



HEARING NOTES

Legislative Oversight: LO21-0003

Budget Briefing – Bureau of Budget and Management Research (BBMR)
2nd Quarter Projections and Fiscal Year 2024 Revenue Forecast

Committee: Ways and Means
Chaired by: Councilman Eric T. Costello
Hearing Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2023
Time (Beginning): 10:15 AM
Time (Ending): 11:30 AM
Location: Virtual “WebEx” Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 25 In-Person
Approximately 10 Virtually

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Eric T. Costello Kristerfer Burnett
- Robert Stokes, Sr. Danielle McCray
- Sharon Green Middleton
- Ryan Dorsey – excused absence

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video or audio-digitally recorded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?.....	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Evidence of notification to property owners?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a

This legislative oversight will remain open throughout the legislative term; no vote will be taken; quarterly budget hearings.

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Laura Larsen, Finance Department - BBMR
- Pedro Aponte, Finance Department - BBMR

Major Issues Discussed

1. The representatives from BBMR gave a PowerPoint presentation. **A copy of the Presentation is on file.** The Presentation included the following:
 - Second (2nd) Quarter Projection for Fiscal Year 2023; ending December 31, 2022
 - Highlights
 - Expenditure Overview
 - Revenue Overview
 - Projected Surpluses
 - Projected Deficits
 - FY 2024 – Revenue Projection - Fiscal Year 2024 – July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
 - Revenue Assumptions
2. Committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns and made comments. Some highlighted topics of discussion and/or concern were:
 - High-Performance MRR Tax Credits
 - Questions, concerns and comments regarding the tax credits
 - President Mosby talked about the importance of the upcoming **evaluation** of the City's tax credits
 - FEMA Reimbursement Deadline
 - Talk about this; what happens after the May 11th deadline?
 - Duplicated Records – Property Taxes
 - How did this happen? (Duplications)
 - Talk about this
 - Projected reduction in Revenue for Property Taxes – why the reduction? Talk about this
 - GMS Software
 - Does Finance have the addresses specifically for the high-performance tax credits?
 - **Requested by President Mosby: Please provide the addresses for same for the past five (5) years**
 - **Requested by Councilmember Ramos: Include in the President's request the "Brownfields" too.**
 - Vacancies
 - **Requested by Councilmember Burnett: Provide a breakdown of all vacancies in both the Fire and Police Departments by position and title.**
 - What is the possibility of having a "wait list" for vacancies in the Fire Department?
 - What is the possibility of re-opening the list for vacancies within the Fire Department?
 - How are vacancies projected for each agency in the budget?
 - Vacancies that stay constant for the past two (2) years; how are they projected in the budget?
 - Investment Earnings
 - Where are the earnings placed and/or go?
 - Are the earnings invested into the market?

- Moving Violations
 - Requested by Councilmember Middleton: Provide a breakdown of where revenue is being collected for red light and speeding citations; for locations throughout the city; particularly from the major thoroughfares.
- Health Department – Expenditures for housing and/or hotels
 - When will we acquire a hotel for same?
 - In the preliminary budget for FY2024 – it shows only a purchase of one hotel; why one and not two hotels? Talk about this
- TIF's
 - Is showing \$3 million for TIF's – can you explain this a little more?
 - Requested by Councilmember Ramos: Provide a TIF's analysis for the next five (5) years
- Supplementals
 - Questions and comments regarding the number of supplementals that came before the Council this year
 - Did the number of supplementals come about as a result of vacancies?
- Projections
 - Talk about the process for coming up with projections for:
 - Excess Revenue
 - Assumptions
 - Approaches
 - About how the Bureau comes up with the projections

3. President Mosby commented about how the Council's role will tie into the budgets in the future.
4. Hearing called to recess.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe.

1. See 'red and yellow highlighted' areas in the Major Issues section above.

Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

Date: May 4, 2023

cc: Bill File

OCS Electronic File



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: Legislative Oversight – Budget Briefing – BBMR – 2nd Quarter Budget Briefing, Status of Fiscal Year 2022 Closeout and Estimated Revenue for Fiscal Year 2024	Bill #: LO21-0003
Committee: Ways and Means	Chair: Eric T. Costello
Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2023	Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Council Chambers	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY



First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
				For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laura	Larsen	Finance					
Pedro	Aponte	Finance					
Bob	Connane	Finance					

*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

City of Baltimore

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Ways and Means

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

10:00 AM Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall: Phone:
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2342 561 5483, Password:
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=mbbac89d55e46acdde0518bc6c99855b2)
MTID=mbbac89d55e46acdde0518bc6c99855b2

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CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

- Present** 5 - Eric T. Costello, Kristerfer Burnett, Danielle N. McCray, Sharon Green Middleton, and Robert Stokes Sr.
- Excused** 1 - Ryan Dorsey
- Absent** 1 - Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

LO21-0003

Budget Briefing

For the purpose of calling on the Director of the Finance Department's Bureau of Budget and Management Research (BBMR) as well as the Director for the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) to brief the City Council on how the City's actual finances and School's finances compare to its budget projections.

Hearing called to recess.

ADJOURNMENT