

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Acting Housing Commissioner

Date: September 9, 2020

Re: City Council Bill 20-0590 – Zoning - Conditional Use Parking Lot - 1301-1325 Etting Street, 505, 507, 509, and 511 West Lafayette Avenue, and the Alley Adjacent to 1325 Etting Street

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 20-0590 for the purpose of permitting, subject to certain conditions, the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a parking lot on the properties known as 1301-1325 Etting Street (Block 0396, Lots 051, 052, 053, 054, 055, 056, 057, 058, 059, 060, 061, 062, and 063), 505, 507, 509, and 511 West Lafayette Avenue (Block 0396, Lots 019, 020, 021, and 022), and the alley adjacent to 1325 Etting Street, as outlined in red on the accompanying plat.

If enacted, Council Bill 20-0590 would allow the applicant, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, conditional use for a parking lot in a R-8 zone to support the needs of their church, located at 1300 Druid Hill Drive. Per §14-331 of the Baltimore City Zoning Ordinance, the development of a parking lot includes requirements for screening and landscaping.

DHCD has previously shown support for the development of this parking lot by assisting in the property disposition of the previously City owned properties, located at 1301-1325 Etting Street and 505, 507 & 509 West Lafayette Avenue.

The Upton Planning Committee and the Historic Marble Hill Community Association submitted letters of support regarding Bethel AME Church's acquisition and use of 505-509 W. Lafayette Avenue and 1301-1323 Etting Street as a parking lot.

DHCD supports the passage of City Council Bill 20-0590.