

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: November 5, 2020

Re: City Council Bill 20-0586 Sale of Property - Lake Clifton Gate House

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 20-0586 for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property known as the former Lake Clifton Gate House, located at 2803 Saint Lo Drive (Block 4199, Lot 008) and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, City Council Bill 20-0586 would allow for either the public or private sale of the Lake Clifton Gate House, located at 2803 Saint Lo Drive, to potentially be redeveloped as an entry gateway to the former Lake Clifton Senior High School, whom Morgan State University intends to redevelop for an expansion of their campus.

This Bill is being considered simultaneously with City Council Bill 20-0585 which would allow for either the public or private sale of the former Lake Clifton Senior High School #40, located at 2801 Saint Lo Drive. The sale of the Senior High School, which adjoins the Lake Clifton Gate House, would allow the site to potentially be redeveloped as an entry gateway to the campus.

The Department of Planning coordinates with City agencies for the disposition of surplus Baltimore City Schools. As part of the [21st Century Schools Initiative](#), Baltimore City Schools are required to [surplus 26 school buildings](#). The properties are all owned by the Mayor and City Council and will be surplus to the City over the next 10 years to determine re-use of each site. Resulting from this process, DHCD issued a public offering, an “Expressions of Interest (EOI)”, for the adjoining 2801 Saint Lo Drive earlier this year.

DHCD’s Development Division worked in partnership with multiple agencies and departments including the Mayor’s Office, the Department of Planning, the Comptroller’s Office and the Department of General Services to promote the offering and review the eight responses we received for the Lake Clifton Senior High School. Morgan State University has been selected as the developer of 2801 Saint Lo Drive for an expansion of their campus.

DHCD supports the productive re-use of the Lake Clifton Gate House and the adjoining former Lake Clifton Senior High School #40 through related City Council Bill 02-0585. These sites



represent an excellent opportunity for redevelopment and to serve as a resource for the community as an anchor for the adjacent neighborhood.

DHCD **supports** the passage of Council Bill 20-0586 and recommends that the Bill be passed by the City Council.

AK:sm

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