



BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

The Budget and Appropriations Committee (BA) is responsible for ensuring taxpayer dollars are expended prudently and equitably. BA will exercise regular oversight of the funding and spending practices of City agencies, the City's budget, expenditures, loans, and other financial matters. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include all budgets & appropriations, taxation, financial services, consumer protection, audits, and the Comptroller's Office.

The Honorable Danielle McCray

CHAIR

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

9:30 AM

CLARENCE "DU" BURNS COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Bill: 25-0120

***Title: Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project
Fund Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City
Information Technology – \$13,650,000***

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Meeting: Bill Hearing
Committee: Budget & Appropriations
Bill # 25-0120

Title: Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City Information Technology – \$13,650,000

Purpose: of providing a Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation in the amount of \$13,650,000 to the Baltimore City Information Technology – PRJ002423 911111 127-116 (Broadband for Public Housing Sites), to provide funding for the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City to install broadband internet service at public housing sites; and providing for a special effective date.

REPORTING AGENCIES

Agency	Report
Law Department	Approved with Amendments for form and legal sufficiency
Department of Finance	Favorable
Department of Planning	Favorable
Baltimore City Information Technology	Favorable
Housing Authority of Baltimore City	Favorable

BACKGROUND

This supplementary capital appropriation is for installing broadband internet at public housing sites through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC), using HABC funds. Additional appropriations are permitted during the fiscal year under the condition of excess revenue, and each additional appropriation requires a separate ordinance limited to a single program, purpose, activity or project. ⁱ

BILL REPORTS

The Law Department noted the following comments regarding the Bill that must be reviewed for form and legal sufficiency. ⁱⁱ

- The First Reader of Council Bill 25-0120 identifies the source of funds for this appropriation as Project Fund PRJ002423 911111 127-116, however the BOE and BOE Agenda item for this appropriation identifies the source of funds for this appropriation as Project Fund PRJ002423-RC7745. The source of fund must be confirmed, and the Bill must be amended if necessary.

- The First Reader of Council Bill 25-0120 cites Section 8(b)(2)(i) of Article VI of the City Charter, which provides that revenues in excess of those relied on by the BOE in determining the tax levy may be made available for expenditure by the municipal agency responsible for the production of the revenue. However, if this is a pass through federal and/or state fund from HABC then BCIT is not responsible for the production of these funds under this Section of the City Charter. Therefore, if it is a pass through federal and/or state fund then the First Reader must site Section 8(b)(2)(ii) of Article VI of the City Charter.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fiscal Note:

\$13,650,000 will be made available for Capital funds for this project in Fiscal Year 2026

Analysis by: Paroma Nandi
Analysis Date: 1/2/2026

Direct Inquiries to: 443-890-0839

Sources:

ⁱ Baltimore City Charter Article VI, §8(b)(2)(i) and (c).

ⁱⁱ Baltimore City Ordinance 25-0120. Agency Report – Department of Law. (December 22, 2025). Legistar.

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0120
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration (Department of Planning)

Introduced and read first time: November 10, 2025

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Department of Planning, Baltimore City Information Technology

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation –**
3 **Baltimore City Information Technology – \$13,650,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital
5 Appropriation in the amount of \$13,650,000 to the Baltimore City Information Technology –
6 PRJ002423 911111 127-116 (Broadband for Public Housing Sites), to provide funding for
7 the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Housing Authority of
8 Baltimore City to install broadband internet service at public housing sites; and providing for
9 a special effective date.

10 BY authority of
11 Article VI - Board of Estimates
12 Section 8(b)(2)(i) and (c)
13 Baltimore City Charter
14 (1996 Edition)

15 **Recitals**

16 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents Housing Authority of Baltimore City -
17 Capital funds in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax
18 levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

19 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of
20 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated.

21 The agency responsible for the production of this additional revenue is the Housing Authority
22 of Baltimore City.

23 On November 5, 2025, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
24 Council.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 25-0120

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$13,650,000 shall be made available to the Baltimore City Information Technology – PRJ002423
3 911111 127-116 (Broadband for Public Housing Sites) as a Supplementary Mayoralty Capital
4 Project Fund Capital Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026, to provide funding for the
5 Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City
6 to install broadband internet service at public housing sites. The source of revenue for this
7 appropriation is Housing Authority of Baltimore City - Capital funds in excess of the amount
8 from this source that was relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required
9 to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

10 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is
11 enacted.

**AMENDMENTS TO COUNCIL BILL 25-0120
(1st Reader Copy)**

By: Mayor's Office of Government Relations
{To be offered to the Budget and Appropriations Committee}

Amendment No. 1

On page 1 in line 6, strike "911111 127-116"; and, on that same page, in line 12, strike "8(b)(2)(i)" and substitute "8(b)(2)(ii)"; and, on that same page, in line 16, after "represents" insert "a grant from the"; and, on that same page, in lines 17 and 18, strike "City - Capital funds" and substitute "City"; and, on that same page, in line 19, strike "This additional revenue" and substitute "That grant"; and, on that same page, strike in their entirety lines 21 and 22; and, on page 2, in line 3, strike "911111 127-116"; and, on that same page, in line 7, after "is" insert "the grant from the"; and, on that same page, in that same line, strike "Capital funds".



TO: Board of Estimates, Office of Comptroller
FROM: AGC5700 - Planning : AGC4303 - M-R Office of Information and Technology
DATE: 11/05/2025
Submission #: SB-25-13992
SUBJECT: FY26 Capital Supplemental - Broadband for Public Housing Sites

ACTION REQUESTED OF BOARD OF ESTIMATES:

The Board is requested to approve a Supplemental Appropriation HABC.

PERIOD OF CONTRACT/AGREEMENT: Based on Board Approval

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDS:

Transaction Amount: \$ 13,650,000.00

Project Fund	Amount
-PRJ002423- RC7745	\$ 13,650,000.00

BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION:

The Board is requested to approve this supplemental of HABC Revenue - Capital for Broadband for Public Housing Sites. BCIT is installing broadband at public housing sites through an MOU with HABC, using HABC funds.

SMBA&D Participation not required / Pass-through of state and/or federal funds

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

EMPLOY BALTIMORE:	LIVING WAGE:	LOCAL HIRING:	PREVAILING WAGE:
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

1% FOR PUBLIC ART: N/A.

ENDORSEMENTS:

SMBA&D has reviewed and approved.

NCAmato
Clerk, Board of Estimates

11-05-2025

Baltimore City Council



Budget & Appropriations

Committee

Bill: 25-0120

Title: Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund
Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City Information
Technology – \$13,650,000

Agency Reports

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT,
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON,
CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

December 22, 2025

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 25-0120 – Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital
Appropriation – Baltimore City Information Technology – \$13,650,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 25-0120 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation in the amount of \$13,650,000 to the Baltimore City Information Technology – PRJ002423 911111 127-116 (Broadband for Public Housing Sites), to provide funding for the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City to install broadband internet service at public housing sites. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

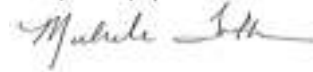
The submission to the Board of Estimates (BOE) regarding this supplementary capital appropriation states: “The Board is requested to approve this supplemental of HABC Revenue - Capital for Broadband for Public Housing Sites. BCIT is installing broadband at public housing sites through an MOU with HABC, using HABC funds.” Moreover, the BOE Agenda and the submission to the BOE indicate that this appropriation involves a pass through of state and/or federal funds. The First Reader of Council Bill 25-0120 identifies the source of funds for this appropriation as Project Fund PRJ002423 911111 127-116. Both the submission to the BOE and the BOE Agenda item for this appropriation identify the source of the funds as Project Fund PRJ002423- RC7745. The bill should be amended, if necessary, to correct the Project Fund number on line 6 of page 1 and lines 2-3 on page 2 of the bill.

Council Bill 25-0120 cites as authority for the supplementary appropriation Section 8(b)(2)(i) of Article VI of the City Charter. This section provides that revenues in excess of those relied on by the BOE in determining the tax levy may be made available for expenditure by the municipal agency responsible for the production of the revenue. If this is a pass through of federal and/or state funds from HABC then BCIT is not responsible for the production of these funds as required by Section 8(b)(2)(i) of Article VI. In fact, Council Bill 25-0120 states that the Housing Authority of Baltimore City is the agency responsible for the production of the additional revenue. This is problematic because HABC is not a City agency.

Section 8(b)(2)(ii) of Article VI of the City Charter provides that grants from private or governmental sources that could not be expected with reasonable certainty at the time the Ordinance of Estimates was formulated may be made available to the appropriate municipal agency for expenditure. If the money being appropriated is a pass through of federal or state funds, Council Bill 25-0120 should be amended in line 12 on page 1 of the bill to use Section 8(b)(2)(ii) of Article VI of the Charter as authority for the bill since the requirements of Section 8(b)(2)(i) cannot be met. Lines 21-22 of page 1 of the bill should be deleted in their entirety and following line 20 on page 1 the bill should be amended to include a statement that the grant of federal funds could not have been expected with reasonable certainty when the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated.

The supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance. The ordinance must identify the source of the funds and may only involve a “single program, purpose, activity or project.” City Charter, Art. VI, § 8(c). If the bill is amended as required, the Law Department can approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

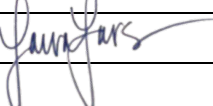


Michele Toth
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson
Ethan Hasiuk
Shamoyia Gardiner
Nina Themelis
Ty’lor Schnella
Aaron Degraffenreidt
Hilary Ruley
Jeff Hochstetler
Ashlea Brown
Desiree Luckey
Ahleah Knapp



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director 
DATE	January 5 th , 2026
SUBJECT	City Council Bills 25-0120, 25-0121, 25-0122, 25-0123, 25-0124, 25-0125 Supplementary Capital Appropriations

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bills 25-0120, 25-0121, 25-0122, 25-0123, 25-0124, 25-0125 Supplementary Capital Fund Appropriations.

Background

The Baltimore City Charter authorizes agency capital spending based on the amount enacted in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The Department of Planning recommends appropriation transfers and supplementary appropriations when an agency receives unanticipated revenue, such as grants, or implements new programs that could not have been anticipated at the time the budget was developed. This supplementary appropriation is required to meet the Charter requirements.

- 25-0120- will fund broadband installation at public housing sites
- 25-0121- will fund capital improvements at the Convention Center
- 25-0122- will fund deconstruction and redevelopment of U.S. 40, known as the Highway to Nowhere
- 25-0123- will fund advance concept planning studies for multi-modal transportation improvements to a 30% Design for the Hanover Street Corridor and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge
- 25-0124- will fund the design of a segment of the Jones Falls Trail
- 25-0125- will support the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership's effort to design and construct the Smith Cove Project (SCP)

Fiscal Impact

25-0120

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents revenue from the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC). In Fiscal 2026, Baltimore City Information Technology (BCIT) did not have an appropriation for unallocated funds. However, HABC had excess revenue of \$13,650,000 in Capital funds. This bill will make \$13,650,000 available to BCIT, to provide funding for a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the HABC to install broadband internet service at public housing sites

25-0121

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents an excess revenue from the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA). In Fiscal 2026, the M-R: Convention Center did not have an appropriation for unallocated State funds. However, the MSA received excess revenues of \$200,000 in State funds. This bill will make \$200,000 available to M-R: Convention Center for the capital improvements for the Convention Center.

25-0122

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program. The revenue category for this grant was incorrectly recorded as State funds as part of the FY26 budget, which was approved on June 23, 2025. This appropriation will correct the funding source for West Baltimore United.

25-0123

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the USDOT Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RISE) grant. The revenue category for this grant was incorrectly recorded as State funds as part of the FY26 budget, which was approved on June 23, 2025. This appropriation will correct the funding source for the Hanover Street Corridor and Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Study.

25-0124

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)- State Highway Administration (SHA) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). The revenue category for this grant was incorrectly recorded as State funds as part of the FY26 budget, which was approved on June 23, 2025. This appropriation will correct the funding source for the Jones Falls Gateway project.

25-0125

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the State. In Fiscal 2026, the Department of Planning did not have an appropriation for unallocated state funds. However, the Department of Planning received this grant for \$17,000,000 in State funds. This bill will make \$17,000,000 available to the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership, who will utilize these funds to support the design and construction of the Smith Cove Project (SCP).

Conclusion

These supplementary capital appropriations are required to authorize agency spending beyond the amount enacted in the Ordinance of Estimates and is necessary due to the availability of new revenue and incorrectly appropriated funds.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 25-0120, 25-0121, 25-0122, 25-0123, 25-0124, 25-0125.

cc: Michael Mocksten
Nina Themelis



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Tim Keane, Director, Department of Planning
DATE	November 24, 2025
SUBJECT	City Council Bill #25-0120

Position: Favorable

Summary of position: The Department of Planning supports a favorable position on CCB #25-0120 which will provide \$13,650,000 in Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriations for Baltimore City Information Technology (BCIT). This funding supports Broadband for Public Housing Sites (PRJ002423 911111 127-116). Supplemental funding is necessary to support the first year of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between BCIT and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC). The goal of the multi-year MOU is to deliver high-speed, affordable internet to housing units across HABC properties. BCIT requires an appropriation to receive payments from HABC for this activity.

Fiscal Impact: The fiscal impact of this supplemental funding will be an appropriation of an additional \$13,650,000 of HABC Capital Revenue.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sara Paraniyam, Division Chief, Policy and Data Analysis at sara.paraniyam@baltimorecity.gov.



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Leyla Layman, Interim Director Baltimore City Office of Information and Technology <i>Leyla Layman</i>
CC	Ms. Nina Themelis, Director, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	December 2, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0120 Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City Information Technology – \$13,650,000

POSITION: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

The Baltimore City Office of Information and Technology (BCIT) has completed its review of Council Bill 25-0120 Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City Information Technology – \$13,650,000. This bill provides a Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation in the amount of \$13,650,000 to the Baltimore City Office of Information Technology to provide funding for the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City to install broadband internet service at public housing sites and provides for a special effective date.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) has contracted BCIT to expand broadband accessibility at certain public housing sites. The purpose of this supplemental is to meet the charter requirement that all funding be appropriated by the City Council. As such, this supplemental will allow BCIT to receive reimbursements from HABC for work being performed under the existing memorandum of understanding between our agencies.

This supplemental will enable BCIT's delivery of essential digital services to residents of public housing and the continued expansion of internet access. This expansion aligns with Baltimore City's Digital Inclusion Strategy which aims to narrow the digital divide. For these reasons, BCIT supports Council Bill 25-0120 Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City Information Technology – \$13,650,000.

If you have any questions, please contact Fabienne Dorceus, Program Manager, at (410) 913-0556.

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable President and Members of the City Council

FROM: Janet Abrahams, Chief Executive Officer

CC: Jeannine Dunn, SVP Policy & Planning
Arlisa W. Anderson, Senior Specialist, Government Relations

DATE: January 5, 2026

SUBJECT: City Council Bill 25-0120 (Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City Information Technology - \$13,650,000)

The Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) has received a referral for comment on City Council Bill 25-0120. This is a bill that seeks to provide Supplementary Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation in the amount of \$13,650,000 to the Baltimore City Office of Information & Technology (BCIT) for broadband for eight public housing sites throughout the City of Baltimore (City).

HABC supports the proposed supplementary appropriation to construct the infrastructure needed for future broadband services to public housing residents at our public housing sites. This investment will establish the foundational infrastructure necessary to deliver broadband connectivity to residents in public housing. The planned implementation, in collaboration with BCIT, will occur over a ten-year period and is critical to advancing digital equity and improving access to essential online resources for our residents at our public housing site.

HABC and BCIT have been working in partnership to begin the process of implementing this much-needed infrastructure work for our public housing residents. BCIT will engage the contractors to perform the work, pay them and then be reimbursed by HABC on a quarterly basis pursuant to the executed Memorandum of Understanding dated July 10, 2024, approved by the Board of Estimates.

HABC recommends approval of City Council Bill 25-0120 (Supplemental Mayoralty Capital Project Fund Capital Appropriation – Baltimore City Information Technology - \$13,650,000).