

**Doni Glover**  
**BMORENews.com**  
**1142 N. Carrollton Avenue**  
**Baltimore, MD 21217**  
**January 28, 2025**

**The Honorable Members of the Maryland General Assembly**  
**Annapolis, Maryland**

**Subject:** Support for the West North Avenue Development Authority's Expansion

Dear Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed expansion of the West North Avenue Development Authority as outlined in Article – Economic Development (House Bill 258). This initiative represents a transformative opportunity for Baltimore City and the residents of the West North Avenue Corridor, an area that has long struggled with underdevelopment and economic stagnation.

The expansion of the West North Avenue Development Authority is vital for the following reasons:

1. **Economic Revitalization:** The West North Avenue Corridor has experienced decades of economic disinvestment, resulting in low housing and commercial development. The Authority's expanded efforts will address these deficiencies by creating jobs, attracting new businesses, and increasing commerce in the region.
2. **Community Empowerment:** By directing financial resources toward residential and commercial redevelopment, the Authority will empower local community organizations to spearhead initiatives that directly benefit their neighborhoods. This ensures that development efforts are inclusive, equitable, and reflective of the community's needs.
3. **Public Welfare and Safety:** The revitalization of deteriorated and blighted areas within the corridor will enhance public safety, promote health and welfare, and restore pride among residents. Additionally, the improvement of property conditions will lead to increased property tax revenues, further benefiting both the city and the state.
4. **Essential Governmental Function:** As recognized in the proposed legislation, the Authority's work constitutes an essential governmental function by addressing unemployment, fostering a balanced economy, and retaining businesses and residents in Baltimore City.

The proposed geographic expansion of the West North Avenue Development Authority, encompassing both the target area and the buffer zone, will maximize the impact of these initiatives by addressing the interconnected nature of the corridor's challenges. Furthermore, the provision for annual appropriations from the State Budget Bill underscores the importance of sustained financial support for these efforts.

I urge the Maryland General Assembly to approve this critical expansion. The West North Avenue Development Authority has already demonstrated its potential to catalyze change. With expanded resources and a broader mandate, the Authority can further advance its mission of revitalizing the West North Avenue Corridor, transforming it into a thriving hub of economic activity and community vibrancy.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Please feel free to contact me at [your phone number] or [your email address] if I can provide additional information or support for this effort.

Sincerely,

Doni Glover, Publisher  
www.bmorenews.com  
[doni@bmorenews.com](mailto:doni@bmorenews.com)  
443-858-2684