



Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Housing and Community Development)

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Approving the Submission of an Application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Designation of a Promise Zone

FOR the purpose of approving the submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for designation in Baltimore City of an area, which is generally bounded by West North Avenue to the north, Carroll Camden Industrial Park to the south, North Charles Street to the east, and South Monroe Street / Mulberry Street / North Bentalou Street / West Lafayette Street / North Monroe Street to the west, as a Promise Zone under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Promise Zones Initiative; and providing for a special effective date.

Recitals

WHEREAS, In 2013, President Obama laid out an initiative to help the federal government partner with local governments and other organizations to create jobs, leverage private investment, increase economic activity, expand educational opportunities, and improve public safety in high-poverty communities that met certain criteria.

WHEREAS, The Promise Zones Initiative provides for Promise Zones to be designated in urban and rural areas, that there will be a maximum designation of 20 Promise Zones, and that the designations will be awarded on a competitive basis.

WHEREAS, Designation as a Promise Zone does not provide accompanying grant funding, but it does provide preferences for certain competitive federal programs and technical assistance from participating agencies, a federal liaison to assist with navigating federal programs, the opportunity to engage 5 AmeriCorps Vista members, and Promise Zone tax incentives, if enacted by Congress.

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has announced a third and final round of application for communities to be designated as Promise Zones.

WHEREAS, Baltimore City and its partners have been working on an application, which includes goals, outcomes, and strategies to pursue community revitalization efforts, for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Promise Zones Initiative to have an area of the City designated as a Promise Zone.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City of Baltimore:

(1) approves the designation of the area bounded by West North Avenue to the north, Carroll Camden Industrial Park to the south, North Charles Street to the east, and South Monroe Street / Mulberry Street / North Bentalou Street / West Lafayette Street / North Monroe Street to the west as a Promise Zone under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Promise Zones Initiative.

(2) approves the submission of an application to designate the area as a Promise Zone and authorizes and directs the appropriate City officials and other partner agencies that are participating in the designation to execute and submit the application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and to the Baltimore City Housing Commissioner.

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