
CITY OF BALTIMORE

Brandon M. Scott – Mayor
Zeke Cohen – Council President



Office of Council Services

Nancy Mead - Director
100 Holliday Street, Room 415
Baltimore, MD 21202

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Honorable Mark Conway
CHAIR

HEARING NOTES

LO25-0006

Legislative Oversight – Baltimore City Fire Department & Emergency Medical Services Operations & Oversight

Hearing Date: 11/18/2025

Hearing Start Time: 1:00 PM

Hearing End Time: 1:45 PM

Location: Du Burns Council Chamber / Webex

Total Estimated Attendance: 30

Committee Members in Attendance:

- **Chair** Mark Conway

Additional Councilmembers in Attendance

- Odette Ramos
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MAJOR SPEAKERS

(This is NOT an attendance record.)

- BCFD Chief James Wallace
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NOTES

- Chair Conway introduced the hearing and offered some opening remarks
- Chair Conway turned the hearing over to Chief Wallace to present – see slideshow
 - Operations
 - Apparatus
 - Desire to modernize fleet
 - Struggle with delivery times
 - Arpa Projects
 - Gender neutral bathroom projects ongoing
 - Several equipment upgrades
 - SCBA modernization – 2018 NFPA current; future upgrade planned for 2024 standard
 - Partnerships

- Red Cross – smoke alarm program
 - Conduct sweep in neighborhoods every Saturday
 - Quarterly larger events
 - Red cross-bge
 - Inspections
 - 57,374 inspections in 2024
 - 3513 vacant
 - 59,540 in 2025
 - 3181 vacant
 - Over 20,101 in Q1 of FY26
 - Target enforcement zones
 - Concentrated zones within the city
 - Anticipated higher likelihood of fire and EMS need
- The hearing was recessed due to audio-technical issues

Hearing Packet in bill file? -----	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Attendance Sheet in bill file?-----	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Agency reports read? -----	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Hearing televised or audio-digitally recorded? -----	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the bill file? -----	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Evidence of notification to property owners in bill file? -----	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Notes by: Ethan Navarre
 Notes Date: 11/18/2025

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