



BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
Office of Councilmember Zac Blanchard
District 11

August 18, 2026

Baltimore City Board of Estimates

Re: Letter of support for REED HOUSE

Dear Mayor Scott and esteemed members of the Board of Estimates,

I am pleased to express my strong support for the Ed Reed Foundation's proposed REED HOUSE, a safe and welcoming community space designed to serve young people and families in Baltimore's Upton community.

For more than 24 years, the Ed Reed Foundation has demonstrated a meaningful and sustained commitment to Baltimore City youth through its support of Booker T. Washington Middle School. This longstanding presence has helped the Foundation build trusted relationships with students, families, educators, and community stakeholders. The REED HOUSE represents a natural and timely expansion of that work.

As the Councilmember representing District 11, I recognize that public safety and community well-being are strengthened when young people have access to safe spaces, caring adults, educational support, nutritious food, and constructive opportunities outside of school hours. The REED HOUSE will help meet these needs by creating a stable environment where youth can learn, connect, grow, and envision positive futures.

The Foundation's proposed programming—including extended learning opportunities, food access and nutrition education, wellness activities, and youth-centered enrichment—will provide practical resources for Upton families while contributing to the long-term strength and vitality of the neighborhood. By investing in prevention, connection, and opportunity, the REED HOUSE can serve as an important asset for residents across the community.

I strongly support the establishment of the REED HOUSE and commend the Ed Reed Foundation for its continued investment in Baltimore's young people. I look forward to seeing the positive impact this project will have on youth, families, and the broader Upton community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zac Blanchard".

Zac Blanchard
Councilmember, Eleventh District
Baltimore City Council