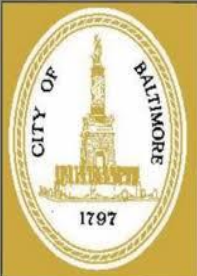


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Dr. Jason W. Mitchell, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution 22-0091R		

October 17, 2022

TO:

Health, Environment, and Technology Committee

I am herein reporting on City Council Resolution 22-0091R introduced by Council Members McCray, Ramos, Middleton, Bullock, and Torrence.

The purpose of the Resolution is to invite the Baltimore Police Department Commissioner, the Baltimore City Fire Department Chief, the Baltimore City Sheriff, the Baltimore City School Police Chief, the Office of Emergency Management Director, the Baltimore City Environmental Police Chief, and the Department of Human Resources Director to appear before the City Council to discuss how post-traumatic stress symptoms, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), compassion fatigues, and burnout affects first responders, and to inform the City Council on intervention programs that are currently in place to provide City employees with relief from trauma and burnout.

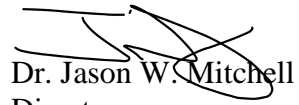
The Code of Public Local Laws of Baltimore City (§§ 25-6, 25-34, 25-43) and related regulations created what is known today as the Baltimore Environmental Police. This policing body is within the Department of Public Works and was created to protect the regional water system by exercising jurisdiction in the real property owned by the City in the larger territory containing the headwaters of the City’s reservoirs, and in the water service areas maintained by the City and related watersheds. The regional system extends into Baltimore, Carroll, Howard, and Harford counties. Environmental Police are subject to the supervision and direction of the Chief of Police for Baltimore County, or any other police chief or sheriff affected by the statute, which is handled under a memorandum of understanding.

The Environmental Police are state certified, full service police officers who have the legal authority on property within the watersheds under the care, custody, or control of the Mayor and City Council to enforce environmental laws relating to: water pollution; protecting critical water infrastructure from vandalism, theft, and terrorism; patrolling water facilities; preserving the public peace; and enforcing State criminal, natural resource, motor vehicle, and watershed regulations, laws or local ordinances. Unlike Baltimore City Police Officers, the Department of

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Public Works Environmental Police are not a separate bargaining unit and therefore do not have a negotiated MOU to cover issues related to post-traumatic stress symptoms or PTSD. They hold MAPS positions and, as noted in the Department of Human Resources report, would be eligible for stress management counseling under the Employee Assistance Program, as well as any outside referrals provided by them to these employees.

The Department of Public Works appreciates the concerns expressed in City Council Resolution 22-0091R and is supportive of finding ways to expand stress-related services to our Environmental Police as well as other employees who, as part of their jobs, experience stressful conditions or incidents that may require more intensive assistance to cope and recover.


Dr. Jason W. Mitchell
Director

JWM/MMC