

BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alice Kennedy, Acting Housing Commissioner

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Date: October 26, 2021

Re: City Council Bill 21-0154 Sale of Property - 1201 North Rosedale Street

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0154 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 that is located at 1201 North Rosedale Street (Block 2442D, Lot 016) and is no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, City Council Bill 21-0154 would allow for either the public or private sale of 1201 North Rosedale Street for redevelopment. The Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) has expressed an interest in purchasing the property, which is immediately adjacent to the HABC owned Douglass Homes at 1001 N Ellamont St.

The property is currently subject to a vacant building notice and no longer serves a public use. Approval of the sale and the subsequent re-use of the property could create additional institutional, open space, commercial or other opportunities for residents of Douglass Homes and the Rosemont neighborhood. DHCD supports the productive re-use of the Rosemount Recreation Center which is currently under the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks. This site represents an excellent opportunity for the reactivation of a presently vacant building that may serve as a resource for the residents of Douglass Homes and as a community space for the neighborhood.

DHCD does not object to the passage of Council Bill 21-0154.