CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW JAMES L. SHEA, CITY SOLICITOR 100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET SUITE 101, CITY HALL BALTIMORE, MD 21202

October 5, 2021

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council Attn: Executive Secretary Room 409, City Hall 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 21-0128 – Supplemental General Fund Operating Appropriation – Department of General Services – \$12,383.02

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0128 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$12,383.02 to the Baltimore City Department of General Services. The money is from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act that had not been anticipated when balancing the budget for Fiscal Year 2021. The appropriation would go to pay for additional Community Action Program building improvement expenses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill is effective on the date it is enacted.

The City Charter establishes the criteria for making supplementary appropriations. City Charter, Art. VI, §8. Section 8(b)(3) of Article VI of the City Charter permits such a supplementary appropriation when there has been "a material change in circumstance or additional appropriations for new programs which could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates" for the fiscal year. The supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and must be approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance, which must identify the source of the funds and may only encompass a "single program, purpose, activity or project." City Charter, Art. VI, §8(c). The Law Department approves this bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

Hilary Ruley Chief Solicitor

cc: James L. Shea, City Solicitor Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor Victor Tervala, Chief Solicitor