

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 21-0049R
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Conway, Bullock, Ramos, Burnett, Middleton, Cohen

Introduced and read first time: June 8, 2021

Assigned to: Public Safety and Government Operations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, City Administrator, Baltimore Police Department, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, Baltimore City Health Department

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Investigational Hearing - Existing Alternatives to Policing Strategies**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting representatives from ROCA, Safe Streets, the Baltimore Police
4 Department's Group Violence Prevention Strategy, and 911 Diversion Program, and the
5 Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement to inform the City Council about
6 the existing alternatives to policing strategies the City has in its arsenal.

7 **Recitals**

8 **WHEREAS**, While policing has an important role to play in responding to crime, public safety
9 and violence prevention require a broader and more comprehensive approach;

10 **WHEREAS**, A crime prevention strategy that allows Baltimore City and its residents to thrive
11 and feel safe will include serious focus on the root causes of crime and violence;

12 **WHEREAS**, The Baltimore City Council is interested in learning what alternatives to
13 traditional policing the City has in place and how those fit together in broader efforts by the City
14 to increase the safety of neighborhoods;

15 **WHEREAS**, The Baltimore City Council would like to better understand the scope of the
16 activities of ROCA, Safe Streets, the Baltimore Police Department's Group Violence Prevention
17 Strategy and 911 Diversion Program, and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety;

18 **WHEREAS**, The Baltimore City Council would like to better understand the effectiveness of
19 the programs and services of the aforementioned groups, and how other programs, such as
20 Operation Ceasefire, could succeed in the City;

21 **WHEREAS**, The Baltimore City Council would like to explore opportunities to expand,
22 supplement, and support programs that have proven to be successful in increasing public safety
23 and curbing crime.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the City
2 Council invites representatives from ROCA, Safe Streets, the Baltimore Police Department’s
3 Group Violence Prevention Strategy and 911 Diversion Program, and the Mayor’s Office of
4 Neighborhood Safety and Engagement to inform the City Council about the existing alternatives
5 to policing strategies the City has in its arsenal.

6 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
7 Director of ROCA Baltimore, the Health Commissioner, the Police Commissioner, the Director
8 of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, and the Mayor’s Legislative
9 Liaison to the City Council.