



Catherine Pugh
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Darryl De Sousa
Police Commissioner
Designee

January 22, 2018

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

**Re: City Council Bill No. 17-0168
Special Benefits Districts – Bmore Safe Places**

Dear Council President Young and Members of the City Council:

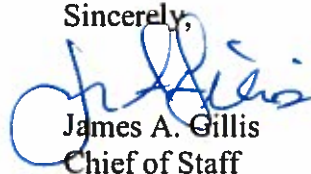
The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 17-0168. This legislation is for the purpose of redesignating the City's Public Safety Conservation Area Program as the NeighborWatch Area Program; setting the requirements for neighborhoods to participate in the NeighborWatch Area Program; 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.

The BPD supports this bill.

This legislation provides both the government and the community that it serves valuable tools for making our City safer, among other things. Lighting, physical space, cameras, and supplemental security patrols all play a role in public safety, and represent real community engagement.

The BPD looks forward to working with the City Council on this important matter.

Sincerely,


James A. Gillis
Chief of Staff