

November 8, 2021

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council City Hall, Room 400

Position: Does Not Oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 21-0122 – Franchise - Installation of 5 Utilities/Ductbanks, the purpose of which is to grant a franchise to The Johns Hopkins University (Developer's Agreement #1710) to construct, use, and maintain 5 utilities/ductbanks, subject to certain terms, conditions, and reservations; and provide for a special effective date.

Background

The proposed legislation seeks to grant a franchise to Johns Hopkins University (JHU) to construct, use, and maintain five utilities/ductbanks on a portion of the public right of way known as Wyman Park Drive. All costs and expenses for the utilizes/ductbanks will be covered by JHU.

The legislation contains a franchise fee, which is set by the Board of Estimates (BOE). The Department of Transportation calculates the fee based on their Minor Privilege Schedule, which the BOE takes into consideration when establishing the fee. The fee for this agreement will be determined by the BOE and added to the bill at the second reading of the bill.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Finance expects minimal to no fiscal impact for the City.

Conclusion

This legislation grants a franchise to Johns Hopkins University to construct, use, and maintain five utilities/ductbanks on a portion of the public right of way known as Wyman Park Drive. Finance anticipates minimal fiscal impact from this legislation.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 21-0122.

cc: Henry Raymond Natasha Mehu Nina Themelis