



HEARING NOTES

Bill: 21-0001R

Investigative Hearing - Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Chaired By: Councilmember Sharon Green Middleton

Hearing Date: February 9, 2021

Time (Beginning): 3:45 PM

Time (Ending): 4:50 PM

Location: Virtual WEBEX

Total Attendance: 107

Committee Members in Attendance:

John Bullock Mark Conway Ryan Dorsey Antonio Glover Robert Stokes Odette Ramos

Bill Synopsis in the file? yes no n/a

Attendance sheet in the file? yes no n/a

Agency reports read?..... yes no n/a

Video or audio-digitally recorded?..... yes no n/a

Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file? yes no n/a

Evidence of notification to property owners?..... yes no n/a

Final vote taken at this hearing? yes no n/a

Motioned by:.....Councilmember

Seconded by:.....Councilmember

Final Vote:.....

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Ms. Alice Kennedy, Acting Housing Commissioner, Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)
- Mr. Bob Cenname, Baltimore City Department of Finance
- Mr. Dan Bowers

- Mr. Matt Hill, Commissioner, Affordable Housing Trust Fund
 - Mr. Bill Wells, Housing Authority of Baltimore City
 - Ms. Iletha Joynes, Commissioner, Affordable Housing Trust Fund
 - Ms. Nicole Battle, Baltimore Community Land Trust
 - Ms. Tisha Guthrie, Commissioner, Affordable Housing Trust Fund
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Major Issues Discussed

1. Councilwoman Middleton opened the meeting, introduced committee members and City representatives, and read the resolution into the record.
 2. Councilmember Odette Ramos explained her purpose for sponsoring the resolution and provided information about the history and establishment of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF). She explained how advocacy for affordable housing in Baltimore helped to establish a flexible source of funding for low-income residents in order to support more dwelling units, a local voucher program, rental assistance, senior home repairs and affordable homeownership. City recordation and transfer taxes are used as a funding source for AHTF. The City has also committed to using bond funds to support AHTF.
 3. Alice Kennedy provided a presentation about AHTF. The presentation focused on an overview of the following:
 - History of AHTF
 - Baltimore Households and Income Levels
 - AHTF's Outreach Efforts
 - AHTF's Legal Framework for the Range of Use of Funds
 - DHCD and the AHTF Commission's Roles and Responsibilities
 - Revenue Collected for the fund for FY 19(Partial), FY 20, FY21(YTD)
 - Revenue Projections
 - Annual Report
 - Community Advocates and Equitable Access to AHTF Funding
 - AHTF's Proposed and Revised Spending Plan for FY '20 – FY '22
 - COVID-19's Impact on Revenue
 - Awards of Funding for New Construction/Preservation of Existing Rental Housing NOFA (4 applicants awarded \$2,059,500 in first round)
 - Senior Housing Repair & Preservation Budget (Planned Budget \$3 million)
 - Community Land Trust Funding (several awards made and 6 submissions)
 - Use of Resources for Funded and Committed Projects
 - Legislation – Bills 20-0625 (General Counsel for Evictions) and 21-0004 (Office to End Homelessness / Housing Voucher Program)
 4. AHTF has prepared an annual report which is being reviewed for release to the Mayor and City Council in March 2021.
 5. Committee members commented and asked questions about revenue sources, senior repairs, community land trust awards, and the annual report.
 6. Public testimony was taken.
 7. The hearing was recessed.
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Further Study

**Was further study requested?
If yes, describe.**

Yes No

Committee Vote:

Sharon Green Middleton, Chair:
John Bullock:
Mark Conway:
Ryan Dorsey:
Antonio Glover:
Robert Stokes:
Odette Ramos:

Jennifer L. Coates, Committee Staff

Date: February 16, 2021

cc: Bill File
OCS Chrono File