

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 10-0226R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Young, Councilmembers Middleton, Branch, Kraft, Cole, Holton,
Conaway, Clarke, Welch, Henry, Reisinger

Introduced and read first time: October 4, 2010

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Department of Public Works, Department of Housing
and Community Development, Health Department

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – One PLUS ONE**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Director of Public Works, the Commissioner of Housing, the
4 Chief of the Bureau of Solid Waste, and the Deputy Commissioner for Code Enforcement to
5 report to the City Council on the effectiveness of the City’s One PLUS ONE trash and
6 recycling collection program, the progress in fully implementing One PLUS ONE citywide,
7 the number of citations issued for code violations, a comparison of the number of citations
8 issued under the new and old systems, and the revenue collected from One PLUS ONE-
9 related citations.

10 **Recitals**

11 On Tuesday, August 3, 2010, the implementation of One PLUS ONE trash and recycling
12 collection in the Downtown Service Area completed the transition of City solid waste collections
13 for the first time in over 30 years from a system in which mixed refuse was collected twice a
14 week and recycling was collected twice a month. The new system of One PLUS ONE – one
15 mixed refuse and one recycling pick up each week – was predicted to support and encourage
16 recycling and to provide for increased and improved services.

17 In addition, the new plan provided for a complete overhaul of collection routing to optimize
18 crew performance, reduce fleet costs, improve driver and crew safety, and increase route
19 efficiency. For the first time the Bureau of Solid Waste could dedicate crews that had been
20 providing recycling collection to full time street, alley, and seasonal cleaning and collections.
21 Residents are expected to benefit from a quicker response time to citizen service requests and
22 proactive cleaning in their assigned zones.

23 Bureau of Solid Waste officials report that after a brief transition period, when residents and
24 sanitation crews adjusted to all changes in collections, routes, and schedules, the results of One
25 PLUS ONE exceeded expectations. Residential mixed refuse tonnage decreased – from July
26 through December 2008, Solid Waste collected 100,620 tons of mixed refuse. From July
27 through December 2009, after the implementation of One PLUS ONE, it collected 74,813 tons, a
28 25% decrease. Recycling increased, achieving the goal of a 55% upswing. Before One PLUS
29 ONE, the bi-weekly average was 646 tons; after implementation it reached 1,007 tons.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1 In the seven-week period after One PLUS ONE was implemented, the Department of
2 Housing and Community Development Code Enforcement Section generated 14,620 citations,
3 77% of which were for One PLUS ONE-related offenses. This was a 473% increase over the
4 same period in 2008; of these, 66% were in targeted, litter-challenged neighborhoods. The
5 Baltimore Housing Special Investigations Unit (SIU) issued 434 citations directly related to
6 dumping violations, compared to 7 citations during the same period in 2008.

7 Sanitation Enforcement has reportedly increased with the addition of more Housing Code
8 Enforcement Officers. More citations are being issued for using trash bags and illegal dumping.
9 The effective enforcement work of Code Enforcement with the “ubiquitous orange tags on trash
10 bags indicating an investigation has taken place has become a well-know symbol to residents
11 that illegal dumping and sanitation code violations will no longer be tolerated in Baltimore City.

12 The ability of Baltimore City employees and Baltimore City residents to adjust to a new
13 refuse collection and recycling system after ingrained habits of trash disposal in bags, garbage
14 cans, and other less appropriate containers, is laudable. Monitoring of the efficiency of
15 governmental implementation and citizen utilization will ensure that One PLUS ONE continues
16 to succeed.

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
18 Director of Public Works, the Commissioner of Housing, the Chief of the Bureau of Solid Waste,
19 and the Deputy Commissioner for Code Enforcement are requested to report to the City Council
20 on the effectiveness of the City’s One PLUS ONE trash and recycling collection program, the
21 progress in fully implementing One PLUS ONE citywide, the number of citations issued for
22 code violations, a comparison of the number of citations issued under the new and old systems,
23 and the revenue collected from One PLUS ONE- related citations.

24 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
25 Director of Public Works, the Commissioner of Housing, the Chief of the Bureau of Solid Waste,
26 the Deputy Commissioner for Code Enforcement, and the Mayor’s Liaison to the City Council.