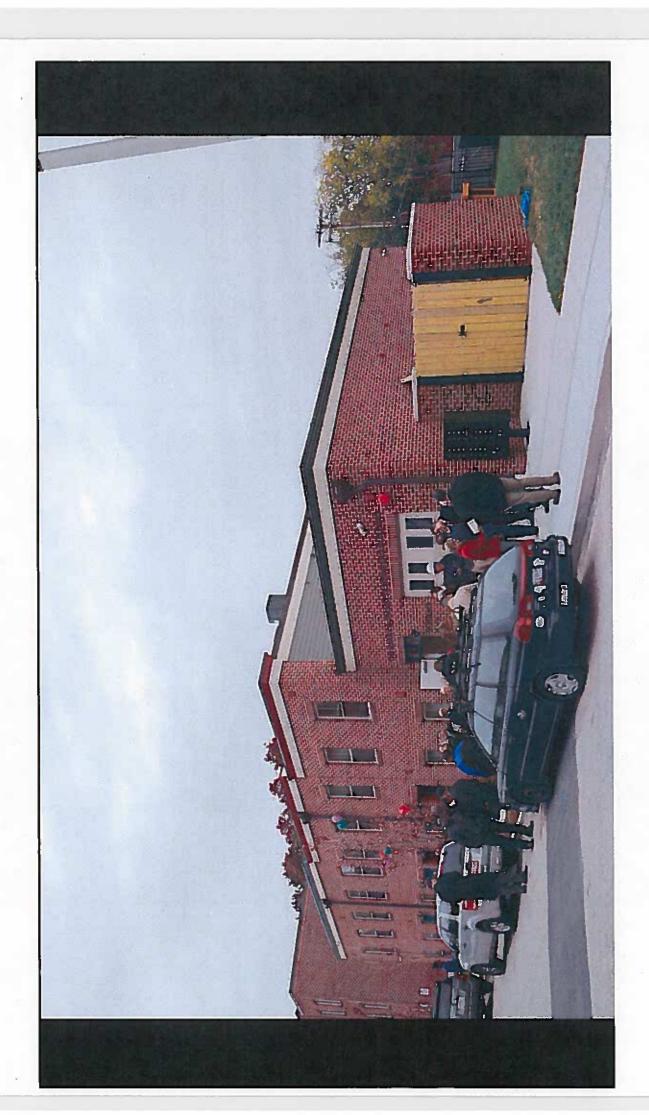
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Baltimore DHCD: 11/8/2017

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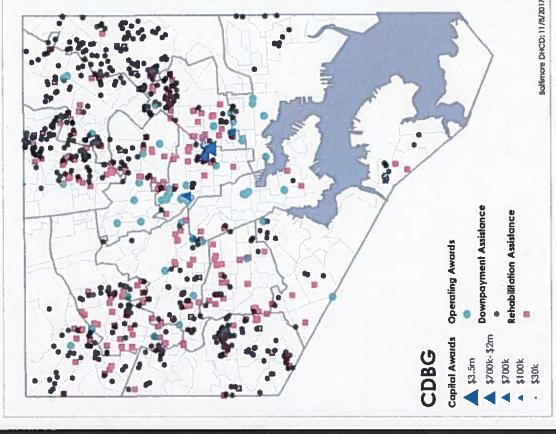










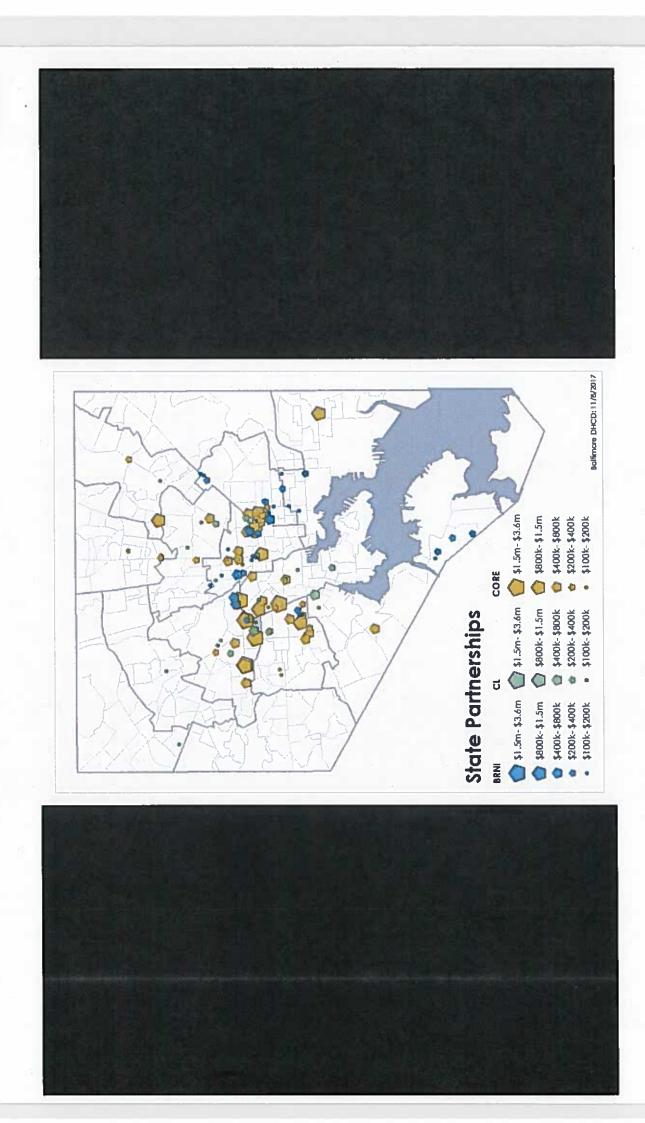




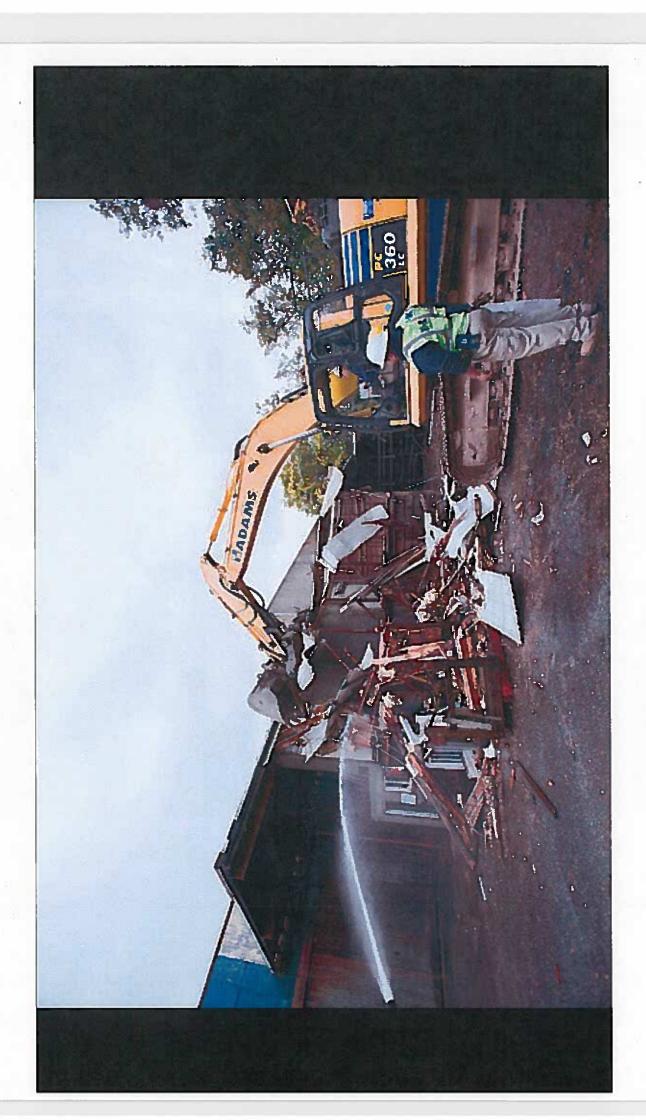




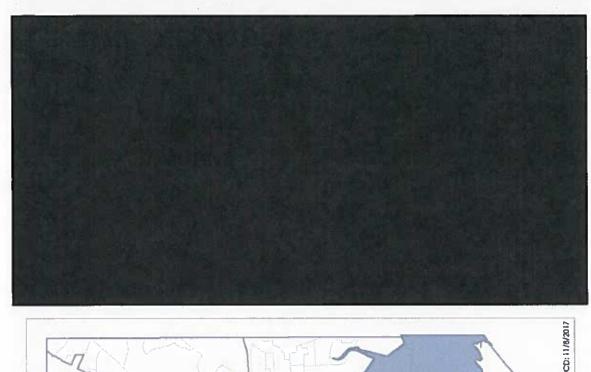


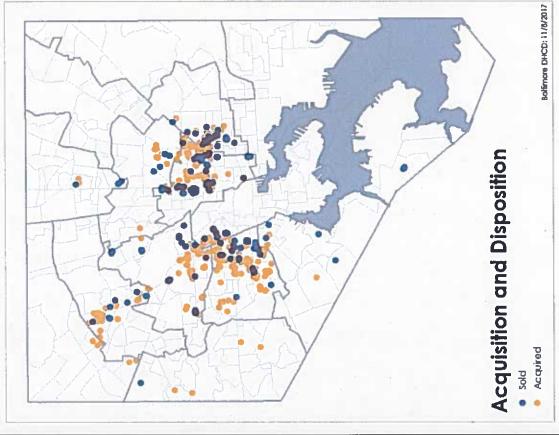


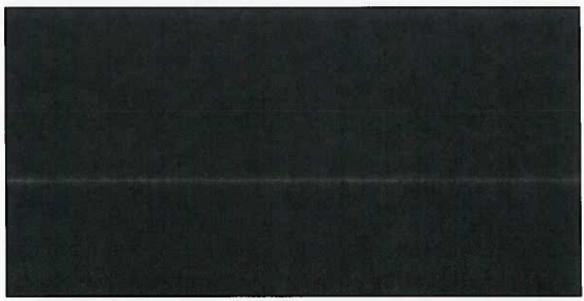




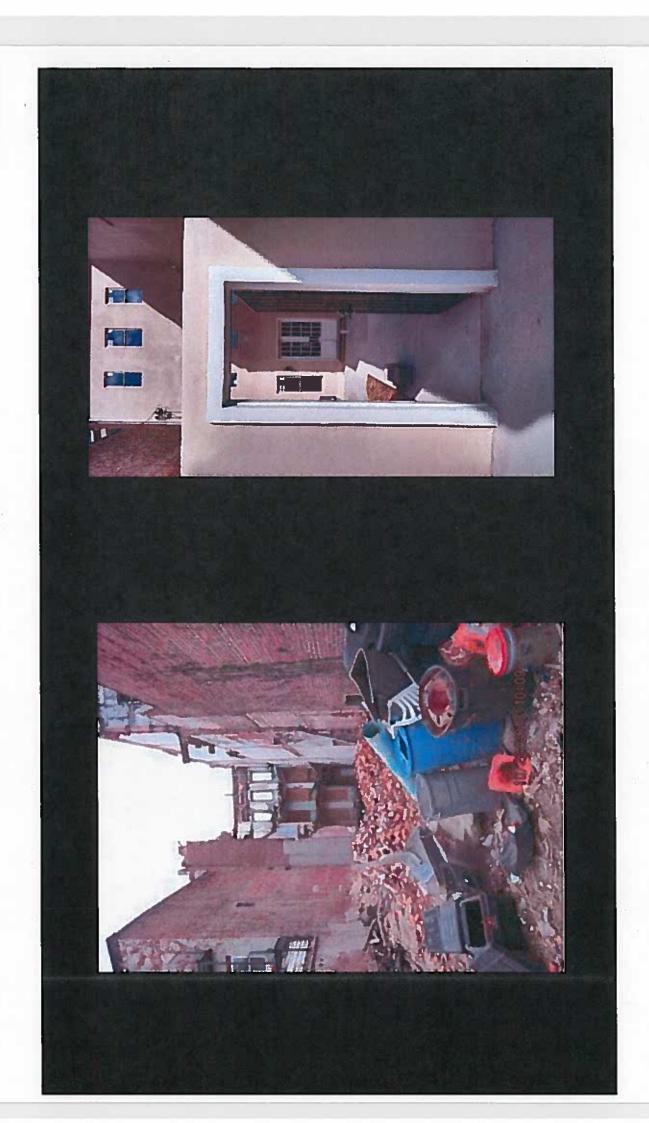




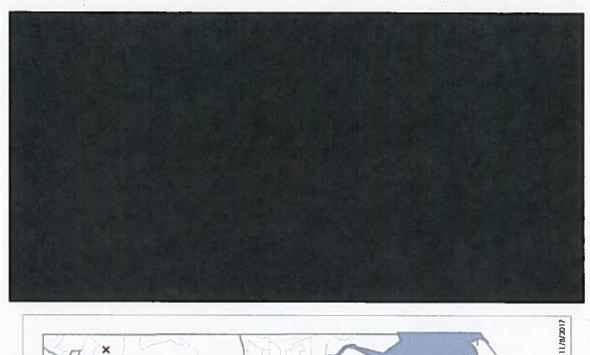


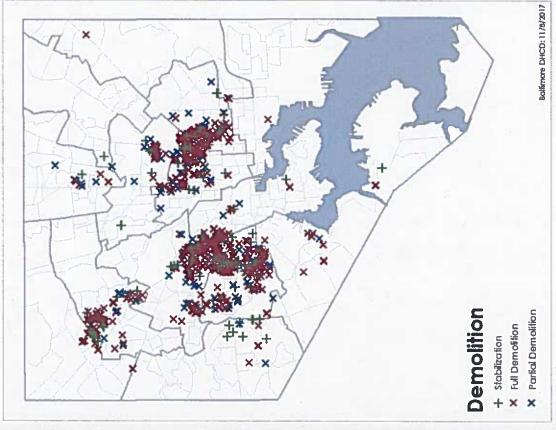


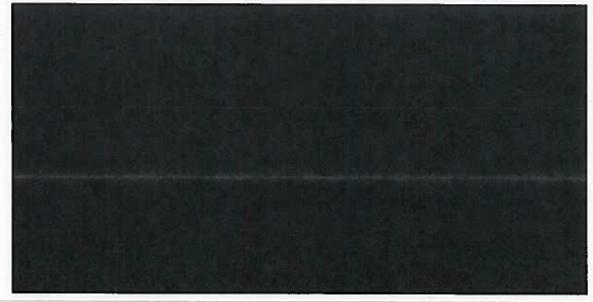




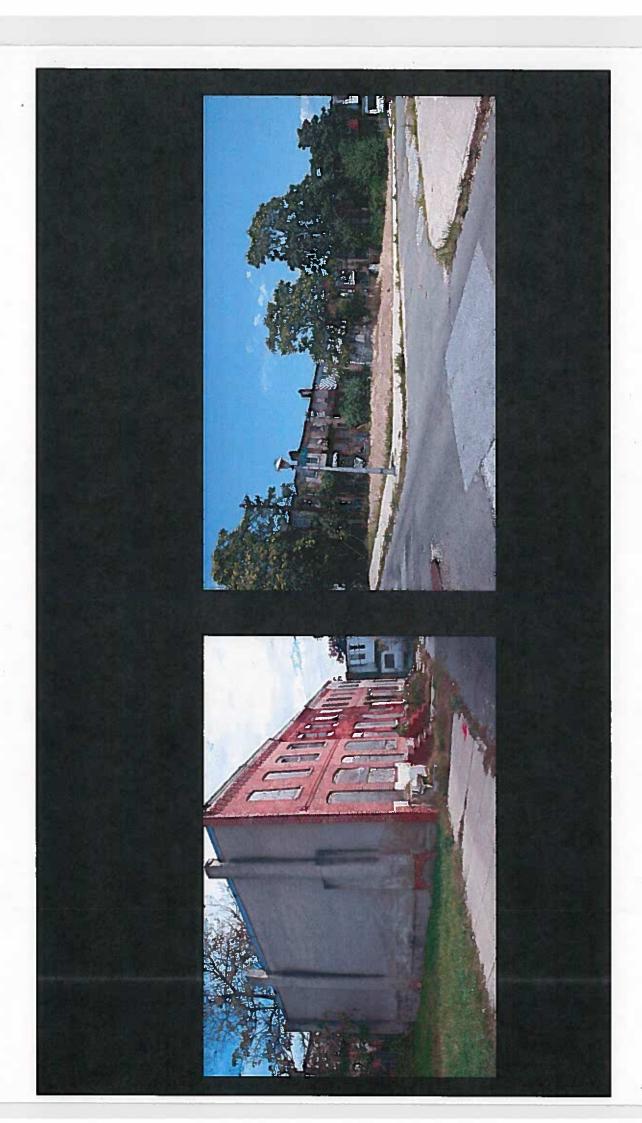


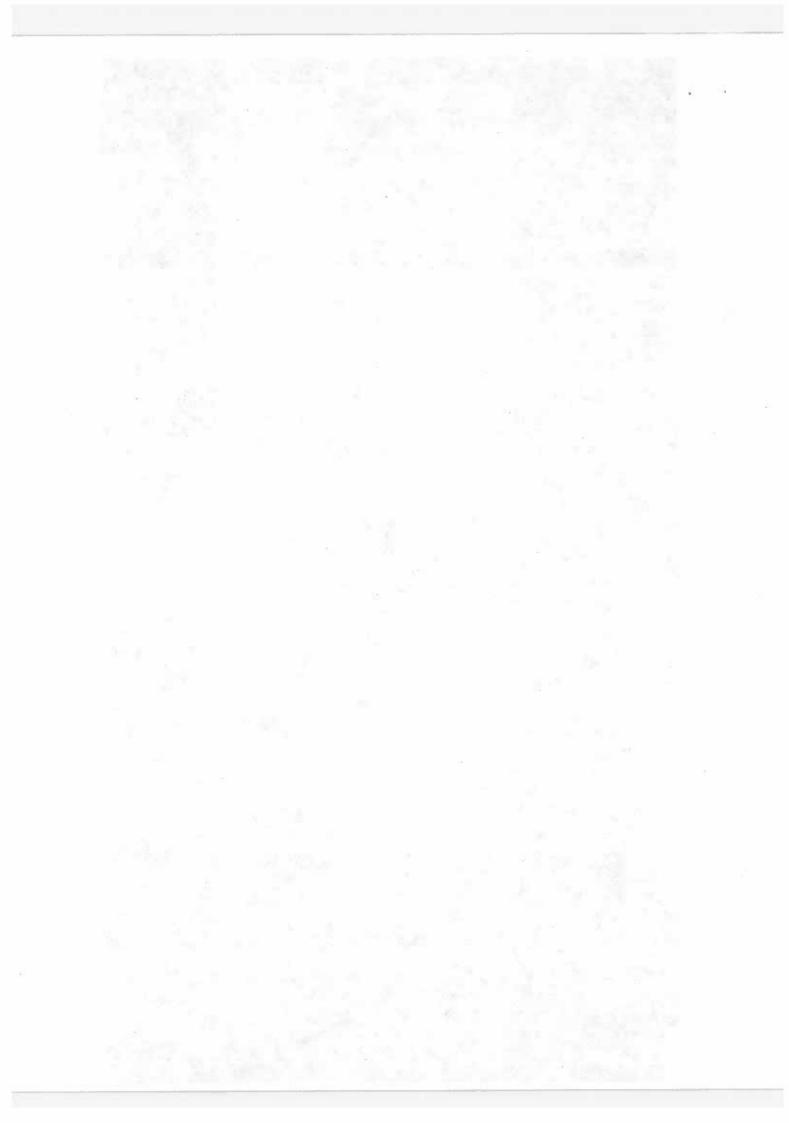


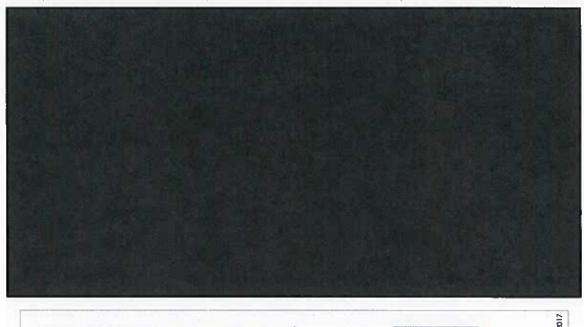


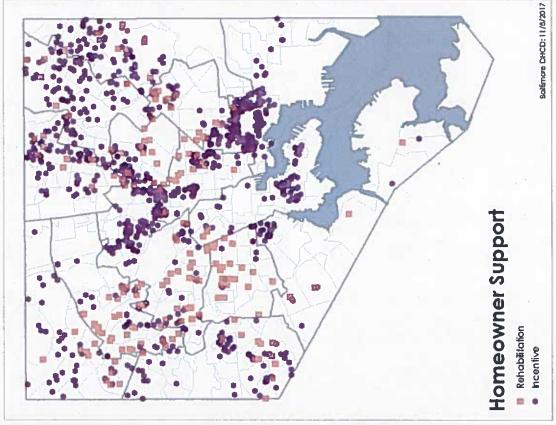


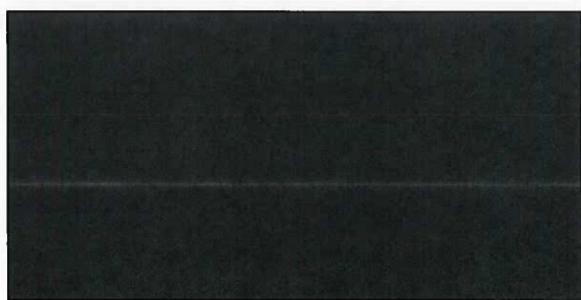




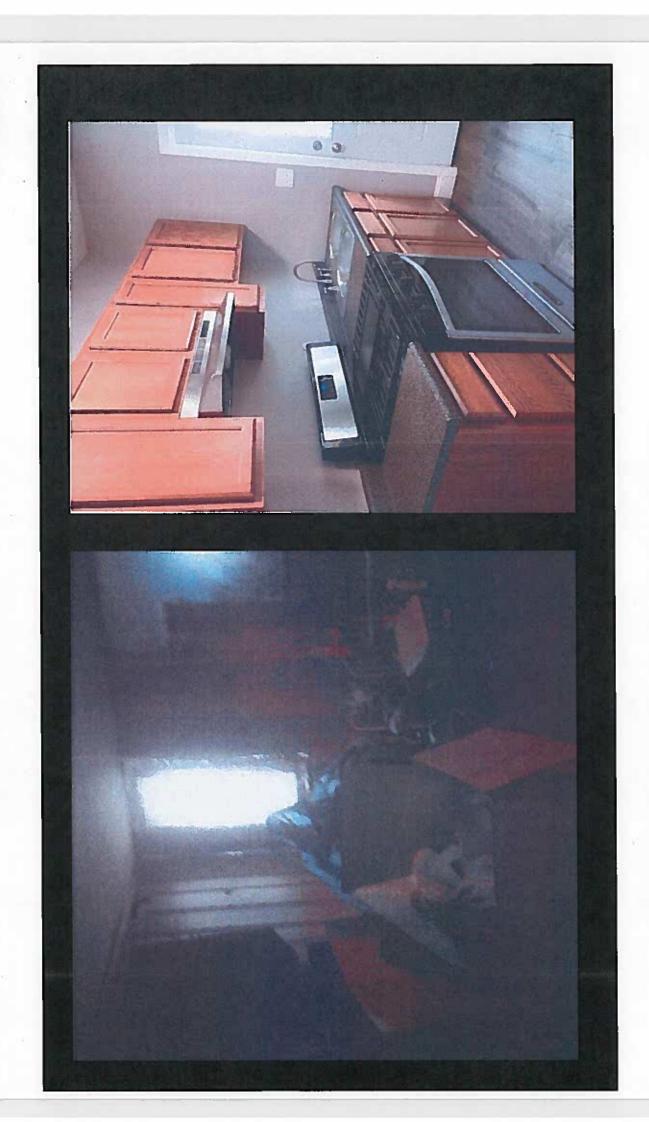
















November 9, 2017

The Committee on the Whole 100 Holliday St. #400 Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Council Bill 17-0020R

Dear Committee Members:



On behalf of the Baltimore Housing Roundtable (BHR), a coalition of persons who rent, own property or are homeless in Baltimore City, I submit the following in support of Council Bill 17-0020R, a resolution concerning Oversight on Private Development Incentives.

The BHR welcomes any move toward improved transparency and accountability relative to private development incentives. Indeed, the BHR embraces a principled development framework of universality, equity, participation, transparency, and accountability to human needs and human rights. It is for these reasons that we issued a report in January 2016 articulating a community-driven development roadmap for Baltimore: a commitment to prioritize human needs, creation of a housing trust fund, additions and revisions to the City's vacant property disposition program (Vacants to Values), community capacity building, and 20/20--\$20 million in bond money annually for the creation of community land trusts and \$20 million annually for vacant property deconstruction, demolition, and greening through projects that prioritize the hiring of returning citizens.

20/20 is more than resources for neighborhoods; it is an equitable development plan that attempts to address the structural racism and structural inequality that first led prior policy makers down the pathway of private development subsidies. It addresses two issues that are fundamental to municipal equitable development: the control of land and the distribution of resources.

Land values are the bellwether to equitable development. If we succeed in policies that create jobs, raise wages, improve education, remove blight, and ensure environmental sustainability—all objectives of prior development subsidies—we raise land values. And if we don't address the speculative pressures that come with this, the rising tide can flip over the boats of those who rent, own (on fixed-incomes), and are trying to get off the street. Community land ownership, through Community Land Trusts that equitably "right-size" property resale values, is a key means to address this, and a key to transforming neighborhoods from bystanders to active agents of development.

Resources, of course, are another key. For the last 40 years, the federal government has become an estranged partner in local development. The decline in Community Development Block

Grants, HOME, and housing subsidies has been consistent, regardless of administration, and looks, at this point, to be irreversible.

20/20 recognizes this, and asks the City to fill the gap where it does have capacity—through bonds, a subsidy tool that historically has been used to spur private, economic development.

This resolution sets on this road to critically examining the lessons of those subsidies. It should be complemented with a principled equitable criteria for evaluating those subsidies, to determine not simply how many jobs were created at what wages and terms, but what happened with property values, who was involuntary displaced, and what public resources were supplanted or lost because of blind devotion to a single development goal?

We look forward to working with the council as it moves toward a holistic equitable development framework centered on fundamental human need.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Peter Sabonis

Steering Committee Member

Baltimore Housing Roundtable Coalition

Director of Legal Strategies

National Economic and Social Rights Initiative

¹ Baltimore Housing Roundtable, Community + Land + Trust: Tools for Development without Displacement. (Jan. 2016)



League of Women Voters of Baltimore City

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410-377-7738 • E-mail: lwvbaltimore@comcast.net • www.lwv-baltimorecity.org
Facebook: league of women voters of baltimore city

TESTIMONY TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OVERSIGHT HEARING

Bill 17-0020R—Private Development Incentives

POSITION: Support

BY: Lois Hybl and Flo Valentine, Co-Presidents

DATE: November 9, 2017

The League of Women Voters of Baltimore City strongly supports City Council Bill 17-0020R—Private Development Incentives. We have long supported and advocated for increased transparency and public accountability around issues related to public incentives (i.e., public money) provided for private sector development. One of our positions is: "Action to encourage City government to be open, responsive, and accountable to the needs of citizens and to assure opportunities for citizen participation in decision making." This bill is a positive step in that direction.

The economic development structure—a triumvirate including the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Baltimore City Board of Estimates, and the Department of Finance—privileges the executive branch. For example, the BCD, created by the executive branch of city government, serves as a liaison between city agencies and businesses. Reporting to the mayor, it operates to promote economic development and is designed to promote the interests of the business community and serve as a liaison between city agencies and businesses.

This bill will bring needed oversight to the private development process by bringing the City Council into the process early on. It will also help to insure that the interests of the citizens of Baltimore City are taken into account when awarding public money for private development. Finally, this bill will also provide greater accountability for how economic development incentives are awarded. Currently, most of the decisions made before there is much public discussion.



CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 17-0020R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke, Reisinger, Middleton, Pinkett, Dorsey, Burnett, Sneed, Bullock, Cohen, Scott

Introduced and read first time: April 3, 2017

Assigned to: Committee of the Whole

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Finance, Department of Housing and Community Development

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

ì	A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning		
2	Oversight Hearing – Private Development Incentives		
3 4 5 6 7 8	FOR the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to the Council on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.		
9	Recitals		
10 11 12 13	In recent years Baltimore has made use of a variety of incentives to attempt to spur private sector development in our City. While these efforts have undoubtedly spurred some development, they have not been without controversy and it is not clear which approaches have been most successful and which may be falling short.		
14 15	In order to properly assess the City's incentive strategies, the Council needs a thorough briefing from the relevant City agencies on what has been done to date including:		
16 17	 a comprehensive and detailed account of existing incentives awarded in the City's private development portfolio; 		
18 19	 information about the nature of each project's specific incentives in revenue awarded/delayed/foregone; and 		
20 21 22	• the specific returns negotiated by and for the City's fiscal benefit in return for these incentives, including timetables, amounts, and conditions – in other words, the schedule of projected positive fiscal impact on City revenues, if any.		
23 24 25 26 27	Beyond these questions about the incentive strategies in general, the Council also requires information about BDC and City efforts to address widespread concerns about the equitable distribution of City supported development by shifting subsidy priorities to neighborhood-based development projects for affordable housing and mixed-use development projects. This information should include:		

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment. Strike out indicates matter deleted by amendment.

Council Bill 17-0020R

2		an overview of required affordable housing and local commercial infrastructure to meet the needs of our city's current and future population;		
3	• 8	available and specific subsidy capacity and geographic priorities;		
4 5		a timeline and strategy to incentivize citywide private sector and private/public partnership implementation;		
6	• (citywide goals and objectives by geographic quadrants and neighborhoods; and,		
7	• (discussion of channels for private interest applications based on these criteria.		
8 9 10 11 12 13	would be in Specifically Baltimore's in altering t	Finally, any discussion about current and future private development incentive strategies rould be incomplete without an examination of the City's process for creating TIFs and PILOTs. pecifically, there needs to be discussion about increasing transparency and accountability to altimore's citizens by expanding this process to either allow the City Council greater flexibility a altering the size of incentives during the legislative process, or involving the City Council in the formal fashion prior to the introduction of legislation.		
14 15 16 17 18	Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council requests that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to it on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentive can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.			
20 21 22	President ar	IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the ad CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation, the Director of Finance, and the egislative Liaison to the City Council.		

INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL _____R (Resolution) ____

FORMATTED BY DLR

Comm. of who
BDC
Finance
HCD

(Resolution) 17-0020R

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke, Reisinger, and Middleton

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Oversight Hearing - Private Development Incentives

For the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to the Council on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.

Recitals

In recent years Baltimore has made use of a variety of incentives to attempt to spur private sector development in our City. While these efforts have undoubtedly spurred some development, they have not been without controversy and it is not clear which approaches have been most successful and which may be falling short.

In order to properly assess the City's incentive strategies, the Council needs a thorough briefing from the relevant City agencies on what has been done to date including:

- a comprehensive and detailed account of existing incentives awarded in the City's private development portfolio;
- information about the nature of each project's specific incentives in revenue awarded/delayed/foregone; and
- the specific returns negotiated by and for the City's fiscal benefit in return for these incentives, including timetables, amounts, and conditions in other words, the schedule of projected positive fiscal impact on City revenues, if any.

Beyond these questions about the incentive strategies in general, the Council also requires information about BDC and City efforts to address widespread concerns about the equitable distribution of City supported development by shifting subsidy priorities to neighborhood-based development projects for affordable housing and mixed-use development projects. This information should include:

* WARNING: THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL, INTRODUCTORY COPY OF THE BILL.
THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.

- an overview of required affordable housing and local commercial infrastructure to meet the needs of our city's current and future population;
- available and specific subsidy capacity and geographic priorities;
- a timeline and strategy to incentivize citywide private sector and private/public partnership implementation;
- · citywide goals and objectives by geographic quadrants and neighborhoods; and,
- discussion of channels for private interest applications based on these criteria.

Finally, any discussion about current and future private development incentive strategies would be incomplete without an examination of the City's process for creating TIFs and PILOTs. Specifically, there needs to be discussion about increasing transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens by expanding this process to either allow the City Council greater flexibility in altering the size of incentives during the legislative process, or involving the City Council in some formal fashion prior to the introduction of legislation.

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council requests that the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), the Department of Finance, and other City agencies involved in offering incentives to spur private sector development report to it on the current and planned uses of these incentives, how these incentives can be used more equitably in the future, and options to improve transparency and accountability to Baltimore's citizens in how incentives are awarded.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation, the Director of Finance, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.