



Catherine Pugh  
Mayor

# BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Kevin Davis  
Police Commissioner

November 17, 2017

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
Room 400, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

*Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary*

**Re: City Council Bill No. 17-0046R  
Request for State Action – Police Redistricting**

Dear Council President Young and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 17-0046R. This resolution is for the purpose of calling on the Baltimore City Delegation to the 2018 Maryland General Assembly to secure enactment of legislation requiring the BPD to review and adjust police district boundaries after the information from each decennial census becomes available to ensure that Baltimore's security concerns are allocated as efficiently as possible.

The BPD supports this bill.

The BPD's police district boundaries have not been redrawn or changed in over twenty years. The old way of determining the geographic boundaries for police districts was to utilize crime report data. Other factors including crime report data, such as 911 call volume information, police response times, and census data including population and housing data, should be used for this analysis.

Collecting and analyzing United States census data after every decennial census to reallocate resources and redraw police district boundaries as necessary is important because communities are not static, and the Census measures many changes that must be accommodated.

While any General Assembly legislation on this matter would cause BPD to perform a task it currently does not do at a significant cost every ten years, the BPD believes this, more sophisticated way of calculating and redrawing police district boundaries will benefit the City of Baltimore and is the smarter way to police in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The BPD looks forward to working the City Council on this matter.

Sincerely,



James A. Gillis  
Chief of Staff