

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council

Attention: Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM: William H. Cole, President and CEO

DATE: November 14, 2018

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 18-0302

Late-Night Commercial Operations – Licensing

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill No. 18-0302, concerning the licensing of late-night commercial operations.

This Bill would require gas stations to purchase a license to operate during late-night hours. This requirement has potentially positive and negative impacts. Positive impacts would include additional revenue generated from the sale of the license. Additionally, every gas station may not choose to purchase the license, possibly reducing locations where crime or other actions may occur during late night hours. Negatively, the Bill may reduce the number of locations where residents, tourists, or others are able to purchase fuel.

Another portion of this Bill would allow businesses offering a late night delivery-only service the ability to purchase a license to operate. This conditional license would allow businesses without a drive-thru window the ability to remain open, but only for the delivery of their services (food). This Bill would increase competition between businesses while generating additional revenue from the sale of the license.

BDC supports this Bill and requests that favorable consideration is given by the City Council.

cc: Kyron Banks