



HEARING NOTES

Resolution: 22-0137R

Informational Hearing – Hiring Initiatives – Spanish Speaking

Committee: Education, Workforce, and Youth

Chaired by: Robert Stokes, Jr.

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023

Time (Beginning): 10:00 AM

Time (Ending): 12:05 PM

Location: Council Chambers

Total Attendance: Approximately 70 in-person  
Approximately 15 virtually

Committee Members in Attendance:

- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Robert Stokes, Sr. | James Torrence         |
| John Bullock       | Sharon Green Middleton |
| Phylicia Porter    | Zeke Cohen             |

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 type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Stephanie Murdock, Department of Housing and Community Development
- Quinton Herbert, Department of Human Resources
- Marcia Collins, Department of Public Works
- Liam Davis, Department of Transportation
- Dana Moore, Office of Equity and Civil Rights

- MacKenzie Garvin, Agency Representative
- Jenny Morgan, Department of Recreation and Parks
- Berke Attila, Department of General Services
- Emily Nielson, Baltimore City Public Schools
- Lisa Allen, Baltimore City Call Center
- Catalina Lima, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs
- Public Speakers (Public Testimony)
  - Rocio Masset
  - Yolanda Martinez
  - Sandy Ramos
  - Macrina Galvez
  - Yessica Marroquin
  - Lucia Islas
  - Angelo Solera
  - Joy Scalabrin
  - Julia Sarmiento
  - Mark Parker, Pastor
  - Garry Aime
  - Pat Shannon Jones
  - Susan Barrios
  - Cecilia Gonzalez
  - Ricardo
  - Gina Baez

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### **Major Issues Discussed**

1. Councilmember Ramos, primary sponsor of the Resolution gave opening remarks. She stated, "The Latino/Spanish Community has grown and wants to make sure everyone has a voice."
2. The chairman went over the agency reports with the agency representatives.
3. The representative from the Office of Equity and Civil Rights informed the attendees that her Office did not submit an agency report because she wanted to hear what everyone have to say first. A report will be submitted after the hearing.
4. The committee/councilmembers asked questions, stated concerns, and asked for clarification for some issues. Some highlights from same were:
  - Comments/Remarks/Concerns
    - The Latino community has also grown in the 5<sup>th</sup> Council District
    - The Latino community is in deed growing and supports the Resolution
    - The Health Department was recognized for its hiring initiatives within the Latino community
    - A suggestion/recommendation that city employees/staff be trained to interact with Latino community and other language speakers
    - Our city have more than just with Spanish language speakers! In order for our city to grow we must be prepared to address all language speakers living here
    - Comments regarding the importance of preparing students for independent living after finishing high school

- Other Maryland counties have programs in schools for financial literacy, we should too!
- Financial literacy is a part of being expected in the community
- In the near future will ask to hold a hearing on financial literacy in school curriculum and at that time will want to know what the BCPS is doing to address same
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
  - Requested by Committee member Porter:
    - To Baltimore City Public Schools – Provide a description and transition data on the ESOL Program for students
  - Requested by Committee member Porter:
    - To the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA) – Provide formal data of the programs between MIMA and the Department of Housing
- Questions
  - Do we have immigrant attorneys in the Office of Equity? Answer: No
  - Small Non-Profits as Service Providers
    - How can we use more of the smaller non-profits for needed services?
  - Integrating High Schools
    - How can we do more to integrate the schools?
    - Importance of having the right infrastructure to support students
    - Where are you (BCPS) with these efforts?
    - Requested by a committee member:
      - To Baltimore City Public Schools – Provide a breakdown of all the ESOL teachers in the city’s school systems
  - Homeland Security Funding
    - Talk more about the funding available
  - Translator/Interpreter Services
    - Comments
      - Translator services are being provided today and will be needed in the future as well
      - Comments regarding the importance of having this service available in the future for public meetings
      - Per the representative from MIMA, “translator services can be costly; is asking agencies to assess the need for these services beforehand and to pay for same out of their own budget
  - Requested by Chairman Stokes:
    - To Mayor’s Office – Provide a list for all Latino liaisons in each agency

5. Approximately Sixteen (16) persons gave public testimony. All written testimony received was placed in the bill file.
6. Councilmember Ramos gave closing remarks.
7. Hearing called to recess.

**Further Study**

**Was further study requested**

**Yes**    **No**

**If yes, describe. See "red and yellow highlights" in Major Discussion section above.**

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*Marguerite M. Currin*

**Marguerite Murray Currin, Committee Staff**

**Date: February 6, 2023**

**cc: Bill File  
OCS Electronic File**



## Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: <b>Resolution</b> – Informational Hearing – Hiring Initiatives – Spanish Speakers	Resolution #22-0137R
Committee: Education, Workforce, and Youth	Chair: Robert Stokes, Sr.
Date: <b>Thursday, February 2, 2023</b>	Time: 10:00 AM
Location: <b>Council Chambers</b>	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY

Testify



First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
			For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓
X Rocio	Masset	Bridging Maryland Uniendo a Maryland	✓			
<del>Marina</del>	<del>Gravez</del>	290 E Broadway	✓			
<del>Esteban</del>	<del>Cano</del>	290 E Broadway	NO testify	✓		
Maria	Marroquin	5200 Easter Ave Mason:	✓			
X Julia	Sarmiento	3500 Boston St Balt	✓	✓		
<del>Angelo</del>	<del>Solera</del>	4318 PARKSIDE DR BALTIM MD 21206 NUESTRAS RAICES	✓	✓		
<del>Sandy</del>	<del>Ramos</del>	3412 Lombard St. Balt MD 21224	✓	✓		

\*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



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What is your position on this bill?	Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
For	Against	Yes
No	Yes	No

First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ Lucia	Islas	South East CDC	✓	✓			
✓ Yolanda M.	Martinez		✓	✓			
Joy	Scalabrin	200 N. Wolfe St. jke490@jhmi.edu	✓	✓			
X Pat	Shannon Jones	5401 Loch Raven 21239	✓				
✓ Susan	Barrios		✓	✓			

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Testimony for 2/2

1. Lucia Islas
2. Angelo Solera
3. Kristen Topel
4. Julia Sarmiento
5. ~~Rocio Masses~~
6. ~~Melissa Ramos~~
7. ~~Nicole Torres~~
8. ~~Wendy Briones~~
9. ~~Yolanda Martinez~~
10. Yessica Marroquin
11. Walda Yon
12. Mark Parker
13. Garry Aime
14. Pat Shannon Jones
15. Carlos Orbe Jr.

~~On-line~~  
 Cecilia Gonzalez  
 Ricardo

Public Speakers  
 on Feb. 2, 2023

- 1 Rocio Masses
- 2 Yolanda Martinez
- 3 Sandy Ramos
- 4 Macrina Galvez
- 5 Yessica Marroquin
- 6 Lucia Islas
- 7 Angelo Solera
- 8 Joy Scalabrin
- 9 Julius Sarmiento
- 10 Mark Parker, Pastor

- 11 Garry Aime
- 12 Pat Shannon Jones
- 13 Susan Barrios
- 14 Cecilia Gonzalez
- 15 Ricardo
- 16 Gina Buez
- ~~17~~

# City of Baltimore

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Education Workforce and Youth

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Thursday, February 2, 2023

10:00 AM Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, City Hall, 4th Floor, Phone:  
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2337 285 8455, Password:  
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=mf638a929faccaae50554176b4418f080)  
MTID=mf638a929faccaae50554176b4418f080

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22-0137R

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### INTRODUCTIONS

#### ATTENDANCE

**Present** 6 - Robert Stokes Sr., John T. Bullock, Zeke Cohen, Sharon Green Middleton, Phylcia Porter, and James Torrence  
**Absent** 1 - Antonio Glover

#### ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

22-0137R

##### **Informational Hearing - Hiring Initiatives - Spanish Speakers**

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of Transportation, the Department of General Services, the Office of Equity and Civil Rights, and the Baltimore City Public School System to discuss the hiring of Spanish speakers for employment in City government.

**Sponsors:** Odette Ramos, Zeke Cohen, Ryan Dorsey, Mark Conway, Kristerfer Burnett

Hearing called to recess; to reconvene at a later date.

#### ADJOURNMENT