

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

LARRY E. GREENE, Director
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Baltimore, Maryland 21202
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HEARING NOTES

Bill: 20-0527

Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

Committee: Budget and Appropriations
Chaired By: Councilmember Eric T. Costello
Hearing Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Human Resources and Labor Commissioner

Time (Beginning): 9:05 AM
Time (Ending): 9:30AM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 40

Department of General Services

Time (Beginning): 10:00 AM
Time (Ending): 10:40 AM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 50

Planning

Time (Beginning): 11:05 AM
Time (Ending): 12:10 PM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 40

Department of Housing and Community Development

Time (Beginning): 12:35 PM
Time (Ending): 2:40 PM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 50

Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success and Family League

Time (Beginning): 3:05 PM
Time (Ending): 4:25 PM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 45

Department of Transportation

Time (Beginning): 5:35 PM
Time (Ending): 7:50 PM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 75

Committee Members in Attendance:

NOTE: All committee members attended at least one or more hearings throughout the day

Eric Costello Bill Henry
 Leon Pinkett Sharon Sneed
 Danielle McCray Sharon Middleton
 Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video or audio-digitally recorded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Evidence of notification to property owners?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Quinton Herbert, Department of Human Resources
- Deborah Moore-Carter, Labor Commissioner
- Chi Chi Nyaga-Nash, Department of General Services
- Geneva Friedlander, Department of General Services
- Julia Kalloz, Department of General Services
- Bambi Stevens, Department of General Services
- Chris Ryer, Planning Department
- Eric Holcomb, Planning Department
- Lisa McNeilly, Planning Department
- Stephanie Smith, Planning Department
- Michael Braverman, Department of Housing and Community Development
- Alice Kennedy, Department of Housing and Community Development

- Eric Booker, Department of Housing and Community Development
- Jason Hessler, Department of Housing and Community Development
- Reginald Scriber, Department of Housing and Community Development
- Tisha Edwards, Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success
- Demaune Millard, Family League
- Steve Sharkey, Department of Transportation
- Kenith Ching, Department of Transportation
- Tereina Galloway, Department of Transportation
- Bimal Devkota, Department of Transportation
- Matthew Hendrickson, Department of Transportation
- Marshall Goodwin, Department of Transportation
- Liam Davis, Department of Transportation

Major Issues Discussed

1. Several agency heads and their staff came before the committee/council member for day three (3) of the budget hearings.
2. PowerPoint presentations were given by all agencies **except the Labor Commissioner**. **Copies of all presentations are in Legistar and/or on file.**
3. After each agency head concluded his/her presentation, the committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - **Department of Human Resources and Labor Commissioner**
 - Training
 - Comment: Is glad the training for employees is increasing
 - Apprenticeship Program
 - Where are you with this?
 - Wellness Program
 - How are you reaching out to the employees?
 - Vacancies
 - Concern: Vacancies getting filled in a timely manner
 - **Labor Commissioner**
 - No questions asked and/or concerns stated by committee/councilmembers
 - **Department of General Services**
 - Before Ms. Nyaga-Nash gave her presentation, she talked about some of the accomplishments of the Department and about the effects of the pandemic.
 - Auto Service Programs in Public Schools
 - Request: Hope the Department can help schools with their auto programs
 - Comment: We are glad to hear how you are cleaning your fleet differently, especially since the pandemic.
 - Solar Panels
 - Have you looked into using solar panels in the future?
 - Comments regarding putting solar panels onto city owned buildings
 - When the city put new roofs on their buildings do they think about using solar panels?

- Request by Councilman Henry – Do you have a master list of all city-owned buildings and when the roofs are scheduled to be replaced? Please submit.
 - Please talk more about energy efficient vehicles
- **Planning Department**
 - Service 762 – Historic Preservation
 - We must know the importance and significance of historic properties – we need help!
 - This service does not have good performance measures; would like to see something quantitative
 - Service 765 – What is the status of the Climate Action Plan?
 - Services 761 – Development Oversight & Project Support and 763 – Comprehensive Planning and Resource Management
 - Who are the stakeholders in the community?
 - Planning Academy
 - Talk about what the academy is doing; how many participants there are and will the academy be expanding?
 - Where are we with the Census?
 - Community Associations Directory
 - What was the software upgrade that made the system better?
 - Please provide an update on the work you are doing for food accessibility
- **Department of Housing and Community Development**
 - Service 738 – Weatherization Services
 - More funding is allocated for fiscal 2021 but you have the same target for the number of homes weatherized, why?
 - Why is there such a large drop in weatherization?
 - Are local contractors and/or vendors during the weatherization?
 - What kind of efforts do you think can be made to improve weatherization?
 - How many “cool roofs” did you complete last year?
 - Affordable Housing Trust Fund
 - Talk about this fund; status of, funds generated, and etc.
 - Are you providing rent supplemental(s)?
 - Tiny/Container Homes
 - There is an interest in these homes; what is your viewpoint on same?
 - Service 754 – Summer Food Service Program
 - Will this program be available during the Summer?
 - Receivership Cases
 - How are you handling these case while the courts are closed?
 - Lens of Equity
 - How did you plan this budget through the lens of equity?
 - How can we increase this budget using lens of equity to promote homeownership?
 - Comment: We need to invest more into illegal dumping issues and we need more cameras
 - Is there a ratio for demolition versus rehabbing building?
 - Service 604 – Before and After Care
 - Request by Councilman Henry- Provide an exact status for the Northwood Child Care

- Houses Containing Lead
 - Is there anything on the horizon to increase efforts to remove lead?
- Unlicensed Landlords
 - What is the status of this?
 - Has any revenue been generated?
 - How many citations have been issued and how much revenue collected for same?
- Hand Held Devices
 - What is the status of these devices?
 - Do you have any to help your Inspectors?
 - Request by Chairman Costello: Provide an update on the status of hand held devices
- **Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success and Family League**
 - Squeegee Kids
 - Talk about the coordination going on with the squeegee kinds
 - Do you know how many squeegee kids has been helped? **Answer: Approximately 79 young people**
 - Is there any data on how successful your coordination has been? **Answer: Yes**
 - CAP Center
 - The residents of West Baltimore need a CAP Center
 - Meals Distributed
 - Do you have the number of meals that were normally distributed versus how many you are distributing now?
 - Rental Assistance Funding
 - Is there a rough estimate for when this information will be available?
 - Trauma-Informed Care
 - Comment: we need to invest more in young people; especially through trauma-informed care
 - Would like to sometimes handle problems with our youth without always bringing the Police into play every time
- **Department of Transportation**
 - Lens of Equity
 - Where are you with this and how did you tie equity into your budget?
 - Funded Positions
 - Loss of positions – what was the impact on your operations?
 - Mowing Contracts
 - What is the status of the contract(s)?
 - Comment: There is an opportunity to increase efficiency with all agencies involved in mowing
 - Hanover Bridge – Closed Down
 - What is the status of this?
 - Street Striping and Crosswalks
 - How are you handling this?
 - What is the dollar value of the backlog?
 - Repaving streets – striping concerns
 - Concrete Streets
 - Replacing concrete with concrete – how do you plan to address this?

- Can asphalt be placed on top of concrete streets? **Answer: The Department might have to do a deep analysis for concrete streets**
 - Sidewalks are aged, full of debris and, etc. – Can they be upgraded?
 - Is there a general “overall” plan available for all the streets in the city?
- Since Pandemic
 - How are you communicated with the community about the things that are going on with DOT?
- LED Conversions – Street Lights
 - Where are you with this? **Answer: 60% of all lights have been converted**
 - Are we in the middle of a lawsuit with BGE and if so will it affect street lighting?
- Snow Removal Program – Comment
 - This program is being defunded; is disappointed to see this cut
 - This program should have been sent to the MOED – did anyone think about this?
- Landscaping Management
 - Comments regarding opportunities being available for MBE/WBE participation
- Performance of Sub-Contractors
 - Performance is poor and cannot be unnoticed
 - Grade of material used is of concern
 - Comments regarding the scarcity of dollars for capital projects
- Circulators
 - In terms of equity, are you considering expanding the service?
- Traffic Calming
 - It seems to be a backlog for traffic calming, can you talk about how your department can “beef up” the backlog?
- Bike Lanes
 - What type of equity lens are you using for bike lanes?
- Citations
 - Is there anything we can do legislatively to help with parking citations?
 - Is there a way we don’t have to do chalking when issuing citations?
- Trespass Towing Board – would like for you to assign an additional person for towing oversight, can you do this?
- Getting Information Requested:
 - Comment: Every year ask for information without getting a comprehensive response for:
 - The cost of damages for the street lights damaged by vehicles
 - Do you have any ability to account for the amount of cost for these damages?
- Plans for Complete Streets are needed

4. The hearing was called to recess until June 11, 2020

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe.

Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

Date: June 25, 2020

cc: Bill File
OCS Chrono File

City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Meeting Minutes - Final

Budget and Appropriations Committee

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

9:00 AM Virtual Webex Hearing: Phone: 1-408-418-9388, Event
Number: 129 661 2629, Password: Public,
[https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?MTID=e21ef83d0efd09dd6d26cd2cf663a4ee7)
MTID=e21ef83d0efd09dd6d26cd2cf663a4ee7

20-0527

FY 2021 Budget Hearings
CHARM TV 25

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 7 - Member Eric T. Costello, Member Leon F. Pinkett III, Member Bill Henry, Member Danielle McCray, Member Sharon Green Middleton, Member Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Member Shannon Sneed

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

20-0527

Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

For the purpose of providing the appropriations estimated to be needed by each agency of the City of Baltimore for operating programs and capital projects during the Fiscal 2021 year.

Sponsors: City Council President (Administration)

Hearing was called to recess.

ADJOURNMENT

AGENCIES BUDGET HEARING - DAY THREE (3)

