



BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

The Budget and Appropriations Committee is responsible for ensuring taxpayer dollars are expended prudently and equitably. BA will exercise regular oversight of the funding and spending practices of City agencies, the City's budget, expenditures, loans, and other financial matters. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include all budgets & appropriations, taxation, financial services, consumer protection, audits, and the Comptroller's Office.

The Honorable Danielle McCray

CHAIR

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

9:00 AM

CLARENCE "DU" BURNS COUNCIL CHAMBERS

26-0168

*Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – M-R
Office of Homeless Services – \$500,000*

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**BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE****The Honorable Danielle McCray
CHAIR****Bill Hearing**

26-0168

Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – M-R Office of Homeless Services – \$500,000

Purpose of providing a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$500,000 to M-R Office of Homeless Services – Service 895 (Temporary Housing for the Homeless), to provide funding for case management services through the Y in Central Maryland and the University of Maryland, Baltimore/Uplift Alliance Inc.; and providing for a special effective date.

REPORTING AGENCIES

Mayor's Office of Homeless Services	Favorable
Department of Finance	Favorable
Law Department	Approved for form and legal sufficiency

BACKGROUND

This funding will support long-term housing stability for homeless youth and families by providing sustained case management and supportive services over a multi-year period for youth that are referred to two housing programs that are administered by the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (Restoration Gardens and Geraldine Young Family Life Center).

FISCAL NOTE

A supplemental appropriation of \$500,000 will increase spending authority for the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services in Service 895 (Temporary Housing for the Homeless) for Fiscal Year 2026. This adjustment is necessary to incorporate unanticipated grant funding received from the State of Maryland.

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 26-0168
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)

Introduced and read first time: April 6, 2026

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Mayor's Office of Homeless Services

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation –**
3 **M-R Office of Homeless Services – \$500,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the
5 amount of \$500,000 to M-R Office of Homeless Services – Service 895 (Temporary Housing
6 for the Homeless), to provide funding for case management services through the Y in Central
7 Maryland and the University of Maryland, Baltimore/Uplift Alliance Inc.; and providing for a
8 special effective date.

9 BY authority of

10 Article VI - Board of Estimates
11 Section 8(b)(2)(ii) and (c)
12 Baltimore City Charter
13 (1996 Edition)

14 **Recitals**

15 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the State of Maryland's
16 Department of Human Services in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in
17 determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

18 That grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty when the Ordinance of
19 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated.

20 On April 1, 2026, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
21 Council.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 26-0168

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$500,000 shall be made available to M-R Office of Homeless Services – Service 895 (Temporary
3 Housing for the Homeless) as a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation for Fiscal
4 Year 2026, to provide funding for case management services through the Y in Central Maryland
5 and the University of Maryland, Baltimore/Uplift Alliance Inc. The source of revenue for this
6 appropriation is the grant from State of Maryland’s Department of Human Services in excess of
7 the amount from this source that was relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax
8 levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

9 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is
10 enacted.

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL



BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

26-0168

*Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – M-R
Office of Homeless Services – \$500,000*

Agency Reports



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Ernestina Simmons, Executive Director, Mayor's office of Homeless Services
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	May 12, 2026
SUBJECT	Bill Report- BILL 26-0168

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

The Mayor's Office of Homeless Services is the collaborative applicant for the Continuum of Care. As a result, our agency receives direct funding from federal, state and local government agencies to assist the City of Baltimore in providing services that includes rental assistance and supportive services for clients that are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

The Mayor's Office of Homeless Services has increased our partnership with Baltimore City Department of Social Services by working to provide housing and supportive services for transitional aged youth (ages 18-21) as they age of foster care.

This funding is intended to support long-term housing stability for homeless youth and families by providing sustained case management and supportive services over a multi-year period for youth that are referred to two housing programs that are administered by the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (Restoration Gardens and Geraldine Young Family Life Center).

Through this investment, the City will be able to connect vulnerable populations, particularly transitional-aged youth, former foster youth, and families at risk of displacement, to resources such as housing support, employment assistance, and essential life skills, helping them achieve self-sufficiency. The multi-year structure of the funding allows for consistent service delivery and deeper impact, ensuring individuals and families not only secure housing but maintain it over time.

Restoration Gardens will provide permanent housing to 44 transitional aged youth. This funding will enable the program to provide critical services that includes supportive services.

Geraldine Young Family Life Center will serve 12 parenting youth with transitional housing and supportive services. Upon successful completion of the program, youth will be connected to permanent housing vouchers.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

This funding will strengthen the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services' ability to deliver sustained, wraparound support to some of the City's most vulnerable populations, particularly youth and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Operationally, it will require ongoing coordination with the Baltimore City Department of Social Services and contracted providers, including procurement, contract management, performance monitoring, and compliance oversight over the five-year term. Programmatically, the funding enhances the agency's case management infrastructure by expanding services that focus on housing stability, employment, and family preservation, allowing for more intensive and longer-term engagement with clients. It also supports alignment with existing initiatives aimed at making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring by reinforcing permanent housing outcomes rather than short-term interventions. Overall, the multi-year funding provides stability for program planning and execution while requiring consistent administrative oversight to ensure performance goals and service delivery standards are met.

FISCAL IMPACT

This funding will not impact the General Fund. The \$2.5 million grant, distributed over five years, is fully supported by external state funding and includes administrative costs within the awarded budget, which will be used to support existing staff managing grant-funded programs rather than requiring new hires. From a fiscal standpoint, the majority of funds will be allocated toward contracted case management and supportive services delivered through external providers, with procurement processes already aligned to support vendor selection and oversight. There are no anticipated equipment costs beyond standard operational needs, and existing infrastructure will be utilized to manage reporting, compliance, and performance tracking. Overall, the funding allows us to provide youth with more permanent housing opportunities as they exit foster care without creating additional financial burden on City resources by maximizing opportunities to partner with local government agencies.

AMENDMENTS

No Amendments



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Bob Cenname, Deputy Finance Director <i>Bob Cenname</i>
DATE	April 13 th , 2026
SUBJECT	26-0168 Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – M-R Office of Homeless Services – \$500,000

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 26-0168, Supplementary Mayor’s Office of Homeless Services Appropriation – \$500,000, to increase the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation of Mayor’s Office of Homeless Services (MOHS) funds by \$500,000 by accepting State funds. The purpose of these funds is to provide case management services to support key homelessness prevention initiatives including housing stability, employment and income support, access to healthcare and mental health services in the City of Baltimore.

Background

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the Maryland State Department of Human Services. In Fiscal 2026, MOHS did not have an appropriation for unallocated State grant funds. However, MOHS received this grant for \$500,000 in State funds. This bill will make \$500,000 available to MOHS-Service 895 (Temporary Housing for the Homeless) for rental assistance and/or supportive services through rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention for homeless individuals and families in the City of Baltimore.

The Baltimore City Charter authorizes agency spending based on the amount enacted in the Ordinance of Estimates. The Department of Finance recommends appropriation transfers and supplementary appropriations when an agency receives unanticipated revenue, such as grants, or implements new programs that could not have been anticipated at the time the budget was developed. This supplemental appropriation is required to meet the Charter requirements.

Fiscal Impact

MOHS requires supplemental appropriation due to a grant from the Maryland State Department of Human Services. This supplemental appropriation of \$500,000 is necessary to accommodate these unbudgeted grant funds from the Maryland State Department of Human Services.

Conclusion

This supplemental appropriation is required to authorize agency spending beyond the amount enacted in

the Ordinance of Estimates and is necessary to proceed to obtain these funds to continue to support to homelessness prevention needs in Baltimore City.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 26-0168.

cc: Michael Mocksten
Nina Themelis

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT,
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON,
CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

May 7, 2026

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 26-0168 – Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – M-R Office
of Homeless Services – \$500,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 26-0168 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$500,000 to M-R Office of Homeless Services – Service 895 (Temporary Housing for the Homeless), to provide funding for case management services through the Y in Central Maryland and the University of Maryland, Baltimore/Uplift Alliance Inc. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment. The funding relates to an agreement between the State Department of Human Services/Baltimore Department of Social Services and the Mayor’s Office of Homeless Services whereby funding is provided by the State to the Mayor’s Office of Homeless Services to provide case management services with the goal of reducing homelessness in young individuals and families.

Council Bill 26-0168 identifies the revenue appropriated as “a grant from the State of Maryland’s Department of Human Services in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.” The grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty at the time the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated, and the bill has been recommended by the Board of Estimates to the City Council. The Council bill cites as authority for the supplementary appropriation Section 8(b)(2)(ii) of Article VI of the City Charter. This section provides that grants from private or governmental sources that could not be expected with reasonable certainty at the time the Ordinance of Estimates was formulated may be made available to the appropriate municipal agency for expenditure.

A supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance. The ordinance must identify the source of the funds and may only involve a “single program, purpose, activity or project.” City Charter, Art. VI, § 8(c). Since the bill meets these requirements, the Law Department approves it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ebony M. Thompson".

Michele Toth
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson
Council President Cohen
Ethan Hasiuk
Shamoyia Gardiner
Nina Themelis
Ty'lor Schnella
Aaron Degraffenreidt
Hilary Ruley
Jeff Hochstetler
Ashlea Brown
Desiree Luckey
Ahleah Clark