


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Steve Sharkey, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (DOT) 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution 19-0179R		

TO: Mayor Bernard C. "Jack" Young
TO: Transportation Committee
FROM: Department of Transportation
POSITION: Support
RE: Council Resolution – 19-0179R

DATE: 2/21/20

INTRODUCTION – Informational Hearing - BGE Planned Power Outages

PURPOSE/PLANS – For the purpose of inviting representatives from BGE, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Baltimore Police Department, the Mayor’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Public Safety, the Department of Public Works, the Baltimore City Fire Department, and the Mayor’s Office of Emergency Management to discuss protocols and best practices for planned power outages.

COMMENTS – Council Bill 19-0179R calls on representatives from Baltimore Gas & Electric (BGE) and numerous city agencies, including the Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT), to attend and take part in a public hearing focused on planned power outages.

Planned power outages are generally implemented to help safely maintain critical electrical infrastructure. Baltimore City is unique in that a considerable amount of electrical wiring is located within the city’s municipally owned conduit system. The municipal conduit system falls under the jurisdiction of Baltimore City DOT under the Conduit Division. In terms of lessees, BGE currently comprises roughly 70% of the total amount of cabling and facilities located within the municipal conduit system.

Baltimore City DOT understands the need for BGE to adequately maintain their infrastructure, however we’re also supportive of any effort to ensure Baltimore City residents, businesses and institutions are appropriately notified prior to any planned power outage taking place. Furthermore, Baltimore City DOT is uniquely impacted by any power outages due to the agency’s responsibility of overseeing roughly 78,000 street lights and roughly 1,300 signalized intersections – all of which depend on electricity to function properly.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION – The Department of Transportation’s **supports** Council Resolution 19-0179R.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liam Davis via email at Liam.Davis@baltimorecity.gov or by phone (410) 545-3207.

Sincerely,


Steve Sharkey
Director