



April 14, 2009

The Hon. Stephanie Rawlings Blake  
Baltimore City Council, Office of the President  
Baltimore City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street, Suite 400  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**RE: CB 09-0293 (Downtown Management District - Adjustment of Boundaries FOR the purpose of extending the Downtown Management District to encompass an area bounded by Franklin Street to the north, Howard Street to the east, Saratoga Street to the south, and Eutaw Street to the west, as well as properties fronting on the west side of Eutaw Street; correcting, clarifying, and conforming related language; making this Ordinance subject to a certain contingency; and generally related to the Downtown Management District and Authority.)**

Dear Council President Blake:

On behalf of the Market Center Merchant's Association, I am writing in support of CB 09-0293, legislation that would adjust the boundaries of Baltimore's Downtown Management Authority (DMA) district.

This adjustment will expand the delivery of *Clean, Friendly & Beautiful services* provided by Downtown Partnership of Baltimore on behalf of the DMA into an area near Lexington Market that absolutely could benefit from these services.

This is an area of great importance to the Market Center Merchant's Association, and to the thousands of people who live and own property in the area, not to mention the tens of thousands who frequent the Market, or nearby Hippodrome Theatre.

The DMA program enjoys overwhelming support of Downtown property owners who value the services that it delivers over-and-above those provided by the City of Baltimore. The DMA District is renewed every five years through a community-inclusive process that invites public comment. At its last renewal in 2007, the DMA received the full support of the 1,400 properties currently in the District.

Thank you for your consideration. And do not hesitate to call me should you require any further information regarding the Association's position in this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda Frangioni  
President, Market Center Merchant's Association