



HEARING NOTES

Bill: 24-0521

Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

Committee: Ways and Means
Chaired by: Councilman Eric T. Costello

Hearing Dates: Friday, May 24, 2024 – **Day two (2)**

Visit Baltimore

Time (Beginning): 9:10 AM
Time (Ending): 9:30 AM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 10 in-person
Approximately 15 virtually

CharmTV (Mayor's Office of Cable/Communications)

Time (Beginning): 10:00 AM
Time (Ending): 10:20 AM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 20 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Mayor's Office of Performance/Innovation

Time (Beginning): 11:05 AM
Time (Ending): 12:05 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 20 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs

Time (Beginning): 1:10 PM
Time (Ending): 2:05 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 15 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development

Time (Beginning): 2:05 PM
Time (Ending): 3:25 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 20 in-person
Approximately 5 virtually

Board of Liquor License Commission

Time (Beginning): 3:25 PM
Time (Ending): 3:50 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 20 in-person
Approximately 5 virtually

Baltimore Convention Center

Time (Beginning): 4:00 PM
Time (Ending): 4:20 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 10 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Parking Authority of Baltimore City

Time (Beginning): 6:00 PM
Time (Ending): 7:05 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 20 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts

Time (Beginning): 7:10 PM
Time (Ending): 8:00 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 30 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Committee Members in Attendance: Day Two

Eric T. Costello
Ryan Dorsey
Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
Danielle McCray
Sharon Middleton

Bill Synopsis in the file? **yes** **no** **n/a**
Attendance sheet in the file? **yes** **no** **n/a**
Agency reports read? **yes** **no** **n/a**
Video or audio-digitally recorded? **yes** **no** **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.....	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a

Major Speakers – Day Two
(This is not an attendance record.)

- Al Hutchinson, Visit Baltimore
 - Maya Gilmore, CharmTV
 - Steve Sharkey, Mayor’s Office of Performance & Innovation
 - Terrance Smith, Mayor’s Office of Performance & Innovation
 - Jason Howard, Mayor’s Office of Performance & Innovation
 - Faith Leach, Chief Administrative Officer
 - Catlina Rodriguez Lima, MIMA
 - Joy Scalabrin, MIMA
 - Mac Campbell, Baltimore Convention Center
 - Peter Little, Parking Authority of Baltimore City
 - Al Hutchinson, Visit Baltimore
 - Michelle Wirzberger, Liquor License Commission
 - Stacy Russel, Liquor License Commission
 - Stephen Campbell, MOSMBAD
 - John Chrissomallis, Liquor License Commission
 - Sophia Reed Marsh, Liquor License Commission
 - Sandra Downs, Parking Authority of Baltimore City
 - Rachel Graham, Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts
 - Andrew Chavas, Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts
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Major Issues Discussed

Visit Baltimore

1. A representative from Visit Baltimore gave a PowerPoint presentation *(A copy is on file)*.
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - Performance and Measurements
 - Question: How do you calculate visits?
 - Answer: Get numbers from a third-party source, Longwood International.
 - Main Streets
 - Question: Do you work with Main Streets and other local groups (i.e. Lexington Market), where we want visitors to come?
 - Answer: Yes, Main Street is important to Visit Baltimore’s storytelling. They have a liaison specifically for Main Streets and work with all groups in Baltimore.
 - Partnership is important

- Main Streets need additional funds and marketing to continue and expand their work. Visit Baltimore can help with marketing and telling the stories, but it would be challenging to provide financial assistance.

3. Hearing recessed.

CharmTV (Mayor's Office of Cable/Communications)

1. A representative from the PABC gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - Audit Response
 - Have ongoing meetings until all issues that were noted in the audit from 2017 until 2021 are remedied, including establishing a Comcast SharePoint site to shelter documents and a shared email.
 - Processes in place until agreement ends
 - Franchise agreement
 - Question: Is the new agreement already executed?
 - a. Answer: No, currently in negotiations. The current agreement ends in 2026.
 - More communications to the public about the agreement not regulating broadband. CharmTV can create information and disseminate it through community listening sets partnered with BCIT, and through information platforms.
 - Question: Is it possible to Raise the fee for residents to access Comcast channel?
 - a. Answer- No, the FCC sets that fee at 5% and we're already at the max.
 - Black Arts District & Sankofa Museum
 - Plan is to tap into all art districts throughout the city
 - Utilization of CharmTV services
 - Councilmembers are encouraged to utilize CharmTV services anytime throughout the year
 - Apprenticeships
 - CharmTV receives internships and Youthworks employees every year.
 - New facility on Pennsylvania Ave.
 - BDC roles in new facility
 - a. Leading in project development, permits, and design

3. Hearing recessed.

Mayor's Office of Performance & Innovation

1. A representative from the PABC gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - a. Implementation of Citistat program and bill
 - Major vacancies in office, but, by January, will have everything up and running
 - Working to bring various analysts together
 - b. Performance and measure
 - Creation of an indicator that shows the number of stats tracked by the office
 - There are currently 24 stats, but, with recent legislation, this will increase by 4 or 5 stats

- Question: How can we manage this increase with the current staff?
 - a. Answer: Some of the 24 stats are not full stat nor monthly. Some stats may be coupled together or, if the data is strong, will be sent to an agency.
- c. Staffing
 - Citistat is never meant to be a long-term place for employees, but a career starter.
 - Already have a competitive salary
 - Normally have 2 Data Fellows for around a year
- d. Tax Sale analysis
 - Cross-referenced multiple tax sale records and other data sources
 - Plan to continue to work on this over the next year
- e. Chief Storyteller position
 - Utilizes data to tell stories to residents and those outside of the city
 - Stakeholder engagement and creating trustworthy processes
 - Geared towards agencies and public
- f. 311
 - Spanish 311 app update
 - MOPI supports 311, but other agencies and MIMA have taken the lead
 - ‘Close Means Close’ Issues
 - BCIT is the main agency on this, but MOPI is convening the partner agencies and providing data

3. Hearing recessed.

Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs

1. A representative from the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - Request for information regarding where there are immigrant communities are living in the city based on zip code to determine the need for city services.
 - Information is available but is ARPA funded.
 - Translation for City departments & services
 - The Department of Housing and Community Development.
 - The document is in Spanish but not in other languages.
 - a. DHCD is being requested to contact MIMA for translation assistance.
 - What is the right way to contact MIMA for language services?
 - MIMA does telephone and document services but not onsite oral translations – there is a city contracted service for this which can be coordinated with. Some agencies do have translation services but not all. MIMA can review these contacts and provide technical advice.
 - Reduction to MIMA in funding
 - This is due to ARPA funding sunseting.
 - Neighbor relations between English and non-English-speaking communities.
 - Liaisons for agencies & tracking the hiring of non-English speakers.
 - In MIMA language specialist is moving to a part-time contractual position. This is due to the grant ending. This position has helped reach non-English speaking media.

3. Hearing recessed.

Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development

1. A representative from the Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - The Main Streets Program
 - Is the program overstaffed? It has more staff and less area than a similar program in Boston.
 - The program tries to give more individualized support.
 - Facade improvement grants
 - Technical assistance for businesses
 - Measuring success in the Main Streets Program
 - Program oversight from Baltimore Development Corporation to MOSMBAD
 - Contractual services offered to businesses
 - Quarterly business report requirements
 - Procurement reform
 - Business redevelopment funds
 - Business inspectors, who speak Spanish?
 - Presently there is one & another one is taking classes.
 - Working with MIMA for language assistance.
 - Wage theft
 - Minority Business Owner Contracts

3. Hearing recessed.

Board of Liquor License Commission

1. A representative from the Board of Liquor License Commission gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - The Main Streets Program
 - Is the program overstaffed? It has more staff and less area than a similar program in Boston.
 - The program tries to give more individualized support.
 - Facade improvement grants
 - Technical assistance for businesses
 - Measuring success in the Main Streets Program
 - Program oversight from Baltimore Development Corporation to MOSMBAD
 - Contractual services offered to businesses
 - Quarterly business report requirements
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 - Business redevelopment funds
 - Business inspectors, who speak Spanish?
 - Presently there is one & another one is taking classes.
 - Working with MIMA for language assistance.
 - Wage theft

Minority Business

Baltimore Convention Center

1. A representative from the Baltimore Convention Center gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - The mural in the Convention Center and showcasing Baltimore.
 - Discussed the use of augmented reality, Birds Nest for the O's & working with Main Street. The goal is that visitors to the center leave and experience Baltimore.
3. **Hearing recessed.**

Parking Authority of Baltimore City (PABC)

1. A representative from the PABC gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - Performance Measures
 - Some concern was expressed regarding PABC's performance measures
 - Question: Do you have any thoughts what could be a more meaning matrix for PABC?
 - Parking Enforcement – License Plate Reader
 - Talk about how this is enforced and about how it works for visitors' passes
 - Residential Parking Permits (RPP)
 - Do you know the number of off-street parking spaces are available per area?
Answer: No
 - What will it take to come up with the cost for retrieving the number of parking spaces available by zone?
 - Would like an overview of the system!
 - Parking Management versus Parking Enforcement
 - How do you combine them?
 - RPP's vs. Meters vs. Garages
 - How much revenue do you collect from these different revenue streams?
 - Provide follow-up
 - Is concerned about how DOT enforces parking enforcement! (Meters, RPP's, etc.)
 - Concern: The rate fee for RPP's
 - Parking during Special Events at Stadium(s)
 - Comments and concern – giving citations
3. **Hearing recessed.**

Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts (BOPA)

1. A representative from the BOPA gave a PowerPoint presentation (*A copy is on file*).
2. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:
 - Request by Councilmember Ramos: Would like to sit down with BOPA to get an understanding of what they do
 - Interactive Sculptures and/or Murals
 - Talk about the maintenance of sculptures and murals

- Request: To reach out to councilmembers to discuss what is needed in their communities
- Deaccession Murals – is of concern
 - Some in disrepair!
 - Is losing great art!
- Baltimore Artists
 - Comment: Baltimore have some of the best artists in the country!
 - Is interested in how to make it more sustainable to be an artist in Baltimore City; for the city to be more welcoming and affordable to Artists!
 - Comment: Should have mural(s) in City Hall like Philadelphia do!
 - We need to occupy the space in and outside of City Hall with Art!

3. Hearing Recessed.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

- **Visit Baltimore**
 1. Councilwoman Ramos - Copy of Longwood report on visitor numbers
- **Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs**
 1. Vice President Middleton - Provide a list of those zip codes that have experienced growth in immigrant population; and a list of the zip codes that MIMA currently provides case management services to
 2. Councilman Dorsey – Provide documentation from HCD regarding efforts to translate materials through MIMA, specifically discuss what progress has been made with Zoning board documents. MIMA will provide recommendations for translation on Zoning.
- **Mayor's Office of Small & Minority Business Advocacy & Development**
 1. Councilman Dorsey – Provide a list of businesses in Main Streets districts that have been supported by SMBAD for the Facade Improvement Grant
 2. Councilman Dorsey – Provide a written summary of how the Main Streets program measures its success.
 3. Councilman Dorsey – Provide a list of businesses visited by the Main Streets program for the past 3 months.
 4. Councilman Dorsey – Provide a list of contract services utilized by the Main Streets program and \$ amounts.
 5. Councilwoman Ramos – Provide a hiring plan for recruiting and filling investigator positions; and a plan of action for conducting investigations on job sites.
 6. Chairman Costello – Provide annual grant amount to individual Main Street programs and plan to make board records publicly accessible.
- **Parking Authority of Baltimore City**
 1. Councilman Dorsey – How much will it cost to figure out the # of parking spaces in each Parking Permit Area throughout the City?
 2. Councilman Dorsey – DOT to provide a briefing on Cyclomedia software.
 3. Councilman Dorsey & Councilman Cohen – Provide a summary of how parking enforcement staff are deployed for different types of parking enforcement (RP3, meter, etc.); and allocation of budget for parking revenue sources.

4. Councilman Dorsey – Provide an analysis of Parking Permit Fees to include all costs including how much DOT spends on enforcement.
 5. Councilman Dorsey – Explore with DOT other ways to make the public aware of upcoming sporting events, more transparent to help residents plan and avoid unnecessary violations.
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Niya N. Garrett

Niya N. Garrett, Committee Staff

Date: June 13, 2024

Cc: Bill File
OCS Chrono File



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Council Bill - Ordinance of Estimate for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 – Day two	Bill #: 24-0521
Budget Hearings	
Committee: Ways and Means	Chair: Eric Costello
Date: Friday, May 24, 2024	Time: Beginning 9AM
Location: Clarence "Du" Burns Council Chamber	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

ATTENDANCE ONLY

First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
			For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓
Craig	Vay	400 E. Pratt FL 10 Visit Baltimore, Inc				
Al	Hutchinson					
Mia	Blom					
CHARLIE	Water	3000 DRUG PARK OFFICE Baltimore MD SMBARD				
Wae	Copel	Balt. Conv. Center				
Jaikshin	Chughni	Baltimore Convention Center				
Sandra Downs	Downs	PARKING Authority				
Peter	Little	PARKING Authority				

*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

City of Baltimore

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Ways and Means

Friday, May 24, 2024

9:00 AM Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall, Phone:
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2337 253 0517, Password:
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=m3ad8cff4a0713003185b78ebf0e2e043)
MTID=m3ad8cff4a0713003185b78ebf0e2e043

**24-0521 - Ordinance of Estimates - FY 25 (Budget Agency Hearings - See attached
scheduled for additional details)**

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

- Present** 5 - Eric T. Costello, Ryan Dorsey, Danielle N. McCray, Sharon Green Middleton, and Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
- Absent** 2 - Kristerfer Burnett, and Robert Stokes Sr.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025
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 2025 year.

Hearing called to recess; to reconvene on May 30, 2024

Day Two (2) - Budget Hearings

Visit Baltimore,
CharmTV (Office of Cable and Communications),
Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation,
Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs,
Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development,
Board of Liquor License Commissioners,
Baltimore Convention Center,
Parking Authority of Baltimore,
Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts

ADJOURNMENT