



**HEARING NOTES**

**Resolution: 22-0154R**

**Informational Hearing – Department of Public Works – Services and Vacancies**

**Committee:** Education, Workforce, and Youth

**Chaired by:** Robert Stokes, Sr.

**Hearing Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2023

**Time (Beginning):** 10:00 AM

**Time (Ending):** 10:55 AM

**Location:** **Council Chambers**

**Total Attendance:** Approximately 40 in-person  
Approximately 5 virtually

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Robert Stokes, Sr.      James Torrence

John Bullock            Zeke Cohen

Phylcia Porter

**Excused Absence:** Sharon Green Middleton

Bill Synopsis in the file? .....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Attendance sheet in the file? .....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video or audio-digitally recorded? .....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Evidence of notification to property owners? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Final vote taken at this hearing? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a

**Major Speakers**

*(This is not an attendance record.)*

- Richard Luna, Department of Public Works
- Deepti Modha, Department of Public Works
- Yvonne Moore-Jackson, Department of Public Works

- Marcia Collins, Department of Public Works
- LaToya Curtis, Department of Public Works

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### Major Issues Discussed

1. The chairman went over the agency reports with the agency representatives.
2. A PowerPoint Presentation was given by staff from the Department of Public Works – **A copy is on file.**
3. The committee/councilmembers asked questions, stated concerns, and asked for clarification for some issues. Some highlights from same were:
  - Commercial Driver Licenses (CDL)
    - Talked about the upcoming bonuses to be offered for having a CDL
    - Is glad to see the bonuses available!
  - New Vehicles for the Department
    - Is glad to know the Department will be getting new vehicles
      - A. When will the new vehicles be available? **Answer: Sometime in May 2023**
  - Vacancies
    - How many vacancies did you have before the Pandemic?
    - Are employees leaving post pandemic or now?
    - **Vacancies: What positions are vacant? Requested by Chairman Stokes: Please provide the number of vacancies you have; to include position titles and salaries for same.**
  - Availability of Crews
    - Concern: Availability of crews versus available vehicles
      - A. What would it take for your Department to resume weekly recycling?
      - B. What is the number of crews needed to get back to weekly recycling?
      - C. Requested by member Cohen: Provide the answers for A & B above by March 30, 2023**
      - D. Have you engaged the residents about changing how recycling is conducted; about changing the way we pick up for optimizing services?**
  - New Job Classifications/Positions
    - How does the new classifications tie in with inflation?
    - What are you doing “down the line” for the potential human capital crisis?
    - Retention issues
      - A. Can you talk about the challenges you face with retention issues?
        - Such as training, staffing, incentives, etc.
  - Tax Sales
    - Properties going into tax sales for unpaid water bills – is of concern
    - Is there a support mechanism in place for people who receive inaccurate water bills to prevent properties from going into tax sales? Talk about this!

- Contractors
  - How are you working with contractors to get needed services completed?
  - **Requested by member Torrence:** Provide in writing what will it take to change how recycling, curbside pick-up is conducted, such as:
    - Staffing, education, costs, public relations, temporary contracts, collaboration between organizations, etc.
- Customer Services
  - How many employees are in this Unit?
  - Comments regarding some of the processes performed by the Unit
  - **Requested by Chairman Stokes:** Provide in writing the response time and accomplishments of the Customer Service Unit.
- Suggestion(s)
  - What is your viewpoint for having showers available for employees?
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
  - How much do you have for Capital Improvements?
  - **Requested by Chairman Stokes:** Please provide how much is available in your CIP
- Closing Comments by member Cohen
  - Why don't we know now how many crews are needed to get back to weekly recycling! And, I hope a goal for same is forthcoming!
  - There should be collaboration with different groups, organizations and contractors!

4. Hearing called to recess.

### Further Study

Was further study requested

Yes    No

If yes, describe. See "red and yellow highlights" in Major Discussion section above.

*Marguerite M. Currin*

Marguerite Murray Currin, Committee Staff

Date: March 22, 2023

cc: Bill File  
OCS Electronic File



## Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

**Subject:** **Resolution** – Informational Hearing – Department of Public Works – Services and Vacancies **Resolution #23-0154R**

**Committee:** Education, Workforce, and Youth **Chair: Robert Stokes, Sr.**

**Date:** **Thursday, March 16, 2023** **Time: 10:00 AM**

**Location:** **Council Chambers**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

**CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY**

			<b>Testify</b> 	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email		For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mohammed	Rahman	200 N. Holliday St. DPW me					
James	Patricelli	2331 N. Fulton Ave					

\*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

# City of Baltimore

City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Education Workforce and Youth

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Thursday, March 16, 2023

10:00 AM Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, City Hall, 4th Floor: Phone:  
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2336 611 0103, Password:  
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=m367e7b86923387c3ec0a7fc6f8944141)  
MTID=m367e7b86923387c3ec0a7fc6f8944141

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23-0154R

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### INTRODUCTIONS

#### ATTENDANCE

- Present** 6 - Robert Stokes Sr., John T. Bullock, Zeke Cohen, Antonio Glover, Phylcia Porter,  
and James Torrence
- Excused** 1 - Sharon Green Middleton

#### ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

23-0154R

##### **Informational Hearing - Department of Public Works - Services and Vacancies**

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Department of Public Works and the Office of the City Administrator to brief the City Council on the status of services provided by the Department of Public Works, including maintenance processes for water main breaks, the installation of new water meters, trash and recycling services, and service vehicles that require replacement, as well as position vacancies throughout the Department of Public Works, in addition to any mitigation strategies that may be employed to address these issues.

Sponsors: Robert Stokes, Sr.

Hearing was recessed.

#### ADJOURNMENT