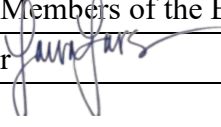




CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director 
DATE	September 3 rd , 2025
SUBJECT	City Council Bill 25-0063, Zoning Administrator – Transfer to Department of Planning

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 25-0063, Zoning Administrator – Transfer to Department of Planning, the purpose of transferring the Office of Zoning Administrator and all attendant authorities and duties from the Department of Housing and Community Development to the Department of Planning.

Background

The Fiscal Year 2026 Recommended Budget creates Service 909: Office of the Zoning Administrator, previously an activity under the Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) Service 751: Building Code Permitting, Inspections, and Compliance. This transfer will streamline the zoning process while maintaining the divisions responsible for drafting and administering the zoning code within the same agency. The budget for this service includes the transfer of 7 positions and will increase the Department of Planning's budget by \$602,000. The Fiscal 2026 funding level is consistent with the Fiscal 2025 budget.

Fiscal Impact

The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget already budgets for the Office of the Zoning Administrator to be within the Planning Department. The actual shift from DHCD to Planning is not expected to have a significant financial impact.

Conclusion

The Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 25-0063, noting that the move is provided for in the Fiscal Year 2026 Recommended Budget.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 25-0063.

cc: Michael Mocksten
Nina Themelis