

*Andrew Klein*

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Andrew Kleine, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (396-4941)
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #08-0257

CITY of  
BALTIMORE  
**MEMO**



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

DATE: January 5, 2009

Attention: Ms. Karen Randle

The purpose of City Council Bill 08-0257 is to increase the penalties for damaging or injuring street lighting or other public utility structures; correct, clarify, and conform related language; and generally relate to vandalism of street lighting and other public utility structures, their equipment, parts, and appurtenances.

The bill increases the current \$50 penalty to “not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 12 months or both fine and imprisonment for each offense”.

If street lights and other utility structures are damaged or injured in automobile accidents, the City gets subrogation from insurance companies. If damages or injuries are caused by vandalism, the Police Department is contacted to capture and arrest the perpetrator. If the courts find the perpetrator guilty, the City gets reimbursement upon court orders.

The Department of Transportation indicated that no street light damage cases went to court in FY 2008, thus the fiscal impact on increasing penalties is hard to estimate. However, larger penalties and/or imprisonment are intended to deter vandalism. The Department of Finance has no objection to this bill.

Cc: Edward J. Gallagher  
Angela Gibson

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