



October 13, 2009

Honorable President Stephanie Rawlings Blake  
Members of the City Council  
Baltimore City Council  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: **Council Bill # 09-0144R**  
**Informational Hearing – Over-used Parks-Enhanced Maintenance**  
**to Prevent/Repair Damage**

Dear President Rawlings-Blake:

City Council Bill # 09-0144R is for the purpose of inviting the Department of Recreation and Parks to a City Council hearing to explore suggestions, ideas, or plans to prevent damage from occurring or to repair damage that has been done to those parks that are over-used for events.

The Department of Recreation and Parks welcomes the opportunity to discuss the use of our parks and explore methods to address ways to enhance our maintenance efforts. We are very proud of the interest that citizens show in utilizing our parks for special events and daily leisure activities. It is our aim to minimize use that results in damage to any of our facilities; yet, it is a reality of the service we provide that sometimes damage is inevitable. To that end, we continue to assess our permit process and to adjust the criteria under which they are granted. The Department of Recreation and Parks frequently reviews its maintenance strategies throughout the park system to strive for optimum efficiency of staff efforts in addressing routine and non-routine assignments. We thank you for your support and the opportunity to participate in such a meaningful dialogue.

The Department of Recreation and Parks **supports Council Bill # 09-0144R.**

Respectfully yours,

  
Wanda S. Durden  
Director

WSD:VSO

Cc: Angela Gibson, Liaison to City Council

