

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 16-0301R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Costello, President Young, Councilmembers Kraft, Stokes,
Clarke, Henry, Branch, Scott, Curran, Spector, Middleton, Mosby, Holton, Welch, Reisinger
Introduced and read first time: April 18, 2016

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Department of Public Works, Department of Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Investigative Hearing – Expediting Stormwater Management Projects and Activities**

3 FOR the purpose of calling on the Departments of Public Works and Finance to take steps to
4 expedite stormwater management projects funded by the Stormwater Enterprise Fund and
5 otherwise, and to send representatives to report to the City Council on how these funds can be
6 most effectively, quickly, and efficiently used to promote improved water quality and
7 healthier neighborhoods.

8 **Recitals**

9 **WHEREAS**, the Stormwater Management Fee has been collected since July of 2013 to help
10 support new mandates to accelerate additional, direct environmental restoration required by the
11 State of Maryland and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

12 **WHEREAS**, this restoration effort will dramatically improve water quality, reduce the burden
13 on the wastewater infrastructure, and meaningfully contribute to efforts to make our
14 neighborhoods cleaner and healthier.

15 **WHEREAS**, accelerated stormwater project implementation and maintenance will also spur
16 economic activity for area contractors.

17 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Work's (DPW) Annual Report for reporting period July
18 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 indicates that the majority of projects are slated for construction in 2018
19 and 2019.

20 **WHEREAS**, the Council believes that the Stormwater Enterprise Fund is more valuable to our
21 environment and our economy when it is used to move projects forward quickly rather than
22 collecting money unused for long periods of time.

23 **WHEREAS**, to make the stormwater management process more productive DPW should:

- 24
- escalate the current stormwater-related project development timetable;

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

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- 1 • expand capacity for permitting review and establish deadlines for permit review and
2 processing for stormwater projects that will be utilized by the City in meeting
3 regulatory compliance;
- 4 • establish the following policies on the review and decision-making process for
5 Stormwater Management & Erosion and Sediment Control permits for voluntary
6 (non-regulatory) restoration projects:
 - 7 o 30-day maximum for projects under 5,000 square feet / 100 cubic yards
8 treatment
 - 9 o 45-day maximum for all other projects
 - 10 o Communicate any 'roadblocks' to advancing these initiatives (i.e., hiring
11 procedures, recruitment, etc.)
- 12 • ensure that revenue collected via Stormwater Enterprise Fund utility fees are
13 identified and tracked online in a simple format that is updated quarterly throughout
14 planning, design, and construction in a way that the general public can review and
15 comprehend.

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that the
17 Council calls on the Departments of Public Works and Finance to take steps to expedite
18 stormwater management projects funded by the Stormwater Enterprise Fund and otherwise, and
19 to send representatives to report to the Council on how these funds can be most effectively,
20 quickly, and efficiently used to promote improved water quality and healthier neighborhoods.

21 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
22 Director of Public Works, the Director of Finance, the Director of the Bureau of Budget and
23 Management Research, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.