

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

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HEARING NOTES

Bill: 21-0159

Procurement – Zero-Emission Vehicles

Committee: Ways and Means
Chaired by: Councilman Eric T. Costello
Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022
Time (Beginning): 10:05 AM
Time (Ending): 12:15 PM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 55

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Eric T. Costello
Danielle McCray
Robert Stokes, Sr.
Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
Kristerfer Burnett
Ryan Dorsey
Sharon Green Middleton

Table with 3 columns: Question, yes, no, n/a. Rows include Bill Synopsis in the file?, Attendance sheet in the file?, Agency reports read?, Video or audio-digitally recorded?, Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?, Evidence of notification to property owners?, Final vote taken at this hearing?.

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- KC Kelleher, Comptroller's Office
• Liam Davis, Department of Transportation
• Marcia Collins, Department of General Services
• Victor Tervalá, Law Department
• Michelle Wirzberger, Police Department
• Ava Richardson, Office of Sustainability
• Daniel Ramos, Office of the City Administrator
• Mara James, Department of Finance

- Kesha Brown, Department of Finance
 - Chichi Nyagah-Nash, Department of General Services (DGS)
 - Christopher Lyons, Department of General Services (DGS)
 - Dave Arndt, Public Testimony
 - Michelle Dietz, Public Testimony
 - Stephen Leas, Public Testimony on behalf of Olivia Yates
 - Steph Compton, Public Testimony
 - Julieta Rodrigo, Public Testimony
 - Dick Williams, Public Testimony
 - Taylor Smith-Hams, Public Testimony/Bluewater Baltimore
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Major Issues Discussed

1. Councilman Conway, primary sponsor of the bill gave opening remarks. Some highlights from his conversation were:
 - Talked about the purpose of the bill and stated that City government has just over 4,000 vehicles in its Fleet
 - Talked about the impact of climate change and about an IPP report that was recently released regarding climate change
 - Climate change also impacts air quality
2. Chairman Costello went over the agency reports with agency representatives.
 - The representative from the Police Department expressed concern about having adequate charging stations
 - The representative from the Office of Sustainability stated that they already had one (1) electric vehicle
 - The representative from the Office of the City Administrator stated that they supported the bill but with proposed amendments
 - The representative from the Department of Finance opposed the legislation and expressed concerns over:
 - The timeline for implementation
 - Increased cost estimate(s) – included in their agency report
 - Increase cost to hire additional personnel and training expenses
 - The Director of DGS expressed three (3) major concerns:
 - Need to address funding level; the cost to shift to these type vehicles
 - Commitment to infrastructure (such as charging stations)
 - The proposed amendments listed in DGS' agency report
 - Role of Finance Department vs. that of DGS
 - Nature of reporting
 - Availability of zero-emission vehicles in the market
 - Availability of batteries that can run 24 hours in a given day when needed
3. Chairman Costello and committee/councilmembers went over the proposed amendments with DGS' Director. Some concerns and/or comments were:
 - Concern: Having two (2) agencies responsible for reporting
 - Concern: proposed amendment to strike "City Purchasing Agent" from the bill. A suggestion was made by the representative from the Law Department to leave City Purchasing Agent in the legislation and reword some of the language.

4. Committee/councilmembers made comments, expressed some concerns and asked questions. Some were:

o Comments:

- There are several new approaches for transportation/vehicles. Such as:
 - Scooters, bikes and etc.
 - More conversations on this topic are needed between the agencies
- We need to think forward for a plan for what we are looking for with this legislation. Eventually, it is going to happen!
- The Office of the City Administrator should be working with agencies to address these type of concerns
- Primary sponsor talked about some goals pertaining to replacing vehicles with the Master Lease Program
- General Statement:
 - When an agency report is received opposing legislation it becomes a concern; we must move forward and need to think creatively by working together.

o Questions and/or Concerns:

▪ Fleet Contract(s)

- Who is responsible for the maintenance of the vehicles under these contracts?
- When does the contract(s) expire?
- Why do I have to take my assigned vehicle to a dealer instead of using city services for same?
- What do we pay on a monthly basis for leasing? **Answer: It depends on the make and model of the vehicle(s)**
- What baseline should we use to replace vehicles? **Answer: Provide whatever information and/or data that are readily available and if we (committee members) need additional information we will let you know**

o Battery Replacement(s)

▪ Battery Life

- The life of battery is usually between 8 to 10 years; how did you come up with your analysis for these replacements?
- Some remarks were made, and clarification sought regarding battery replacements
- If a given vehicle is under warranty would the replacement of the battery fall under same?

o Charging Stations

- Relationships with other companies, how does it tie into buying charging stations?
- Engaging private partners, what is your view on same?

5. Seven (7) speakers testified. Some highlights from their testimonies were:

- All speakers supported the legislation
- Comments regarding hydrogen vehicles
- Several speakers owned electric vehicles and are satisfied with performance
- Talked about the importance of reducing climate change, global warming and greenhouse gases
- Warranties pertaining to batteries
- Works with and/or is engaged in local policies surrounding the Chesapeake Bay

6. Per Chairman Costello, "I would like to know specifically what the Department of Finance will support in this legislation. I am asking agency representatives to please, in the future, reach out and let us (committee members) know when your office need more time to report and analyze legislation." Per the representative from the Department of Finance, "It is noted and is a reasonable request."
 7. Per Chairman Costello, "No vote will be taken today, **the proposed amendments are to be updated and drafted**. We will have a work/voting session in the future." Hearing recessed.
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Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe.

1. **See # 7** in the Major Issues Discussed Section above.
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Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

cc: Bill File

OCS Electronic File

Date: January 19, 2022



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: Council Bill – Procurement – Zero-Emission Vehicles	Bill #: 21-0159
Committee: Ways and Means	Chair: Eric T. Costello
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022	Time: 10:00 AM
Location: WebEx Meeting	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY



First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	<u>Testify</u>	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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		See hearing Notes					

*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

City of Baltimore

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Ways and Means

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

10:00 AM
Webex Hearing: Phone: +1-408-418-9388, Access Code:
2349 665 1713, Password: Public, Link:
[https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?
MTID=e8acdc8e1314f8bbfbf7f0918bea041ff](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?MTID=e8acdc8e1314f8bbfbf7f0918bea041ff)

21-0159

Rule 10-4 - Rescheduled from January 11th
CHARM TV 25

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 7 - Eric T. Costello, Kristerfer Burnett, Ryan Dorsey, Danielle N. McCray, Sharon Green Middleton, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Robert Stokes Sr.

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

21-0159

Procurement - Zero-Emission Vehicles

For the purpose of converting the City fleet of vehicles, subject to certain exceptions, to zero-emission vehicles; defining certain terms; authorizing rules and regulations; and generally related to the City's procurement of vehicles.

Sponsors: Mark Conway, Ryan Dorsey, John T. Bullock, Zeke Cohen, Kristerfer Burnett, James Torrence, Sharon Green Middleton, Odette Ramos, Phylcia Porter, Antonio Glover

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

ADJOURNMENT