

The Baltimore City Department of
**HOUSING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner

MEB

Date: January 17, 2018

Re: **City Council Bill 17-0168 - Special Benefits Districts – Bmore Safe Places**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 17-0168, for the purpose of redesignating the City's Public Safety Conservation Area Program as the NeighborWatch Area Program; setting the requirements for neighborhoods to participate in the NeighborWatch Area Program; creating a Bmore Safe Places Board to implement the NeighborWatch Area Program; requiring the Department of Transportation to post signs in designated NeighborWatch Areas; and generally relating to the NeighborWatch Area Program.

If enacted, this bill would rename the City's Public Safety Conservation Area program to the NeighborWatch Area Program and create improvements to the program that would support neighborhoods where residents work together to implement initiatives that move towards a crime-free environment.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the passage of City Council Bill 17-0168.

MB:sd

cc: Ms. Karen Stokes, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Mr. Kyron Banks, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*