


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Steve Sharkey, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (DOT) 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 19-0431		

TO: Mayor Bernard C. "Jack" Young
TO: Public Safety Committee
FROM: Department of Transportation
POSITION: No Objection
RE: Council Bill – 19-0431

DATE: 11/7/19

INTRODUCTION – Towing - Licensing and Regulation

PURPOSE/PLANS – For the purpose of consolidating the licensing and regulation of towing services in Baltimore City under one administrative body; defining certain terms; establishing the Board of Towing to regulate certain towing services in Baltimore City; requiring a license to perform certain towing services; specifying certain towing services that require additional certification; establishing certain standards of operation; prohibiting certain conduct; imposing certain penalties; allowing for licensure sanctions in certain situations; establishing a hearing process for licensure discipline; allowing for appeals in certain situations; and generally relating to the licensing and regulation of towing services in Baltimore City.

COMMENTS – Council Bill 19-0431 aims to place the licensing, regulation, and oversight of commercial towing services under the authority of one entity, the proposed Board of Towing. Responsibilities of the new board would include the acceptance and review of license applications as well as the approval and issuance of licenses, allowing for businesses to legally tow within the City of Baltimore. The bill also includes a number of provisions focused on reigning in aggressive towing practices along with the ability for the proposed Towing Board to deny, revoke, suspend or refuse to renew the licenses of various towing companies.

Although this legislation provides the Director of Transportation the option to serve or designate a member to serve on the seven member Towing Board, the bill as proposed is not expected to have a significant impact on the Baltimore City Department of Transportation, including the agency’s own Towing Division.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION – The Department of Transportation has **no objection** to City Council Bill 19-0431.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liam Davis via email at Liam.Davis@baltimorecity.gov or by phone (410) 545-3207.

Sincerely,



Steve Sharkey
Director