



October 19, 2020

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn.: Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: City Council Bill 20-0569, "Street Harassment Advisory Commission"

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Comptroller's Office has reviewed City Council Bill 20-0569 which was introduced by Councilmember Sneed. This Bill would create a 19-member Street Harassment Advisory Commission consisting of 16 voting members and three non-voting members. The Bill requires the Comptroller or the Comptroller's designee to serve as a non-voting member of the commission.

The Commission established by Council Bill 20-0569 is charged with a range of general purposes and specific duties including: increasing awareness within the general public and within City agencies of the problem of street harassment and the need for prevention; creation of model policies and training materials to assist City agencies in reducing street harassment; assisting agencies with implementing those policies and monitoring compliance; and discussing the need for a process by which incidents of street harassment can be reported.

The Bill's only direct effect on the Office of the Comptroller is that it requires representation on the commission by the Comptroller or designee. This is a reasonable provision and can be accomplished with existing agency resources.

For these reasons, the Office of the Comptroller has no objection to Council Bill 20-0569.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan M. Pratt CPA".

Joan M. Pratt, CPA
Comptroller

cc: Mr. Dominic McAlily, Legislative Assistant, Office of the City Council President
Mr. Matt Stegman, Deputy Director, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Ms. Nina Themelis, Legislative Liaison, Mayor's Office of Government Rel