


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Chichi Nyagah-Nash, Director CNN	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of General Services 200 N. Holliday Street, Room 800		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 19-1067R		

DATE: October 25, 2019

TO The Honorable President and Members of the City Council
c/o Nina Themelis, Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the
City Council

RE: City Council Bill 19-1067R
POSITION: No objection

Creating Another Early Voting Polling Place in West Baltimore

INTRODUCTION

The Department of General Services reviewed City Council Bill 19-1067R – which endorses the creation of an additional early voting polling place in West Baltimore.

BACKGROUND

Historically, jurisdictions such as Baltimore City have utilized school buildings, libraries, and other public facilities to host election-day voting. Early voting has been somewhat limited in these traditional locations, as active schools cannot forgo eight full days of student education.

The Department of General Services (DGS) is responsible for the management of a variety of facilities, including two current early voting locations: Patapsco Elementary School (844 Roundview Rd.), and The Police/Fire Training Facility (3500 Northern Parkway). In addition, DGS manages several recently surplus school buildings from the Baltimore City Public School System. As these buildings are no longer used strictly for educational purposes, the buildings could function as early voting locations.

Potential locations in West Baltimore include:

- Samuel F.B. Morse Elementary (424 S. Pulaski St.)
- Langston Hughes Elementary (5011 Arbutus Ave.)
- Gilmor Elementary (1311 N. Gilmor St.)

A fourth location, the Rognel Heights Recreation Center (4300 Sidehill Rd; attached to Rognel Heights Elementary) may also be available; DGS would note that Rognel Heights Elementary is still in operation during periods designated for early voting.

FISCAL IMPACT

Costs to the agency would be *de minimus*. DGS may receive general maintenance or janitorial service requests based on building conditions as voting operations take place. Any tenants of the building would need to account for the potential adjustment in operations based on the early voting schedule.

DEPARTMENT POSITION

The department has **NO OBJECTION to CCB19-0167R**. If adopted, DGS would only ask that sufficient lead time be provided to notify tenants and engage the Board of Elections to ensure the facility is readily available for early voting.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Director Chichi Nyagah-Nash at chichi.nyagah-nash@baltimorecity.gov or (410) 396-3704.

- cc: Ms. Hillary Chester, Department of General Services
 Mr. Benjamin Brosch, Department of General Services
 Mr. Matthew Stegman, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
 Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services