

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

WANDA S. DURDEN, Director  
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October 16, 2009

Honorable President Stephanie Rawlings Blake  
Members of the City Council  
Baltimore City Council  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: **Council Bill # 09-0148R - Investigative Hearing – One Card – Youth Identification Card and Access Card to City Services**

Dear President Rawlings-Blake:

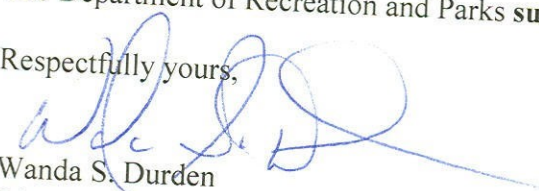
City Council Bill # 09-0148R is for the purpose of exploring the efficacy of instituting a single identification card system to make accessing services easier and more convenient for Baltimore City residents; examining the mechanism of the D.C. (District of Columbia) One Card system; and estimating the cost of implementing a similar system in Baltimore City.

The Department of Recreation and Parks is very interested in exploring the possibilities of initiating a similar system for use in Baltimore City. Technologically, the benefits of assessing the progress and success of our efforts will enable us to tailor our programs to the communities we serve while providing a useful component to performance measurement goals and accountability of use of resources. The information derived from such a system will serve as an excellent tool in eliminating programs that do not meet the needs of our participants.

A system creating uniformity in accessibility to services will enable us to collaborate with other city agencies on program offerings. Capturing data related to activities of programs offered by schools, recreation and parks, and libraries can significantly reduce duplication of services. However, the Department of Recreation and Parks feels that it should be clearly expressed that data will be used for statistical purposes only and that we will not collect or share any data on how or when the one card is used by any individual. Additionally, we feel that the cost of such an undertaking would require considerable exploration.

The Department of Recreation and Parks **supports Council Bill # 09-0148R.**

Respectfully yours,

  
Wanda S. Durden  
Director  
WSD:VSO

Cc: Angela Gibson, Liaison to City Council

