



HEARING NOTES

Council Resolution: 21-0062R

American Rescue Plan Quarterly Oversight Hearings

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Review

Committee: Ways and Means  
Chaired by: Councilman Eric T. Costello  
Hearing Date: Tuesday, August 9, 2022  
Time (Beginning): 10:05 AM  
Time (Ending): 11:45 AM  
Location: Council Chambers  
Total Attendance: Approximately 35 – In-Person  
Approximately 10 - Virtually

Committee Members in Attendance:

Eric T. Costello                      Kristerfer Burnett  
Robert Stokes, Sr.                 Ryan Dorsey  
Danielle McCray                    Sharon Green Middleton  
Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a

**This Resolution will remain open throughout the legislative term – no vote will be conducted, on-going quarterly meetings.**

Major Speakers

*(This is not an attendance record.)*

- Christopher Shorter, City Administrator
- Shamiah Kerney, Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programs

## Major Issues Discussed

1. **Director Kerney** gave opening remarks and showed a PowerPoint presentation. **A copy is on file.**
2. Committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, and made comments. Some highlighted topics of discussion and/or concern were:
  - Questions
    - Do you and/or how do you report the expenditures by category to the Treasurer?
    - On the Slide shown for “Comparison to Other Cities
      - The data is only through April 21<sup>st</sup>!
      - Is the data available through July 31, 2022? And if not, when do you expect the data to be available?
    - Committed Funds
      - How much has been allocated to date to help restore city services?
  - Clean Core Program
    - Can you talk about this Program and funding for same?
    - Was any other funding allocated besides to this Program? **Answer: Per Chris Shorter, will submit a list sometime in the future**
    - Talk about your recruitment efforts and training for workers employed in this Program
    - It is my understanding that \$15 million dollars in funding was allocated for the Clean Core Program to clean up fifteen (15) neighborhoods; talk about this.
      - \$15 million dollars is a lot of money but neighborhoods are not getting adequate curbside pickup!
      - We need to get to the core root of this problem(s)
      - Don’t understand how the \$15 million allocated will help with city services past the next year!
      - **Per Mr. Shorter: we are giving DPW the funds needed to perform their job.**
  - Intersection Workers/Squeegee Workers
    - In relation to the conversations surrounding our intersection workers; where are you with funding to getting jobs for them? (Employment Development?)
  - Department of Public Works (DPW)
    - Have DPW received funding? **Answer: Yes, \$10 million**
  - Northwest Transfer Station
    - A committee member talked about some of the challenges the employees are experiencing at the Station
      - Concerned about illegal dumping and long wait lines at the Station
    - Another committee member agreed with the above statement(s), “the safety issues; including other issues there need to be looked at; especially when it comes to small haulers.”
      - The problems there are increasing!
      - Our residents have to look at illegal dumping(s) on a daily basis in some neighborhoods – correcting these problems must be a priority!
    - Will any funding go towards a new Eastside transfer station? **Answer: No**

- Recreation and Parks
  - Glad the salaries have been raised for the Rec and Parks employees
  - However, Rec and Parks need more funding!
- Jobs for Youth and Returning Citizens
  - A committee member stated, “What kind of jobs can we get for our youth, and not just jobs where they clean alleys?”
  - How about landscaping jobs for the youth and returning citizens?
  - The possibility of giving grants to these type businesses (landscaping), whereas they will hire and train the youth and returning citizens!
- Funding for Forestry, Roads and Transportation
  - Funding is needed for:
    - Forestry – more trees need to be planted; especially with the issue of climate change
      - Our Forestry Division have a six (6) months backlog for tree trimming – is of concern
      - Broadway median strip – those trees on that strip have never been trimmed
      - Will funding be allocated for additional equipment needed for removing tree stumps?
    - Our streets are in dire need of repairs
    - It’s the simple things that need to be prioritized!
- Infrastructure Investment Act
  - The federal infrastructure program
    - Do you have any idea how much funding the city will receive?  
**Answer: No, not yet**
    - How will you establish and/or decide where the funding will be allocated?
    - Leverage and/or matching dollars -how does that work or is there already funding in the budget for same?
    - Will the council members be a part of the process?
      - Will any Resolutions, letters or etc. be needed from the council?
        - We want to be involved!
- Water/Wastewater
  - Do you have a breakdown of how much will be allocated to our water system?
  - How is the new office thinking about leveraging funds for wastewater and other city services and/or structure? What are your strategies?
  - Have you thought about staffing for the construction sites? **Answer: Yes**
  - Comment(s)
    - We as a Council want to make sure proper staffing are at those sites.
- Broadband and Digital Equity Office – Relocation
  - How does this relocation affect the ARPA Office?
- Contractors
  - Timely payments to contractors – is of concern

- Checking the worksites of the contracts for efficiency and etc. are needed
- New Office for Older/Senior Population
  - Creating an office for older adults is needed and we are taking this matter very serious; creating a new office!
  - A separate office is needed
  - Funds are needed specifically for a new office and is now giving you full notice!
  - We must work together and the older adults in our city want a new office!
  - We must give the help and assistance needed to our sixty (60) years and older population!
- Revenue Replacement
  - What does this mean? Talk about this!
  - Talk about some of the different categories
- Training for Grantees
  - Where are you with the training?
  - Do you know how many have already signed up for training? **Answer: 76**
- Funding Status
  - Can you go over what is committed to date and how much is left?
- City Services
  - Restoring core city services is of concern
    - Still frustrated and have been trying to order for quite sometime shades and swings for a park in district

3. No public testimony. Hearing called to recess.

**Further Study**

Was further study requested?

Yes  No

If yes, describe.

*Marguerite M. Currin*

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

Date: August 10, 2022

cc: Bill File

OCS Electronic File



## Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

<b>Subject:</b> <span style="background-color: yellow;">Resolution</span> – American Rescue Plan Quarterly Oversight Hearing – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Review	<b>Resolution #:</b> 21-0062R
<b>Committee:</b> Ways and Means	<b>Chair:</b> Eric T. Costello
<b>Date:</b> <span style="background-color: yellow;">Tuesday, August 9, 2022</span>	<b>Time:</b> 10:00 AM
<b>Location:</b> Council Chambers	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY



First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
				For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Josh	Wilson	MORP josh.wilson@baltimorecity.gov					
Elizabeth	Tatum	MORP					

\*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

### Ways and Means

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Tuesday, August 9, 2022

10:00 AM Burns Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall, Virtual: Phone:  
+1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 2331 399 3911, Password: Public  
(782542 from phones), Link:

<https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?>

MTID=m4e57be2ff1b195a9afce7e0f06e0bc00

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21-0062R

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### INTRODUCTIONS

#### ATTENDANCE

**Present** 7 - Eric T. Costello, Kristerfer Burnett, Ryan Dorsey, Danielle N. McCray, Sharon Green Middleton, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Robert Stokes Sr.

#### ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

21-0062R

##### **American Rescue Plan Quarterly Oversight Hearings**

For the purpose of calling for quarterly budget oversight hearings regarding the disbursement and management of \$641 million in federal funding to the City of Baltimore through the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to improve transparency and accountability for the pivotal task of responding to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Sponsors:** President Nicholas J. Mosby, Eric T. Costello, Sharon Green Middleton, Danielle N. McCray, Mark Conway, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, Robert Stokes, Sr., Kristerfer Burnett, Odette Ramos, James Torrence, John T. Bullock, Zeke Cohen

Hearing called to recess.

#### ADJOURNMENT