

## CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



## OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

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

**Bill: 21-0080**

#### Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

**Committee:** Ways and Means  
**Chaired by:** Councilman Eric T. Costello and in part other Committee members as needed  
**Hearing Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 – Day Five – Budget Hearings

#### **Fire Department**

**Time (Beginning):** 9:05 AM  
**Time (Ending):** 12:00 NOON  
**Location:** Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
**Total Attendance:** Approximately 60

#### **Fire Department/Office of Emergency Management**

**Time (Beginning):** 12:00 NOON  
**Time (Ending):** 12:20 PM  
**Location:** Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
**Total Attendance:** Approximately 60

#### **Circuit Court**

**Time (Beginning):** Hearing was not held  
**Time (Ending):**  
**Location:** Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
**Total Attendance:** Approximately 0

#### **Live Baltimore**

**Time (Beginning):** 1:00 PM  
**Time (Ending):** 1:30 PM  
**Location:** Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
**Total Attendance:** Approximately 40

#### **State's Attorney's Office**

**Time (Beginning):** 1:35 PM  
**Time (Ending):** 2:50 PM  
**Location:** Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
**Total Attendance:** Approximately 70



### Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

Time (Beginning): 3:30 PM  
Time (Ending): 4:20 PM  
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
Total Attendance: Approximately 40

### Sheriff's Department

Time (Beginning): 4:30 PM  
Time (Ending): 4:55 PM  
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
Total Attendance: Approximately 35

### Police Department

Time (Beginning): 6:35 PM  
Time (Ending): 11:10 PM  
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting  
Total Attendance: Approximately 75

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### Committee Members in Attendance:

Eric T. Costello	Kristerfer Burnett
Robert Stokes, Sr.	Ryan Dorsey
Sharon Green Middleton	Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
Danielle McCray	

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Motioned by: .....	Councilmember McCray		
Seconded by: .....	Councilmember Schleifer		
Final Vote: .....	Favorable		

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### Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Niles Ford, Fire Department
- James Matz, Fire Department
- Derrick Ready, Fire Department
- Charles Svehla, Fire Department
- Kim Washington, Fire Department
- Lisa Woods, Fire Department
- James Wallace, Office of Emergency Management

- Jennifer Meleady, Office of Emergency Management
  - Annie Milli, Live Baltimore
  - Marilyn Mosby, State's Attorney's Office
  - Donald Walter, State's Attorney's Office
  - Michael Schatzow, State's Attorney's Office
  - Camille Blake-Fall, State's Attorney's Office
  - Michael Collins, State's Attorney's Office
  - Arcelia Greene State's Attorney's Office
  - Shantay Jackson, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement
  - John Anderson, Sheriff's Office
  - Terrell Boston Smith, Sheriff's Office
  - Michael Harrison, Police Department
  - Henry Raymond, Finance Department
  - Jim Shea, Law Department
  - Lisa Walden, Police Department
  - Eric Melancon, Police Department
  - Robert Cennane, Finance Department
  - Sheree Briscoe, Police Department
  - John Herzog, Police Department
  - Kendall Jaeger, Police Department
  - Brian Nadeau, Police Department
  - Kevin Jones, Police Department
  - Sunny Schnitzer, Mayor's Office
  - James Gillis, Police Department
  - Michael Sullivan, Police Department
  - Ra Brave, Department of Recreation and Parks
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### Major Issues Discussed

1. Several agency heads and their staff came before the committee/council member for day five (5) of the budget hearings.
2. PowerPoint presentations were given by the agency representatives. **Copies of all presentations received are 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:
  - Fire Department**
    - **Comments/Questions**
      - What is the biggest problem(s) that the Department is facing?
      - Why doesn't your budget reflect these needs and/or the changes that are necessary?
      - \$550,000 additional funds that are in your budget; what is it for?
      - Moving EMS funds into facilities funds; is this the best decision to preserve life in the city?
      - The EMS Unit needs attention; especially the "response time."
      - Do you offer trauma training to your employees?

- How many female employees were promoted this year? **Answer: Will research and provide data**
  - Do you need additional positions?
- **Smoke Alarms**
  - Talk about your direct outreach efforts to the public regarding getting smoke alarms
- **Fire Academy**
  - Can you talk about the pipeline for: high school students going into the fire academy and to becoming firefighters?
  - What are some of your recruitment efforts and plans to grow the program?
  - **Request: Provide the communication brochures used for outreach**
- **Narcan Kits/Opioid Epidemic**
  - Do you collect data on the amount of medication is given out? (Narcan kits for overdoses)?
  - Is the amount of narcan kits used publicized and if so, is this data available to the public? **Answer: No**
  - Do you have data on what was administered? If so, can we have it posted online?
  - **Request: Together, the Health and Fire Departments are to devise a written plan to make data available for:**
    - Number of doses distributed
    - Number of doses administered
- **Take Home Vehicles**
  - Have the number of take home vehicles gone up or down? **Answer: 36 vehicles are used which is 6 less than last year**
  - **Request: For the past three (3) years, provide a detailed assessment of take home vehicles to include:**
    - Maintenance and fuel cost for each vehicle
    - Name of the employees who has taken home vehicles
- **Fire Watch Program**
  - Talk/give us an update on the program; how many locations, how much are we being reimbursed, etc.
- **Fire Engines**
  - Have you received anything about two (2) engines? About the possibility of closing them?
  - How many units are functioning during peak time?
- **Fire Report and Required Legislation**
  - When will the first report be published? **Answer: Tomorrow**
- **Fire Code and Enforcement**
  - Concern: Occupancy inspections and complaints
  - Concern: Vacancies and squatters
  - Will additional inspectors be used to do inspections?
  - Do you have data that separates city-owned property versus privately owned property?
- **Recruitment Efforts – still not filling position – is of concern**
- **Executive Team**
  - Do you trust your executive team? Why can't we talk with your executive team without prior approval from you?

- Request: Provide who within your Department can answer calls and/or questions from councilmembers; to include names and contact numbers
- **Saving Lives**
  - We need a citywide plan on how we can save more lives; is this a plan you are willing to work on?
- **Fire Stat**
  - What do you discuss during your meetings?
  - Would like Fire Stat back up and running
- **Personnel/Promotions**
  - Vacancies – is of concern
  - Staffing issues – is of concern
    - How would you say the morale within you Department is?
    - Suggestion: You look into morale within the Department
  - Vacant command staff; some are in acting positions – why aren't they placed in the position(s) permanently?

#### **Office of Emergency Management**

- **Commendation/Recognition**
  - Several councilmembers commended the staff on their operation and/or work performance
- **Mitigation of Flood Emergencies**
  - Are you involved with this?
  - Flooding Issues – is of concern
  - Do you work closely with DPW on flooding issues?

#### **Live Baltimore**

- **Marketing**
  - Talk about some of your work around retention; keeping residents here
  - What more could you do if given another one million dollars?
  - Entry level marketing for homeowners is needed – is of concern
- **Equity**
  - What is your view on equity and when will we see some outcomes?

#### **State's Attorney's Office**

- **Juvenile Crime**
  - When a juvenile commits murder are they transferred to juvenile services?
- **Disposition of Cases**
  - Tracking the disposition of cases – is of concern
  - Some discussion regarding the Able Foundation Report
  - Concern: Why is it so difficult to have transparency when it comes to "Judge by Judge?"
- **Workday System**
  - Is the Finance Department helping you with workday training and/or problems?
- **Equity Coordination Officer**
  - Do you have one? Answer: No, but we do have equity training and is committed to equity.
- **Victim Assistant Program**
  - What are the qualifications for getting assistance?
- **Housing**
  - What is your role with housing issues?

### **Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement**

- **Camera Rebate Program**
  - How many people have applied thus far?
  - Explain the process for the listening audience
- **Partnership**
  - Are you engaged with the Police Department?
  - What is the relationship between your office and the police department as it relates to funding, program implementation and data?
- **Encryption of Radios**
  - Concern: About the Police Department's radios being encrypted
- **Youth Violence Reduction Program**
  - Given prior history, how much effort and cost does it take for this Program to be successful?
  - Quality of Life Issues – is of concern

### **Sheriff's Department**

- **Commended/Recognition**
  - Several councilmembers thanked Sheriff Anderson and his employees for an outstanding Department/Operation and/or job performance
- **Real Property Tax Credit**
  - How many of your employees are using this credit?
- **Special Events (Permits)**
  - Special and/or Community events – talk about this
  - Comments regarding using the employees in the Sheriff's Department versus using the employees in the Police Department to work at these events

### **Police Department**

- **Commissioner Harrison** talked about the history of the Department since his tenure in the Department
- **Director Raymond from the Finance Department** talked about the “cost drivers” that contributed to an increase in the Police Department's budget for fiscal year 2022; such as:
  - Pension Contributions - \$7.6 million increase
  - Workman's Compensation - \$5.8 million increase
  - Health Plan Cost - \$7.3 million increase
- **Workman's Compensation**
  - Is there anything you know of that is causing the increase in workman's compensation?
  - Have you done any analyses for those who claim workman's compensation?
  - Do you have the number of claims thus far?
  - Was any action performed over the years to reduce the number of claims?
- **City Solicitor Shea** talked about:
  - The Consent Decree (an update)
  - Mental health and substance abuse issues – is of concern
  - He also opposed cutting the Police Department's fiscal year 2022 budget
- **Settlement/Payouts**
  - How does the city recoup funds from payouts and/or settlements? **Answer: They don't!**
  - Where in the budget are the settlements/payouts listed? **Answer: General Fund – Self-Insured Fund**



- Do most cities follow the same practices as ours for payouts/settlements? Using taxpayers' dollars?
- The Gun Trace Task Fund (GTTF) – How much do you think will be the total liability for the settlements?
- Funding set-a-side for the higher amount of payouts, how much is in there?  
**Answer: Per Finance will research and provide data**
- Insurance for lawsuits, have you ever considered this?
- Have you ever considered making employees pay for lawsuits? Can this be done legally?
- Has a study been conducted for the payouts?
- Concern/Comment – Paying settlements and Officers who still get pensions
- **Bond Rating**
  - To Finance: What are some of the things looked at and/or based on for our bond rating?
- **Hiring and Attrition**
  - Talk about and/or give us an update on this
- **Recruitment**
  - Who is responsible for retention?
  - **Request – A list of the officers who have left the Department within the last five (5) years; to include the year he/she left and where they were in the Department by race and gender**
  - Equity – What recruitment efforts have you used to recruit young people in the city?
- **Promotions**
  - Are you helping female employees to being successful; promotions?
  - Are employees encouraged to live in the city?
- **Murder Rate and Violence**
  - Is there a “summer crime plan,” given the level of violence and murder happening in the city? **Answer: Yes**
  - **Request: Any councilmember who is interested: would like to meet with the Police Department and City Administrator to go over the Summer Crime Plan**
  - Do you see a timeline for seeing a significant reduction in violence?
- **Sex Crime – is of concern**
  - Cases for rape victims was at zero, has this changed?
  - We need more resources for sex trafficking and sexual attacks
  - Comments/Questions regarding DNA rape kits
- **Domestic Violence**
  - It is essential to have a good domestic violence policy when an officer is he/herself involved in!
  - Hope that the officer is dismissed if charged with this!
- **Police Reports**
  - Fee for police reports – is of concern
  - Victims of crime have to pay a fee to get a report – is of concern
  - Talk about this and a potential policy change for same
- **Foot Patrol**
  - When is foot patrol going to start in certain areas of the city?
  - **Request: A plan of your strategies to get more foot patrol in neighborhoods/communities**

- How many officers are working in patrol positions? **Answer: Approximately 939**
  - **Request: Submit the full count, as of today, for how many patrol positions are on board**
- **Rumor**
  - Budget cuts at the district levels; is this true? **Answer: No**
- **Overtime Reduction**
  - Do you anticipate and/or project more overtime reduction? **Answer: Yes and technology will help us**
- **Illegal Guns**
  - Explain the process for getting rid of and/or melting down the guns
- **Cadets**
  - How do you plan to use the cadets for community policing?
- **Mental Health Crisis/Trauma**
  - These issues need to be addressed; people in specialties should be sent to respond along with Officers to help de-escalate situations
- **Consent Decree**
  - Is there an estimated cost of what has been spent on the decree?
- **Narcan Kits**
  - How many narcan kits are distributed per neighborhood and/or district? **Request: Please provide data**
- **Traffic Calming**
  - Speeding have increased since the pandemic – is of concern
  - What is the department doing to enforce traffic?
  - Is there any way to quantify those numbers?
  - **Request: Submit on a weekly basis; traffic enforcement per district**
- **Encrypting Police Radios** – is a real concern
- **Aviation Unit**
  - How many positions are in the Unit?
  - Talk a little more about the Unit
  - What are you doing to ensure the Unit is staffed adequately?
- **Special Operations Unit**
  - Special Events – Why can't we be fully compensated for working at these events?
- **Officers in Cars**
  - Officers just sitting in cars – is of concern
  - What are you doing to monitor and supervise the officers who are just sitting in cars?
- **Immigrant Population**
  - What is the department doing to reach out to the immigrant communities to let them know you support them?
  - Crime against immigrants – is of concern
  - Thanked the Commissioner for not supporting ICE
- **Nuisance Properties**
  - A database for nuisance properties; is this doable?
- **Take Home Vehicles**
  - Talk about what you have done regarding take home vehicles
  - Talk about cost savings associated with same



4. Votes were taken for all three (3) budget bills; Council Bills 21-0080, 21-0081 and Mayor and City Council Resolution 21-0082; all favorable. *Copies of the voting records are on file.* Hearing concluded.
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### Further Study

Was further study requested?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe. If yes, describe. Yes, see "red" highlights in Major Issues Discussed.

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### Committee Vote:

E. Costello: .....Yea  
K. Burnett: .....Yea  
R. Dorsey: .....Yea  
D. McCray: .....Yea  
S. Green Middleton: .....Yea  
I. Schleifer: .....Yea  
R. Stokes, Sr.: .....Yea

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*Marguerite M. Currin*

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

Date: June 23, 2021

cc: Bill File  
OCS Electronic File

# BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE VOTING RECORD

DATE: June 07 2021

BILL #: 21-0080

BILL TITLE: Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

MOTION BY: McCray SECONDED BY: Schleifer

☒ FAVORABLE ☐ FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS  
☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Costello, Eric - Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burnett, Kristerfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dorsey, Ryan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McCray, Danielle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middleton, Sharon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schleifer, Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stokes, Robert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<u>7</u>			

CHAIRPERSON: Eric T. Costello E.T. Costello

COMMITTEE STAFF: Marguerite M. Currin Initials: M.M.C.



## Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: <b>Council Bill</b> – Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022	Bill #: 21-0080
Committee: Ways and Means	Chair: Eric T. Costello
Date: <b>Monday, June 7, 2021</b>	Time: 9:00 AM
Location: <b>WebEx Meeting</b>	

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

**CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY**

			What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*		
First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		<i>See hearing notes</i>					

\*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**  
**Meeting Minutes - Final**  
**Ways and Means**

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

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Monday, June 7, 2021

9:00 AM/Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall: Phone:  
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 173 889 9589, Password:  
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?MTID=ebcc1c0bc7210e3736cc5ca395aa8e028)  
MTID=ebcc1c0bc7210e3736cc5ca395aa8e028

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**21-0080 - Agency Hearings - Schedule attached online**  
**CHARM TV 25**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present** 7 - Eric T. Costello, Kristerfer Burnett, Ryan Dorsey, Danielle N. McCray, Sharon Green Middleton, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Robert Stokes Sr.

**ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

**21-0080**

**Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022**

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 2022 year.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

A motion was made by member McCray, seconded by member "Yitzy" Schleifer, that Ordinance 21-0080 be recommended favorable. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 7 - Costello, Burnett, Dorsey, McCray, Middleton, "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Stokes Sr.

**ADJOURNMENT**