



Catherine Pugh
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Darryl De Sousa
Police Commissioner Designee

February 16, 2018

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

**Re: City Council Bill No. 18-0180
Police Ordinances – Prohibiting the Purchase of Prostitution**

Dear Council President Young and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 18-0180. This legislation is for the purpose of prohibiting the purchase of prostitution in Baltimore City; defining certain terms; establishing certain penalties; setting a special effective date; and generally relating to the purchase of prostitution.

The BPD supports this bill.

Strengthening prohibitions on the purchase of prostitution, and creating a citywide ordinance directly addressing the issue, allows for a necessary and valuable tool to help the victims of this serious crime, as well as alleviate the burden that prostitution causes for the communities in which it occurs.

The BPD looks forward to working with the City Council on this important matter.

Sincerely,


James A. Gillis
Chief of Staff