

FROM	NAME & TITLE	William Wells, Deputy Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Mayor's Office of Homeless Services		
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution 22-0117R – Informational Hearing - Baltimore Public Sanitation - Homeless Encampments		

TO

DATE:

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400
100 N. Holiday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

September 21, 2022

Position: Favorable

The Mayor's Office of Homeless Services (MOHS) is pleased to have the opportunity to review City Council Bill 22-0117R, an "Informational Hearing - Baltimore Public Sanitation - Homeless Encampments."

This Bill calls for an informational hearing, inviting representatives from several City agencies to report and give testimony on their efforts to mitigate the waste left by those experiencing homelessness and specifically to discuss the procurement of contracted services to clear hazardous waste from such encampments.

MOHS agrees that homelessness is a complex issue for both those who are unhoused as well as other residents living in the City of Baltimore, and further that trash can often contain bio-hazardous waste such as human waste and drug paraphernalia.

While MOHS does not control the contracted services specified as a part of this Informational Hearing, our staff does work closely with other City agencies and the Mayor's Office to coordinate efforts to ensure that residents of Baltimore City are as safe as possible, especially those who find themselves living in areas not meant for human habitation.

The MOHS Outreach team and our contracted outreach providers engage those experiencing homelessness where they are in order to build rapport, offer services, and ultimately find a path to stable, safe housing solutions.

MOHS strongly supports the City's efforts to ensure that all residents are safe and healthy and the Deputy Director will be available to present information on our outreach efforts and coordination with other City agencies to address these specific issues and also to answer any questions the committee members may have about our efforts.

cc: Natasha Mehu
Nina Themelis
Irene Augustin