

Group receives support for race plans

By Dave Lewandowski, *Indycar.com*, August 11, 2009

The Baltimore City Council unanimously passed a resolution during its regular monthly meeting Aug. 10 supporting Baltimore Racing Development to develop plans for an IndyCar Series race on downtown streets beginning as soon as 2011 and negotiate with the sanctioning Indy Racing League.

William Cole, a City Council member who represents the projected race event area, co-sponsored the resolution along with City Council president Stephanie Rawlings-Blake among others.

Baltimore Racing Development, a limited liability company headed by area developer Steven Wehner and attorney Jay Davidson, has designed a proposed circuit that would partly border Oriole Park at Camden Yards, M&T Bank Stadium, the convention center and the Inner Harbor.

At a presentation in June, Davidson and Wehner told city and state officials they estimated a four-day IndyCar Series event would draw more than 150,000 visitors from Atlantic states and have an economic impact between \$70 million and \$100 million.

"We are thrilled to see the Baltimore City Council support Baltimore Racing Development's efforts to bring the IndyCar Series to the city's Inner Harbor area," said Terry Angstadt, president of the Indy Racing League's commercial division. "We will continue to work with Baltimore Racing Development to bring the speed and excitement of the IndyCar Series to the city's world-renowned Inner Harbor area."

Baltimore is renowned for its bustling Inner Harbor with many waterfront attractions. The city has become a national leader in key business sectors such as health care, life sciences, tourism, finance and real estate. Baltimore is home to renowned higher educational institutions and cultural attractions.