

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 09-0141R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Clarke, Middleton, Cole, Branch,
Curran, Spector, Welch, Holton, Henry, Kraft, Reisinger, Conaway

Introduced and read first time: August 10, 2009

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Department of Housing and Community Development,
Department of Public Works, Health Department

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – One PLUS One**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Director and the Bureau Head, Bureau of Solid Waste of the
4 Department of Public Works to report to the City Council on the status of the One PLUS One
5 waste collection system, the effectiveness of the new system in keeping the streets and alleys
6 of the City free of debris, and the level of Baltimore City residents' participation in or
7 complaint against One PLUS One; requesting the Director of the Health Department Bureau
8 of Vector Control to report on any change in rodent infestation in Baltimore's neighborhoods
9 since the implementation of One PLUS One; and requesting the Deputy Commissioner of the
10 Department of Housing and Community Development, Permits and Code Enforcement to
11 generate a report on the number of citations resulting from the introduction of the One PLUS
12 One program.

13 **Recitals**

14 On July 14th, Baltimore's One PLUS One, a system of one collection day for trash and one
15 day for recycling went into effect. There was no trash collection on the day prior to the start of
16 new routing and scheduling changes that resulted in new collection days for most households in
17 Baltimore. Residents were told they could set their trash and recycling receptacles out as early
18 as 6 p.m. the night before but no later than 6 a.m. the day of collection.

19 Comments contained in an April 10, 2009 *Baltimore Sun* editorial summed up concerns
20 expressed by some residents: "There's little doubt the bad trash habits are going to be hard to
21 break, whether it's garbage bags left on street corners, trash containers without lids or trash
22 dumped in the backyards of abandoned houses and vacant lots. City officials estimate that there
23 are about 67 neighborhoods with trash-challenged residents. And they have the complaints to
24 prove it. Last year, for example, the Department of Solid Waste received 37,855 calls about
25 dirty alleys and 30,835 on dirty streets. Calls to the Health Department for rat eradication
26 totaled 39,729."

27 Under the old system, the Department of Public Works provided a semi-weekly trash
28 collection to 233,000 households – disposing of 750 tons daily. A thorough review of the new
29 system will determine if One PLUS One is as or more effective and what, if any, changes are

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

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1 needed to improve the system to provide maximum service to the residents of Baltimore City and
2 result in a minimal number of violations.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
4 Director and the Bureau Head, Bureau of Solid Waste of the Department of Public Works are
5 requested to report to the City Council on the status of the One PLUS One waste collection
6 system, the effectiveness of the new system in keeping the streets and alleys of the City free of
7 debris, and the level of Baltimore City residents' participation in or complaint against One PLUS
8 One; the Director of the Health Department Bureau of Vector Control is requested to report on
9 any change in rodent infestation in Baltimore's neighborhoods since the implementation of One
10 PLUS One; and the Deputy Commissioner, Permits and Code Enforcement is requested to
11 generate a report on the number of citations resulting from the introduction of the One PLUS
12 One program.

13 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the review of the One PLUS One system of trash
14 collection include, but not be limited to:

- 15 • how many citations per inspector have been issued for violations of the new law;
- 16 • how many alleys have been cleaned due to the accumulation of trash or recyclables;
- 17 • how many 311 phone calls have been received concerning issues related to One
18 PLUS One; and
- 19 • an analysis of the rodent problem to determine if there has been an increase in
20 infestation driven by improper disposal or the use of inappropriate or inadequate trash
21 or recycling receptacles.

22 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
23 Director of the Department of Public Works, the Commissioner of Health, the Bureau Head of
24 the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Director of the Bureau of Vector Control, the Deputy
25 Commissioner of Permits and Code Enforcement, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the
26 City Council.