

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
**ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Council Bill 21-0164**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Burnett, Dorsey, Porter, Bullock, Cohen, Middleton, Torrence  
Introduced and read first time: October 4, 2021  
Assigned to: Public Safety and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Council action: Adopted  
Read second time: January 10, 2022

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**AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING**

**Decennial Fire and Emergency Medical  
Services Redistricting Plan**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Baltimore City Fire Chief to prepare a Decennial Fire and Emergency Medical Services Redistricting Plan; requiring the Fire Chief to present the Plan to the Mayor and City Council; requiring the Plan to be approved by ~~resolution~~ ordinance of the Mayor and City Council; allowing the Mayor and City Council to amend the Plan under certain circumstances; and generally relating to redistricting the Baltimore City fire battalions and emergency medical services districts.

BY adding

Article 9 - Fire Suppression and Prevention  
Section(s) 2A-1 to 2A-3 to be under the new subtitle designation,  
“Subtitle 2A. Decennial Fire and EMS Redistricting Plan”  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

**SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 9. Fire Suppression and Prevention**

**SUBTITLE 2A. DECENNIAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES REDISTRICTING PLAN.**

**§ 2A-1. DEFINITIONS.**

(A) *IN GENERAL.*

IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

**EXPLANATION:** CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.  
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by  
amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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1 (B) *BATTALION*.

2 "BATTALION" MEANS A UNIT OF FIRE SUPPRESSION PERSONNEL THAT IS ASSIGNED TO A  
3 GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION.

4 (C) *DEPARTMENT*.

5 "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE BALTIMORE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT.

6 (D) *DISTRICT*.

7 "DISTRICT" MEANS A UNIT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ("EMS") PERSONNEL  
8 THAT IS ASSIGNED TO A GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION.

9 (E) *PLAN*.

10 "PLAN" MEANS THE DECENNIAL FIRE AND EMS REDISTRICTING PLAN ESTABLISHED  
11 UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

12 **§ 2A-2. PLAN REQUIREMENTS.**

13 FOLLOWING EACH DECENNIAL CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES, THE FIRE CHIEF SHALL:

14 (1) REVIEW:

15 (I) DECENNIAL CENSUS POPULATION AND HOUSING DATA FROM THE UNITED  
16 STATES CENSUS BUREAU;

17 (II) FIRE SUPPRESSION CALL VOLUME TRENDS;

18 (III) EMS CALL VOLUME TRENDS;

19 (IV) FIRE SUPPRESSION RESPONSE TIMES;

20 (V) EMS RESPONSE TIMES; AND

21 (VI) ANY OTHER INFORMATION DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE FIRE CHIEF;

22 (2) BASED UPON THE DATA SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDE IN  
23 THE PLAN STRATEGIES TO:

24 (I) ADJUST THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES AND COMPOSITION OF EACH FIRE  
25 BATTALION AND EMS DISTRICT; AND

26 (II) REALLOCATE THE RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT AMONG  
27 THE BATTALIONS AND DISTRICTS; AND

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1 (3) PRESENT THE PLAN TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL WITHIN 1 YEAR FROM THE  
2 ISSUANCE OF THE DECENNIAL CENSUS POPULATION AND HOUSING DATA BY THE  
3 UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU.

4 **§ 2A-3. APPROVAL PROCESS.**

5 (A) *APPROVAL OF THE PLAN.*

6 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE MAYOR AND CITY  
7 COUNCIL MAY APPROVE THE PLAN BY ~~RESOLUTION~~ ORDINANCE WITHIN 180 DAYS FROM  
8 THE PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN.

9 (B) *AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAN.*

10 THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY AMEND THE PLAN BY ENUMERATING  
11 ANY AMENDMENTS IN THE ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE PLAN. PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO  
12 THE PLAN:

13 ~~(1) PRIOR TO PASSAGE OF THE RESOLUTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS~~  
14 ~~SECTION; AND~~

15 ~~(2) WITHIN 180 DAYS FROM THE PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN.~~

16 ~~(C) *APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS.*~~

17 ~~AMENDMENTS PROPOSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION BECOME~~  
18 ~~EFFECTIVE ON APPROVAL BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE CITY COUNCIL.~~

19 ~~(D) (C) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*~~

20 (1) A PLAN APPROVED UNDER THIS SECTION IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

21 (2) IF THE PLAN IS NOT APPROVED WITHIN 180 DAYS AFTER PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN,  
22 THE PLAN, AS ORIGINALLY PRESENTED BY THE FIRE CHIEF TO THE MAYOR AND CITY  
23 COUNCIL, WILL GO INTO EFFECT.

24 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day  
25 after the date it is enacted.

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Certified as duly passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to His Honor, the Mayor,  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Baltimore City