


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cename, Budget Director <i>BaltAC</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 21-0071R – Investigative Hearing-Developing a Coordinated Response to Baltimore City’s Overdose Crisis		

DATE:

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

November 12, 2021

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 21-0071R, Investigative Hearing-Developing a Coordinated Response to Baltimore City’s Overdose Crisis, the purpose of which is to have City agencies provide a comprehensive briefing on the City’s coordinated response to the overdose crisis.

Background

The opioid epidemic has had devastating impacts across the country and been declared a public health emergency. Baltimore City has experienced the highest rates of opioid-related deaths across the state since 2011, with 964 opioid-related deaths reported in 2020. The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is the City’s lead agency in responding to the overdose crisis in Baltimore and is supported by various partner agencies, such as the Baltimore City Fire Department, and community organizations, such as Behavioral Health System Baltimore (BHSB).

BCHD facilitates the City’s syringe exchange program and trains individuals on responding to opioid-related overdoses with Naloxone and other interventions through the Overdose Response Program. In addition, BCHD’s Opioid Intervention Team partners with BHSB and other organizations to increase awareness of the risks of opioid use and misuse among children and youth, increase awareness of access points for naloxone and harm reduction education, and improve access to treatment.

Conclusion

The Department of Finance will attend the hearing for this Resolution and respond to any fiscal inquiries.

cc: Henry Raymond
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