



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	James Wallace, Baltimore City Fire Chief, Baltimore City Fire Department
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	March 7, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0003R Permit Reform

Position: No position

BILL SYNOPSIS

This resolution is an opportunity for City Council to hear from DHCD, CAO, BCFD, DOF, and other relevant parties to discuss DHCDs permit reform process and impacts.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The Council President requested additional information from BCFD prior to the hearing.

Current Staffing at Fire Marshal includes the following:

- 24 - Fire Inspectors
- 4 - Fire Inspectors/Plan Reviewers*
- 3 - Administrative Personnel (2 - Permit Technicians and MPIA Specialist)
- 5 - Fire Investigators
- 7 - Fill-In Fire Investigators
- 1- Battalion Chief
- 1- Fire Commander
- 1- Deputy Chief - Fire Marshal
- TOTAL – 46 Positions**

**Of note, we are working to reclassify positions to increase our plan reviewers by 3 new positions.*

Based on the workload and the city's needs, how many would be required to fully staff this duty to ensure optimal coverage and enforcement of fire prevention codes?

10 Fire Inspectors

What is the typical salary range for these positions in Baltimore City?

\$75,000/year and OPC \$22,500 (30%)

There are currently 4 fire building plans reviewers/inspectors for the work conducted in accordance with the reviewed plans.

- Captain Erica Wilson – Assigned to the Plans Reviews/Fire Protection System Division in the Office of the Fire Marshal
- Inspector Anthony Baka – Assigned to the Plans Reviews/Fire Protection System Division
- Inspector Yolanda Dioses – Assigned to the Plans Reviews/Fire Protection System Division
- Fire Plan Reviewer Michael Kaisler – Assigned to the Plans Reviews/Fire Protection System Division
- Fire Commander Sean Eames – Supervisor for multiple divisions with the Office of the Fire Marshal; also performs the Fire / Life Safety Plan Review for all Large Building Projects; and conduct plan reviews and inspections for high priority projects.
- Captain Dennis Dawson – Assigned to Specialty Inspections; performs Plan Reviews and Inspections for Large Fire Protection Systems Projects (i.e. Sprinklers, Fire Alarms, Fire Pumps, etc.).

You are seeking to add three additional positions to fire building plans review/inspectors by reclassifying pins.

- Correct

A total of ten fire building plans/inspectors are needed to effectively meet the demands of the Baltimore fire building plans reviews and inspections.

- Correct

Do you have a timeline for the reclass that will add the three new pins to the fire building plans/inspections? And then a timeline for hiring into those three positions?

- Unknown timeline to reclass three pins (Human Resource Related Task).
- Hiring can be completed within 90 days after pins are available (i.e. Job announcement, interviews, selection, Offer of employment, and background checks)

FISCAL IMPACT

NA

AMENDMENTS
NA