



February 15, 2021

House Appropriations Committee
Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program Fund

SUPPORT HB867

Northwest Baltimore Partnership, by Martha Nathanson, Vice President, Government Relations and Community Development, LifeBridge Health; Lisa Budlow, President and CEO, Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc., and; Yolanda Jiggetts, Executive Director, Park Heights Renaissance, Inc.

Our three organizations – founding partners of the Northwest Baltimore Partnership – urge you to **SUPPORT HB867: Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program Fund**, which will extend the requirement to provide an annual appropriation of \$12,000,000 in the State budget for the Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program Fund through fiscal year 2026.

NWBP works collaboratively to build value from Park Circle to Pikesville. Its catchment area includes northwest Baltimore City and County neighborhoods, bounded by Greenspring Avenue to the west, Park Circle to the south, Reisterstown and Liberty Roads to the west, and Old Court Road/Slade Avenue to the north. NWBP's goals are to:

- Increase Investment in Northwest Baltimore for Capital Improvements and Resident Development Through Public and Private Sources.
- Build and Strengthen Community and Resident Connections.
- Build Community and Partner Capacity.
- Drive Neighborhood Economic Development.

NWBP is pleased to be a recipient of BRNI funds for FY20 and FY21, for both capital projects and for operating funds to administer NWBP's operations. Convened under an MOU by the three founding partners in Spring 2018, NWBP now boasts approximately 30 participants, and continuously expands to members from local and state government, retail and commercial sectors, faith-based and educational organizations, community associations, and others.

NWBP is fortunate to be a part of the BRNI family as we continue to implement the vision and secure the future of Northwest Baltimore communities and residents. We strongly urge you to **SUPPORT Maryland House Bill 867** to extend BRNI's influence and support of neighborhoods and communities as they continue to improve.