Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)

Prepared by: Department of Legislative Reference

Date: April 30, 2019

Referred to: BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

Committee

Also referred for recommendation and report to municipal agencies listed on reverse.

CITY COUNCIL 19 - 0387

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning

Annual Property Tax - Fiscal Year 2020

FOR the purpose of providing a tax for the use of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; providing for estimated billings pursuant to State law; and setting the semiannual payment service charge for that period.

^{**}The introduction of an Ordinance or Resolution by Councilmembers at the request of any person, firm or organization is a courtesy extended by the Councilmembers and not an indication of their position.

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:TodlO	Other:
Other:	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Other:
Tanno Tanno	
Other:	Other:
Wage Commission	Employees, Retirement System
Planning Commission	Commission on Sustainability
Parking Authority Board	Comm. for Historical and Architectural Preservation
Labor Commissioner	Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals
Fire & Police Employees' Retirement System	Board of Ethics
Environmental Control Board	Board of Estimates
snoissimo	no Spards and Con
Other:	Other:
Other:	Other:
Police Department	Other:
Office of the Mayor	Department of Planning
VgolondəəT noisemroini io əsific s'royaM	Department of Human Resources
Mayor's Office of Human Services	Department of Housing and Community Development
Mayor's Office of Employment Development	Department of General Services
Health Department	Department of Finance
Fire Department	Department of Audits
noiserrogenerT lo snamtraged	Compéroller's Office
Department of Recreation and Parks	City Solicitor
Department of Real Estate	Baltimore Development Corporation
Department of Public Works	Baltimore City Public School System

CITY OF BALTIMORE ORDINANCE 19 · 256 Council Bill 19-0387

Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)

Introduced and read first time: May 6, 2019

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee Committee Report: Favorable

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: June 11, 2019

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

1	Annual Property Tax - Fiscal Year 2020
2 3 4	FOR the purpose of providing a tax for the use of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; providing for estimated billings pursuant to State law; and setting the semiannual payment service charge for that period.
5	SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That for
6	the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, a tax is levied and imposed for the use of the
7	Mayor and City Council of Baltimore on all property in the City of Baltimore (except property
8	exempt by law), as follows:
9	(a) except as otherwise specified in item (b) of this section, a tax of \$2.248 is levied and
10	imposed on every \$100 of assessed or assessable value of real property; and
11	(b) a tax of \$5.62 is levied and imposed on every \$100 of assessed or assessable value of:
	(b) it take of \$0.02 is leviced take intposed on every \$100 of assessed of assessable value of.
12	(1) personal property; and
13	(2) operating real property described in State Tax-Property Article § 8-109(c).
10	
14	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this tax shall be paid and collected in the
15	manner prescribed by law including the provisions of Section 10-210 of the Tax-Property Article
16	of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland.
17	SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That for the period July 1, 2010, through June
18	30, 2020, the semiannual payment service charges to be imposed under State Tax-Property
19	Article section 10-204.3 is 0.69%.

Explanation: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment. Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

1

Council Bill 19-0387

enacted.	ED, That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is
Certified as duly passed this day of	JUN 1 1 2019
	President, Baltimore City Council
Certified as duly delivered to his Honor, the Month of this day of, 20_	layor,
	Chief Clerk
Approved this 11th day of June	

Approved For Form and Legal Sufficiency
This 2th Day of See 2017
Chief Solicitor

1 2

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE VOTING RECORD

BILL #: <u>19-0387</u>		DATE: _	6-11-1	19		
TITLE: Annual Property Tax – Fiscal Year 2020						
MOTION BY: Middleton SECONDED BY: Sneed						
FAVORABLE FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS						
☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION						
NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN		
Costello, E., Chair	7					
Pinkett, Vice Chair	7					
Henry, B	7					
Middleton, S.	7					
Schleifer, I.	9					
Sneed, S.	7					
*						
*						
*						
*						
TOTALS	6	_	_			

CHAIRPERSON: Eric T. Costello, Z. T. Costello,

COMMITTEE STAFF: Marguerite M. Currin Initials: M. M. C



300 E. Cromwell Street Baltimore, Maryland 21230 tel: 410/332-6000 800/829-8000

WE HEREBY CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement of Order No 6224756

Sold To:

Baltimore City Council - CU00201379 100 Holliday St Rom 409 Baltimore,MD 21202-3427

Bill To:

Baltimore City Council - CU00201379 100 Holliday St Rom 409 Baltimore,MD 21202-3427

Was published in "The Baltimore Sun", "Daily", a newspaper printed and published in Baltimore City on the following dates:

May 18, 2019

	The Baltimore Sun Media Group By S. Wilkinson	21 ₀ 1
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20	day of Legal Admirising	
By	V	
I Michila Elmine		
Notary Public My commission expires 0519		



THE BALTIMORE SUN MEDIA GROUP





BALTIMORE CITY NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of Baltimore City proposes to increase real property taxes.

including van and scooter lifts and

CALL 410.825.1440

or toll free 800.825.1440

OFF

_286

also rent

- 1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2019, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by .3% from \$38,022,355,962 to \$38,120,858,217.
- 2. If Baltimore City maintains the current tax rate of \$2,248 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by .3% resulting in \$2,214,331 of new real property tax revenues.
- 3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$2,2422, the constant yield tax rate.
- 4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$2.248 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is .3% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$2,214,331 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 5:00 P.M at City Hall - Council Chambers, 4th floor, 100 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (443) 984-3485 for further information.



JOURNALISM MATTERS

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of Baltimore City proposes to increase real property taxes.

- 1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2019, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by .3% from \$38,022,355,962 to \$38,120,858,217.
- 2. If Baltimore City maintains the current tax rate of \$2.248 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by .3% resulting in \$2,214,331 of new real property tax revenues.
- 3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$2.2422, the constant yield tax rate.
- 4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$2.248 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is .3% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$2,214,331 in additional property tax revenues.

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City of Baltimore

City Council City Hall, Room 408 100 North Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Meeting Minutes - Final

Budget and Appropriations Committee

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

5:00 PM

Du Burns Council Chamber, 4th floor, City Hall

19-0387 - Taxpayers' Night CHARM TV 25

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 6 - Member Eric T. Costello, Member Leon F. Pinkett III, Member Bill Henry, Member Sharon Green Middleton, Member Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Member Shannon

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

<u>19-0387</u>

Annual Property Tax - Fiscal Year 2020

For the purpose of providing a tax for the use of the Mayor and City Council of

Baltimore for

the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; providing for estimated billings pursuant to State law; and setting the semiannual payment service charge for that

period

Sponsors: City Council President (Administration)

TAXPAYERS' NIGHT

Hearing was called to recess.

ADJOURNMENT



BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

LARRY E. GREENE, Director 415 City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 410-396-7215 / Fax: 410-545-7596 email: larry.greene@baltimorecity.gov

HEARING NOTES

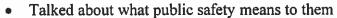
Bill: 19-0387

	Annual Property Tax – Fiscal Year 2020		
Committee: Budge			
Chaired By: Coun	cilmember Eric T. Costello		
Hearing Date:	Wednesday, May 29, 2019		
Time (Beginning):	5:10 PM		
Time (Ending):	6:55 PM		
Location:	Council Chambers		
Total Attendance:	Approximately 110		
Committee Member	s in Attendance:		
Eric Costello	Sharon Middleton		
Leon Pinkett	Shannon Sneed		
Bill Henry			
Isaac Schleifer			
	<u></u>		
	ile? 🔀 YES	□NO	□ N/A
	the file?YES	□NO	☐ N/A
	?	□ NO	N/A
-	audio-digitally recorded?YES	∐ NO	∐ N/A
	ertising/posting notices in the file? YES	□ NO	⊠ N/A
	tion to property owners? YES	NO	N/A
rmai vote taken at t	his hearing? YES	⋈ NO	□ N/A
			
	Major Speakers		
	(This is not an attendance record.)		

• Thirty-two (32) Citizens – See attached attendance sheet

Major Issues Discussed

- 1. President Scott gave opening remarks and thanked all people in attendance for attending and/or participating in the hearing.
- 2. Testimony was received from thirty-two (32) city residents. Some highlighted concerns, comments and/or questions were:
 - Recent ransomware (cyber security attack) concerns about same
 - Concerns were expressed about:
 - Stable housing
 - Racism
 - Recreation for youth
 - Mass incarceration
 - Homelessness
 - The need to participate in the budget process
 - Not enough resources in city schools
 - Black males being victims of police officers
 - The war on drugs (people are dying!) need to educate the public about drugs
 - Response time for 911 calls
 - The importance of community gardening and acquiring land/deed for same
 - The Filbert Street Community Garden
 - The amount of general funds going to the Police Department
 - Believes policing is not the solution to the city's problems
 - The need to reallocate funds in the budget
 - The importance of B'More Beautification Program believes it is truly working!
 - Suggestion: Using more solar energy in city and in city schools
 - The need to reduce Police Department's budget and reallocate funds to needed programs and/or needed resources
 - Positions in the Office of Civil Rights needs to be increased
 - Comment: Needs an elected body who will represent the residents and their children
 - o "Special interest runs the city"
 - o "We have an emergency on every corner"
 - o Need to invest in our youth
 - o Need trauma informed recreation centers
 - City Schools are unfunded
 - o Per pupil funding allocation is unfair
 - o Too many students in the classroom
 - o Concern: City is conversing with the wrong people and/or organizations about what we need for our children
 - Would like to see more information (broken out) in the school's budget
 - Need some of the old programs restored in our schools
 - Comments about PILOT Agreements some organizations are not worthy of receiving them!
 - Thanked the Budget Office for their outreached efforts



- Urges the Mayor and Council to take this opportunity to make the changes needed in this budget
- Comment: "If we don't invest in our youth, we will regret it later!
- Police officers needs training on community policing!
- Is here today to advocate for black and brown children in Baltimore city!
- Education is an anti-crime strategy!
- After school programs is an anti-crime strategy!
- We need to support Baltimore city businesses
- The community is fed up with the politicians!
- We want solutions!
- We want engagement
- 3. The chairman gave closing remarks and thanked all attendees for attending the hearing.
- 4. Hearing was called to recess.

	Further Study		
Was further study requested?		☐ Yes ⊠ No	
If yes, describe. N/A			
Marguerite Currin Committee Staff		Date: June 5, 2019	

cc: Bill File OCS Chrono File



Mercury, lead, and Nox pollution are all prevalent where we live and we live with the consequences every day. The BRESCO trash burning incinerator is the city's worst air polluter causing 55 million dollars every year in health damages. The incinerator is propped up by public policies and public resources - reflected in our city budget - that relegate community's like mine in South Baltimore as a dumping ground. On top of the air pollution Curtis Bay has no grocery store for miles, has hundreds of vacant homes that pile up with illegal dumping, and residential roads clogged up with diesel truck traffic spewing fumes.

But - at the same time -- Curtis Bay - and more specifically Our Filbert St Garden is a hub for an alternative vision - a Zero Waste Vision that is calling for a new set of public policies and new way of spending public resources - centered on our health, our basic needs, and the needs of our planet to survive. The Filbert Street Garden is one of the largest volunteer-run community Gardens in the City of Baltimore and has been selected as a pilot site for the Food Waste diversion program because of the rapidly growing youth-led Baltimore Compost Collective Program that is housed in the Garden.

I am Meleny Thomas, a resident of Curtis Bay, member of the South Baltimore Community Land Trust, Youth and Community Advocate, and volunteer of the Filbert Street Garden. Today, I am here to tell everyone that our garden - and our vision for a Zero Waste future - is under threat. Our Baltimore City Department of Public Works - whose vision is to "To be a strong proponent and protector of our environment and the health and vitality of our communities." - is considering displacing and destroying the Filbert St Garden.

we are here tonight to say loud and clear that we cannot let this happen. We are here to make the plea for land acquisition, policies to support zero waste businesses and communities, and allocation of resources to keep such sanctuaries, like Filbert Street Garden in the communities and growing stronger.

Displacement of positive infrastructures should not be a thing - period! 10 years ago our community fellow, Jason Reed, planted a seed of hope by acquiring the land through the Adopt a Lot Program. Through the years students at Curtis Bay Elementary/Middle, Benjamin Franklin High School, and many residents labored to develop the garden that what we see today. In a struggling community, our garden is a safe haven. The outdoor classroom and event space has created many memories for children and residents throughout the years. We have hosted countless events, a few are movie nights, educational tours, holiday festivities, weddings, memorial services, election parties, and work days for corporations and schools.

This acre of land is home to ducks, chickens, bees, bats, and goats. In addition, 40 plot owners are able to grow fresh fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Residents and businesses are able to purchase local honey, vegetables, fruits, and flowers at The Well and also at local Farmers Markets. The sale of these items help sustain the garden day to day operations.

Closing --- We are calling upon our DPW director Rudy Chow - to pledge to our community tonight- and to the city of Baltimore - who look to the Filbert St Garden for so much inspiration, hope and concrete ideas for the future of Zero Waste in the city --- that you will not destroy our garden - that instead you will protect it and support it ---



Mr. Rudolph S. Chow, Director Department of Public Works Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 6th Floor 200 N. Holiday St Baltimore, MD 21202

May 7, 2019

Dear Director Chow:

We are in receipt of your March 24, 2019 letter detailing your intention to deed the Filbert Street community garden to the South Baltimore Community Land Trust *if* it is not needed for the water pumping project. Unfortunately, while your letter cited a two year long study and design process concluding in September 2021 it did not provide us with the clear timeframe for a decision about the Garden which we have repeatedly requested for the past several months. It is simply unacceptable to ask residents who have suffered environmental injustice that have resulted in polluting our community, saddled us with coal piles, chemical fumes and a trash incinerator to wait in limbo watching another looming threat to our land draw closer. Simply put, displacing the Filbert Street Community Garden should never have been considered an option.

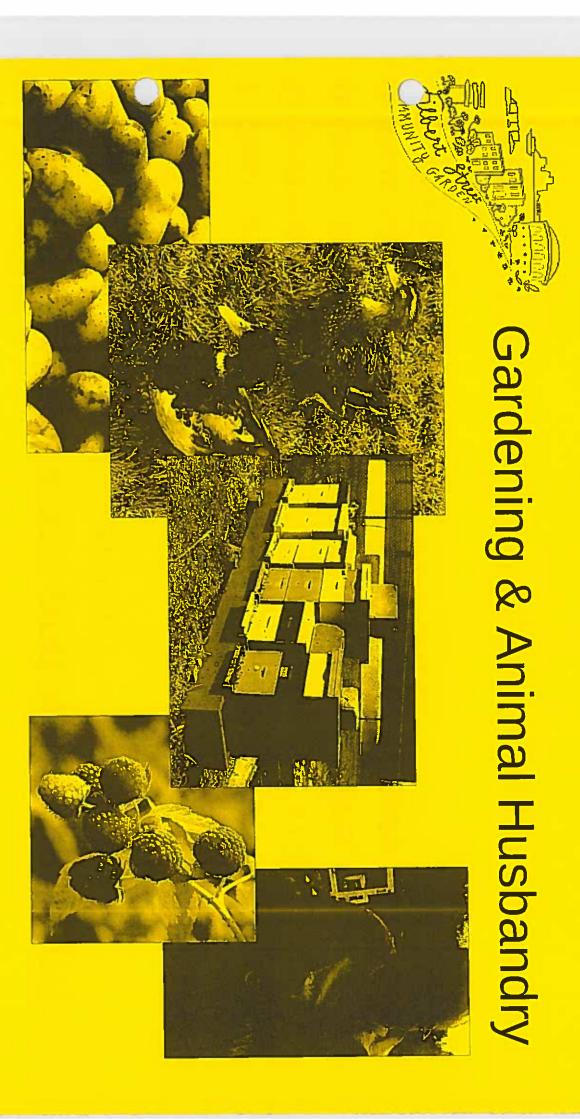
The Garden is a way that residents are reclaiming land with our own vision for a healthy, sustainable future, providing fresh vegetables, sustainable composting and Zero Waste projects, and community education: all of which historically we have been disinvested from in our community. DPW is supposed to help steward and protect our environment not reinforce environmental injustice. We urge you to affirm the value of our community built green space by committing to preserving it by the end of this month. We cannot and will not accept the ambiguous timeline put forth in your letter.

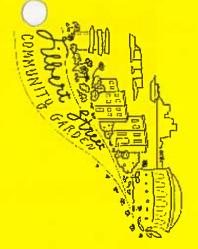
We respectfully demand that you publicly commit to community ownership of the Filbert Street Garden by May 29, 2019 Taxpayers' Night hosted by the City Council.

We are starting to see a rebirth. The city sees it, our councilman sees it, residents feel it. We are asking that you take leadership of the Department of Public Works and make a commitment to save our Filbert Street Garden.

Signed,

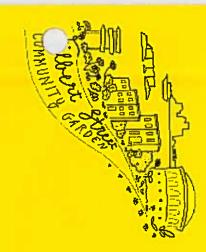
Filbert Street Community Garden, United Workers, South Baltimore Community Land Trust, Fair Development Roundtable





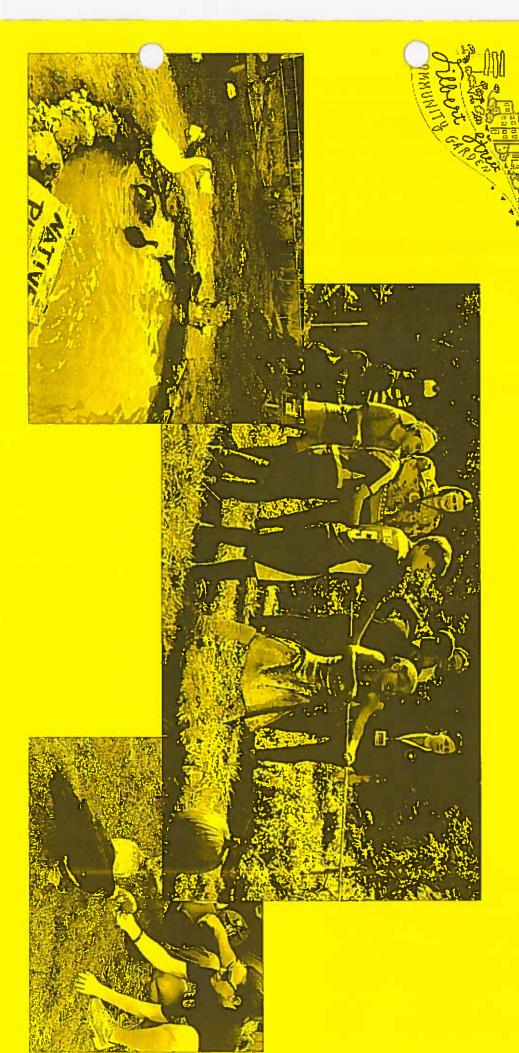
Who, what, and where is Filbert Street Garden?

agriculture, and recreation its visitors. We are located at provide education, a space for urban wildlife, urban Greenspace in Curtis Bay. It was founded in 2010 to 1317 Filbert St, Baltimore, MD 21226 Filbert Street Garden is a community garden & Baltimore

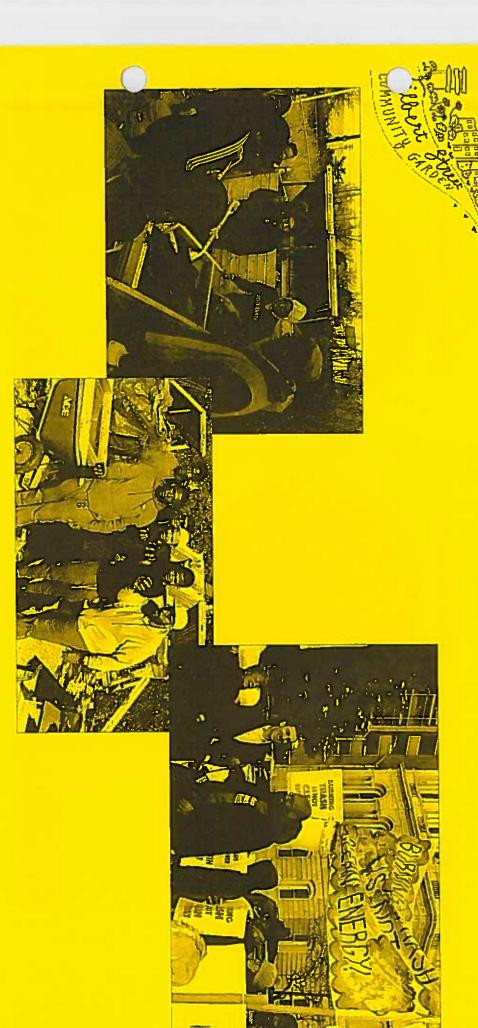


Education

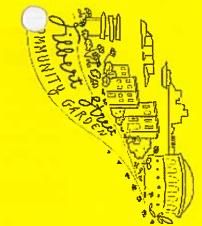




Recreation



Compost Collective



Pollinators & Wildlife Projects



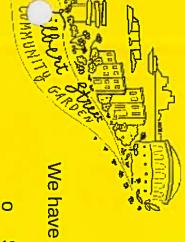
Pollinator Project



Native Bat Project

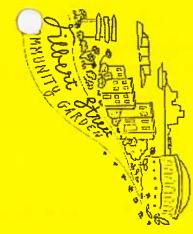


Urban Wildlife



We have approximately \$60k of infrastructure at the garden.





Our Partners











TreeBaltimore Convent Ballerore's tree camppy cone tree at a time.















United Way of Central Maryland



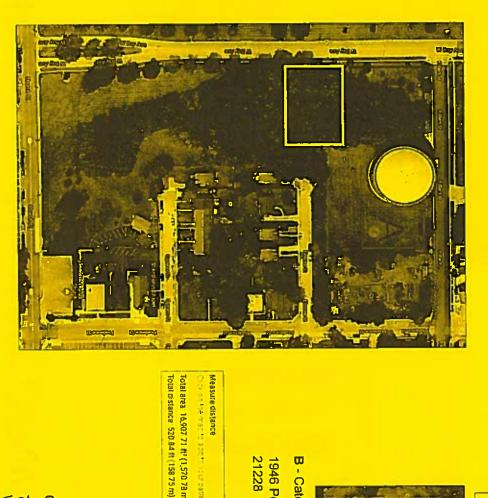
Other Local Pumps



Total distance, 389.87 ft (118.83 m) Total area, 8,598,11 ft² (808.08 m²)

- Schramms Pump Station

8110 Bell Tower Crossing, Pasadena, MD 21122



Measure distance Total distance: 1,405.90 ft (428.52 m) Total area: 121,047.50 ft* (11,245.68 m² ्रा कि का के मान कर कि का मान होता ।

B - Catonsville Water Pumping Station 1946 Powers Ln, Catonsville, MD

Measure distance



C - DC water UAMI pump station

Washington, DC 20019 708 Anacostia Ave NE,

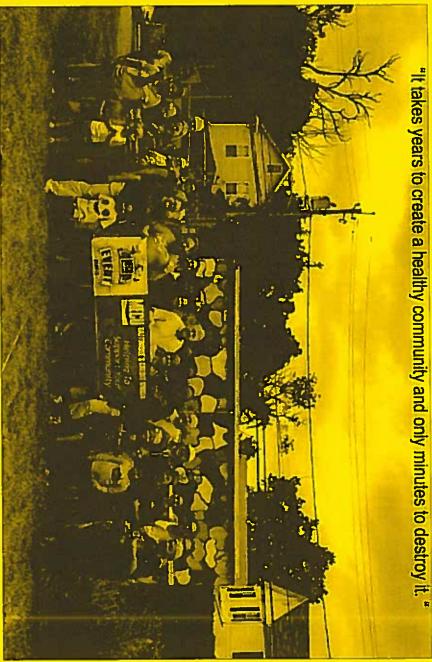






DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

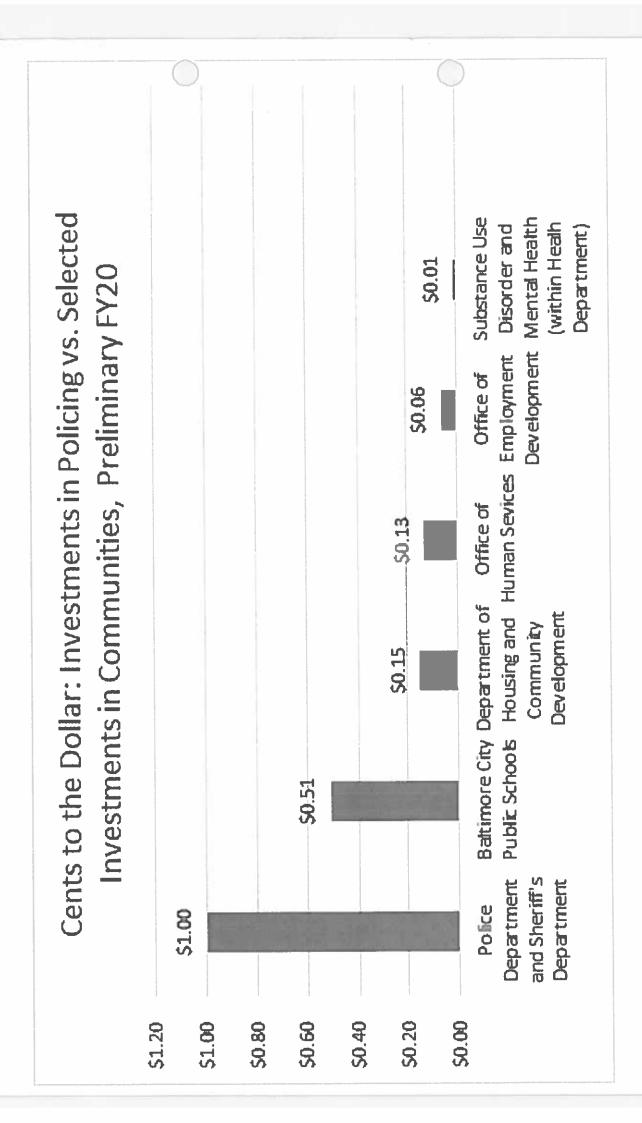




Baltimore Budget: Spending Priorities in FY20

Maryland Communities United Center for Popular Democracy

April 4, 2019



General Fund Expenditures, FY20

- The FY20 preliminary budget allocates \$527.2 million of General Fund 26.8% of the total General Fund. dollars to the Police Department and Sheriff's Department combined, which is
- In FY20, General Fund spending on the Baltimore Police Department is equivalent to \$817 per capita.
- Per capita police spending in Baltimore is greatly outsized compared to other \$581; and in Houston, \$383 in FY17. cities. For example, in Detroit, per capita spending was \$450; in New York,

Spotlight: Outsized Spending on the Police and Sheriff's Departments Compared to Spending on Substance Use and Mental Health

- 761 people died from drug and alcohol-related deaths in Baltimore in 2017, which is the highest death rate for unintentional drug and alcohol-related deaths in the state.
- There were 343 homicides in Baltimore in 2017.
- compared to the Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health program in FY20 (\$1 to the Police and Sheriff's Departments for every \$.01 to Substance Use But the Police and Sheriff's Departments still received outsized funding Disorder and Mental Health).

Increased Spending On Police and Sheriff's Departments Over Time

- Sheriff's Department has grown by 67%, from \$317.2 million in FY10 to In the last 10 years, combined spending on the Police Department and
- This growth outpaces the growth of the total General Fund, which increased by 44% over the same time period **\$527.2** million in FY20.

An Alternative: Investments in Real Community Safety

- In 2018, the city spent nearly \$47 million on police overtime, which is nearly three times more than the police overtime budget.
- Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health, the city could purchase 247,368 With \$47 million dollars, which is 9 times the size of the current budget for naloxone doses (which reverse the effects of an opioid overdose).



Trykele Jackson

Testimony for Baltimore Taxpayer Night, May 29th 2019

Greetings City Council President Brandon Scott and members of our City Council,

My name is Trykele Jackson. I am 17 years old and was born and raised in Baltimore City. I currently live in McCulloh Homes in District 11. Growing up here has helped me realize so much about myself, my community, and this city I grew up in.

For example, at my school Renaissance Academy many of the students don't have trusting relationships with the teachers. We don't feel we have the necessary resources or are learning the life skills we need to graduate and survive in the outside world. Many of us don't know basic life skills like how to handle money or how to apply for jobs.

After reviewing the FY2020 budget I am highly disappointed in learning that yet again we are investing more money into the Baltimore City Police Department and less into Baltimore City Public Schools and the students like myself that attend them.

If we continue down this path we will continue to see the same issues including students failing classes, not learning, dropping out of school and resorting to a life of drugs and hanging out in dangerous Baltimore City streets.

According to the Baltimore Sun's "Baltimore Homicide Database", there were 235 homicides reported in 2018 as of October 3¹ of whom more than one quarter were youth. Additionally, 80 percent of these victims were black youth and 71 percent were black males.

If more money was allocated to Baltimore City Public Schools we would have the necessary tools and resources to help us evolve into the leaders we need to be for our community and city. We would like to have programs that teach us how to handle money

and how to apply for jobs. We would like air conditioning. We would like to feel as if school is worth going to.

Once again my name is Trykele Jackson and I thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns and I hope that you consider implementing my solution.

Thank you,
Trykele Jackson
Baltimore MD



Kiquana Downer Testimony for Baltimore Taxpayer Night, May 29th 2019

City Council President Brandon Scott and members of the city council,

My name is Kiquana Downer and I have people that I love who are active drug users. I currently live in the Gilmor Homes neighborhood, I was raised in Lexington Terrace in the 1990's and saw how the drugs came and took over my community, I am now 36 years of age and each day I deal with deaths in my community due to overdose. I know that if my community had more resources there would be less fatal overdoses in low income areas of our city.

After reviewing the FY2020 budget,I Am very disappointed to see that once again we are investing more money into policing instead of investing in harm reduction.I strongly feel we should allocate those increases to the Health Department in order to fund life-saving approaches to the opioid epidemic in Baltimore City.Like flooding the streets with overdose reversal medication.If we have these items in place we would have less deaths due to overdose.Let's be honest most people who die of an overdose were not getting high alone but most were in the company of a friend,family member,and or associate who partakes in the same lifestyle that they indulge in. At the time of an overdose, most people are left alone to die because of the lack of resources.The other person doesn't want to be blamed by the family or be there to answer any questions and be held accountable for someone else's death.If Naloxone was everywhere and in everyone's hands many lives would be saved.

If we address the opioid crisis in our City through the FY2020 budget,we will be able to not only save the lives of Baltimoreans but educate others to save lives. City Council President Brandon Scott This issue matters to me and many people of the City that you serve because I love someone on "DRUGS" and there is one in every family.

Thank You, Kiquana Downer 1664 Bruce Ct. Baltimore MD, 21217



Onyinye Alheri Testimony for Baltimore Taxpayer Night, May 29th 2019

Greetings Council President Scott and Baltimore City Council,

I'm here to address some concerns I have with the proposed budget and offer some alternative solutions. I'm here to ask that Mayor Young and members of this board/council take action in creating a budget that prioritizes the needs of our citizens. The budget proposed for 2020 disturbs me for several reasons. Most pressing is the large percentage of our general funds being spent on policing; each year the numbers increase. At the Board of Estimates Taxpayer Night I talked about how increased police spending has coincided with increased crime, especially murder rates in our city and serves as an indication that alternative methods are needed. In 2011, the city had the lowest homicide rate we've had since the 1970s (~196) and the police budget was about one quarter less than of what is being proposed for the coming fiscal period. Each year the police budget increases and each year the homicide rate hits a new record. In economics, this is called the law of diminishing marginal returns, meaning you are NOT getting what you pay for.

On it's own the amount of money being spent on policing is ridiculous, but when compared to the amount being spent on other necessities, it is even more disappointing. We are spending pennies and dimes on the dollar for fundamental services including education, public works and health services compared on what we give to a police department that has demonstrated a lack of adequate training around de-escalation, opioid overdose prevention, harm reduction and working with hard-to-reach people including sex workers, those living with addiction and/or mental illness, the homeless, and other often ignored members of our community. A small reallocation of the funds proposed to the police would have a significant impact in other sectors. In a city where many people are struggling and live impacted by economic and social decline, we can not keep criminalizing survival activities and then wonder why our crime rate increases. We instead need to address social ills at their root cause if we are to see lasting change.

Some of you have expressed frustration with the charter that dictates the actions of the council and limits how final budget decisions are made. We must push for a participatory

budget that allows for ir 'ementation of budget priorities as identified by the people, now. As powerful as our testimonies are, they mean nothing if not backed by actions that put our demands into action.

Thank you, Onyinye Alheri Baltimore MD, 21201

Sources:

https://marketurbanismreport.com/baltimore-police-spending-not-lowered-crime/



Gassoh Goba Testimony for Baltimore Taxpayer Night, May 29th 2019

Good Evening City Council President Scott and Council Representatives,

Unfortunately, like many working class Baltimore City residents whose work-life balance is relentlessly unforgiving, I am not able to stand before you and deliver this impassioned request. I therefore want to extend my gratitude to Communities United for delivering this written testimony on my behalf.

My name is Gassoh Goba and I have been a Baltimore City resident for five years. For the last two and a half years, I have been volunteering with Sex Workers Outreach Project and building community with organizations that are striving to address issues of inequity by organizing individuals who are most impacted by poverty, police brutality and neglect by institutions that claim to work for them.

While reading the section of the budget report titled "Equity In The Budget", I couldn't help thinking of the numerous mayoral administrations and representatives that have failed to "intentionally evaluate and transform policies, processes, and systems" - barriers that gravely hinder the quality of life for many living in Baltimore City.

In 2015, The Prison Policy Initiative found that Maryland spends nearly \$300 million taxpaying dollars incarcerating residents from Baltimore City; 1 out of 3 people in Maryland's correctional system is from Baltimore City.

The Fiscal Year 2020 Budget recognizes that a criminal record and lack of legitimate economic opportunity hinders individuals from successfully returning to the community. Yet, this budget suggests reducing the allotted General Funds to Workforce Services by \$300,000; Youth Violence Prevention funding has been slashed almost \$1.5 million.

How can we expect to build a foundation for our youth and returning community members if the very social services put in place for them to succeed are rendered inefficient due to slashes in funding in the interest of those who hold capital and power?

In 2017, 761 people died from drug and alcohol-related deaths in Baltimore City in relation to 343 homicides in Baltimore in 2017. Yet, this budget recommends almost \$600,000 cut from services and programs that are directly needed to prevent these deaths.

Who informed such cuts? Did you reach out to people who are using drugs and alcohol? Was any outreach done to bring these communities together to discuss how their representatives can build an equitable Baltimore City for them?

The problem with this budget, and with many elected representatives is that they reflect the concerns of people who have homes and traditional jobs; people whose doors you have been knocking on or have the time to actively engage in these processes.

I am reminding you of the many people in Baltimore City that do not have doors for you to knock on; that are not approached and asked for their opinion on how Baltimore City can become more equitable; that cannot bear witness to their lives because they and generations before them have been shafted by those who claim to hold their best interests at heart.

I am charging all of you, as leaders in our communities, to educate and champion alternatives to policing, to incarceration, to tactics people on the margins have been enduring for the last couple of centuries. I am charging you to be radically intentional when addressing issues of inequity here in Baltimore City.

Thank you, Gassoh Goba Baltimore MD, 21218 (District 14)



Communities United is a grassroots,

membership organization of low to moderate income individuals and families in Maryland. Our mission is community organizing to demand transformative change for social, economic, and racial justice. Our community organizing model hinges on intensive member engagement and leadership development of those most directly impacted by injustice – racism, poverty, trauma, addiction, criminalization – to build grassroots power for real change.

Working together,
Communities United members have . . .

- •Restored voting rights to all formally incarcerated Marylanders.
- •Increased funding for community schools.
- •Exposed horrible conditions and treatment in public housing, including organizing women to successfully sue over sexual harassment.
- •Won universal rental licensing and inspection of all rental properties in Baltimore.
- •Put Maryland on a path to \$15 minimum wage, with annual increases to reach \$15 in 2025.

We are fighting for . . .

- •A better quality of life for ex-offenders.
- •Safe and livable housing for low income renters.
- Overdose prevention sites and other solutions to addiction that put people in treatment instead of jail, support recovery and reduce harm.

We Deserve fe and Livable Housing

- •Significant increases in school funding in Baltimore and Maryland.
- •A budget in Baltimore that prioritizes education & youth, mental health, affordable housing other investments in community health and safety by divesting from an over bloated police budget.

Join us to build power for justice!

Become a member.

Call 410-338-3768



2221 Maryland Ave, 2nd Floor Baltimore, MD 21218 MarylandCU.org

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22nd Speaker



T.H.E. S.O.A.P.

Thiriving healing empowering seeds of addicted parents

where a kid can be a kid



OUR ORGANIZATION IS CREATING FAMILY RECOVERY TO HELP THE CHILDREN GROW, STAY CLEAN, BE EDUCATED EMPOWERED & POSTIVE... WHILE BREAKING THE CYCLE OF ADDICTION. YOU DESERVE CHILDRENS TREATMENT & A STRONG FAMILY *********

ALL WE NEED IS YOU COME ON LET'S HEAL TOGETHER



erica Chamlettegmail.com 443-467-4267 T.H.E. - S.O.A.P.

Thriving Healing Empowering Seeds of Addicted Parents....

"THE SOAP" is building a peer support outreach just for You

Our mission is: Empowering You our youth to use your voice "THE SOAP" will provide resources and support, teach coping skills centered around the tools necessary to Obreaking cycle of addiction.

We want to ensure that we are hearing what our children & a say they need and build a program that meets those needs. Our goal is to offer support build relationships, make sure the children are no longer left out of the recovery process, or left to figure things out on their own . We understand that while parents battle with addiction and navigate through recovery you the children need support also. We will be the resource, support for you free from judgement and criticism. It's about Strengthening Families in We can't do it without you! We need to hear from you... We're all ears § §

Let's heal together tell us what you need and because it takes a Village we need to hear from most importantly *Children I* ... Parents Family & Teachers communities & Friends too

With us Our *Children* will grow Clean Empowered lives "THE SOAP" is here to help

If you'd like to volunteer, donate, learn, more about us you can reach me Erica Hamlett @410-598-3959 ericaChamlett@gmail.com



City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21202

Meeting Agenda - Final

Budget and Appropriations Committee

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

5:00 PM

Du Burns Council Chamber, 4th floor, City Hall

19-0387 - Taxpayers' Night CHARM TV 25

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

19-0387

Annual Property Tax - Fiscal Year 2020

For the purpose of providing a tax for the use of the Mayor and City Council

of Baltimore for

the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; providing for estimated billings pursuant to State law; and setting the semiannual payment service

charge for that period.

Sponsors:

City Council President (Administration)

TAXPAYERS' NIGHT

ADJOURNMENT

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

On behalf of the Citizens of Baltimore City, the mission of the Budget and Appropriations Committee is to analyze and oversee the continuing operations, efficiency, and functions of Baltimore City government.

The Committee provides regular oversight of the funding and spending practices of City agencies, periodically analyzes the budget reports and activities of those agencies and maintains a high level of fiscal accountability in City government.

As a result of its analysis and oversight, the Committee will recommend reforms to improve the operations of any of these agencies; through legislative, administrative, and/or budgetary improvements

The Honorable Eric T. Costello Chairman

PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2019 5:00 PM CLARENCE "DU" BURNS COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TO BE TELEVISED ON CABLE TV 25

Council Bill 19-0387
Annual Property Tax – Fiscal Year 2020

TAXPAYERS' NIGHT

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

Eric Costello – Chair Leon Pinkett – Vice Chair Bill Henry Sharon Green Middleton Brandon M. Scott Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer Shannon Sneed Staff: Marguerite Currin

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

Zeke Cohen – Chair Mary Pat Clarke – Vice Chair John Bullock Kristerfer Burnett Ryan Dorsey Staff: Matthew Peters

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Robert Stokes – Chair Kristerfer Burnett– Vice Chair Mary Pat Clarke Zeke Cohen Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer Staff: Marguerite Currin

HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

John Bullock – Chair
Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer – Vice Chair
Kristerfer Burnett
Bill Henry
Shannon Sneed
Zeke Cohen
Ryan Dorsey
Staff: Richard Krummerich

JUDICIARY AND LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Eric Costello – Chair
Mary Pat Clarke – Vice Chair
John Bullock
Leon Pinkett
Edward Reisinger
Brandon Scott
Robert Stokes
Staff: Matthew Peters

LABOR

Shannon Sneed – Chair Robert Stokes – Vice Chair Eric Costello Bill Henry Mary Pat Clarke Staff: Samuel Johnson

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION

Edward Reisinger - Chair Sharon Green Middleton - Vice Chair Mary Pat Clarke Eric Costello Ryan Dorsey Leon Pinkett Robert Stokes Staff: Jennifer Coates

PUBLIC SAFETY

Brandon Scott – Chair
Ryan Dorsey – Vice Chair
Kristerfer Burnett
Shannon Sneed
Zeke Cohen
Leon Pinkett
Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
Staff: Richard Krummerich

TAXATION, FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sharon Green Middleton – Chair Leon Pinkett – Vice Chair Eric Costello Edward Reisinger Robert Stokes Staff: Samuel Johnson - Larry Greene (pension only)

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

LARRY E. GREENE, Director 415 City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 410-396-7215 / Fax: 410-545-7596 email: larry.greene@baltimorecity.gov

BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Budget and Appropriations

Bill 19-0387

Annual Property Tax - Fiscal Year 2020

Sponsor: Council President at the request of the Department of Finance

Introduced: May 6, 2019

Purpose:

For the purpose of providing a tax for the use of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; providing for estimated billings pursuant to State law; and setting the semiannual payment service charge for that period.

Effective: July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Hearing Date/Time/Location: Wednesday/May 29, 2019/5:00 PM/Council Chambers

AGENCY REPORTS

Not Applicable

ANALYSIS

Current Law

- I. Article VI Board of EstimatesSection 3 et seq.Baltimore City Charter
- II. Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland (Section 10-210 Tax Property Article)
- III. State Tax-Property Article, Section 10-204.3

Background

This Ordinance proposes a tax rate of \$2.248 on every \$100 of assessed or assessable real property in Baltimore City and a tax of \$5.62 levied on every \$100 of assessed or assessable value of:

- 1. Personal property; and
- 2. Operating real property as described in the State Tax Property Article Section 8 109C.

The proposed tax rate is the same as what was proposed in fiscal year 2019.

Per State law, the Constant Yield Tax Rate for Baltimore City for fiscal year 2019/2020 must be advertised. As required, the advertisement was placed in the Baltimore Sun newspaper on Saturday, May 18, 2019. A copy of the ad is attached.

This hearing is also referred to as "Taxpayers' Night."

Taxpavers' Night provide the residents of Baltimore City the opportunity to share comments and concerns about the City's budget.

Note: The Committee/Council members listen to the speakers/citizens but do not answer and/or respond to questions or comments during the hearing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fiscal Note: The Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Property Tax is the same as last year.

Information Source(s): City Charter, Annotated Code of Maryland, State law, Council Bill Numbers 18-0234 and 19-0387.

m. m. Curin

Analysis by:

Marguerite M. Currin

Analysis Date: May 23, 2019

Direct Inquiries to: (443) 984-3485

THE BALTIMORE SUN MEDIA GROUP



Balti City Council - Real Property

Main News/A005/Generic

Section/Page/Zone:

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Ad Number:

Description:

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Advertiser:

Baltimore City Council





BALTIMORE SUN

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BALTIMORE CITY NOTICE OF PROPOSED **REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE**

The City Council of Baltimore City proposes to increase real property taxes.

- 1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2019, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by .3% from \$38,022,355,962 to \$38,120,858,217.
- 2. If Baltimore City maintains the current tax rate of \$2.248 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by .3% resulting in \$2,214,331 of new real property tax revenues.
- 3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$2.2422, the constant yield tax rate.
- 4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$2.248 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is .3% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$2,214,331 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 5:00 P.M at City Hall - Council Chambers, 4th floor, 100 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (443) 984-3485 for further information.



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CITY OF BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL HEARING ATTENDANCE RECORD

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Page No. 5



Committee: Budget and Appropriations		Chairperson: The	Chairperson: The Honorable Eric T. Costello
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Subject: Ordinance - Annual Property Tax — Fiscal Year 2020 — TAXPAYERS' NIGHT	Fiscal Year 2020 – TAXP	AYERS' NIGHT		CC Bill Number: 19-0387
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PLEASE PRINT IF YOU WANT TO TESTIFY PLEASE CH FIRST NAME LAST NAME ST. # ADDRESS/ORGANIZATION NAME ZIP John Doe HATLLY 100 North Charles Street 21202 100 North Charles Street 21202 2 (23)	PLEASE PRINT FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Doe Doe TANL 100 North Charles Street 1024 They ST 1034 They ST						7	E			
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	CHE ZIP Z1202 Jol Z(ン3							North Charles Street	ADDRESS/ORGANIZATION NAME		PLEASE PRINT
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	FOR VOLIN POSITION OF THIS BILL?					1		2 2	YE	ES .	LOBBYIST: ARE YOU REGISTERED IN THE CITY

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE, 626 CITY HALL, BALTIMORE, MD 21202. TEL: 410-396-4730: FAX: 410-396-8483.



CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 19-0387 (First Reader)

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Introduced and read first time: May 6, 2019
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ORDINANCE concerning
2	Annual Property Tax - Fiscal Year 2020
3 4 5	FOR the purpose of providing a tax for the use of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; providing for estimated billings pursuant to State law; and setting the semiannual payment service charge for that period.
6 7 8 9	SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, a tax is levied and imposed for the use of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore on all property in the City of Baltimore (except property exempt by law), as follows:
10 11	(a) except as otherwise specified in item (b) of this section, a tax of \$2.248 is levied and imposed on every \$100 of assessed or assessable value of real property; and
12	(b) a tax of \$5.62 is levied and imposed on every \$100 of assessed or assessable value of:
13	(1) personal property; and
14	(2) operating real property described in State Tax-Property Article § 8-109(c).
15 16 17	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this tax shall be paid and collected in the manner prescribed by law including the provisions of Section 10-210 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland.
18 19 20	SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That for the period July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, the semiannual payment service charges to be imposed under State Tax-Property Article section 10-204.3 is 0.69%.
21 22	SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is enacted.



FIRST READING (INTRODUCTION)		MAY 0 6.2019
PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON May of COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF Scene	11,2019	2020
	<u>C-T- 6</u>	Chair
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	COMMITTEE MEMBER	B:
SECOND READING: The Council's action being favora Third Reading on: Amendments were read and adopted (defeated)		JUN 1 1 2019
THIRD READING		20
Amendments were read and adopted (defeate	ed) as indicated on the copy attach	ed to this blue backing.
THIRD READING (ENROLLED) Amendments were read and adopted (defeate		
THIRD READING (RE-ENROLLED)		20
WITHDRAWAL		
There being no objections to the request for withdr from the files of the City Council.	awal, it was so ordered that this Ci	ly Council Ordinance be withdrawn
President	Chief Clerk	