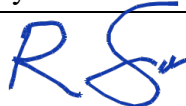




CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Ren Southard, Acting Director, Department of Planning 
DATE	June 3, 2026
SUBJECT	City Council Bill #26-0202

Position: Favorable

Summary of position: The Department of Planning supports a favorable position on CCB #26-0202 - Charter Amendment – Department of Water and Wastewater which proposes separating the Department of Public Works Bureaus of Solid Waste and Water and Wastewater into independent agencies. The separation of the Bureaus of Solid Waste and Water and Wastewater into independent agencies allows the City the opportunity to modernize operations, improve financial performance, and better serve both City residents and regional stakeholders.

In the current capital budgeting process, the Department of Public Works submits capital improvement requests for the Bureau of Water and Wastewater and the Bureau of Solid Waste. In FY2027, the Department of Public Works recommended budget is \$486,163,781, which includes \$12,749,466 for the Bureau of Solid Waste and \$473,414,315 for the Bureau of Water and Wastewater. If the Department of Public Works and the Bureau of Water and Wastewater become independent agencies, the Department of Planning expects minimal changes to the capital budgeting process since both bureaus have independent budget lines within the capital budget. With this separation, the capital budget would include nine participating agencies, rather than eight. The independent bureaus would submit capital requests on behalf of their agency.

When considering this transition, the Department of Planning defers to the Department of Public Works as the lead agency for implementation. The Department of Planning stands ready to coordinate with the Department of Public Works on the development review process to minimize customer service interruptions.

Fiscal Impact: There is no expected fiscal impact on the capital budget.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sara Paraniyam, Director, Capital Budgeting at sara.paraniyam@baltimorecity.gov.