



HEARING NOTES

Bill: LO22-0030

Title Crime Reduction & Violence Prevention

Committee: Public Safety and Government Operations

Chaired by: Mark Conway

Hearing Date: November 13, 2024

Time (Beginning): 1:10 PM

Time (Ending): 2:40 PM

Location: Du Burns Council Chamber / Webex Virtual Hearing

Total Attendance: Approximately 40 people

Committee Members in Attendance:

Mark Conway, Kristerfer Burnett, Antonio Glover, Phylicia Porter, Odette Ramos

- Bill Synopsis in the file? [X] YES [] NO [] N/A
Attendance sheet in the file? [X] YES [] NO [] N/A
Agency reports read? [X] YES [] NO [] N/A
Hearing televised or audio-digitally recorded? [X] YES [] NO [] N/A
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file? [] YES [] NO [X] N/A
Evidence of notification to property owners? [] YES [] NO [X] N/A
Final vote taken at this hearing? [] YES [] NO [X] N/A
Motioned by:
Seconded by:
Final Vote:

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

Richard Worley – Police Commissioner BPD1
Steve Holman – Lt. Col. BPD
Kevin Jones – Deputy Commissioner BPD

Erin Murphy – Govt. Affairs - BPD
Sarah Ritter – Deputy Chief – BPD
Stephanie Mavronis – Director - MONSE2

1 BPD – Baltimore City Police Department

2 MONSE – Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety & Engagement

Major Issues Discussed

1. Chairman Conway called the hearing to order, introduced the committee members in attendance, and invited the sponsor to make opening remarks.
2. Chair Conway gave opening remarks
3. Commissioner Worley began a presentation from BPD (Slide Deck in Bill File)
 - a. Assistant Chief for juveniles spoke to updates on juvenile crime in city
 - b. AC Sara Ritter with update on Community policing
4. Director Mavronis gave a presentation from MONSE (Slide Deck in Bill File)
5. Questions from the Committee
 - a. Asking for an update on rape/sexual assault crimes – asking how we can bring up the clearance rates
 - i. Steve Herman Lt. Col in charge of specialized investigations responded that clearance rates on this are nuanced – there is some instances of clearing incidents and not always the offenses.
 - ii. There are instances where a case meets the probable cause standard but not beyond a reasonable doubt and so not prosecuted. Cases may also not be prosecuted for other reasons such as consideration of the survivors.
 - iii. Cleared by arrest v cleared by exception (i.e. suspect has died or fled the country)
 - b. Is there an issue where we can manage in these numbers?
 - i. BPD feels they are in a good place with the management of these cases
 1. Sex crimes have been consolidated under one command
 2. BPD have been working through the backlog of old cases
 - ii. Sex crimes are being addressed on daily crime calls
 - c. Robbery – what trends are we seeing?
 - i. Restaurant crimes
 - ii. Youth crimes
 1. Investigations can be made more complex by difficulty in investigating minor suspects
 2. High incident times included 7-9am & 3-5 pm
 3. High incident locations included the Inner Harbor, Paterson Park, bus stops, & schools
 4. Youth are frequently released quickly this can also hurt investigations.
 - iii. City wide enforcement team is helping with rapid deployment of resources
 1. Goal to “bust patterns” in 10 or less instances
 - d. Increase in numbers of juvenile arrest
 - i. Teens arrested in a car jacked vehicles – not always arrested for car jacking – often arrested for stolen auto which is a nonviolent crime
 - ii. Teens have been arrested multiple times over.
 - iii. State changes will now allow for teens to be held for car theft
 - e. How small is the subset of people who get rearrested
 - f. GVRS Timeline – moved to 2026

- i. Began in western district – last big jump is into the southern district – looking to be in fiscal year 26 – primary consideration is in resources and making it sustainable.
 - g. MONSE Staffing Sustainability
 - i. With transfer of 10 position to general fund & other sources there are 7 positions still on ARPA funding – working with BBMR on staffing levels
 - ii. By FY 26 staff should be wholly represented in budget – hoping to keep about 43 or so staff members.
 - iii. MONSE not looking to make significant cuts in response to the end of ARPA funding
 - h. Noting improved communications with MONSE & BPD
 - i. In southeast of 13th district – increase in juvenile robberies
6. Chairman Conway recessed the meeting.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes **No**

If yes, describe.

- a. *Assessment of Consent Decree - clarification on items not assessed*
- b. *What is the federal pot of money that MONSE is utilizing.*
- c. *request on open air drug markets – looking for plan to address*

Committee Vote:

M. Conway:

K. Burnett:

Z. Cohen:

E. Costello:

A. Glover:

P. Porter:

O. Ramos:

Tony Leva, Committee Staff

Date:

Cc: Bill File
OCS Chrono File