


*Andrew W. Klein*

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Andrew W. Klein, Chief	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b> <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 469, City Hall (396-4941)		
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution # 13-0131R		

**TO**

The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
C/O Karen Randle  
Room 409, City Hall

DATE: February 12, 2014

Attention: Karen Randle

Resolution 13-0131R requests a response to the needs assessment, feasibility, and building program study for a new or renovated facility for the Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter (BARCS).

**Background**

The Animal Services Program, under BCHD, enforces all codes, rules, and regulations to improve the health and safety of residents and the animal population. This service includes support for BARCS, which provides animal shelter services including housing and care for shelter animals, lost and found, pet licenses, low-cost vaccinations, microchip clinics, and volunteer, adoption, foster, and rescue opportunities. BARCS is a nonprofit shelter, serving 12,000 animals yearly. The current BARCS facility is 22,000 square feet and was built in 1984. BARCS states that their current facility has an outdated HVAC system, lacks natural light, has no noise control provisions, and is generally an unpleasant, industrial warehouse structure.

**Fiscal Impact**

Renovating or building a new facility for BARCS may result in higher operating costs for BARCS, as well as potential debt service costs. DGS has compiled a list of city properties to be vacated that meet the physical criteria requested by BARCS, but no comprehensive operational study has been done regarding the suitability of these sites nor the cost to renovate them.

**Recommendation**

BBMR does not object to a new or renovated BARCS facility, but no funding has been identified for this purpose at this time. BBMR recommends that BARCS works with BCHD to participate in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to address their need for a new or renovated facility.

Cc: Harry Black  
Angela Gibson

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