

*AKC*, Deputy, for:

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Andrew Kleine, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (410) 396-4941
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #15-0238R Building on the Success of the Rec and Tech Center Model

CITY of  
BALTIMORE  
**MEMO**



DATE: July 30, 2015

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

Attention: Ms. Natawna Austin

City Council Bill #15-0238R has been introduced for the purpose of commending the Digital Harbor Foundation and the Liberty Rec and Tech Center for their groundbreaking work that is bringing so many benefits to our community, and calling on representatives from the Department of Recreation & Parks and Finance to appear before the Council to discuss how the City can allocate the necessary funding and other resources to enable other recreation centers to follow this model.

The Liberty Rec and Tech Center is an example of the success of the Mayor's initiatives to engage third party operators for Recreation Centers. This model saves the City money and has resulted in creative programming that is responsive to the community. These types of partnerships are crucial for the continued operation of safe, meaningful Recreation Centers.

Based on the findings of the City's Recreation Center Task Force, the Department of Finance has encouraged the Department of Recreation & Parks to work with private, non-profit, and other community partners to improve upon existing programming and funding for Community Recreation Centers. In Fiscal 2013 five centers were awarded for third-party operation, and six centers were turned over to BCPS for operation.

The Department of Recreation and Parks receives City General Funds, Federal CDBG Grants, private Safe and Sound funding, and other Capital funding for maintenance of and improvements to Recreation Centers. In Fiscal 2016 BCRP received \$13 million in General Fund operating dollars, \$135 thousand in Safe and Sound funding, and \$47 thousand in CDBG grants for Community Recreation Centers. This funds the operation and maintenance of 41 Recreation Centers, maintenance at an additional nine centers, and a total of 127 full-time positions.

The Fiscal 2016 Capital Budget includes \$7 million for Recreation facility signage and the renovation and expansion of the Cahill Recreation Center and Indoor Pool.

We are happy to provide additional information or clarification as requested.

cc: Henry Raymond  
Angela Gibson

