

SECOND DAY

SECOND COUNCILMANIC YEAR - SESSION OF 2024-2028

JOURNAL
CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE

December 15, 2025

Reverend Cassandra Nuñez of Salem-Baltimore United Methodist Church delivered an opening prayer.

James Wallace, Fire Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department, delivered a presentation on seasonal fire safety.

Led by Marine veteran, Councilmember Zac Blanchard, the President and members of the Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The City Council of Baltimore met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Zeke Cohen, President, and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, Glover, Ramos Absent: McCray (excused)

JOURNAL APPROVED

The Journal of December 4, 2025 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

December 11, 2025

The Honorable Zeke Cohen, Council President
And Members of the City Council
Baltimore City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Honorable President Cohen and Members of the City Council:

I am pleased to inform your Honorable Body that I have signed into law on December 11, 2025, the following bills:

25-0051 – Labor and Employment – Pregnancy Accommodations – For the purpose of requiring reasonable accommodations in the workplace for certain employees upon request; protecting employees from adverse actions related to pregnancy, recovery from childbirth, or a related condition; forbidding denial of employment opportunities based on certain circumstances; establishing penalties for violations of required accommodations; defining certain terms; and generally relating to protecting the rights of employees who are pregnant or recovering from childbirth or a related condition.

25-0071 – Zoning – Conditional Use Conversion of Single-Family Dwelling Unit to 2 Dwelling Units in the R-8 Zoning District – Variances – 15 East West Street – For the purpose of permitting, subject to certain conditions, the conversion of a single-family dwelling unit to 2 dwelling units in the R-8 Zoning District on the property known as 15 East West Street (Block 0965, Lot 046), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat; granting a variance regarding certain bulk regulations (lot size area); and providing for a special effective date.

25-0091 – Zoning – Conditional Use Conversion of a Single-Family Dwelling to 4 Dwelling Units in the R-8 Zoning District – Variance – 1425 West Fayette Street – For the purpose of permitting, subject to certain conditions, the conversion of a single-family dwelling unit to 4 dwelling units in the R-8 Zoning District on the property known as 1425 West Fayette Street (Block 0197, Lot 013), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat; granting a variance regarding certain bulk regulations (lot size area); and providing for a special effective date.

In Partnership,

Brandon M. Scott
Mayor

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

REGINA BOYCE, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

JARED LYLES, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

TIMOTHY FORD, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

DR. NICOLETTE LOUISSAINT, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

DR. TERRIS KING, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

MEREDITH DILOIA, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

DR. J. MORGAN GROVE, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

JENNIFER AIOSA, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

VITO CASTELGRANDE, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

PHILIP COSTA, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

JEFFREY HOLLAND, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

DR. ERICA REAVES, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

ELISHA JOHNSON, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

DEREK BAUMGARDNER, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

CARLY HINTON, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

BENJAMIN ROUSH, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

ERIN REED MILLER, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

DR. BERNAT NAVARRO, as a member of the Baltimore City Sustainability Commission.

INTRODUCTION AND READ FIRST TIME

The President laid before the City Council the following bills and Resolutions of the Mayor and City Council for first reading:

Bill No. 25-0141 – By: Councilmember Ramos

Cosponsored by: Councilmembers Middleton, Gray, Bullock, Blanchard, Jones, Conway, Torrence, Porter, and Glover

An Ordinance updating certain provisions regarding the licensing of rental dwellings; establishing certain penalties; requiring certain information be filed with a registration statement when applying for a rental dwelling license; requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development to promulgate certain regulations; creating a registry of rental inspectors; prohibiting certain actions based on actual or perceived immigration status; establishing certain grounds for the revocation of a rental dwelling license; establishing a process for rental dwelling receivership; making conforming changes; providing for the effective dates of this Ordinance; and generally relating to the enforcement of rental dwelling health and safety standards.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Housing and Economic Development Committee.

Bill No. 25-0142 – By: Councilmember Torrence

Cosponsored by: Councilmember Ramos

An Ordinance changing the zoning for the property known as 3605 Hickory Avenue (Block 3539, Lot 003), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat, from the R-7 Zoning District to the IMU-1 Zoning District; and providing for a special effective date.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Land Use and Transportation Committee.

Bill No. 25-0143 – By: The Council President (The Administration – Department of Planning)

Cosponsored by: Councilmember Blanchard

An Ordinance amending the Capital budget to provide previously authorized and appropriated general funds for a new project in the amount of \$1,000,000 from Service 122 (M-R Miscellaneous General Expenses) to the Department of Transportation – PRJ002526 (Neighborhood Traffic Calming (508-151)); and providing for a special effective date.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Budget and Appropriations Committee.

The President laid before the City Council the following Council Resolution for first reading:

Bill No. 25-0041R - By: President Cohen

Cosponsored by: Councilmembers Parker, Middleton, Gray, Bullock, Blanchard, Ramos, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Torrence, Porter, Jones, and Glover

Introduced

(Read and adopted)

Recognizing the Heroic Public Service of the Baltimore City Fire Department

FOR the purpose of recognizing and celebrating the brave firefighters, paramedics, and professional staff of the Fire Department (BCFD) after several notable incident responses in the month of November in 2025.

Recitals

WHEREAS, with support from IAFF Local 734 and IAFF Local 964, BCFD members tirelessly put their lives on the line to keep the City safe.

WHEREAS, on November 7, BCFD battled a 4-alarm fire in the Remington neighborhood, successfully preventing the fire from spreading to nearby homes while also evacuating and caring for 23 residents.

WHEREAS, on November 10, when Keswick Castle caught fire, over 100 members of BCFD worked to prevent the historic building and the surrounding neighborhood from burning down.

WHEREAS, on November 12, BCFD coordinated 24 fire engines, 10 ladder trucks, and 4 fire boats to extinguish a 4-alarm fire at a manufacturing plant in the Canton Industrial Area.

WHEREAS, on November 18, members of BCFD's dive team performed a daring rescue from a vehicle submerged in the Inner Harbor.

WHEREAS, members of BCFD save lives every day in routine incidents that do not receive media attention but are no less meaningful.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City Council recognizes and celebrates the brave firefighters, paramedics, and professional staff of the Fire Department after several notable incident responses in the month of November in 2025.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Chief of the Fire Department, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

President Cohen made a motion that the Rules be suspended.

There being no objection, the President declared that the Rules were suspended.

Then President Cohen made a motion that the Resolution be adopted.

The roll was called on the motion, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, Glover, Ramos - Total 14.

Nays - 0.

Absent - Councilmember McCray - Total 1.

The President declared the Resolution “Adopted”.

Bill No. 25-0042R – By: Councilmember Parker

Cosponsored by: President Cohen and Councilmembers Ramos, Middleton, Gray, Bullock, Blanchard, Dorsey, Conway, Porter, Jones, and Glover

A Resolution inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Public School System, the Health Department, the Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success, the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs, and any interested stakeholders to appear before the City Council to discuss the impact that escalated federal immigration enforcement is having on City students.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Education, Youth, and Older Adults Committee.

Bill No. 25-0043R – By: Councilmember Bullock

Cosponsored by: President Cohen and Councilmembers Middleton, Gray, Blanchard, Jones, Ramos, Parker, Conway, Torrence, Porter, and Glover

A Resolution inviting representatives of Baltimore City Public Schools and the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to brief the City Council on the process by which a school in the City is permanently closed.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Education, Youth, and Older Adults Committee.

Bill No. 25-0044R – By: President Cohen

Cosponsored by: Councilmembers Middleton, Bullock, Blanchard, Schleifer, Porter, and Glover

A Resolution inviting officials from Baltimore City Information and Technology, the Fire Department, and the Baltimore Police Department to discuss protocols for maintaining the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, outages of the CAD system and how they are communicated and restored, and a timeline and budget for the replacement of the CAD system.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Legislative Investigations.

The President laid before the City Council the following Council Resolution for first reading:

Bill No. 25-0045R - By: Councilmember Conway

Introduced

(Read)

Request for City Action — Administration of Buprenorphine

FOR the purpose of calling on the Mayor and the Fire Chief to equip all paramedics with buprenorphine and provide them with training in buprenorphine administration.

Recitals

WHEREAS, the United States has an epidemic of opioid abuse.

WHEREAS, from 2018 to 2024, over 6,000 lives were lost to drug overdoses in Baltimore City, at a rate nearly double that of any major American city in history.

WHEREAS, buprenorphine is a medication that binds to an individual's opioid receptors as a method of blocking dangerous opioids.

WHEREAS, buprenorphine has been proven to suppress the symptoms and reduce the risks of opioid withdrawal.

WHEREAS, programs such as Frederick County, Maryland's Mobile Integrated Health Unit and the Baltimore Fire Department's population health unit have seen the benefits of administering buprenorphine in the field by a trained paramedic, with local officials noting its impact on recovery outcomes.

WHEREAS, research suggests that an individual recovering from an opioid overdose with the help of naloxone, followed by buprenorphine administered in the field by a trained paramedic, may be more likely to enter treatment following an overdose than an individual who did not receive buprenorphine.

WHEREAS, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems §15.18 - Optional Supplemental Protocol indicates the administration of buprenorphine for a patient who has provided express consent for treatment and has experienced an opioid overdose which required treatment with naloxone and has a Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) score equal or greater than 8, as well as for a patient that is experiencing symptoms associated with opioid withdrawal and has a COWS score equal or greater than 5 and reports no opioid use within the past 48 hours.

WHEREAS, if buprenorphine were administered in 100% of overdose calls, the cost would be \$4,305, according to a bill report from the Department of Finance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, that the Baltimore City Council calls on the Mayor and the Fire Chief to equip all paramedics with buprenorphine and provide them with training in buprenorphine administration.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the City Administrator, the Commissioner of the Health Department, the Commissioner of the Baltimore Police Department, the Chief of the Fire Department, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

Councilmember Conway made a motion that the Rules be suspended.

There being an objection, a vote was called on the motion.

The roll was called on the motion, resulting as follows:

Yeas - Councilmembers Conway and Jones - Total 2.

Nays - President and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Glover, Ramos - Total 12.

Absent - Councilmember McCray - Total 1.

The motion failed and the Rules were not suspended.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Public Health and Environment Committee.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CEREMONIAL RESOLUTIONS NO. 0394, 0395, 0396, 0397, 0398, 0399, 0400, 0401, 0402, 0402, 0403, 0404, 0405, 0406, 0407, 0408 AND 0409 ADOPTED UNDER RULE 3-9.

The resolutions were read.

The roll was called on the adoption of the resolutions, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, Glover, Ramos - Total 14.

Nays - 0.

Absent - Councilmember McCray - Total 1.

The President declared the resolutions adopted under Rule 3-9.

Ceremonial Resolutions will be found at the end of the Journal.

THIRD READING

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 25-0055 - An Ordinance permitting, subject to certain conditions, the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a principal use parking lot on the property known as 701 Mura Street (Block 1155, Lot 70), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat; granting certain variances from minimum lot area, minimum interior side yard, and minimum rear yard requirements; and providing for a special effective date.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, Glover, Ramos - Total 14.

Nays - 0.

Absent - Councilmember McCray - Total 1.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

BILL NO. 25-0056 - An Ordinance permitting, subject to certain conditions, the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a principal use parking lot on the property known as 702 Mura Street (Block 1155, Lot 101), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat; granting certain variances from minimum lot area, minimum interior side yard, and minimum rear yard requirements; and providing for a special effective date.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, Glover, Ramos - Total 14.

Nays - 0.

Absent - Councilmember McCray - Total 1.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

BILL NO. 25-0073 - An Ordinance permitting, subject to certain conditions, the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a banquet hall on the property known as 1100 Wicomico Street (Block 0811, Lot 060), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat; granting variances regarding off-street parking requirements; and providing for a special effective date.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, Glover, Ramos - Total 14.

Nays - 0.

Absent - Councilmember McCray - Total 1.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

BILL NO. 25-0090 - An Ordinance permitting, subject to certain conditions, the conversion of a single-family dwelling unit to 2 dwelling units in the R-7 Zoning District on the property known as 220 North Culver Street (Block 2275A, Lot 135), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat; granting a variance regarding certain bulk regulations (lot size area); and providing for a special effective date.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, Glover, Ramos - Total 14.

Nays - 0.

Absent - Councilmember McCray - Total 1.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

ADJOURNMENT

President Cohen adjourned the City Council to next meet on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Consent Calendar

CR0394 Jones

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Civic Works in recognition of their milestone of 400 job placements.

CR0395 President Cohen and all Members, Porter

A Baltimore City Council Resolution on the death of Gregory Kenneth Turnipseed, April 20, 1954 – November 26, 2025.

CR0396 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution on the death of Clayton M. Tucker, March 31, 1939 – November 26, 2025.

CR0397 Bullock

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Robin Boston in recognition of her advocacy for social justice and voter education.

CR0398 Torrence

A Baltimore City Council Resolution on the death of Ada McClurkin, August 24, 1939 – November 26, 2025.

CR0399 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Percy Smith on years of dedication and service to Baltimore City and the Department of Public Works Environmental Police.

CR0400 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Xin (Cindy) Wang in recognition of nearly a decade of exemplary service as Chair of the Baltimore-Xiamen Sister City Committee, her leadership has profoundly impacted our community and fostered invaluable international relationships.

CR0401 Torrence

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Delegate Roxane Prettyman in recognition of her longstanding commitment to community involvement and advocacy.

CR0402 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Montgomery Parks in recognition of their 100th anniversary.

CR0403 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Steve Fogleman in recognition of a decade of distinguished service as Chair of the Baltimore City Board of Ethics on the occasion of his official swearing-in for a second term.

CR0404 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Qamryn Askew in recognition of being sworn-in to serve on the Baltimore City Youth Commission as well as his dedication to leadership and public service.

CR0405 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Tylea Booker in recognition of being sworn-in to serve on the Baltimore City Youth Commission as well as her dedication to leadership and public service.

CR0406 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Caleb Kurlantzick in recognition of being sworn-in to serve on the Baltimore City Youth Commission as well as his dedication to leadership and public service.

CR0407 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Jon Dewar in recognition of being sworn-in to serve on the Baltimore City Veterans Commission as well as his dedication to leadership and public service.

CR0408 Conway

A Baltimore City Council Resolution on the death of Diane Christopher, April 25, 1956 – November 25, 2025.

CR0409 President Cohen and all Members

A Baltimore City Council Resolution Congratulating Howard F. Wright in recognition of 55 years of service and dedication to Baltimore City and its people.