



June 14, 2016

GREATER REMINGTON
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

541 W. 27th Street
Baltimore, MD 21211
(443) 695-4896
www.griaonline.org

Ryan Flanigan
President

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Julie Dael
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Nellie Power
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Board Members at Large

Craig Bettenhausen
Maryanne Kondratenko
Jed Weeks
Blaine Carvalho
Bill Cunningham
Josh Greenfeld
Raymond DeBarge IV

Hon. Bernard C. "Jack" Young, President, Baltimore City Council
Hon. Edward Reisinger, Chairman, Land Use and Transportation
Committee
Hon. James B. Kraft, Vice Chairman, Land Use and Transportation
Committee
Members, Land Use and Transportation Committee
Members of the Baltimore City Council
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: Transform Baltimore (City Council Bill 12-0152)

Dear President Young and Members of the City Council:

The Great Remington Improvement Association (GRIA) writes to ask that you pass Transform Baltimore (City Council Bill 12-0152), the City's once-in-a-generation effort to rewrite and replace its antiquated zoning code, by the end of 2016 and begin voting on map amendments and an interlineated version of the bill immediately.

GRIA recognizes the enormity and complexity of this task and thanks you for the progress made to date to conclude voting on text and table amendments in early 2016. At this time, however, it appears map amendments and an interlineated bill have been put on hold and may not be acted upon until the fall. GRIA believes that progress on both maps and further hearings on an interlineated bill must be made as soon as possible, including during the summer months if necessary.

Remington is one of the fastest growing and evolving neighborhoods in the City with hundreds of new residents and scores of businesses looking to relocate to Remington in the near future. Unfortunately, the antiquated zoning code, written for a time and place in Baltimore history that discouraged mixed use neighborhoods with walkable, active and sustainable streets makes attracting new residents and businesses challenging. Transform Baltimore promises to change this paradigm by bringing the flexibility that both Remington and rest of Baltimore need to be competitive with other modern cities across the globe.

Remington is counting on the passage of Transform Baltimore to allow the redevelopment of the many long vacant industrial properties that ring the neighborhood, recreate the much needed local commerce and neighborhood connectivity that comes with new, local corner store businesses and allow for the more efficient adoption of a multi-modal model of street-level neighborhood planning.



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If this bill does not pass by the end of 2016, this City Council has let Remington and all of Baltimore down while foregoing the capital, jobs, and population gains possible under Transform Baltimore. **This is not an acceptable outcome for Remington, and we encourage this City Council to act on Transform Baltimore immediately.**

Remington is ready and willing to aid the City Council in this endeavor and GRIA is looking forward to working with you to pass Transform Baltimore by the end of 2016. Thank you.

Best regards,
Ryan Flanigan
GRIA President

cc: Hon. Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Mayor
Carolyn Blakeney, City Council Chief of Staff
Kara Kunst, City Council Director of Legislative Affairs
Colin Tarbert, Deputy Mayor
Leon Pinkett, Assistant Deputy Mayor
Andrew Smullian, Deputy Mayor
William Cole, Baltimore Development Corporation
Thomas Stosur, Planning Director
Baltimore City Planning Commission