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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
EBONY THOMPSON  
ACTING CITY SOLICITOR  
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March 2, 2023

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 23-0152R – Informational Hearing – Executive  
Leadership – Vacancies

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 23-0152R for form and legal sufficiency. The bill is for the purpose of inviting the Mayor's Chief of Staff, the City Administrator, representatives from the Departments of Public Works, Transportation, and Recreation and Parks, representatives from the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals, representatives from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, and any other interested parties to discuss various matters concerning the current vacancies in executive leadership positions across all City agencies.

The City Council has an inherent power to investigate "in furtherance of its legislative function." 4 McQuillin Mun. Corp. § 13:7. The City Council may "exercise within the limits of Baltimore City all the power commonly known as the Police Power to the same extent as the State has or could exercise that power within the limits of Baltimore City," and may "pass any ordinance, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter or the laws of the State, which it may deem proper in the exercise of any of the powers, either express or implied, enumerated in this Charter, as well as any ordinance as it may deem proper in maintaining the peace, good government, health and welfare of Baltimore City." City Charter, Art. II, §§ (27), (47).

A resolution is an appropriate way for the City Council of Baltimore to conduct an informational hearing. *See, e.g., Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium*, 313 Md. 413, 428 (1988). Therefore, the Law Department approves this Resolution for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Ebony Thompson", is written below the word "Sincerely,".

Jeffrey Hochstetler  
Chief Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson, Acting City Solicitor  
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor  
D'Ereka Bolden, Assistant Solicitor  
Michelle Toth, Special Solicitor  
Teresa Cummings, Assistant Solicitor