CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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October 29, 2024

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council Attn: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary Room 409, City Hall 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 24-0604 – Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayoralty – \$41,355,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 24-0604 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the aggregate amount of \$41,355,000 to the Mayoralty, specifically, \$100,000 to Service 109 (Mayoralty: Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success - Administration) to provide funding for summer programming, \$39,990,000 to Service 122 (Mayoralty: Miscellaneous General Expenses) to provide funding for multi-year purchasing activity, Economic Development projects, and increase in PAYGO Capital for Recreation and Parks and Transportation projects, \$250,000 to Service 125 (Mayoralty - Executive Direction and Control) to provide funding for priority projects, \$200,000 to Service 617 (Mayoralty: Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement - Criminal Justice Coordination) to provide funding for the Human Trafficking Grant Program, \$500,000 to Service 618 (Mayoralty: Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement - Neighborhood Safety and Engagement) to provide funding for increased staff costs, and \$315,000 to Service 834 (Mayoralty: Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy Development – MWB Opportunity Office) to provide funding for increasing funding for Main Streets. The money for this supplementary appropriation is excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

City Charter Art. VI, § 8(b)(2)(iii) permits a supplementary appropriation when there has been "a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates" for the fiscal year. 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). This bill must be amended to provide for the funds to go to a single service. An amendment is attached for this purpose. The Law Department approves the attached amendment to this bill which

identifies a single service to which the appropriation will be assigned. Provided the amendment is adopted, the Law Department can approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

Michele Toth Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson
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