

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 20-0237R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Schleifer, Bullock, Clarke, Sneed, McCray, Henry, Pinkett,  
President Scott, Councilmembers Cohen, Stokes

Introduced and read first time: July 6, 2020

Assigned to: Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Department of Housing and Community Development,  
Department of Public Works, Environmental Control Board, Mayor's Office

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Let's Lead By Example**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community  
4 Development and relevant code enforcement staff, the head of the Bureau of Solid Waste in  
5 the Department of Public Works, the Executive Director of the Environmental Control  
6 Board, and representatives from BMORE Beautiful to discuss code enforcement, how we can  
7 lead by example by properly maintaining City properties, and the potential opportunities for  
8 community engagement and partnership.

9 **Recitals**

10 Baltimore has a major trash problem. Far too often, we are reliant on reactive modes of fixing  
11 this problem, and as this Council has heard many times, reliance on the 311 system is misplaced  
12 because agencies do not effectively communicate with one another and complaints are closed  
13 with no resolution and no communication to the constituent who made the complaint.

14 To the Council's knowledge, there is no comprehensive code enforcement plan. The current  
15 system of reactive engagement and problem-solving must end, and it can begin with properly and  
16 proactively maintaining properties that the City owns. It is profoundly embarrassing to hear from  
17 a constituent about a garbage problem or a code enforcement issue on a property and, after  
18 research is conducted, the property turns out to be City-owned. How are we to encourage our  
19 constituents to stop littering and maintain their homes, when the City is failing at the same duty?  
20 The City spends millions of dollars on code enforcement, yet the trash situation does not provide  
21 us the cost-benefit that we demand from other agencies.

22 Thus, the Council would like to hear from the various departmental stakeholders on these  
23 basic code enforcement efforts and the development of a comprehensive code enforcement plan.  
24 The citizens of Baltimore deserve a culture of proactive competence. We can start by leading by  
25 example, having a plan, and cleaning up our own properties.

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
27 Council invites the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development  
28 and relevant code enforcement staff, the head of the Bureau of Solid Waste in the Department of  
29 Public Works, the Executive Director of the Environmental Control Board, and representatives

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

## Council Bill 20-0237R

1 from BMORE Beautiful to discuss code enforcement, how we can lead by example by properly  
2 maintaining City properties, and the potential opportunities for community engagement and  
3 partnership.

4 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
5 Commissioner of Department of Housing and Community Development, the head of the Bureau  
6 of Solid Waste in the Department of Public Works, the Executive Director of the Environmental  
7 Control Board, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.