

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

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HEARING NOTES

Legislative Oversight: LO21-0003

Budget Briefing
Bureau of Budget and Management Research
Capital Budgeting
Baltimore City Public Schools

Committee: Finance and Performance
Chaired by: Councilman John T. Bullock
Hearing Date: Thursday, September 28, 2023
Time (Beginning): 3:00 PM
Time (Ending): 4:50 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 40 In-Person
Approximately 15 Virtually

Committee Members in Attendance:

- John T. Bullock
Eric T. Costello
Danielle McCray
Phylcia Porter

Table with 6 rows of checklist items and 3 columns of checkboxes (yes, no, n/a). Items include Bill Synopsis in the file, Attendance sheet in the file, Agency reports read, Video or audio-digitally recorded, Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file, Evidence of notification to property owners, and Final vote taken at this hearing.

This legislative oversight will remain open throughout the legislative term; no vote will be taken; quarterly budget hearings.

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Laura Larsen, BBMR
 - Nichole Stewart, Planning (Capital Budget)
 - Kristen Ahearn, Planning
 - Maryann Cox, Baltimore City Public Schools
 - Maureen Gershberg, Baltimore City Public Schools, Capital Budget
-

Major Issues Discussed

1. The representatives from BBMR, Capital Budgeting and BCPS all gave a PowerPoint Presentation. **Copies are on file. Following are notes from the hearing.**
 - **BBMR**
 - The representative gave a briefing regarding Fiscal Year 2023 Closeout.
 - She also stated that supplemental requests will be forthcoming for same.
 - **Capital Budget**
 - The Presentation included information about the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2023
 - Including Budget Analysis and Expenses/Expenditures
 - Appendix – Listing Capital Projects
 - **BCPS**
 - Two representatives from the BCPS participated in giving the PowerPoint presentation.
 - One representative focused on Fiscal Year 2023 – Fourth (4th) Quarter Budget Projection
 - The other representative talked about Fiscal Year 2023 Capital Funding, Spending and Requests.
2. Committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, and made comments. Some highlighted topics of discussion, comments and/or concern were:
 - **BBMR**
 - President Mosby stated, “the supplemental requests that will be forthcoming will be assigned to the Finance and Performance Committee and the supplementals submitted during the actual budget season will go to the Ways & Means Committee.
 - **Questions:**
 - How does your current projection compare to prior years?
 - **Overtime**
 - The overtime costs when compared to prior years; what was it? **Answer: Will research and get back to you (Per Laura Larsen)**
 - **Salary Savings**
 - What was the amount of savings from vacancies? **Answer: Will research and get back to you (Per Laura Larsen)**
 - Can an analysis of vacant positions be done?
 - What is the end result, revenue minus expenditures?
 - **Sanitation fees**
 - How long have payments been delayed?
 - **Workday Issues**
 - What other agencies were affected with billing issues?

- Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success
 - As a result of their deficit, what contracts did they contract out?
 - **Requested by Member McCray: Submit information: a list of the vacant positions that cause the use of contractors.**
- Agencies who had Surpluses at the end of Fiscal Year 2023
 - Are these same agencies also projecting surpluses in Fiscal Year 2024?
- Expenditures for maintenance and/or repair for Real Property – talk about this.
- Comments regarding the cost for snow removal last fiscal year being way under budget.
- Transfer and Recordation Tax
 - **Requested by Councilmember Ramos: Submit by agency: the amount of surplus revenue received from the Transfer and Recordation Tax.**
- Capital Budget
 - Question(s)
 - How much was spent on PayGo last fiscal year?
 - New Software
 - When you receive the new software, I would like to be able to capture multi-year projects?
- BCPS
 - Capital Budget
 - On page 16 of the Presentation
 - The Summary of Capital Projects – talk more about these projects and the current conditions of the projects.
 - Systemic versus Historic Projects
 - Talk about this and about the differences.

3. Hearing called to recess.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe.

1. See **'red and yellow highlighted'** areas in the Major Issues section above.

Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

Date: October 5, 2023

cc: Bill File

OCS Electronic File



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: Legislative Oversight – Budget Briefing – Finance, Capital Budget and Baltimore City Public Schools	#LO21-0003
Committee: Finance and Performance	Chair: John T. Bullock
Date: Thursday, September 28, 2023	Time: 3:00 PM
Location: Council Chambers	

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	<u>Testify</u>	For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓		✓	✓
JAMES	CRAWFORD	HON			✓		
Mark	Council	HON	✓				

*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

Finance and Performance Committee

Thursday, September 28, 2023

3:00 PM Du Burns Council Chamber, 4th floor, City Hall, Phone:
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2344 377 0185, Password:
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=m6a42fbb6e19c0d7597abf75fc5e2bb26)
MTID=m6a42fbb6e19c0d7597abf75fc5e2bb26

Legislative Oversight: LO21-0003
Quarterly Budget Briefings (BBMR, Capital Budget, BCPSS)

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 4 - John T. Bullock, Chair Eric T. Costello, Chair Danielle N. McCray, and Chair
Phylicia Porter
Absent 1 - Chair Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

BBMR - CAPITAL BUDGET - BCPS

LO21-0003

Budget Briefing

For the purpose of calling on the Director of the Finance Department's Bureau of Budget and Management Research (BBMR) as well as the Director for the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) to brief the City Council on how the City's actual finances and School's finances compare to its budget projections.

Hearing called to recess.

ADJOURNMENT