

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 26-0052R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: President Cohen and Councilmember Bullock  
Cosponsored by: Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Torrence, Gray, Porter, Blanchard,  
Jones, Ramos, and Middleton  
Introduced and adopted: April 27, 2026

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**Baltimore Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights**

FOR the purpose of affirming the Baltimore Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights as a guiding framework for City policy, aligning existing City plans related to tree canopy, climate resilience, parks, and public health with equitable access to nature, supporting district-level planning efforts, and requesting development of recommendations for ordinances that increase equitable access to nature.

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore’s children are the foundation of our City’s future, and every child deserves the right to learn, play, heal, and thrive in healthy outdoor environments.

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore’s children benefit physically, mentally, socially, and academically from safe access to healthy outdoor environments, and access to nature must be treated as a right, not a privilege.

**WHEREAS**, generations of environmental injustice, disinvestment, and systemic harm have denied too many Baltimore children access to fresh air, safe soil, clean water, and welcoming outdoor spaces.

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore continues to face tree canopy loss due to tree mortality, invasive vines, lack of maintenance, and unequal access to stewardship resources, and the protection and expansion of green space, including active maintenance of existing trees, forests, and parkland, is essential to the health and resilience of Baltimore’s neighborhoods.

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore’s Sustainability Plan, Green Network Plan, climate resilience initiatives, and 40% tree canopy goal all call for expanding, protecting, and actively maintaining green infrastructure across the City.

**WHEREAS**, Nature Everywhere Week each spring provides an opportunity for education, stewardship, public engagement, and reporting on progress toward canopy and nature-access goals.

**WHEREAS**, the City Council affirms the Baltimore Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights (COBOR) and recognizes that every child should have access to fresh air, clean water, and safe natural spaces.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

**Council Bill 26-0052R**

1       **WHEREAS**, the City Council recognizes the COBOR Summit, held annually on the Friday of  
2 Nature Everywhere Week, as an annual reporting and accountability moment on progress toward  
3 canopy protection, green space maintenance, and equitable access to nature in Baltimore City,  
4 and further recognizes Nature Everywhere Week, culminating on the first Saturday of May each  
5 year, as Baltimore City’s moment to steward, celebrate, and exercise every child’s right to the  
6 outdoors.

7       **WHEREAS**, the City Council encourages coordination across City agencies to expand  
8 equitable access to nature and to facilitate connection to the City’s unique ecosystem by children  
9 and citizens of all ages.

10       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the City  
11 Council affirms the Baltimore Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights as a guiding framework for City  
12 policy, and seeks to align existing City plans related to tree canopy, climate resilience, parks, and  
13 public health with equitable access to nature, to support district-level planning efforts, and to  
14 request development of recommendations for ordinances that increase equitable access to nature.

15       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
16 City Administrator, the Health Commissioner, the Director of the Department of Recreation and  
17 Parks, the Director of the Office of Sustainability, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the  
18 City Council.