

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 21-0040R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Conway, Porter, Middleton, Bullock, McCray, Torrence

Introduced and read first time: April 19, 2021

Assigned to: Public Safety and Government Operations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Transportation, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore City Health Department, Baltimore City Sheriff, Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Baltimore City Fire Department, Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office, Baltimore City Public School System, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of General Services, Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation, Housing Authority of Baltimore City

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting the Director of the Department of Planning, the Commissioner of the
4 Department of Housing and Community Development, the Executive Director of the Housing
5 Authority of Baltimore City, the Commissioner of the Baltimore City Health Department, the
6 Commissioner of the Baltimore Police Department, the Acting Director of the Department of
7 Public Works, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Chief of the Baltimore
8 City Fire Department, the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, the Sheriff for Baltimore City,
9 the Chief of the Baltimore City School Police, the Director of the Department of General
10 Services, the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Director of the
11 Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation to appear before the Baltimore City Council
12 to discuss ways that the City can prevent crime through the concepts utilized in the Crime
13 Prevention through Environmental Design model.

14 **Recitals**

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16 Between the years of 2015 and 2020, Baltimore City experienced approximately 2,000
17 homicides, 3,800 non-fatal shootings, and over 4,000 fatal overdoses. An evaluation of crime
18 statistics produced during that time frame shows a recurring pattern of violence in specific
19 segments of the Western, Eastern, Southwest, Northwest, and Northeast police districts. In each
20 of these districts, the communities that have experienced the highest rates of crime are the same
21 communities that have been subject to disinvestment for generations as a result of 20th century
22 discriminatory housing policies.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1 As the City works to chart a new path forward by focusing on violence through a public
2 health lens and utilizing tools such as the Group Violence Reduction Strategy to help reverse the
3 six-year surge of crime that has occurred, there must also be a focus on the locations and
4 environments where these incidents are happening and the policies that contribute to these
5 longstanding problems. A model that has been used throughout the United States and
6 internationally to accomplish that objective is the Crime Prevention through Environmental
7 Design (“CPTED”) model. The premise of this model is that crime can be prevented by
8 conducting an evaluation of the total environment in order to reduce the opportunity for crime.

9 In practice, CPTED is a multi-disciplinary approach of crime prevention that uses urban and
10 architectural design and the management of built and natural environments. CPTED strategies
11 aim to reduce victimization, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts, and build a sense
12 of community among inhabitants so they can gain territorial control of areas, reduce crime, and
13 minimize the fear of crime. This is accomplished through the evaluation and implementation of
14 the 6 CPTED concepts: Image/Maintenance, Natural and Physical Surveillance, Territoriality,
15 Access Control, Activity Support, and Target Hardening.

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
17 Council invites the Director of the Department of Planning, the Commissioner of the Department
18 of Housing and Community Development, the Executive Director of the Housing Authority of
19 Baltimore City, the Commissioner of the Baltimore City Health Department, the Commissioner
20 of the Baltimore Police Department, the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works, the
21 Director of the Department of Transportation, the Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department,
22 the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, the Sheriff for Baltimore City, the Chief of the Baltimore
23 City School Police, the Director of the Department of General Services, the Director of the
24 Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Performance and
25 Innovation to appear before the Baltimore City Council to discuss ways that the City can prevent
26 crime through the concepts utilized in the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design
27 model.

28 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
29 Director of the Department of Planning, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and
30 Community Development, the Executive Director of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City,
31 the Commissioner of the Baltimore City Health Department, the Commissioner of the Baltimore
32 Police Department, the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works, the Director of the
33 Department of Transportation, the Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department, the State's
34 Attorney for Baltimore City, the Sheriff for Baltimore City, the Chief of the Baltimore City
35 School Police, the Director of the Department of General Services, the Director of the
36 Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Performance and
37 Innovation, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the City Council.