



## BALTIMORE HOUSING

SHEILA DIXON  
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO  
Executive Director, HABC  
Commissioner, HCD

# MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: March 28, 2008

Re: City Council Bill 08-0053 Baltimore City's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness – A Call to Action

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 08-0053, which was introduced for the purpose of calling upon the citizens of Baltimore City to join the Mayor in attaining the goals set forth in *The Journey Home: Baltimore City's 10 - Year Plan to End Homelessness*. The proposed resolution of the Mayor and City Council urges faith-based, student, fraternal, sororal, civic, youth, and other service organizations to identify the specific contributions they will provide to address the plight of the homeless and encouraging all private citizens to volunteer their time, talent, and tangible resources to the action plan to end homelessness in Baltimore City by 2018.

According to the report, at least 3,002 people sleep each night on the Baltimore City's streets, in shelters, in cars, or other such locations not meant to be home. Of these, four in five are African-American, two-thirds are men, and about half are between the ages of 36 and 50. The 2007 Homeless Census found that 1,000 Baltimoreans meet the federal definition of "chronically homeless," meaning they have been homeless for over one year or have had at least four episodes of homelessness in three years.

In order for Baltimore to succeed at eliminating the suffering of the homeless, all quarters of our community must participate. Nonprofits organizations, businesses, civic groups, religious institutions, and individual citizens must work in partnership with City government to fulfill the goals of the 10-year plan.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 08-0053.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson  
Mr. Demaune Millard

