

Subject: Testimony & Fiscal Impact Statement

Council Resolution No. ___ - 2025, authorizing the County Executive to grant an easement containing 0.0357 acres to Baltimore Gas and Electric Company so that Baltimore Gas and Electric Company may install communication facilities on property owned by Howard County, Maryland; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to grant the easement if he finds that the property may have a further public use.

To: Brandee Ganz

Chief Administrative Officer

From: Yosef Kebede, Director

Department of Public Works

Date: January 23, 2025

The Department of Public Works (the "Department") has been designated coordinator for preparation of testimony relative to the above referenced Council Resolution for the granting of an easement containing 0.0357 acres (the "Easement Area") to the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company ("BGE") located on property owned by Howard County, Maryland, shown as Lot 24, Parcel 364 on Tax Map 38 (the "County Property").

BGE has requested an easement to install communication facilities on the County Property for use in connection with BGE's electric utility business and for any other communication purpose, including the provision of infrastructure to enable internet providers to reach communities within the County (the "Communication Facilities"). The Communication Facilities include, but are not limited to, wires, cables, fiber optic cables, and conduits.

BGE will be required to restore at BGE's expense the County Property to a condition equal to or better than its condition immediately preceding any opening, excavation, or other work in the easement area for the installation or maintenance of the Communication Facilities.

The Department of Public Works has reviewed and approved the proposed grant of easement to BGE for the installation of the Communication Facilities.

Section 4.201, "Disposition of Real Property", of the Howard County Code authorizes the County Council to declare that property is no longer needed for public purposes and authorizes the County Council to waive advertising and bidding requirements for an individual conveyance of real property upon the request of the County Executive.

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The County Council has received a request from the County Executive to waive the advertising and bidding requirements in this instance for the Amendment to Deeds in order to allow for the installation of the Communications Facilities in the Easement.

There is no fiscal impact to the County.

Representatives of the Department will be present at the public hearing to answer any questions or concerns. If you require any further information concerning this matter or have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

cc: Jennifer Sager File