

Tiso, Eric (DOP)

From: Audette, Caitlin (DOP)
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 6:18 AM
To: Tiso, Eric (DOP)
Subject: Fw: February 5th - Planning Commission Testimony

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From: Adrienne Black <adriannefblack@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 8:19 PM
To: Tiso, Eric (DOP) <Eric.Tiso@baltimorecity.gov>; Audette, Caitlin (DOP) <Caitlin.Audette@baltimorecity.gov>
Subject: February 5th - Planning Commission Testimony

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Hi,

I wanted to submit my testimony related to the agenda item about closing the Calvert Spur.

I am a city resident who lives near Penn Station and regularly walks downtown for work and entertainment. The way our central city was laid out centuries ago created a community with blocks and streets that are genuinely welcoming to people on foot. Despite the last 70 years of choices that prioritized fast-moving automobiles and gave them many lanes of our downtown streets, downtown Baltimore is still fundamentally a good place to move on foot, with a dense network of wonderful shops, corporations, homes, theaters, and restaurants. It is a lively place not because car traffic is funneled through it, but in spite of that situation.

Closing the Calvert Spur will be one of the first visionary choices in decades to return our downtown and central city to the freedom of movement they were built for. Calvert is, to anyone's eyes, a relatively narrow historic street. Downtown, it is the site of the Battle Monument and the courthouse, which together formed one of the central courtyards where people met and passed one another when they were built. From there, it winds through medical campuses, business districts, and residential neighborhoods of historic townhomes. None of these places along Calvert are served by the constant deluge of fast-moving automobiles on a narrow street that should not even be one-way. Drivers race to get through downtown and these neighborhoods rather than moving with care or taking the time to use and enjoy these unique places. The Calvert Spur disrespected the built environment when it was constructed, and it is long past time for our city to remove it and do the work necessary to make the street a place where people can move safely again.

I support removing the Spur as a first step toward creating an Inner Harbor, downtown, and central Baltimore that people can feel at home in, rather than a highway for people to rush through as fast as they can.

Sincerely,

Adrianne Black
District 12