



HEARING NOTES

Resolution: 21-0064R

Investigational Hearing - Urban Farming

Committee: Health, Environment, and Technology

Chaired by: Danielle McCray

Hearing Date: February 9, 2022

Time (Beginning): 11:40 AM

Time (Ending): 1:00 PM

Location: Webex Virtual Hearing

Total Attendance: Approximately 60 people

Committee Members in Attendance:

Danielle McCray John Bullock Mark Conway
Ryan Dorsey James Torrence Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

- Bill Synopsis in the file? YES NO N/A
- Attendance sheet in the file? YES NO N/A
- Agency reports read? YES NO N/A
- Hearing televised or audio-digitally recorded?..... YES NO N/A
- Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?..... YES NO N/A
- Evidence of notification to property owners? YES NO N/A
- Final vote taken at this hearing? YES NO N/A
- Motioned by: Dorsey
- Seconded by:..... Conway
- Final Vote: Favorable

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Ava Richardson, Office of Sustainability
- Abby Cocke, Office of Sustainability
- Sharon Colburn, Office of Animal Control
- Stephanie Murdock, Housing and Community Development
- Shannon Conway, Police Department
- Rebecca Woods, Environmental Control Board
- Natasha Neale, Environmental Control Board

Ariel Giles, Office of the City Administrator
Hilary Ruley, Law Department
Ulysses Archie, Baltimore Gift Economy

Major Issues Discussed

1. Chairwoman McCray called the hearing to order and discussed the importance and growth of urban agriculture in Baltimore City.
2. Councilman Burnett discussed the goals of the hearing and the need to encourage and support urban agriculture.
3. Ava Richardson and Abby Cocke presented on the City's standards, policies, and programs related to urban agriculture (presentation on file). Representatives for the other agencies summarized the recommendations and comments in their written reports.
4. Ulysses Archie discussed his experience as a farmer in Baltimore City, including difficulties dealing with City agencies and the lack of access to farm services in the City.
5. Agency representatives responded to Councilmember questions.
6. Members of the public testified about their experiences gardening and farming in Baltimore, the role of urban farms in community education and training, how the City can improve its regulations and programs related to farming, and other needs.
7. The Committee voted to recommend the resolution favorably.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe.

Committee Vote:

D. McCray: Yea
J. Bullock: Yea
M. Conway: Yea
R. Dorsey: Yea
P. Porter: Absent
J. Torrence: Yea
I. Schleifer: Yea



Matthew L. Peters, Committee Staff

Date: February 10, 2022

Cc: Bill File
OCS Chrono File