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**BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE**

Mission Statement

On behalf of the Citizens of Baltimore City, the mission of the **Public Health and Environment Committee** is dedicated to safeguarding the well-being of Baltimore's residents by advancing policies that promote health equity, environmental justice, and sustainability. Recognizing the deep connection between public health and the environment, the committee works to reduce health disparities, improve access to essential services, and address climate-related challenges that impact communities.

**The Honorable Phylicia Porter
Chair**

PUBLIC HEARING

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026
10:00 AM**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Legislative Oversight #LO26-0044

B'more Healthy Babies Strategy

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CITY OF BALTIMORE

Brandon M. Scott – Mayor
Zeke Cohen – Council President



Office of Council Services

Nancy Mead - Director
100 Holliday Street, Room 415
Baltimore, MD 21202

BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Public Health and Environment

Legislative Oversight: LO26-0044

B'more Healthy Babies Strategy

Sponsor: *Councilmember Porter, et al*

Introduced: *January 27, 2025*

Purpose:

For the purpose reviewing Baltimore City's capacity to respond to increasing behavioral health challenges, including Baltimore City Health Department staff, data-based evaluation and reporting, alignment of City-funded non-City entities, and the visibility of pro-behavioral health efforts.

Effective: Upon enactment.

Partners, Agencies and/or Organizations that have been invited:

- **Representative(s) from Baltimore City Health Department**
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Analysis

Background

B'more for Healthy Babies (BHB) is an innovative initiative to reduce infant mortality in Baltimore City through programs emphasizing policy change, service improvements, community mobilization, and behavior change.¹

BHB is led by the Baltimore City Health Department with lead partners Family League of Baltimore and HealthCare Access Maryland and implemented with more than 100 partner agencies from the corporate, nonprofit, academic, donor, and government sectors. The Initiative

¹ Baltimore City Health Department's website.

has a strong community outreach and mobilization program that operates in Upton/Druid Heights, Park Heights, Patterson Park, and other neighborhoods.²

BHB works with over [100 local and regional partners](#). Key partners include CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield and more than a dozen local foundations and local and national government agencies supporting our work. Partner agencies include:

WIC; Baltimore Infants & Toddlers; Baltimore Healthy Start; DRUM Healthy Families; The Family Tree; Mercy Health Services; LifeBridge Health; the city's federally qualified health centers, birthing hospitals, and a vast network of obstetric, pediatric, and behavioral health providers; Baltimore City Department of Social Services; Baltimore City Public Schools; Behavioral Health System Baltimore; Maryland Family Network; Y of Central Maryland; United Way of Central Maryland; Baltimore City Head Start; Enoch Pratt Free Library; and numerous other supporters including academic institutions, churches, and businesses.³

On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, the committee will hold a hearing to discuss and/or receive information regarding behavioral health challenges in this area.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: None

Information Source(s): Baltimore City Health Department's website.

Marguerite Currin

Analysis by: Marguerite Currin

Analysis Date: May 11, 2026

Direct Inquiries to: (443) 984-3485

² Ibid

³ Ibid

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

LO26-0044

**REPORTS, WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
AND/OR
HANDOUTS, ETC.**

NONE AS OF THIS WRITING