


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Todd Carter Chief Information Officer	CITY of BALTIMORE  M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Baltimore City Office of Information and Technology (BCIT) 401 E Fayette Street, 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor		
	SUBJECT	<b>City Council Bill 19-0353</b> <b>Charter Amendment – Underground Conduit System – Sale, Transfer, or Franchise Prohibited</b>		

TO: The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
Room 400 City Hall  
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

September 15, 2020

The Baltimore City Office of Information and Technology (BCIT) is herein reporting on City Council Bill 19-0353, Underground Conduit System – Sale, Transfer, or Franchise Prohibited.

### Background

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the sale, transfer, or franchising of the City's underground conduit system for cables, wires, and similar facilities; except this underground conduit system, its operations and uses, from the Charter provisions otherwise authorizing the grant of franchises or rights relating to the operation or use of public property or places; and submit this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

### Comments

This bill would provide a path to similar protections for the City's conduit system as was provided to the City's water system in recent years. This bill will preserve the City's ability to enhance or expand public safety infrastructure and broadband communications within the underground conduit system.

### Fiscal Impact

BCIT does not foresee any significant fiscal or operational impacts associated with the passage of Council Bill 19-0353.

### Position: BCIT supports City Council Bill 19-0353

If you have any questions, please contact Leyla Layman, Chief of Governance and Administration, at (443) 202-4511.

cc: Mr. Matt Stegman, Mayor's Office of Government Relations  
Ms. Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations