

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner

Date: August 20, 2020

Re: City Council Bill 20-0552 - Tax Credits - Historical Properties

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 20-0552 for the purpose of extending the period within which applications may be accepted for an historic improvement tax credit; granting the Director of Planning certain administrative powers; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, Council Bill 20-0552 would extend the sunset date for the Historic Improvements, Restorations and Rehabilitations Tax Credit program from February 28, 2021 to February 28, 2022. The Bill would add the Director of Planning to the existing Department of Finance for the administration of the program.

The extension of this program supports DHCD's rehabilitation and blight elimination objectives for historic properties. This credit will help restore vacant and abandoned structures and revitalize neighborhoods.

DHCD **supports** the passage of City Council Bill 20-0552.

MB:sm

cc: Mr. Blendy, Nicholas, Mayor's Office of Government Relations