

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

LARRY E. GREENE, Director
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HEARING NOTES

Legislative Oversight: LO22-0022

Office of Employment Development - YouthWorks

Committee: Education, Workforce, and Youth

Chaired by: Robert Stokes, Sr.

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 10, 2022

Time (Beginning): 10:00 AM

Time (Ending): 11:05 AM

Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting

Total Attendance: Approximately 25

Committee Members in Attendance:

Robert Stokes, Sr.	Sharon Green Middleton
John Bullock	Antonio Glover
Zeke Cohen	Phylicia Porter
James Torrence	

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video or audio-digitally recorded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Evidence of notification to property owners?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Jason Perkins-Cohen, Office of Employment Development (OED)
- Donnice Brown, Office of Employment Development
- Shvilla Rashaam, Office of Employment Development

Major Issues Discussed

1. Chairman Stokes gave opening remarks. Some remarks were:
 - Talked about the importance of getting youth (young people) involved
 - What better way to getting young people involved than through YouthWorks!
 2. Director Perkins-Cohen along with several of his staff members presented a PowerPoint Presentation.
A copy is on file. "YouthWorks is an investment in "Young Baltimoreans!"
 3. The committee members asked questions, made comments, and etc. Some highlighted topics of discussion were:
 - The OED was asked to talk about some of their outreach efforts
 - Questions:
 - Who decided only \$4 million out of the \$30 million would be used for YouthWorks?
 - What is the remaining \$26 million to be used for? **One answer was: "Must be affected by COVID in order to use funding"**
 - Where is the workforce expanding? Where are the opportunities for growth?
 - Can you talk more about your partnerships with industries?
 - Is any data available about where you see potential in job growth and how OED is reaching out to facilitate same? **Requested by Councilman Cohen: Please submit data regarding job growth**
 - What is the possibility of having some of our young folks working at the Port of Baltimore?
 - The Port of Baltimore is a massive industry for the city; an important industry that is growing and should be looked at for job opportunities!
 - **Also see attached list of questions, some were asked during the hearing**
 4. The hearing was called to recess.
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Further Study

Was further study requested?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe.

1. See **highlighted request in yellow**, in the "Major Issues Discussion Section" above.
-

Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite Murray Currin, Committee Staff

Date: February 15, 2022

cc: Bill File
OCS Electronic File

LO22-0022 -Youthworks

- MOED received \$30 million to expand workforce development in the City from ARPA funds. How does MOED plan on maintaining this level of investment which will help expand the number of youth participants in YouthWorks to 4,000 over two summers?
 - Additionally, does MOED have a long-term plan to ensure the sustainability of the YouthWorks Academy being funded through ARPA? What will be the application process for youth interested in participating in the YouthWorks Academy?
- What is MOED doing to address the digital divide and the ways it hinders youth employment?
- What health and safety precautions are MOED implementing to ensure that the YouthWorks program participants are working in a safe, healthy environment during this global pandemic?
- Do you know how many YouthWorks participants identify as foster youth or a youth experiencing homelessness?
 - Does MOED assist these youth in obtaining housing or providing them rental assistance? Does MOED provide housing resources for individuals in other workforce development programs besides YouthWorks?
 - What has MOED seen as the biggest barrier for employment for foster youth and youth experiencing homelessness?
- Youth that identify as LGBTQ are at a higher risk of experiencing homelessness, and these youth are also underrepresented in YouthWorks participation. What steps is MOED taking to engage these young people, specifically trans and nonbinary youth, in the YouthWorks Academy?
 - How is MOED working with employers to ensure that youths are working in inclusive environments?
- What barriers to job acquisition and retention do job seekers most often report?
- Is there programming or considerations made for youth, have been, or have a guardian that is or has been criminal justice involved?
- Can MOED share its employment selection and matching process?
 - Are assessments performed to determine interest, career, and education?
- Does the YouthWorks program ever have youth return after a summer? If so, how many?
- Does MOED collect data on how many of its job seekers are experiencing homelessness, or are experiencing an emergency housing need?
 - If so, how have job seekers been impacted by COVID-19 and subsequent changes to the housing and rental market?
 - What referrals and supports do Job Centers offer to people in emergency housing situations?
 - How has MOED developed job training programs that are accessible for people that are experiencing homelessness or other housing crises?



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: Legislative Oversight -- Office of Employment Development-Youth Works	LO #22-0022
Committee: Education, Workforce, and Youth	Chair: Robert Stokes, Sr.
Date: Thursday, February 10, 2022	Time: 10:00 AM
Location: WebEx Meeting	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

What is your
position on this
bill?

Lobbyist:
Are you
registered in
the City?*

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY

First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		See hearing Notes					

*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Meeting Minutes - Final

Education Workforce and Youth

Thursday, February 10, 2022

10:00 AM
Virtual Webex Hearing: Phone: +1-408-418-9388, Access Code:
2343 291 3381, Password: Public, Link:
[https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?MTID=e246eac381c09536332e7e7fd7b4c9dff)
MTID=e246eac381c09536332e7e7fd7b4c9dff

Legislative Oversight: LO22-0022

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 7 - Robert Stokes Sr., John T. Bullock, Zeke Cohen, Antonio Glover, Sharon Green
Middleton, Phylcia Porter, and James Torrence

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

LO22-0022

Office of Employment Development (OED)

For the purpose of holding periodic hearings to receive updates from the OED
regarding workforce development strategies for Baltimore City.

Hearing called to recess.

ADJOURNMENT