


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Michelle Pourciau, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE  M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (DOT) 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 17-0052R		

TO The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
c/o Natawna Austin  
Room 400 City Hall

December 22, 2017

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 17-0052R - Resolution - Informational Hearing - Baltimore's Disaster Preparedness For the purpose of calling on representatives from the City agencies charged with preparing for, and responding to, disasters in our City to appear before the City Council to discuss the current state of Baltimore's disaster preparedness and how lessons learned from recent disaster responses can be applied here at home to ensure the best possible response to any threats we may face.

DOT supports this bill and respectfully requests a favorable report.

Respectfully,



Michelle Pourciau  
Director

MP/lw

Cc: Kyron Banks, Mayor's Office

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 17-0052R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Stokes, Henry, Clarke, President Young, Councilmembers Scott, Costello, Burnett, Bullock, Sneed, Cohen, Pinkett, Schleifer, Middleton

Introduced and read first time: October 30, 2017

Assigned to: Public Safety Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, Police Department, Fire Department, Health Department, Department of Public Works, Department of Transportation, Office of Sustainability

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – Baltimore's Disaster Preparedness**

3 FOR the purpose of calling on representatives from the City agencies charged with preparing for  
4 and responding to disasters in our City to appear before the City Council to discuss the  
5 current state of Baltimore's disaster preparedness and how lessons learned from recent  
6 disaster responses can be applied here at home to ensure the best possible response to any  
7 threats we may face.

8 **Recitals**

9 This year's particularly severe hurricane season has seen devastating storms impact a number  
10 of American communities. Some of the impacted areas have responded better and more  
11 effectively than others. Some have simply been overwhelmed by the unprecedented scale of  
12 devastation, and others have been spared worst-case scenarios but have had to face the fact that  
13 events they had not anticipated are real possibilities.

14 A great deal can be learned from the responses to these disasters. No one ever wants to think  
15 that it could be their community facing devastation, but communities that have spent time  
16 learning the lessons of previous disasters are the ones best able to mitigate their impacts if and  
17 when they are challenged themselves.

18 Baltimore has had the good fortune to avoid a disaster like those caused by hurricanes  
19 Harvey, Irma, and Maria for many years, but it has had to deal with challenging weather events  
20 and is not immune to the threat of something worse. It is important that the lessons taught by  
21 Baltimore's own experiences and those of other communities be constantly examined and  
22 combined to ensure that we are as prepared as possible for any conceivable disaster.

23 One important element of this preparation is effective communication within government and  
24 between the City and its residents. City Council hearings on the state of Baltimore's disaster  
25 preparedness are an important part of that communication and preparation.

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
27 Council calls on representatives from the City agencies charged with preparing for and

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.