

<b>F R O M</b>	Name & Title	Reginald Moore Executive Director 	CITY OF BALTIMORE  <b>MEMO</b>	
	Agency Name & Address	Baltimore City Department of Recreation & Parks 3001 East Drive, Baltimore, Maryland (MD) 21217		
	Subject:	City Council Resolution 22-0130R Informational Hearing - Routine Maintenance of City-Owned Lots and Buildings		

**DATE:** May 17, 2023

**TO:** The Honorable City Council President Nick Mosby  
Members of the City Council  
City Hall  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Baltimore City Recreation & Parks (BCRP) has been asked for comment on City Council Resolution 22-0130R Informational Hearing - Routine Maintenance of City-Owned Lots and Buildings, which invites representatives from the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Planning, the Department of Transportation, the Office of the Comptroller, the Department of Real Estate, the Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP), the Department of Public Works, the Department of General Services, and other interested parties to discuss the current condition of City-owned lots and buildings, how maintenance of such properties can be improved, and the impact poorly-maintained City-owned lots and buildings have on Baltimore City as a whole.

As a participant in this hearing, BCRP will provide current information highlighting the steps our agency is taking towards upkeep and maintenance of City owned buildings, focusing in particular, on those occupied by BCRP personnel.

In 2018, the BCRP Capital Division began proactively assessing the conditions of its various facilities. While the list is long, the state of the four BCRP maintenance yards were deemed critical. As best of the worst, the Gwynns Falls Maintenance Yard renovations began in 2021, were recently completed, and staff will move in following receipt of the occupancy permit. The Clifton Park yard is next to be addressed. Funding is in place for design, but no additional financing has been allocated to this project.

With so many competing priorities for funding at BCRP, Capital renovations are slow and uncertain. The facilities dedicated to employees inevitably take a back seat to those serving the public. As a stop gap, our Facility Maintenance Division does its best to fill in the gaps in keeping our employee occupied spaces up and running. In pursuit of this goal, they are constantly dealing with numerous challenges including: budget, procurement issues and procedures, contractor availability and quality issues, personnel shortages, the inability to pay competitive wages, and adhering to timelines due to the daily “emergency” status given any particular job, etc. All of these things hobble our commitment to consistently maintaining our spaces.

With limited and competing resources throughout the City, we advocate creatively exploring solutions with our sister agencies, whether that be joint use facilities or some other means of combining resources.

We look forward to discussing these issues at the upcoming hearing. If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Morgan at [jmorgan@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:jmorgan@baltimorecity.gov)