



SHEILA DIXON
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



FREDERICK H. BEALEFELD, III
Police Commissioner

April 14, 2009

TO: The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400 City Hall
Attn. Karen Randle

FROM: James H. Green, ^{JHG} Deputy Legal Counsel
Baltimore Police Department

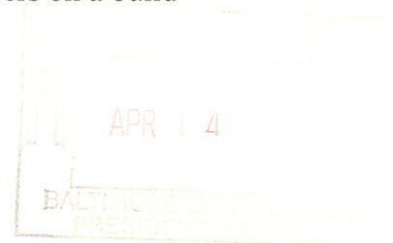
RE: City Council Bill No. 09-0106R-Outer Harbor Initiative-A Community
Redevelopment Strategy

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed City Council Bill No. 09-0106R-Outer Harbor Initiative-A Community Redevelopment Strategy which requests that the Baltimore City Council through the Community Development Subcommittee review and approve the Outer Harbor Initiative.

The resolution suggests that, “targeted neighborhoods could improve public safety, through collaboration among the City of Baltimore, Habitat for Humanity, the Baltimore City Police Department, and community organizations to enhance code enforcement, reduce abandonment and the resulting public safety problems, and clean up blighted streets”. As the Council is aware, many of these collaborations are in place and are several are in the process of being expanded.

The BPD works closely with Baltimore Housing and other City agencies to address neighborhood concerns around code enforcement and vacant housing. The requests for action generally are made by the District Commanders in response to the district’s enforcement issues, community concerns, Citizen on Patrol (COP) walks, and thorough Operation Protect. Recently, the BPD has also entered into partnership with the Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity seeking to assist in community stabilization through increased public safety input and information sharing. In February 2009, the BPD provided homeowner training to Habitat so that their families could gain a greater understanding of the police resources in their new communities. This partnership also envisions officer training and having police commanders work with Habitat volunteers on a build site.

Comment



The BPD stands willing to assist in the City's collective efforts in this area and will continue our efforts to improve the quality of life in all parts of the City. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this resolution.

cc: Frederick H. Bealefeld III, Police Commissioner, BPD
Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison