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**BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE**

Mission Statement

The Budget and Appropriations Committee (BA) 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
Chairwoman**

**PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025
9:00 AM**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Bill Numbers: 25-0007 through 25-0012

Six (6) Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriations

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS (BA)

Danielle McCray - Chair
Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer – Vice Chair
Sharon Green Middleton
Paris Gray
Antonio Glover
Staff: Marguerite Currin (443-984-3485)

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Mark Conway - Chair
Zac Blanchard – Vice Chair
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Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
Paris Gray
Phylicia Porter
Antonio Glover
Staff: Anthony Leva (410-396-1091)

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James Torrence – Chair
Odette Ramos – Vice Chair
Zac Blanchard
Jermaine Jones
Danielle McCray
Antonio Glover
Staff: Richard Krummerich (410-396-1266)

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (PHE)

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James Torrence
John Bullock
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James Torrence – Vice Chair
Danielle McCray
Ryan Dorsey
Phylicia Porter
Staff: Deontre Hayes (410-396-1260)

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Sharon Green Middleton – Vice Chair
Mark Parker
Paris Gray
John Bullock
Phylicia Porter
Zac Blanchard
Staff: Anthony Leva (410-396-1091)

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Sharon Green Middleton
James Torrence
Zac Blanchard
Jermaine Jones
Odette Ramos
Staff: Deontre Hayes (410-396-1260)

LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS (LI)

Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer - Chair
Antonio Glover – Vice Chair
Ryan Dorsey
Sharon Green Middleton
Paris Gray
Staff: Richard Krummerich (410-396-1266)



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Budget and Appropriations

Bill Numbers 25-0007 through 25-0012

Six (6) Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation

See Attached List

Sponsor: *President Cohen at the request of the Department of Finance (Administration)*

Introduced: *January 13, 2025*

Purpose:

See attached First Reader Copies.

Effective: **On the date it is enacted** – All Bills Herewith

Agency Reports

See attached paperwork

Analysis

Current Law – For Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriations

§ 8. Deficiencies; Supplementary appropriations.

(b) *Supplementary appropriations* — when authorized.

(2) Additional appropriations are permitted during the fiscal year only in the following circumstances and under the following conditions:

(iii) *Material changes; new programs.*

Further appropriations for programs included in the proposed Ordinance of Estimates made necessary by a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates may be made available to the appropriate municipal agency for expenditure by a supplementary appropriation ordinance recommended to the City Council by the Board of Estimates, duly passed by the City Council by a vote of three-fourths of its members and approved by the Mayor.

(c) *Supplementary appropriations – Requisites of ordinance.*

Every such further or additional appropriation shall be embodied in a separate ordinance limited to a single program, purpose, activity or project therein stated, and each such supplementary appropriation ordinance shall also, anything contained in the Charter to the contrary notwithstanding, provide the revenue necessary to pay the appropriation by a source, other than the full rate property tax, imposed under the authority of Article II. The revenue shall be levied and collected as directed in the ordinance. The estimate of the revenues to be derived from any source proposed in a supplementary appropriation ordinance shall be made by the Board of Estimates.

Background

Per the Department of Finance, funds that were received from the opioid litigation are being deposited into a restricted special revenue fund; starting in fiscal year 2026 (July 1, 2025), the annual Ordinance of Estimates will include appropriations from this fund.

The Mayor's Executive Order establishing the *Opioid Restitution Fund* is guiding the use of this funding. **See attached information regarding the fund.**¹

Once approved by the City Council and enacted by the Mayor it will complete the process necessary to allow the funds to be allocated as requested.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: **Source of Fund:** Opioid Restitution Fund

Information Source(s): Baltimore City Charter, Council Bills 25-0007 through 25-0012 and all agency reports received as of this writing.

Analysis by: Marguerite M. Currin
Analysis Date: February 20, 2025

Direct Inquiries to: (443) 984-3485

¹ Information obtained from Baltimore City's Health Department website.

OPIOID RESTITUTION FUND

Source: Baltimore City Health Department Website

Opioid overdoses have been one of the most deadly public health epidemics in our nation's history, leading to more than 80,000 deaths annually in the United States. In the last two decades, Baltimore has been disproportionately impacted, with more than half a billion opioid pills permeating the Baltimore area between 2006 and 2019, driving an increase in overdose deaths. Public health experts have estimated that more than 80% of Baltimore's opioid use disorder cases between 2010 and 2021 began with prescription opioids, leading residents to turn to illicit drugs.

Baltimore City makes up 9% of Maryland's population but, now through the first seven months of 2024, represents 44% of Maryland's overdose deaths. Annually, Baltimore has an average of more than 2 overdose deaths per day.

In response, in 2018, Baltimore City initiated legal action against various pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors for their role in creating the opioid epidemic in Baltimore City by failing to take reasonable steps to prevent the diversion of their highly addictive prescription opioids. The City then opted out of the global settlement that would have provided the City with much less restitution money than it deserved, and decided instead to pursue its litigation against some of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world.

That decision has paid off. As of November 2024, the City has reached settlements and jury awards totaling more than \$668.5 million, which is more than six times the amount the City would have received under the global settlement. Of that amount, the City has received \$115 million to date (\$71.6 million after legal fees and repayment of litigation costs), with the balance expected by the end of 2025.

- Allergan: [\\$45 million](#)
- Cardinal Health: [\\$152.5 million](#)
- CVS: [\\$45 million](#)
- Walgreens: [\\$80 million](#)
- Teva: [\\$80 million](#)
- Johnson & Johnson: Settled, amount to be announced
- [Cencora \(formerly AmerisourceBergen\) and McKesson](#): \$266 million jury award, pending litigation

The City entered abatement proceedings in December 2024. All recoveries from these cases will go to the Baltimore City Opioid Restitution Fund.

Executive Order Issued By Mayor Scott

On August 29, 2024, Mayor Scott released an Executive Order establishing the City's approach to managing the restitution funds received, including provisions that:

1. Establish a separate Baltimore City Opioid Restitution Fund
2. Establish a trust fund that will sustain the impact of these funds for at least 15 years
3. Create positions in the Mayor's Office including an Executive Director of Overdose Response and an Opioid Restitution Program Manager
4. Establish a Restitution Advisory Board
5. Outline key documents that the City will publish for accountability and transparency

[Read the full Executive Order](#) or view the [Executive Order Overview](#). For comments about the Executive Order, email overdoseresponse@baltimorecity.gov.

Share Your Ideas

We want to hear from you! Help improve Baltimore's response to the opioid crisis by sharing your ideas:

- [Share your ideas about addressing the overdose crisis](#) by February 10, 2025.
- [Give feedback on the draft Community Engagement Plan](#) by March 15, 2025.
- [Share your thoughts about the draft Transparency and Accountability Plan](#) by March 15, 2025.

Restitution Advisory Board

The application period for the Restitution Advisory Board has closed, with over 180 applications received across all seats. Applications were reviewed anonymously by a selection committee and scored based on candidates' professional and personal experiences engaging with individuals with substance use disorders, understanding of the needs of people who use drugs, familiarity with Baltimore's existing programs, and commitment to equity.

Interviews have begun with the top-ranked candidates for each seat. Interviews are being conducted by a panel of internal and external stakeholders. Final selections will be announced in January 2025 and the Board's first meeting will be held in early 2025.

Community Engagement

Part of the Mayor's Executive Order charged the city government with developing a City Overdose Response Strategy to guide the efforts to address the opioid and overdose epidemic through programs, interventions, and funding.

On December 17, 2024, the City published a draft community engagement plan per the executive order. The Community Engagement Plan outlines a two-step approach to ensure the City's Overdose Response Strategy reflects the current needs and gaps in services.

- [Read the draft of the Community Engagement Plan.](#)
- [Submit your comments on the City's draft Community Engagement Plan](#) by March 15, 2025.

As part of this engagement, the City will host four Community Listening Sessions in early 2025 to hear directly from residents about the overdose crisis and their recommendations for addressing it. Details, including dates, times, and locations, will be shared in early 2025.

The City developed an online form to receive input from residents about their biggest concerns about the overdose epidemic. [Share your concerns and ideas to address the overdose epidemic by filling out our online form.](#)

Supplemental Appropriations 25-0007 through 25-0012

SUPPLEMENTARY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND OPERATING APPROPRIATIONS

1. **25-0007** - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming – **\$270,000**
- This appropriation one (1) of (2) two listed and if approved will be allocated to the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming’s budget for Fiscal 2025 **(to provide funding for additional positions to oversee grants awarded through this fund)**
 - Funding Source: **Opioid Restitution Fund – Service 916 Opioid Restitution Administration**

Law Department	Favorable
Finance Department	Favorable
Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming	Comments
Board of Estimates	Approved on December 18, 2024



2. **25-0008** - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming – **\$10,000,000**
- This appropriation two (2) of (2) two listed and if approved will be allocated to the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming’s budget for Fiscal 2025 **(to provide partial funding for non-profit organizations named in settlement agreements)**
 - Funding Source: **Opioid Restitution Fund – Service 917 Opioid Grants – Named Organizations**

Law Department	Favorable
Finance Department	Favorable
Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming	Comments
Board of Estimates	Approved on December 18, 2024



3. **25-0009** - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayoralty - **\$1,773,000**
- This appropriation, if approved will provide funding for the following: (Fiscal 2025 budget)
 - **Funding for additional positions to provide direction and guidance regarding the City’s opioid response**
 - **The establishment of the Restitution Advisory Board**
 - **Contractual support to establish a trust fund for litigation proceedings and community engagement**
 - Funding Source: **Opioid Restitution Fund – Mayoralty – Service 918 Opioid Restitution Administration**

Law Department	Favorable
Finance Department	Favorable
Office of the City Administrator	Comments
Board of Estimates	Approved on December 18, 2024



4. **25-0010** - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Department of Law – \$100,000

- This appropriation, if approved will be allocated to the Department of Law’s budget for Fiscal 2025 (to create two (2) **additional positions** to oversee contract agreements with grant organizations)
- Funding Source: **Opioid Restitution Fund – Service 862 - Transactions Contracts**

Law Department	Favorable
Finance Department	Favorable
Board of Estimates	Approved on December 18, 2024



5. **25-0011** - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Health Department – \$500,000

- This appropriation one (1) of (2) two listed and if approved will be allocated to the Health Department’s budget for Fiscal 2025 (to provide funding for planning costs for a replacement facility for the **Westside clinic**)
- Funding Source: **Opioid Restitution Fund – Service 715 Health - Administration**

Law Department	Favorable
Finance Department	Favorable
Health Department	Comments
Board of Estimates	Approved on December 18, 2024



6. **25-0012** - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Health Department – \$2,000,000

- This appropriation two (2) of (2) two listed and if approved will be allocated to the Health Department’s budget for Fiscal 2025 (to provide funding for staffing and support costs for opioid **response and recovery strategies**)
- Funding Source: **Opioid Restitution Fund – Service 307 Health – Substance Use Disorder**

Law Department	Favorable
Finance Department	Favorable
Health Department	Comments
Board of Estimates	Approved on December 18, 2024



AGENCY REPORTS

Bills 25-0007 through 25-0012

See attached

In the following order:

- Law Department Reports – 25-0007 thru 25-0012
- Finance Report(s) – One memo for 25-0007 thru 25-0012
- Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming Reports – 25-0007 and 25-0008
- Office of City Administrator Report – 25-0009
- Health Department Reports - 25-0011 and 25-0012

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

January 17, 2025

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

Re: City Council Bill 25-0007 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund
Operating Appropriation – Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming –
\$270,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 25-0007 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$270,000 to the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming – Service 916 (Opioid Restitution Administration) to provide funding for additional positions to oversee grants awarded through the Opioid Restitution Fund. The money for this supplementary appropriation is excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Section 8(b)(2)(iii) of Article VI of the City Charter permits a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the fiscal year. The 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).

As there are no legal impediments to this bill, the Law Department can approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Desiree Luckey
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson, City Solicitor

Stephen Salsbury, Deputy City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Assistant Solicitor

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

January 17, 2025

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

Re: City Council Bill 25-0008 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund
Operating Appropriation – Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming –
\$10,000,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 25-0008 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$10,000,000 to the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming – Service 917 (Opioid Grants - Named Organizations) to provide partial grant funding for non-profit organizations named in settlement agreements. The money for this supplementary appropriation is excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Section 8(b)(2)(iii) of Article VI of the City Charter permits a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the fiscal year. The 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).

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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON, CITY SOLICITOR
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

January 17, 2025

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

Re: Re: City Council Bill 25-0009 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund
Operating Appropriation – Mayoralty– \$1,773,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 25-0009 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$1,773,000 to the Mayoralty – Service 918 (Opioid Restitution Administration), to provide funding for additional positions to provide direction and guidance regarding the City’s opioid response, establishment of the Restitution Advisory Board, contractual support to establish a trust fund for litigation proceeds, and community engagement. The money for this supplementary appropriation is excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Section 8(b)(2)(iii) of Article VI of the City Charter permits a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the fiscal year. The 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).

As there are no legal impediments to this bill, the Law Department can approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

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Assistant Solicitor

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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

January 17, 2025

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

Re: City Council Bill 25-0010 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund
Operating Appropriation – Department of Law – \$100,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 25-0010 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 to the Department of Law – Service 862 (Transactions Contracts), to provide funding to create two additional positions to oversee contract agreements with grant organizations. The money for this supplementary appropriation is excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Section 8(b)(2)(iii) of Article VI of the City Charter permits a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the fiscal year. The 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).

As there are no legal impediments to this bill, the Law Department can approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

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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

January 17, 2025

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

Re: City Council Bill 25-0011 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund
Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Health Department – \$500,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 25-0011 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$500,000 to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 715 (Health - Administration) to provide funding for planning costs for a replacement facility for the Westside clinic. The money for this supplementary appropriation is excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Section 8(b)(2)(iii) of Article VI of the City Charter permits a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the fiscal year. The 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).

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EBONY M. THOMPSON, CITY SOLICITOR
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

January 17, 2025

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

Re: City Council Bill 25-0012 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund
Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Health Department – \$2,000,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 25-0012 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$2,000,000 to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 307 (Health - Substance Use Disorder) to provide funding for staffing and support costs for opioid response and recovery strategies. The money for this supplementary appropriation is excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Section 8(b)(2)(iii) of Article VI of the City Charter permits a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstances, or additional appropriations for new programs that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the fiscal year. The 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).

As there are no legal impediments to this bill, the Law Department can approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

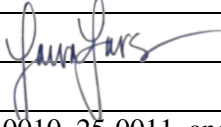
Desiree Luckey
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson, City Solicitor
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Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Assistant Solicitor



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director 
DATE	February 7 th , 2025
SUBJECT	25-0007, 25-0008, 25-0009, 25-0010, 25-0011, and 25-0012 Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 25-0007, 25-0008, 25-0009, 25-0010, 25-0011, 25-0012, Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation, the purpose of which is to appropriate money from the Opioid Restitution Fund.

Background

This package of bills seeks to appropriate \$14,643,000 from opioid restitution proceeds. These funds are the result of litigation with distributors, manufacturers, and pharmacies for their role in the opioid epidemic in Baltimore City. To date, the City has received \$668.5 million from this ongoing litigation. Abatement proceedings remain in process, the final determination will impact the final amount the City will receive.

In August 2024, Mayor Scott released an Executive Order outlining the playbook for how opioid restitution funds would be invested back in the community. These supplementals are seeking the appropriation needed for the upfront costs to establish the organizational structure and initial costs associated with meeting the recommendations of the Executive Order.

Future appropriations from this fund will be included as part of the annual Ordinance of Estimates and subject to review by the Board of Estimates and City Council.

See below for a summary of individual items funded through the proposed supplemental budget actions.

Health Department

Requested Supplemental Amount: \$2,500,000

This funding will be used to create the Bureau of Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction focused on opioid response along with planning and design costs for a new Westside Health Clinic. This funding is part of a \$20 million multi-year commitment outlined in the Executive Order.

Law Department

Requested Supplemental Amount: \$100,000

This funding will be used to create two additional Assistant Solicitor positions to assist with developing and overseeing grant agreements for non-profits receiving grants through the Opioid Restitution Fund.

Mayoralty

Requested Supplemental Amount: \$1,773,00

This funding will be used to create three positions within the Mayor's Office to coordinate the citywide response, stipends and support costs for the Restitution Advisory Board, community outreach costs, and start-up costs associated with establishing the trust fund for these dollars.

Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs

Requested Supplemental Amount: \$10,270,000

This funding will be used to fund three new positions within the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs and provide partial funding the Chief Recovery Officer and Deputy Director. These positions will be responsible for coordinating with non-profits organizations receiving funding through the Opioid Restitution Fund. This funding also includes upfront payments for the non-profit organizations specifically named in settlement documents. Future year budgets will include the remaining balance of these grant awards.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above state above, the Department of Finance supports City Council bills 25-0007, 25-0008, 25-0009, 25-0010, 25-0011, and 25-0012.

c.c: Michael Mocksten
Nina Themelis



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Shamiah T. Kerney, Chief Recovery Officer, MORP
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	February 6, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0007 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

The bill provides Opioid Restitution Settlement funds for the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The \$270,000 in supplemental funds for FY25 will enable the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs to address critical staff needs to effectively and efficiently implement and monitor the financial and programmatic aspects of funding recipients. Specifically, these funds will be used for partial salary for the Chief Recovery Officer and Deputy Director, an accountant, an administrative assistant and program manager who will assist with establishing the framework for a grant program.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Mayor's Office of Recovery Program is solely funded by the American Rescue Plan Act—a federal grant used to establish this office. Federal grant rules prohibit the use of federal grant dollars for purposes other than to administer the federal grant funded activity. As such, the Recovery Office staff that work on activities outside of ARPA cannot be compensated using this grant. The opioid restitution funds are a necessary funding source to compensate staff that will be working on opioid related issues and to ensure compliance with federal grants management rules.

AMENDMENTS

No amendments requested.



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Shamiah T. Kerney, Chief Recovery Officer, MORP
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	February 6, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0008 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

The bill provides Opioid Restitution Settlement funds for the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

This funding will be used to fund three new positions within the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs and provide partial funding the Chief Recovery Officer and Deputy Director. These positions will be responsible for coordinating with non-profits organizations receiving funding through the Opioid Restitution Fund. This funding also includes upfront payments for the non-profit organizations specifically named in settlement documents. Future year budgets will include the remaining balance of these grant awards.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Mayor's Office of Recovery Program is solely funded by the American Rescue Plan Act—a federal grant used to establish this office. Federal grant rules prohibit the use of federal grant dollars for purposes other than to administer the federal grant funded activity. As such, the Recovery Office staff that work on activities outside of ARPA cannot be compensated using this grant. The opioid restitution funds are a necessary funding source to compensate staff that will be working on opioid related issues and to ensure compliance with federal grants management rules.

AMENDMENTS

No amendments requested.



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	J.D. Merrill, Interim Deputy Mayor of Equity, Health, and Human Services
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	1/23/2025
SUBJECT	25-0009 - Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – 3 Mayoralty – \$1,773,000

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

This bill creates an appropriation for the Mayor's office to begin administering Opioid Restitution Funds and establishing the oversight structure including stipends and costs associated with the Restitution Advisory Board.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

This bill is necessary for the city to immediately execute the Mayor's Executive Order on opioid restitution funds and to comply with the terms of the multiple settlement agreements that named organizations to receive funding from litigation against opioid manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies.

FISCAL IMPACT

This bill is creating an appropriation to allow the expenditure of opioid restitution funds to set up the governance structure necessary for subsequent distributions of restitution funds. All fiscal impacts will be fully funded and supported by the opioid restitution fund for at least the next fifteen years.

AMENDMENTS

No proposed amendments.



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Mary Beth Haller, Interim Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City Health Department
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	January 24, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0011 – Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Health Department – \$500,000

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

This ordinance seeks to provide a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$500,000 to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 715 (Health - Administration), to provide funding for planning costs for a replacement facility for the Westside clinic.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The Druid Health Clinic, located at 1515 W. North Avenue, has been in continuous operation since 1960 serving clients from across Baltimore City and providing critical healthcare, particularly to those who are uninsured or underinsured. Unfortunately, building and infrastructure age combined with such sustained use have resulted in structural failures and facility systems that are now classified as “beyond their useful life,” requiring more than normal maintenance service for continued operation. Additionally, the building is not up to code in several regards, including the presence of asbestos tile and several office spaces not meeting code in terms of door size and accessibility.

In addition, health needs and programming have grown beyond what was originally provided in the space. To truly serve our residents, the size of the physical plant must increase and an improved design must be created to reflect the current standards of wellness care. This can best be done through relocation and construction or renovation of a different site.

FISCAL IMPACT

This appropriation will be used for planning costs for a new facility.

AMENDMENTS

None.



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Mary Beth Haller, Interim Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City Health Department
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	January 24, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0011 – Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Health Department – \$2,000,000

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

This ordinance seeks to provide a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation of \$2M to the Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) – Service 307 (Health - Substance Use Disorder) for staffing and support costs for opioid response and recovery strategies.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

In August 2024, Mayor Scott signed an executive order (EO) establishing a framework for the use and management of the City's opioid restitution funds. Among other things, the EO established a separate Baltimore City Opioid Restitution Fund and a trust that will sustain the impact of the funds for at least 15 years. To date, Baltimore City has reached awards totaling more than \$668.5M (through both settlements and jury awards). Mayor Scott announced at the time of his EO that he was allocating \$20M to BCHD to increase its capacity to respond to overdose. BCHD has developed a five-year plan for use of those funds, which will focus on core public health functions: epidemiology and data, planning and policy, communications and community mobilization, and assurance of essential services. This supplementary appropriation of \$2M will go toward immediate needs for bolstering BCHD's overdose prevention and response prevention, including staffing, program costs, and the creation of a new Division of Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction (currently, BCHD's overdose prevention and response programming are housed within the agency's Division of Population Health and Disease Prevention).

FISCAL IMPACT

Please see above.

AMENDMENTS

None.

1st Reader Copies

Bills 25-0007 through 25-0012

See attached

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0007
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President

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

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

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

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –**
3 **Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – \$270,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation
5 in the amount of \$270,000 to the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – Service 916
6 (Opioid Restitution Administration), to provide funding for additional positions to oversee
7 grants awarded through the Opioid Restitution Fund; and providing for a special effective
8 date.

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

14 **Recitals**

15 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents \$270,000 from the Opioid Restitution
16 Fund in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy
17 required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

18 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of
19 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated.

20 This appropriation is made necessary by a material change in circumstances since the
21 Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated or is for a new program that could
22 not have been reasonably anticipated when that Ordinance of Estimates was formulated.

23 On December 18, 2024, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
24 Council.

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

Council Bill 25-0007

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$270,000 shall be made available to the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming – Service 916
3 (Opioid Restitution Administration) as a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating
4 Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2025, to provide funding for additional positions to oversee grants
5 awarded through the Opioid Restitution Fund. The source of revenue for this appropriation is
6 \$270,000 from the Opioid Restitution Fund in excess of the amount from this source that was
7 relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for
8 Fiscal Year 2025.

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

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0008
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

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

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –**
3 **Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – \$10,000,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation
5 in the amount of \$10,000,000 to the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – Service 917
6 (Opioid Grants - Named Organizations), to provide partial grant funding for non-profit
7 organizations named in settlement agreements; and providing for a special effective date.

8 BY authority of
9 Article VI - Board of Estimates
10 Section 8(b)(2)(iii) and (c)
11 Baltimore City Charter
12 (1996 Edition)

13 **Recitals**

14 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents \$10,000,000 from the Opioid
15 Restitution Fund in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the
16 tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

17 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of
18 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated.

19 This appropriation is made necessary by a material change in circumstances since the
20 Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated or is for a new program that could
21 not have been reasonably anticipated when that Ordinance of Estimates was formulated.

22 On December 18, 2024, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
23 Council.

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

Council Bill 25-0008

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$10,000,000 shall be made available to the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programming – Service
3 917 (Opioid Grants - Named Organizations) as a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund
4 Operating Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2025, to provide partial grant funding for non-profit
5 organizations named in settlement agreements. The source of revenue for this appropriation is
6 \$10,000,000 from the Opioid Restitution Fund in excess of the amount from this source that was
7 relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for
8 Fiscal Year 2025.

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

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0009
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Office of the City Administrator,
Department of Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –**
3 **Mayoralty – \$1,773,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation
5 in the amount of \$1,773,000 to the Mayoralty – Service 918 (Opioid Restitution
6 Administration), to provide funding for additional positions to provide direction and
7 guidance regarding the City’s opioid response, establishment of the Restitution Advisory
8 Board, contractual support to establish a trust fund for litigation proceeds, and community
9 engagement; and providing for a special effective date.

10 BY authority of
11 Article VI - Board of Estimates
12 Section 8(b)(2)(iii) and (c)
13 Baltimore City Charter
14 (1996 Edition)

Recitals

16 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents \$1,773,000 from the Opioid
17 Restitution Fund in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the
18 tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

19 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of
20 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated.

21 This appropriation is made necessary by a material change in circumstances since the
22 Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated or is for a new program that could
23 not have been reasonably anticipated when that Ordinance of Estimates was formulated.

24 On December 18, 2024, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
25 Council.

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

Council Bill 25-0009

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$1,773,000 shall be made available to the Mayoralty – Service 918 (Opioid Restitution
3 Administration) as a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation for Fiscal
4 Year 2025, to provide funding for additional positions to provide direction and guidance
5 regarding the City’s opioid response, establishment of the Restitution Advisory Board,
6 contractual support to establish a trust fund for litigation proceeds, and community engagement.
7 The source of revenue for this appropriation is \$1,773,000 from the Opioid Restitution Fund in
8 excess of the amount from this source that was relied on by the Board of Estimates in
9 determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

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

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0010
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Cosponsored by: Councilmember Schleifer
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –**
3 **Department of Law – \$100,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation
5 in the amount of \$100,000 to the Department of Law – Service 862 (Transactions Contracts),
6 to provide funding to create 2 additional positions to oversee contract agreements with grant
7 organizations; and providing for a special effective date.

8 BY authority of
9 Article VI - Board of Estimates
10 Section 8(b)(2)(iii) and (c)
11 Baltimore City Charter
12 (1996 Edition)

13 **Recitals**

14 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents \$100,000 from the Opioid Restitution
15 Fund in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy
16 required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

17 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of
18 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated.

19 This appropriation is made necessary by a material change in circumstances since the
20 Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated or is for a new program that could
21 not have been reasonably anticipated when that Ordinance of Estimates was formulated.

22 On December 18, 2024, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
23 Council.

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

Council Bill 25-0011

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$100,000 shall be made available to the Department of Law – Service 862 (Transactions
3 Contracts) as a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation for Fiscal Year
4 2025, to provide funding to create 2 additional positions to oversee contract agreements with
5 grant organizations. The source of revenue for this appropriation is \$100,000 from the Opioid
6 Restitution Fund in excess of the amount from this source that was relied on by the Board of
7 Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

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

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0011
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President

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

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Health Department, Department of Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –**
3 **Baltimore City Health Department – \$500,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation
5 in the amount of \$500,000 to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 715
6 (Health - Administration), to provide funding for planning costs for a replacement facility for
7 the Westside clinic; and providing for a special effective date.

8 BY authority of
9 Article VI - Board of Estimates
10 Section 8(b)(2)(iii) and (c)
11 Baltimore City Charter
12 (1996 Edition)

13 **Recitals**

14 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents \$500,000 from the Opioid Restitution
15 Fund in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy
16 required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

17 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of
18 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated.

19 This appropriation is made necessary by a material change in circumstances since the
20 Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated or is for a new program that could
21 not have been reasonably anticipated when that Ordinance of Estimates was formulated.

22 On December 18, 2024, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
23 Council.

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

Council Bill 25-0011

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$500,000 shall be made available to the the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 715
3 (Health - Administration) as a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation
4 for Fiscal Year 2025, to provide funding for planning costs for a replacement facility for the
5 Westside clinic; and providing for a special effective date. The source of revenue for this
6 appropriation is \$500,000 from the Opioid Restitution Fund in excess of the amount from this
7 source that was relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to
8 balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

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

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0012
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Health Department

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –**
3 **Baltimore City Health Department – \$2,000,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation
5 in the amount of \$2,000,000 to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 307
6 (Health - Substance Use Disorder), to provide funding for staffing and support costs for
7 opioid response and recovery strategies; and providing for a special effective date.

8 BY authority of
9 Article VI - Board of Estimates
10 Section 8(b)(2)(iii) and (c)
11 Baltimore City Charter
12 (1996 Edition)

13 **Recitals**

14 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents \$2,000,000 from the Opioid
15 Restitution Fund in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the
16 tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

17 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of
18 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated.

19 This appropriation is made necessary by a material change in circumstances since the
20 Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2025 was formulated or is for a new program that could
21 not have been reasonably anticipated when that Ordinance of Estimates was formulated.

22 On December 18, 2024, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
23 Council.

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

Council Bill 25-0012

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$2,000,000 shall be made available to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 307
3 (Health - Substance Use Disorder) as a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating
4 Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2025, to provide funding for staffing and support costs for opioid
5 response and recovery strategies. The source of revenue for this appropriation is \$2,000,000
6 from the Opioid Restitution Fund in excess of the amount from this source that was relied on by
7 the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year
8 2025.

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