



## Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 22-0210      **Version:** 0      **Name:** Blight Elimination Task Force - Establishment  
**Type:** Ordinance      **Status:** Withdrawn  
**File created:** 3/21/2022      **In control:** Baltimore City Council  
**On agenda:**      **Final action:** 12/7/2023  
**Enactment date:**      **Enactment #:**

**Title:** Blight Elimination Task Force - Establishment  
 For the purpose of establishing the Baltimore City Blight Elimination Task Force and its members; setting forth certain duties of the Task Force; requiring an annual report; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the elimination of blight in Baltimore City.

**Sponsors:** Robert Stokes, Sr., Sharon Green Middleton, Phylcia Porter, Danielle McCray

**Indexes:** Task Force

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 1. 22-0210~1st Reader, 2. 22-0210 Law, 3. 22-0210 ECB, 4. Reassigned Committee 22-0210(2)~1st Reader

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
12/7/2023	0	Baltimore City Council	Withdrawn	
6/21/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Reassigned	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Police Department	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Dept. of Public Works	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Dept. of Planning	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to City Solicitor	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Fire Department	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Dept. of Housing and Community Development	
3/24/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Environmental Control Board	
3/21/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Assigned	
3/21/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Introduced	

**Explanation:** Capitals indicate matter added to existing law.  
 [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

\* **Warning:** This is an unofficial, introductory copy of the bill.  
 The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

### Introductory\*

## City of Baltimore Council Bill

Introduced by: Councilmember Stokes

A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning

**Blight Elimination Task Force - Establishment**

For the purpose of establishing the Baltimore City Blight Elimination Task Force and its members; setting forth certain duties of the Task Force; requiring an annual report; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the elimination of blight in Baltimore City.

By adding

Article 13 - Housing and Urban Renewal

Sections 2C-1 through 2C-6, to be under the new subtitle designation,

“Subtitle 2C. Blight Elimination Task Force”

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

**Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore,** That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 13. Housing and Urban Renewal**

**Subtitle 2C. Blight Elimination Task Force**

**§ 2C-1. Establishment.**

There is a Baltimore City Blight Elimination Task Force in the Department of Housing and Community Development.

**§ 2C-2. Composition.**

(a) *In general.*

(1) The Task Force comprises 26 members.

(2) Of these:

(i) 14 members are appointed by the Mayor in accordance with Article IV, § 6 of the Baltimore City Charter; and

(ii) 9 members are ex officio members.

(b) *Appointed members.*

1 member must be appointed from each of the 14 Council Districts and nominated by the Councilmember representing that District.

(c) *Ex officio members..*

The ex officio members are:

(1) the City Administrator or the Administrator’s designee;

(2) the Director of the Department of Planning or the Director’s designee;

(3) the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development or the Commissioner's designee; and

(4) 1 representative each from the:

- (i) Office of Real Estate Development of the Department of Housing and Community Development;
- (ii) Housing Code Enforcement Division of the Department of Housing and Community Development;
- (iii) Land Use & Urban Design Division of the Department of Planning;
- (iv) Solid Waste Bureau of the Department of Public Works;
- (v) Environmental Inspection Services of the Department of Health;
- (vi) Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation or its successor entity;
- (vii) Operations Bureau of the Baltimore City Police Department;
- (viii) Operations Bureau of the Baltimore City Fire Department; and
- (ix) Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City.

### § 2C-3. Terms; Organization.

(a) *Terms.*

Members serve for 4 years, concurrent with the Mayor's term of office.

(b) *Compensation.*

Members serve on the Task Force without compensation.

(c) *Vacancies.*

(1) At the end of a term, a member serves until a successor is selected.

(2) A member who is selected after a term has begun serves for the rest of the term and until a successor is selected.

(d) *Task Force co-chairs.*

The Task Force shall elect 2 of its members to serve as the Task Force's co-chairs:

(1) 1 chair shall be an appointed member of the Task Force; and

(2) 1 chair shall be an ex-officio member of the Task Force.

(e) *Meetings; quorum.*

(1) The Task Force shall meet not less than once every quarter when 1 or both of the co-chairs call a

meeting;

- (2) The Task Force shall develop specific blight elimination plans with performance metrics to determine progress and ensure compliance.
- (3) At each meeting each member of the Task Force shall deliver a status report on the completion of blight elimination plan items and on performance metrics.
- (4) A majority of the members of the Task Force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and an affirmative vote by the majority of a quorum is sufficient for any official action.

#### **§ 2C-4. Staff.**

The Department of Housing and Community Development shall provide adequate staff for the Task Force to carry out its duties.

#### **§ 2C-5. Duties.**

The Task Force shall:

- (1) select blighted areas for remediation;
- (2) direct City resources, as controlled by the units of City government represented on the Task Force, to remediate blighted areas until such resources are no longer necessary;
- (3) work with the Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation to establish metrics to evaluate and assess the progress of the Task Force and its efforts;
- (4) ensure that inspections performed by Department of Housing and Community Development employees are conducted and that appropriate enforcement actions are taken;
- (5) coordinate the removal of all solid waste and the boarding up of vacant structures;
- (6) ensure that environmental health inspections are conducted and that appropriate enforcement actions are taken;
- (7) identify opportunities to reduce the occurrence of public nuisances, as defined in Article 19, Subtitle 43 {"Public Nuisances"}, in blighted areas;
- (8) ensure that properties located within blighted areas are inspected to identify safety hazards;
- (9) ensure that properties where businesses operate with a liquor license are inspected annually; and
- (10) perform any other duties as required by the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development.

#### **§ 2C-6. Annual report.**

On or before June 30 of each year, utilizing evaluation and assessment metrics established under § 2C-5(3) of this subtitle, the Task Force shall submit a report to the Mayor and City Council detailing Task Force actions over the course of the past year and related outcomes.

**Section 2. And be it further ordained,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the date it is enacted.

