



BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Brandon M. Scott
Mayor

Michael S. Harrison
Police Commissioner

May 5, 2021

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: City Council Bill #21-0027R
Informational Hearing: Illegal Dumping

Dear Council President Mosby and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 21-0027R which is for the purpose of inviting the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works and the Acting Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development, as well representatives from the Law Department, the Health Department, and the Baltimore Police Department to explain how their agencies assist in solving the problem of illegal dumping in the City.

Although BPD does not have a formal role in the illegal dumping enforcement process, the Department is very much in support of all officers serving as “problem solvers” who identify and take steps to address environmental factors that can impact public safety. To that end, our community policing plan calls for officers to be trained on how to intervene to support the community by making service requests through the 311 app and coordinating with other city agencies to develop long term solutions to issues like illegal dumping, poor lighting conditions and overgrown vegetation.

As such, BPD supports City Council Bill 21-0027R and looks forward to participating in a robust conversation. Thank you for allowing us to weigh in on this matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wirzberger, Esq.
Director of Government Affairs

cc: Natwana Austin, Executive Secretary of the Baltimore City Council
Natasha Mehu, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Nina Themalis, Special Assistant and Legislative Liaison, MOGR
Brittany Lewis, Chief of Government Affairs, Office of the Council President
Eric Melancon, BPD Chief of Staff
Andrew Smullian, BPD Deputy Chief of Staff