

John Bullock, PhD

District 9

Economic and Community Development Committee

Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee

Health, Environment, and Technology Committee

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The Baltimore City Council

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 29th, 2024

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the establishment of the Ed Reed Foundation's new safe space project, the REED HOUSE, within our community. As the Councilman in Baltimore City's 9th District, covering West and Southwest Baltimore, I recognize the invaluable need for such a space, and I am fully supportive of the efforts to bring this project to fruition.

The Ed Reed Foundation has been supporting our local community through their commitment to Booker T. Washington Middle School for over 21 years. They have built a foundation of trust in Upton and local families have greatly benefited from their support.

The REED HOUSE project not only addresses the physical safety of youth but also fosters emotional well-being and a sense of belonging. Our community is making enormous strides to make Upton a highly desirable place to live, work, pray and play and the REED HOUSE will be an incredible asset helping youth to feel included and supported.

Having ongoing programming during out-of-school time will be a vital part of the Upton Planning Committee's 2026 Master Plan. The opportunity for youth and other community members to engage in the food access/nutritional education classes, extended learning initiatives and wellness activities will be invaluable to Upton's families.

I am confident that with the collective effort and support from our community, this project will thrive and make a significant positive impact. Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything I can do to further support this endeavor. I am more than willing to lend my assistance in any way possible. Thank you for your tireless efforts in making our community a better place for all.

Warm regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Bullock". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "J" and "B".

John T. Bullock, Ph.D.

Councilman, District 9