


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Sandra E. Baker, Esq., Executive Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD 417 East Fayette Street, Room 634		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill No 08-0056 Sanitation – Mixed Refuse Collections		

SEB

TO

The Honorable Stephanie Rawlings- Blake
 President of City Council of Baltimore
 400 City Hall

DATE: April 3, 2008

The Environmental Control Board (**ECB**) concurs that it is the duty of the Director of Public Works (DPW) to collect all mixed refuse from dwelling houses, apartment houses, tenements houses etc, in the City of Baltimore. The limits are more readily determined by DPW dependent upon the availability of the equipment and personnel.

ECB recognizes that DPW Collections is one of the few in any municipality in the State of Maryland that has two different days during the week for collection from each place.

ECB feels it is fiscally irresponsible to divert funds earmarked for other city endeavors, to acquire additional manpower and hours for next-day trash pickup after a holiday. The fiscal impact for this service has always proven to be enormous, but it is an essential service provided by the City that is paramount to the maintenance of at least a minimal control over the trash and debris accumulated daily. In addition these same crews are often pulled to clean dirty alleys, lots and vacant and decaying structures.

The suggestion of a deviation in the schedule after each holiday may seem simple; practically speaking it could be an organizational and fiscal nightmare. The benefit would not outweigh the logistics of the actual implication of the manpower and resources that would be involved in administering this type of modification.

Additionally, the citizens we see at the Board hearings sometimes seem to have a difficult enough time remembering which days they are scheduled for regular twice weekly pick-up. I envision constituents leaving trash and garbage out perpetually. We have been trying for a number of years to change the established behavior in some neighborhoods of putting trash out on non-pick up days. We have had some success. I think any deviation would reverse any achievements we have made in this area.

For all the above stated reasons, ECB cannot support this bill.

unfair.

