
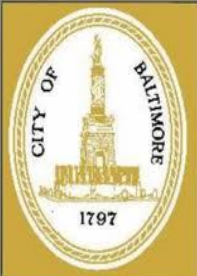


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Richard J. Luna, Interim Director 	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution 23-0182R		

September 22, 2023

TO:

Public Safety and Government Operations Committee

I am herein reporting on City Council Resolution 23-0182R introduced by Council Members Ramos, Bullock, Middleton, Burnett, Porter, and Cohen.

The purpose of the Resolution is to invite representatives of the Office of the City Administrator, the Mayor’s Office of Government Relations, the Office of Equity and Civil Rights, the Director of the Department of Public Works, and any other relevant agencies to report on the topics outlined in this Resolution and provide additional information as needed by the Committee.

The work of the 2023 Maryland General Assembly included the enactment of House Bill 843 and Senate Bill 880. The bills established a Baltimore Regional Water Governance Task Force to review specified findings, assess alternative governance structures for the Baltimore region’s water and wastewater utility, analyze the fiscal implications and efficiencies of each alternative governance structure, and make a recommendation regarding the governance model best suited for water and wastewater systems in the Baltimore region, as well as the legislation and funding necessary to establish the recommended model. The Task Force must consult with the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Maryland Environmental Service when developing the recommendations. The Task Force is to report its findings and recommendations to the Mayor of the City of Baltimore, the Baltimore County Executive, the Governor, and the General Assembly on or before January 30, 2024.

Since the enactment of the bills, all members of the Task Force have been seated. Baltimore City and Baltimore County are providing staff to assist the Task Force, and jointly selected a consultant to provide additional technical support to the Task Force members. All Task Force meetings are subject to the Open Meetings Act. The Task Force website¹ will include meeting notices and all related information on its webpage for public access. A timeline posted on the webpage shows four in-person public meetings to be held from September through November; two virtual meetings to be held in November and January; a draft report issued in December for a public comment period; and the final report issued by January 30, 2024, as required by State law.

¹ <https://mayor.baltimorecity.gov/bc/boards/baltimore-regional-water-governance-task-force>

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
September 22, 2023
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As Interim Director of the Department of Public Works, I will attend the hearing on City Council Resolution 23-0182R to participate in the discussion of this issue and to assist with any questions posed by the Council Committee.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Luna', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard J. Luna
Interim Director

RJL/MMC