


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cename, Budget Director <i>R. C. C.</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 21-0163 – Study and Report – Evaluation of the Emergency Medical Services System		

DATE:

TO

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

April 1, 2022

Position: Does Not Oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 21-0163, Study and Report – Evaluation of the Emergency Medical Services System (EMS), the purpose of which is to require that Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD) submit a report evaluating the current EMS delivery model and exploring the creation of an EMS bureau in the BCFD.

Background

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provides 24/7 response, assessment, treatment, and hospital transport of trauma and medical patients, responding to over 150,000 incidents and transporting over 100,000 patients annually. Currently, EMS includes sections devoted to Quality Assurance, Training, and Infection Control that all work to support EMS operations and improve health outcomes for the residents of Baltimore. The EMS Fiscal 2022 budget is \$55.7 million across all funding sources. This legislation requires that the Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD) conduct a study and submit a report within 150 days on several components of the operations and delivery of the EMS service.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Finance does not anticipate additional costs to the City as a result of this legislation. FACETS Consulting recently completed a comprehensive assessment for BCFD, which evaluated every aspect of operations and management, including the specific requests in this legislation. Finance anticipates that this report will meet the requirements of this legislation and there will be minimal additional analysis needed.

However, it should be noted that if additional analysis is needed to meet the requirements of this legislation, there may be additional costs. For context on the potential costs, BCFD is extending their current contract with FACETS for support on three other Ordinances recently passed by City Council, 21-035: Study and Report - Fire Department Promotional Practices, 21-0106: Study and Report – Oversight of the Baltimore City Fire Department, and 21-0107: Study and Report–Operations of the Baltimore City Fire Department. The additional costs to complete these reports is estimated at \$543,000.

Other Considerations

While Finance and the Bureau of the Budget and Management Research (BBMR) support the intent of this legislation and are eager to assess how the findings of this study can be utilized in budget planning and projections, the only role that BBMR could play in such a study is providing reports on historical budgets and positions. BBMR will provide what data is necessary from budget systems, but BCFD manages all current information regarding their internal practices.

Conclusion

This legislation requires the Baltimore City Fire Department to conduct a study and submit a report on several components of the operations and delivery of the EMS service. The Department of Finance anticipates that the recent study completed by FACETS Consulting can meet this requirement with limited additional resources needed.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 21-0163.

cc: Henry Raymond
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