



BRANDON M. SCOTT  
MAYOR

*100 Holliday Street, Room 250  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202*

From	Dr. Michelle Taylor, Commissioner of Health
Date	Dec 15, 2025
Subject	LO25-0021 - City's Response to the Opioid Crisis
Request Topic	Updates on Overdose Public Alert System

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### Background

At the legislative oversight hearing on LO25-0021 - City's Response to the Opioid Crisis, Councilmember Conway asked for an update on the public alert system.

### Response

BCHD is continuing to work with the Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD) EMS on developing a potential system that would notify subscribers when there are high numbers of suspected overdoses occurring in a given area in the city. Through the collaboration, FirstWatch (the platform EMS uses to monitor its data in real-time) would send an email directly to the Everbridge system (the platform City uses to send alerts to subscribers). The email would then initiate a suspected overdose spike message to subscribers who signed up for the overdose alerts. The alerts would include spike information and resources, including information on how to use more safely (e.g., don't use alone, go slow, and carry naloxone). Notably, any such system will need to be developed responsibly through a trauma-informed lens, keeping in mind the sensitivities to the public when disseminating this type of information.