



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

**From:** Alice Kennedy, Commissioner, Department of Housing and Community Development

**Date:** October 6, 2022

**Re: CITY COUNCIL BILL 21-0081R – CODEMAP and Decision Making**

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### Background

This resolution calls on DHCD to present to the Economic and Community Development Committee on how the agency uses CoDeMap to make data driven decisions across its divisions.

### DHCD Findings

#### DHCD Data Tools

First, it must be stated that CoDeMap is not the only tool that DHCD uses for strategic planning and performance management. Below is an inexhaustive list of (publicly) available tools to steer agency operations and vision.

- Key DHCD Tools – landing page for all publicly available data tools.
- DHCD Impact Investment Project [Tracker](#)
- Investment [Map](#)
- Key Stats [Dashboard](#)
- Neighborhood Data [Profiles](#)
- VBN Change [Dashboard](#)
- Housing Market [Typology](#)
- Census Data

#### About CoDeMap

Before CoDeMap there was CitiMap, hosted and maintained by BCIT. Around 2015 DHCD needed updates on a more regular basis, which prompted the birth of CoDeMap Classic.



CoDeMap was originally a code enforcement tool, now kept in name but expanded in functionality CoDeMap is short for community development. CoDeMap incorporates databases and dataset information from more than a dozen databases to host 39 unique parcel layers and more than 163 data and strategic planning layers. We receive requests from the public as well as other agencies to include data from other entities. For example, we recently uploaded the MTA shapefile detailing 7 proposed new East-West transit routes to analyze overlaps and opportunities for collaboration in our Impact Investment Areas. Data on CoDeMap is live and updated daily.

### CoDeMap Outreach

The Research and Analytics team has conducted more than 2 dozen trainings for the public, other agencies, the City Council, Mayor Scott, senior officials in the Mayor's Office, and community partners. Cumulative attendance totals more than 1,000 unique participants. Our Director of Research also includes his contact information and provides technical support on a weekly basis to anyone that requests it.

## Data Driven Decision Making with CoDeMap

Below is an inexhaustive list of how DHCD uses CoDeMap to make data driven decisions, track outcomes, and execute strategic planning initiatives.

### Senior Leadership Team

Block level planning in the Impact Investment Areas: This is a process by which the senior team, Neighborhood Development Officers, Department of Planning,, and community development partners like Johnston Square Neighborhood Association, identify the appropriate intervention for vacant properties in the Impact Investment Areas. Through hundreds of hours of meetings, we have identified the appropriate intervention for approximately 5,145 properties across 7 geographies. Because of the way the data is captured in the block level planning meetings, we completed property level cost modeling based on the type of intervention identified, which informed the agency's ARPA application request.

### Neighborhood Development Officers in the Development Division

Informs the Impact Investment Area workgroups, respond to requests for purchase, and develop EOIs & RFPs. The NDOs also use CoDeMap to advise small developers based on the interventions identified in our block level planning.



### Code Enforcement Division

CoDeMap is used both in the office and field to track properties with multiple citations properties, assess neighborhood conditions, complete streamlined code enforcement routes, and follow up on properties with frequent complaints.

### Permits & Litigation Division

CoDeMap is used to compile property history for filings on receivership, demolition requests and nuisance abatements. This streamlines the division's work because CoDeMap is a repository for all property level information available from DHCD activities, as well as other data sources like the State Department of Assessment and Taxation. Another use example is receiverships. CoDeMap's layers are used to guide receivership filings. If a receivership case is filed on one property on a block, vacants on the rest of the block will be evaluated for a receivership action.

### Housing and Homeownership Division

The HHP team uses CoDeMap during the LIGHT intake assessment of clients to determine eligibility for its home repair programs.

### Research and Consolidated Planning

The CDBG team uses CoDeMap to evaluate a potential CDBG grant activity's eligibility per HUD guidance. Most capital projects or operational spending must be in areas categorized as low or moderate income.

## Fiscal Impact Analysis

This resolution has no fiscal impact.

## Position

DHCD reports **favorably** on this resolution.