

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Acting Housing Commissioner *ak*

Date: October 20, 2020

Re: City Council Bill 19-0447 Urban Renewal - Hampden Business Area - Amendment

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0447 for the purpose of amending the Urban Renewal Plan for Hampden Business Area to conform certain provisions and references to those of Article 32 - Zoning, to modify the duration of the Plan, to revise certain exhibits of the Plan to conform the references to the land use and the zoning district classifications of the Zoning Code that is now in effect, and to conform and correct certain language in the Plan; waiving certain content and procedural requirements; making the provisions of this Ordinance severable; providing for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and providing for a special effective date.

At its regular meeting of October 24, 2019, the Planning Commission concurred with its Planning Staff whom recommended approval of City Council Bill 19-0447.

If enacted, City Council Bill 19-0447 would amend the Urban Renewal Plan for the Hampden Business Area, which encompasses both sides of the 700 through 1100 blocks of W. 36th St., and contains a mix of two-story rowhouse commercial storefronts and larger commercial businesses.

The legislation would update the existing Urban Renewal Plan to conform with the newly adopted Transform Baltimore. Specifically, the Bill would update references to B Zoning categories to C-1 zoning categories, clarify language on outdoor display, update exhibits and set an expiration date.

DHCD **supports** the passage of City Council Bill 19-0447.

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