

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 20, 2021

Re: City Council Bill 21-0090 City Streets - Closing - Etting Street and four 10 Foot Alleys bounded by Druid Hill Avenue, Gold Street, Division Street and Baker Street

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0090 for the purpose of condemning and closing of Etting Street and four tenfoot alleys bounded by Druid Hill Avenue, Gold Street, Division Street and Baker Street as shown on a plat numbered 337-A-28A and filed in the Office of the Department of Transportation; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, City Council Bill 21-0090 would allow for the consolidation of a number of Mayor and City Council owned vacant lots, that are no longer needed for public purposes, to allow for the development of a public park in Central West Baltimore.

At its regular meeting of June 24, 2021, the Planning Commission concurred with the recommendation of its departmental staff and recommended that City Council Bill 21-0090 be passed by the City Council.

The subject closing is located in the West Impact investment area and DHCD is in the process of assembling properties in these blocks. The closing of the street and alleys will allow for the development of the Cab Callaway Legends Park which is expected to be utilized by Druid Heights residents and the surrounding neighborhood.

DHCD **supports** the passage of Council Bill 21-0090.

AK/sm

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