FROM	NAME & TITLE	Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., Director
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 19-0447





TO

December 6, 2019

TO Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

INTRODUCTION

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 19-0447 introduced by Council Members Clarke and Pinkett.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the Urban Renewal Plan for Hampden Business Area to conform certain provisions and references to those of Article 32 – Zoning, modify the duration of the Plan, revise certain exhibits of the Plan to conform the references to land use and the zoning district classifications of the Zoning Code that is now in effect, and conform and correct certain language in the Plan; waive certain content and procedural requirements; make the provisions of this Ordinance severable; provide for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances, and provide for a special effective date.

BRIEF HISTORY

Ordinance 77-285 established the Urban Renewal Plan for the Hampden Business Area and was last amended by Ordinance 06-235. The Urban Renewal Area generally includes properties on both sides of West 36th Street, between Falls Road and Chestnut Street, as well as a few properties on Falls Road and on Chestnut Street. City Council Bill 19-0477, if approved, would align the Urban Renewal Plan with the new zoning code known as Transform Baltimore, updating the prior B zoning categories to the current C-1 neighborhood business zoning category in text and in Exhibits 1 and 4. Language has been added to clarify that the outdoor displays of merchandise is subject to the standards of the zoning code. Finally; an expiration date for the Urban Renewal Plan of December 31, 2029 has been added to provide sufficient time for the Business Area to achieve the goals of the Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Department of Public Works does not anticipate incurring any direct fiscal impacts resulting from this proposed ordinance. Updating and conforming the Urban Renewal Plan with current zoning would remove any potential confusion for affected property owners.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION

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The Department of Public Works has no objection to the passage of City Council Bill 19-0447. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Marcia Collins at 410-396-1960 (Marcia Collins abaltimorecity gov).

Sincerely,

Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.

Director

RSC:MMC