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BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

The Committee on Education, Workforce and Youth (EWY) is responsible for creating opportunities for our young people, ensuring economic opportunity and prosperity for Baltimore's workforce, and supporting our most vulnerable neighbors. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include public education, labor relations, workforce development, employment, public parks, recreation, and youth affairs. Issue areas include, but are not limited to: education, including adult education, higher education, workforce development, labor, senior affairs, veterans, childcare, accessibility and disability issues, recreation and parks, and historical landmarks.

**The Honorable Robert Stokes, Sr.
Chairman**

PUBLIC HEARING

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021
10:00 AM**

VIRTUAL WEBEX MEETING

Council Resolution #21-0047R

**Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots
and
Public Green Spaces**

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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, 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:** Education, Workforce and Youth**Resolution: 21-0047R****Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots and Public Green Spaces****Sponsor:** *Councilmember Burnett, et al***Introduced:** June 8, 2021**Purpose:**

For the purpose of requesting the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

Effective: Upon enactment.**Agency Reports**

Law Department	Favorable/Comments
City Administrator	<i>None received as of this writing</i>
Department of Planning	Unfavorable/Comments
Department of Housing and Community Development	Unfavorable/Comments
Department of Transportation	<i>None received as of this writing</i>
Department of Finance	<i>None received as of this writing</i>
Department of Public Works	<i>None received as of this writing</i>
Office of the Comptroller	Favorable
Department of Recreation and Parks	Unfavorable/Comments
Office of Sustainability	Defers to Planning Department

Analysis

Current Law

Baltimore City Code – Article 1, Subtitle 1-City Council, Section 1-6

§ 1-6. Agencies to provide legislative information.

It shall be the duty of the head of every City department or bureau established by the Baltimore City Charter or by ordinance to provide all technical materials, plats, drawings, and information that are requested by any member or the President of the City Council for the purpose of introducing legislation into the Council.

(*City Code, 1976/83, art. I, §6.*) (Ord. 76-080.)

Background

On August 19, 2021 several agency heads will come before the committee to discuss the feasibility of having one city agency responsible for mowing all city owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces. And to get an update from the City's Bureau of Budget and Management Research on how many calls for service are received on an annual for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces.

Following is a summary of some of the responsibilities of city agencies which pertains to the Resolution.¹ (*Also see attached documentation*)

- Comptroller's Office – Audit Office – When requested **investigates** allegations of fraud, **waste**, and abuses of city resources
- Housing and Community Development – Housing Code Enforcement – **is responsible** for investigating and enforcing building, property maintenance and related codes.
- Housing and Community Development – Property Acquisition, Disposition and Asset Management – **Supports** neighborhood revitalization and development through the sale of City owned properties and maintaining, clearing, and holding land for future use
- General Services – Maintains over 5,600 pieces of motorized equipment including **lawnmowers**.
- General Services – **is responsible** for providing maintenance and repair to over 500 municipal buildings. General services also manage **surplus(ed) schools**.
- Transportation – **is responsible for mowing and maintaining grass** in the 870 median strips in the City's roadway
- Public Works - **provides mowing services** to vacant and unoccupied properties that are cited by the City's housing inspectors.
- Recreation and Parks – regular park maintenance **functions include grass mowing**
- The Office of Sustainability – **oversees** the City's **landscape regulations**

¹ Information copied for the Fiscal Year 2022 Agency Detail Budget Books for the City of Baltimore

Note: As of this writing the following agencies submitted **Unfavorable reports**.

- Department of Planning – **see attached report**
- Department of Housing and Community Development – **see attached report**
- Department of Recreation and Parks – **see attached report**

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: None

Information Source(s): City Code and Council Resolution 21-0047R, see footnote and all agency reports received as of this writing

Marguerite M. Currin

Analysis by: Marguerite M. Currin

Direct Inquiries to: (443) 984-3485

Analysis Date: August 16, 2021

Council Resolution 21-0047R

Agency Reports Received

SEE ATTACHED

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
JAMES L. SHEA
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

July 27, 2021

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, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 21-0047R – Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots and Public
Green Spaces

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0047R for form and legal sufficiency. The resolution is for the purpose of requesting the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

In general, a City Council resolution is “an expression of opinion or mind concerning some particular item of business coming within the legislative body’s official cognizance.” *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium Assoc.*, 545 A.2d 1296, 1303 (Md. 1988) (quoting *McQuillin Mun. Corp.* § 15:2 (3rd Ed.)). Council Bill 21-0047R is an appropriate resolution to: (1) report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and (2) recommend to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

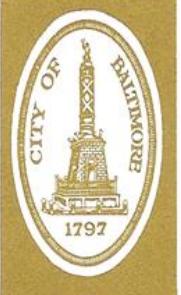
Accordingly, the Law Department is prepared to approve Council Bill 21-0047R for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Victor K. Tervala

Victor K. Tervala
Chief Solicitor

cc: James L. Shea, City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Nikki Thompson, Director of Legislative Affairs
Matthew Stegman, Director of Fiscal and Legislative Services
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor

FROM	NAME & TITLE CHRIS RYER, DIRECTOR 	CITY of BALTIMORE	
AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 TH FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET	MEMO	
SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #21-0047R/ UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE OF VACANT LOTS AND PUBLIC GREEN SPACES		

TO The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400
100 North Holliday Street

DATE: August 2, 2021

The Department of Planning is in receipt of City Council Bill #21-0047R, which is for the purpose of requesting the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

The Department of Planning recommends disapproval of City Council Bill #21-0047R due to the difficulty for one agency to manage all of the different sites within time schedules that work for those using the spaces and the reduced opportunity for local small businesses to bid and be selected for the maintenance of some and/or all of these green spaces.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric Tiso, Division Chief, Land Use and Urban Design Division at 410-396-8358.

CR/ewt

cc: Ms. Natasha Mehu, Mayor's Office
Ms. Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office
The Honorable Eric Costello, Council Rep. to Planning Commission
The Honorable Robert Stokes, Committee Chair
Mr. Matthew Stegman, City Council President's Office
Ms. Nikki Thompson, City Council President's Office
Mr. Colin Tarbert, BDC
Ms. Kathleen Byrne, BMZA
Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
Ms. Stephanie Murdock, DHCD
Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.
Mr. Francis Burnszyński, PABC
Mr. Liam Davis, DOT
Ms. Jenny Morgan, BCRP
Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services
Mr. Dominic McAlily, Council Services



MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Alice Kennedy, Acting Housing Commissioner

Date: August 3, 2021

(A)

Re: City Council Resolution 21-0047R Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots and Public Green Spaces

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0047R for the purpose of requesting the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

City Council Resolution 21-0047R calls on the Acting Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) along with various agency heads, to participate in an informational hearing on the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and public green spaces.

DHCD supports the intent of this Resolution, while we do not directly provide maintenance and mowing services, we work closely with the Department of Public Works (DPW) to ensure the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots by routing Work Orders to the agency for cleaning and cutting services. Public parks and green spaces are the responsibility of the Department of Recreation and Parks or the Department of Transportation.

For the purpose of this informational hearing, DHCD will describe our agency's role in the upkeep and maintenance of City owned vacant lots, privately owned vacant lots, and city owned lots that are a part of the Adopt-a-Lot program.

City owned vacant lots

DHCD Code Enforcement (CE) Division, either by response to 311 calls for service, during routine inspections or while patrolling districts, is charged with identifying properties that are in need of property maintenance attention. Code Enforcement acts on requests within three days



and submit work orders for DPW, as appropriate, to perform the required maintenance of City owned vacant lots to include cleaning and mowing.

Privately owned vacant lots

DHCD Inspectors will issue notices and/or citations to the responsible property owner for a variety of sanitation issues including high grass and weeds and trash and debris. If code enforcement efforts fail to get the desired response from the property owner, DHCD submits a work order to DPW to “clean and lien” the property, whereby a lien is placed on the property for the cost of the work performed. Unpaid liens can lead some vacant properties to tax sale.

Adopt a lot program

DHCD’s Vacants to Value Office of Marketing and Community Outreach manages the Adopt-A-Lot program which allows residents, businesses or neighborhood groups to steward and care for city-owned vacant lots in their community. An Adopt-A-Lot license holder can create community spaces that include, community gardens, clean and green spaces and recreational areas. The maintenance of the adopted lots is the responsibility of the entity that enters into the adopt-a-lot agreement. An interactive map of vacant lots that are available for adoption, lots that are currently adopted and community managed open spaces can be found on DHCD’s [website](#). DHCD relies on these partnerships not only to reduce the burden on the City to maintain vacant lots but also to improve living conditions in our neighborhoods.

The upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and public green spaces plays a significant role in attracting new residents, businesses, and raising property values. DHCD is supportive of discussions to improve the efficiency of upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and public green spaces.

Mowing work is specialized to the needs of each agency and DHCD welcomes the opportunity to continue to work with sister agencies to improve coordination, however it would be difficult to coordinate individual agency needs, work flows and timelines into one centralized system capable of managing the wide variety of sites within the public and private realm.

The Department of Housing and Community Development **recommends disapproval** of City Council Resolution 21-0047R.

AK/sm

cc: Ms. Nina Themelis, *Mayor’s Office of Government Relations*

Brandon M. Scott, Mayor • **Alice Kennedy**, Acting Housing Commissioner

417 East Fayette Street • Baltimore, MD 21202 • 443-984-5757 • dhcd.baltimorecity.gov

FROM	Bill Henry, Comptroller of Baltimore City
AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall
SUBJECT	21-0047R - Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots and Public Green Spaces

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



DATE:

August 13, 2021

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

Position: Support

The Comptroller's office is reporting on 21-0047R - Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots and Public Green Spaces. The purpose of this resolution is to report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

Background

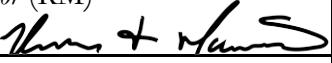
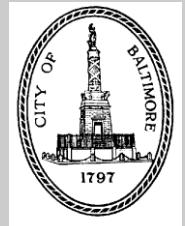
The Department of Real Estate (DoRE), under the office of the Comptroller, is responsible for approximately 1300 City-owned parcels. These "legacy lots" were purchased by the City of Baltimore through the tax sale process in the 1980s and 1990s. At that time the City was acquiring significant numbers of tax sale properties. Some of these properties are developed but the majority are vacant lots.

The DoRE does not have a budget for vacant lot maintenance. As a result, vacant lot maintenance calls are most often referred to other agencies of the City who may have the capacity to assist with tree removals and other maintenance issues. Mowing in particular is referred to the Department of Public Works (DPW) who has worked with DoRE to place many of these lots on a proactive mowing list.

Conclusion

The Department of Real Estate supports the resolution's goal to centralize mowing and maintenance responsibilities for City-owned properties under a single City agency.

For the reasons stated above, the Comptroller's Office supports 21-0047R.

F R O M	Name & Title Reginald Moore, <i>Executive Director (RM)</i> 	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
Agency Name & Address	Baltimore City Department of Recreation & Parks 3001 East Drive, Baltimore, Maryland (MD) 21217		
Subject:	<i>City Council Bill 21-0047R Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots & Public Green Spaces</i>		

DATE: Monday, August 2, 2021

TO: The Honorable President
Members of the City Council City Hall
100 North Holliday Street

INTRODUCTION

I am herein reporting on City Council 21-0047R introduced by Councilman Kristopher Burnett.

PURPOSE

For the purpose of requesting the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP), the Director of the Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

BRIEF HISTORY

BCRP currently contracts the mowing of its +/- 2924 acres of park properties to a local contractor. The BCRP contract has specifications particular to maintaining best practices for municipal park areas including frequency of cuts, trimming, edging, weed control, trash removal, and detailed documentation.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION

BCRP would not be in favor of a single city-wide contract based on several issues including contract administration, quality control, and differences in specifications which vary from one agency to another. One critical point of opposition is that a contract of this magnitude automatically precludes the City from fostering and attracting small business for future awards. Respectfully, BCRP opposes City Council Bill 21-0047R.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny Morgan, *Legislative Liaison* at jmorgan@baltimorecity.gov.

FROM	LISA MCNEILLY, SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTOR
AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 TH FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET
SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #21-0047R/UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE OF VACANT LOTS AND PUBLIC GREEN SPACES

Lisa McNeilly

CITY of

BALTIMORE

MEMO



DATE:

August 6, 2021

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400
100 North Holliday Street

The Office of Sustainability is in receipt of City Council Bill #21-0047R, which requests the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

The 2019 Baltimore Sustainability Plan (formally adopted on April 22, 2019) includes strategies and actions to expand city residents' access to green space including parks and community garden, as detailed below:

Nature for Nature's Sake

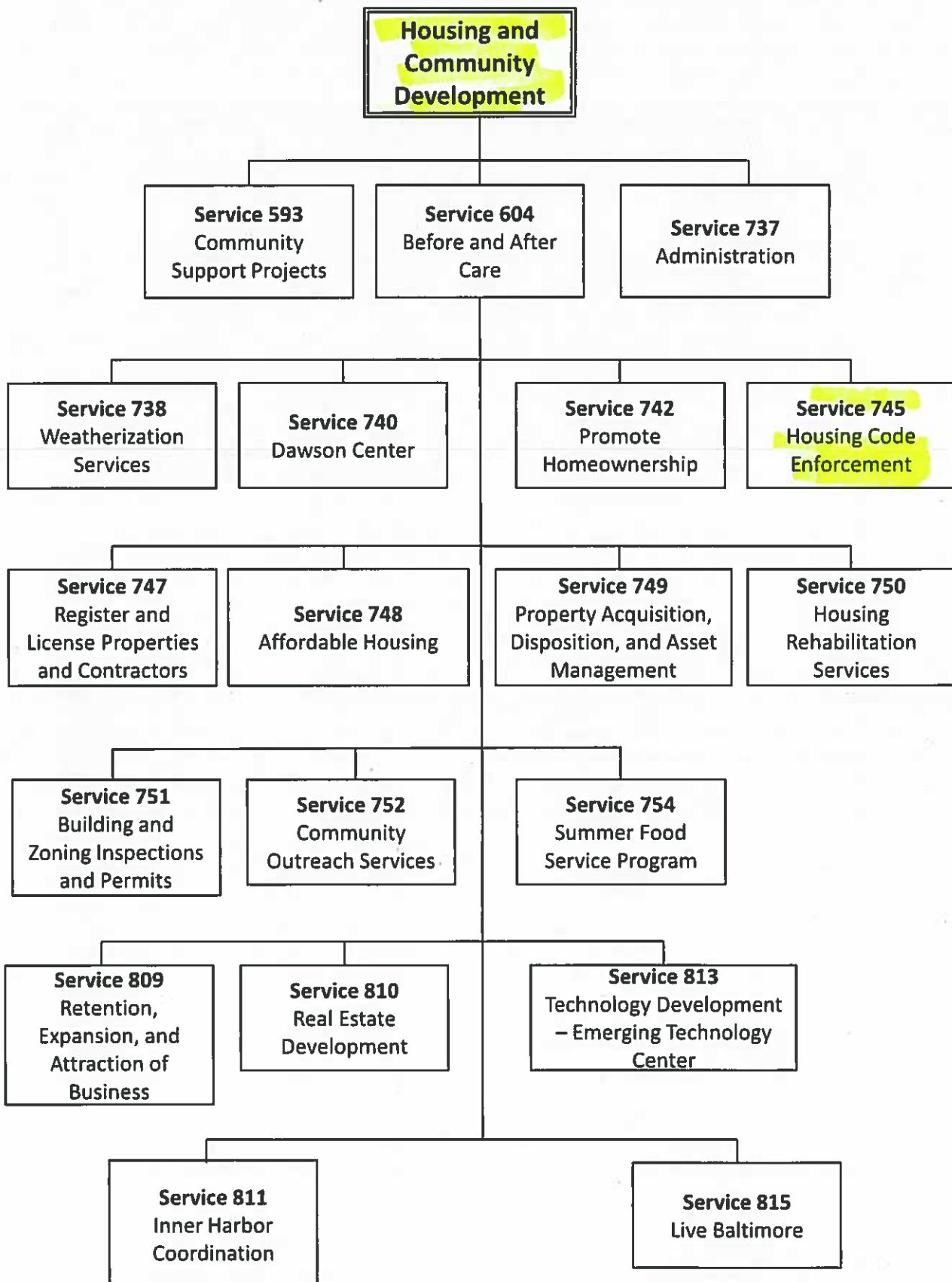
Strategy #2: Encourage and increase sustainable land management policies and practices on public and private land, taking into account the context of surrounding neighborhoods and the impacts to residents.

The Office of Sustainability defers to the Department of Planning's recommendation for City Council Bill #21-0047R as the administrative functions detailed of city agencies referenced in the aforementioned bill go beyond the scope of the 2019 Sustainability Plan.

cc: Ms. Natasha Mehu, Mayor's Office
Ms. Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office
Ms. Nikki Thompson, City Council President's Office
Mr. Matthew Stegman, City Council President's Office
Ms. Stephanie Murdock, DHCD
Ms. Marcia Collins, DPW
Mr. Liam Davis, DOT
Ms. Jenny Morgan, BCRP
Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services
Mr. Dominic McAlily, Council Services
Mr. Chris Ryer, DOP

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION ABOUT CITY AGENCIES

See attached information taken from Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Books



Service 745: Housing Code Enforcement

This service is responsible for providing safe and attractive neighborhoods through effective investigation and enforcement of building, property maintenance and related codes.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	13,792,098	180	11,676,930	167	12,506,049	163
Federal	160,000	0	363,986	0	360,000	0
Special	477,495	0	50,997	0	51,864	0
TOTAL	14,429,593	180	12,091,913	167	12,917,913	163

Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017		Fiscal 2018		Fiscal 2019		Fiscal 2020		Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022	
		Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Outcome Output	# of interior notices abated	N/A		2,825		2,913	3,000	1,410		3,000		1,000	
	# of property maintenance code enforcement inspections	224,786		261,588		271,658	240,000	211,192		240,000		204,000	
Outcome	# of structures released for demolition or stabilization	N/A		502		893	500	495		500		500	
Efficiency	% of interior notice re-inspections completed on time	N/A		68%		66%	70%	70%		66%		50%	
	% of service requests closed on time (15 days)	92%		98%		95%	90%	99%		95%		80%	

- The "# of interior notices abated" declined in Fiscal 2020 due to a computer system migration that slowed down connectivity and limited access to the court system and dwellings during the pandemic in the final quarter of the year.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The recommended budget maintains a credit of \$2 million, representing a plan to transfer \$2 million in eligible code enforcement costs for work done in target neighborhoods to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).
- The budget includes an anticipated Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) award of \$160,000 supporting the Code Enforcement legal team.
- \$12.5 million in General Fund support is recommended for code enforcement and related legal services, program administration, notice production for constituents, and special investigations.

Service 749: Property Acquisition, Disposition and Asset Management

In Fiscal 2020 the Service formerly named Blight Elimination is renamed Property Acquisition, Disposition and Asset Management to better reflect services provided. This service supports neighborhood revitalization and mixed income community development through the sale of City owned properties and maintaining, clearing, and holding land for future use to create viable neighborhoods throughout the city. This service also includes the acquisition of property, relocation of displaced individuals/families of acquired properties if needed.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	3,213,642	52	3,586,699	48	4,149,917	46
TOTAL	3,213,642	52	3,586,699	48	4,149,917	46

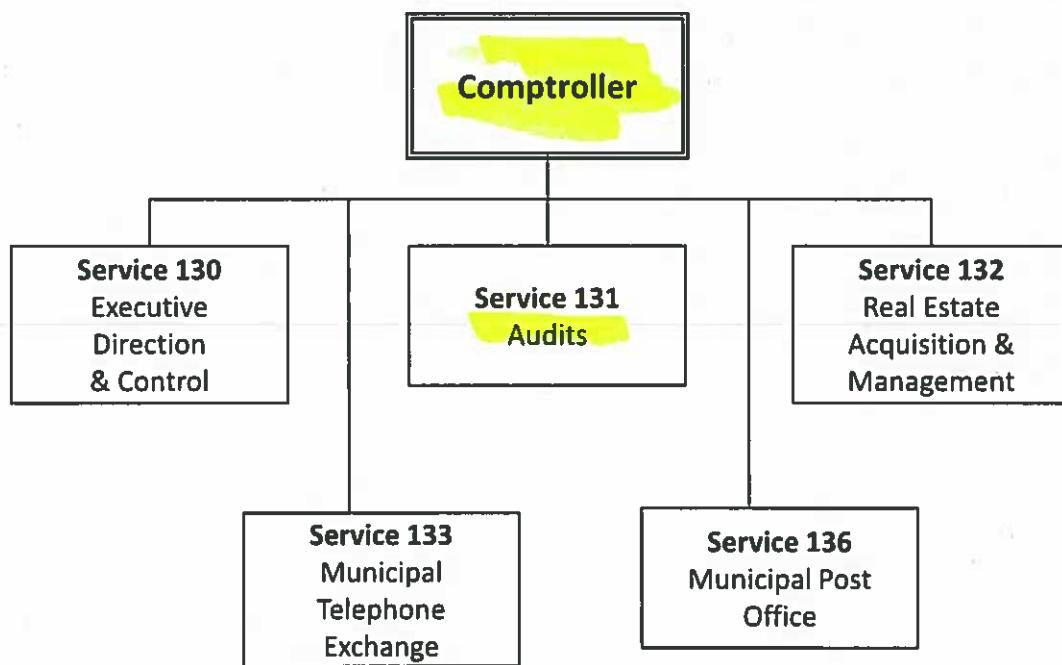
Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020	Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2022
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Output	# of property acquisitions completed in FY	N/A	427	449	400	472	100
Output	# of property dispositions completed in FY	N/A	186	90	100	224	80
Output	# of resident relocations completed in FY	N/A	56	53	50	55	50
Effectiveness	% of dispositions completed within 120 days	83%	81%	85%	80%	77%	70%
Outcome	% of properties sold that are under construction or have a use and occupancy permit	89%	83%	81%	80%	77%	80%
Efficiency	Average # of days to complete acquisition of properties in focused project areas	235	253	269	365	276	365

- Regarding "% of properties sold that are under construction or have a use and occupancy permit," in Fiscal 2020, the agency sold 1,808 properties, of which 1,386 (77%) are under rehabilitation, have otherwise been improved, have obtained use and occupancy status, or have been demolished.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The recommended budget includes the transfer of a position to the Mayor's Office to be used as a Special Projects Manager position in the Office of Innovation and Performance.



Service 131: Audits

This service conducts biennial performance and financial audits, including the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit; provides attestation engagements and advisory services as requested by various management; investigates allegations of fraud, waste, and abuses of city resources; reviews various contracts, change orders, or proposals submitted by agencies to the Board of Estimates; and other special projects as necessary.

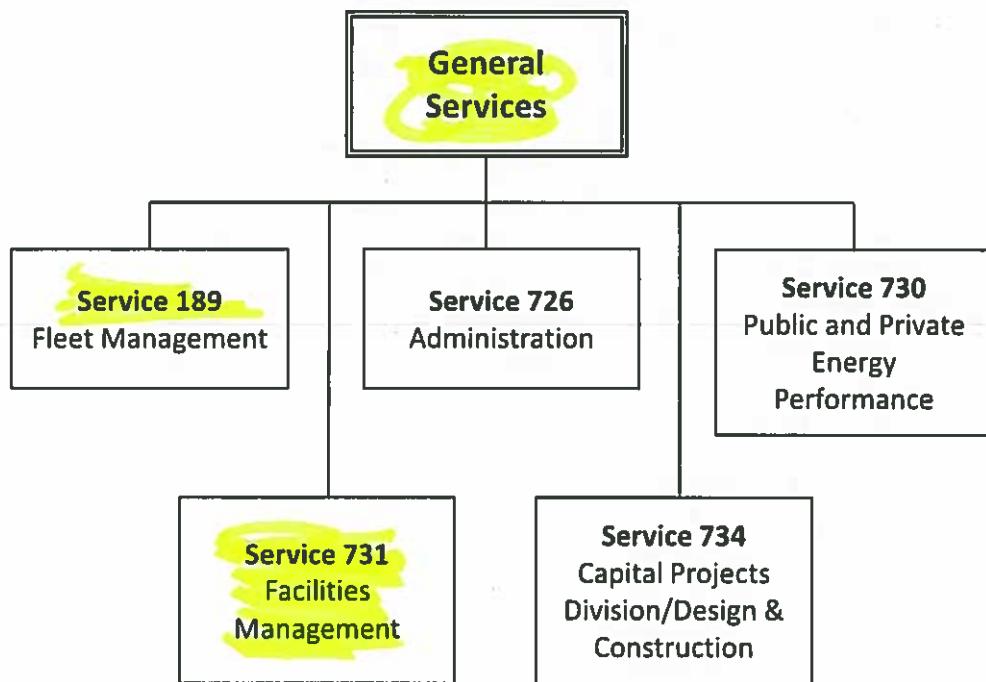
Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	4,887,784	46	5,082,109	42	4,977,617	43
TOTAL	4,887,784	46	5,082,109	42	4,977,617	43

Major Operating Budget Items

- The budget utilizes \$500,000 previously budgeted in support of the biennial financial and performance audits authorized by voters in November 2016 to create 2 Auditor Manager positions and reserves the balance to contract with a technology auditing firm.
- The budget also transfers a vacant Deputy City Auditor position to Service 130: Executive Direction and Control. The position will be reclassified in Fiscal 2022.

Change Table - General Fund

Changes or adjustments	Amount
Fiscal 2021 Adopted Budget	5,082,109
Changes with service impacts	
Create 2 Audit Manager positions	347,697
Adjustments without service impacts	
Transfer Deputy City Auditor position to Service 130: Executive Direction and Control - Comptroller	(189,626)
Change in active employee health benefit costs	92,426
Change in pension contributions	63,455
Adjustment for City building rental charges	7,747
Change in allocation for workers' compensation expense	19,092
Decrease in employee compensation and benefits	(585,901)
Increase in contractual services expenses	149,464
Decrease in operating supplies, equipment, software, and computer hardware	(8,846)
Fiscal 2022 Recommended Budget	4,977,617



Service 189: Fleet Management

This service is responsible for the purchase, outfitting, and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment used by City agencies. Teams of highly-trained maintenance workers and body shop technicians maintain over 5,600 pieces of motorized equipment including Police cruisers, Fire apparatus, Inner Harbor water skimmers, **lawnmowers**, and more. Operations take place at the Central Garage and several substations throughout the City.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
Internal Service	63,035,518	252	65,812,561	253	67,122,237	244
TOTAL	63,035,518	252	65,812,561	253	67,122,237	244

Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020	Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2022
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Effectiveness	% of essential vehicles that met their availability requirements	N/A	N/A	99%	100%	100%	100%
Effectiveness	% of maintenance repairs outside of scheduled preventative maintenance	N/A	14%	14%	14%	3%	12%
Effectiveness	% of Preventive Maintenance Work Requests completed on time	51%	79%	92%	N/A	48%	N/A
Efficiency	% of total costs spent on maintenance & repair outside of regular wear and tear	8.90%	9.09%	6.00%	8.92%	6.00%	8.00%
Output	total gallons of fuel purchased or consumed (in millions)	3.3M	3.3M	3.2M	3.2M	3.0M	3.1M
							3.2M

- "% of maintenance repairs outside of scheduled preventative maintenance" fell sharply from 14% to 3% in Fiscal 2020 due to reduced maintenance needs during COVID-19.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The recommended budget transfers 7 ISF positions to Service 726: Administration due to a reorganization that has no operational impact. These positions are HR and IT-related and were moved to simplify DGS's organizational structure as the positions reported centrally through Service 726 despite being located in other services.
- The recommended budget eliminates 1 Automatic Mechanic and 1 Laborer position due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The budget supports an increase of \$228,266 to pay the Department of Finance for 3 positions that are directly involved in the service's procurement process.
- The City began a fleet modernization plan in Fiscal 2014 using a lease-financing strategy. Under this lease financing approach, the purchase of every vehicle and piece of equipment is financed over its useful life.
- The Fiscal 2022 budget supports the ninth round of borrowing to purchase an additional 229 vehicles for \$25 million. 2,740 vehicles were purchased in the first eight rounds of borrowing. Cumulative debt service payments are budgeted at \$20.3 million.
- The budget maintains the fleet labor rate at \$108.12 per hour, a fuel surcharge of \$0.44 per gallon, and a tank asset replacement surcharge at \$0.09 per gallon.
- The agency has implemented an employee gainsharing program for eligible Fleet Management Employees that resulted in a costs savings of \$780,259, of which \$443,420 was shared among 198 eligible employees. Gainsharing supports the department's business goals of providing high-quality, cost-effective fleet management services to City customers and creates opportunities for employees to share in operational savings created by improved efficiency using a shared savings model.

Service 731: Facilities Management

This service is responsible for providing maintenance and repair to over 500 municipal buildings. The 82 core buildings, owned by the Mayor and City Council, comprise over 4.7 million square feet of workspace. Tenant agencies include most departments of City government, private and non-profit groups, and other governmental and quasi-governmental entities. The service maintains 45 buildings through an Internal Service Fund (ISF), including Historic Properties. Agencies occupying buildings supported by the ISF are charged rent on a per square foot basis. The service also manages surplus schools, which are supported through the General Fund. DGS is actively engaged with partners to identify opportunities for alternative uses for the surplus schools.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	7,253,284	3	7,652,699	7	10,712,183	7
Internal Service	25,589,283	96	28,452,948	94	28,988,847	88
Federal	0	0	1,023,000	0	0	0
State	0	0	1,000,000	0	250,000	0
Special	0	0	99,700	0	0	0
TOTAL	32,842,567	99	38,228,347	101	39,951,030	95

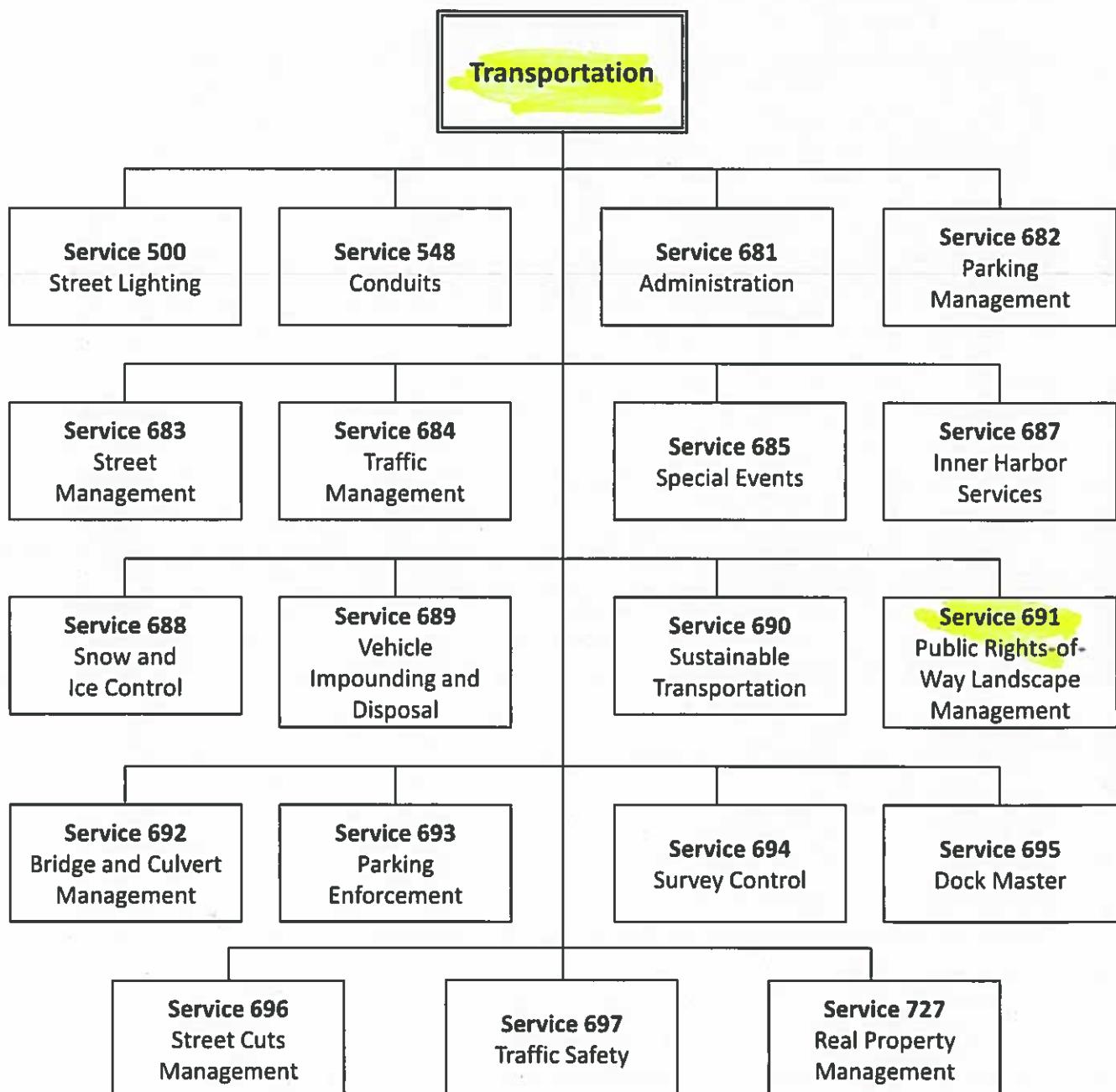
Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020	Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2022
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Effectiveness	% of Preventive Maintenance Work Requests completed on time	51%	79%	92%	N/A	48%	N/A
Effectiveness	% of Corrective Maintenance Work Requests completed on time	68%	71%	64%	N/A	51%	N/A
Outcome	% of customers satisfied or very satisfied with service responsiveness	100%	83%	57%	78%	65%	85%
Efficiency	Preventative to Corrective Maintenance Ratio	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Efficiency	Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) per square feet	\$5.77	\$6.15	\$7.71	\$7.71	\$7.80	\$8.24

- “% of customers satisfied or very satisfied with service responsiveness” rose in Fiscal 2020 to 65% due to an increased focus on training, engagement activities, and supervisor follow-up with customers.
- “% of Corrective Maintenance Work Requests Completed On Time” and “% of Preventive Maintenance Work Requests Completed On Time” are new measures introduced in Fiscal 2022, which will better reflect both the scope of work in the service and the time it takes to complete specific projects.
- “Preventative to Corrective Maintenance Ratio” is a new measure introduced to improve accountability by counting all maintenance jobs completed during the fiscal year when they are closed. A previous iteration of this measure only counted maintenance jobs requested and closed in the same fiscal year. The service is still reviewing how best to present the data, which will be ready for publication in Fiscal 2023.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The recommended budget transfers 2 ISF positions to Service 734: Capital Projects Division/Design & Construction and 4 ISF positions to Service 726: Administration due to a reorganization that has no operational impact.
- The budget transfers 1 Operations Assistant III position from Service 726: Administration and 1 Engineer Supervisor position from Service 734: Capital Projects Division/Design & Construction to the service's ISF. These transfers are funded by the elimination of 2 ISF positions.



Service 691: Public Rights-of-Way Landscape Management

This service provides for the mowing and maintenance of the grass in the 870 median strips in the City roadways, mulching and cleaning of tree pits, mowing of certain City-owned lots, removal and cleaning of trash, debris and illegal signs, and installation of street banners and hanging baskets in commercial areas throughout the City.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	4,395,475	16	3,977,994	16	4,506,539	15
TOTAL	4,395,475	16	3,977,994	16	4,506,539	15

Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017		Fiscal 2018		Fiscal 2019		Fiscal 2020		Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022	
		Actual	Target										
Output	# of segments of right-of-way maintained annually	2,486		2,414		1,908	3,960	1,358		3,960		3,960	
Effectiveness	% of median strips mowed on schedule per cycle	100%		100%		100%	100%	100%		100%		100%	
Efficiency	Average \$ cost per maintained segment of right-of-way	\$143		\$153		\$185	\$202	\$202		\$202		\$202	
Effectiveness	Median mowing cycle (# of days)	14		14		14	14	14		14		14	

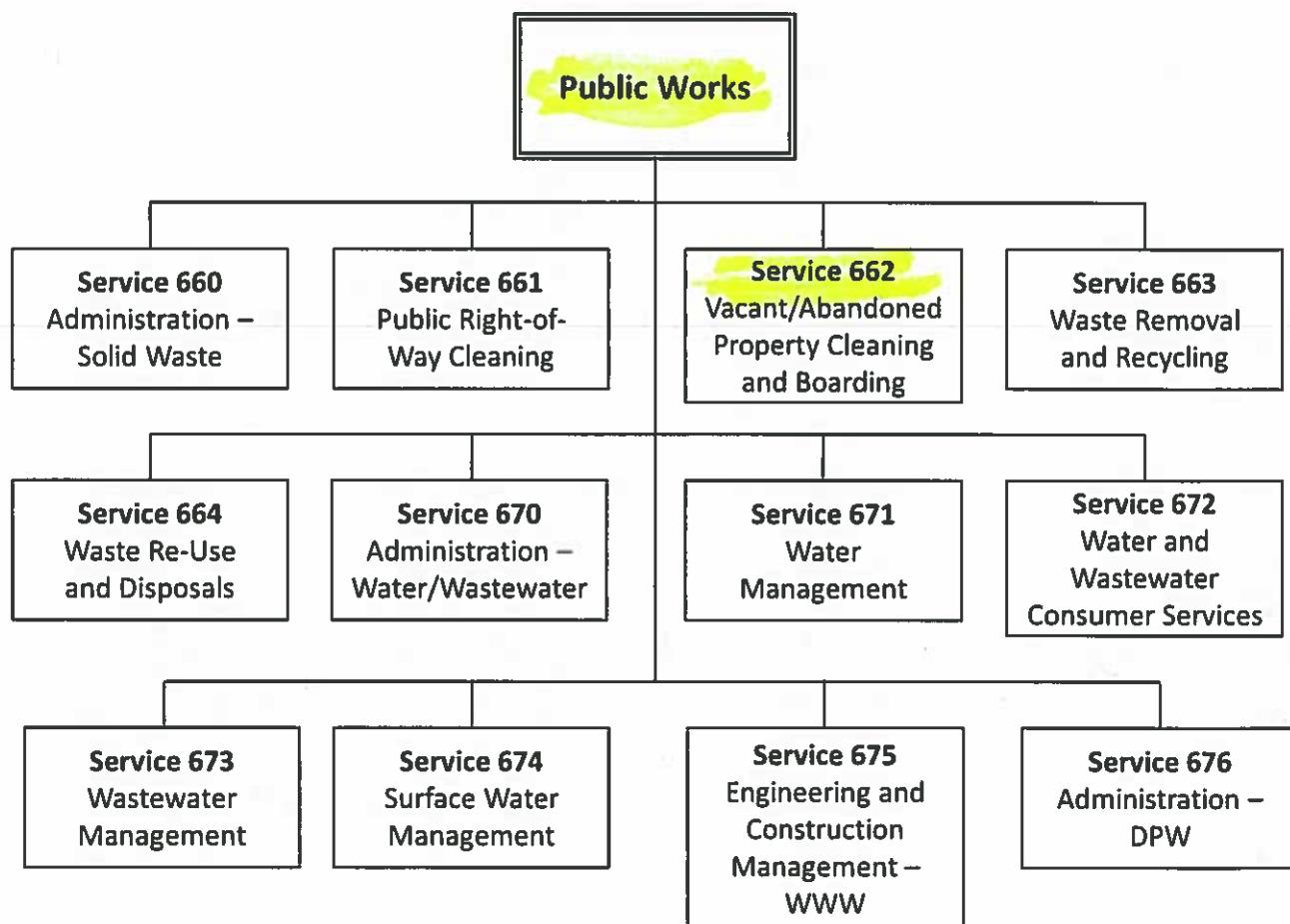
- The service saw a decrease in "# of segments of right-of-way maintained annually" in Fiscal 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders. This measure is based on work completed by internal crews and does not include work completed through contracts.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The recommended budget eliminates 1 Laborer positions.
- The recommended budget increases contractual services by \$531,000 to align the budget with historical expenditures for maintenance of roadway medians.

Change Table - General Fund

Changes or adjustments	Amount
Fiscal 2021 Adopted Budget	3,977,994
Changes with service impacts	
Eliminate Laborer position	(41,238)
Adjustments without service impacts	
Change in active employee health benefit costs	31,943
Change in pension contributions	3,383
Adjustment for City fleet rental, repair, and fuel charges	(5,955)
Change in allocation for workers' compensation expense	(28,677)
Increase in employee compensation and benefits	36,231
Increase in contractual services expenses	531,566
Increase in operating supplies, equipment, software, and computer hardware	1,292
Fiscal 2022 Recommended Budget	4,506,539



Service 662: Vacant and Abandoned Property Cleaning and Boarding

This service provides cleaning, boarding, mowing, and rat control services to vacant and unoccupied properties that are cited by the City's housing inspectors. Liens are placed against the property owner for work performed by City crews.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	10,246,604	119	12,124,600	115	11,730,011	107
Federal	1,063,456	0	1,100,000	0	1,175,000	0
TOTAL	11,310,060	119	13,224,600	115	12,905,011	107

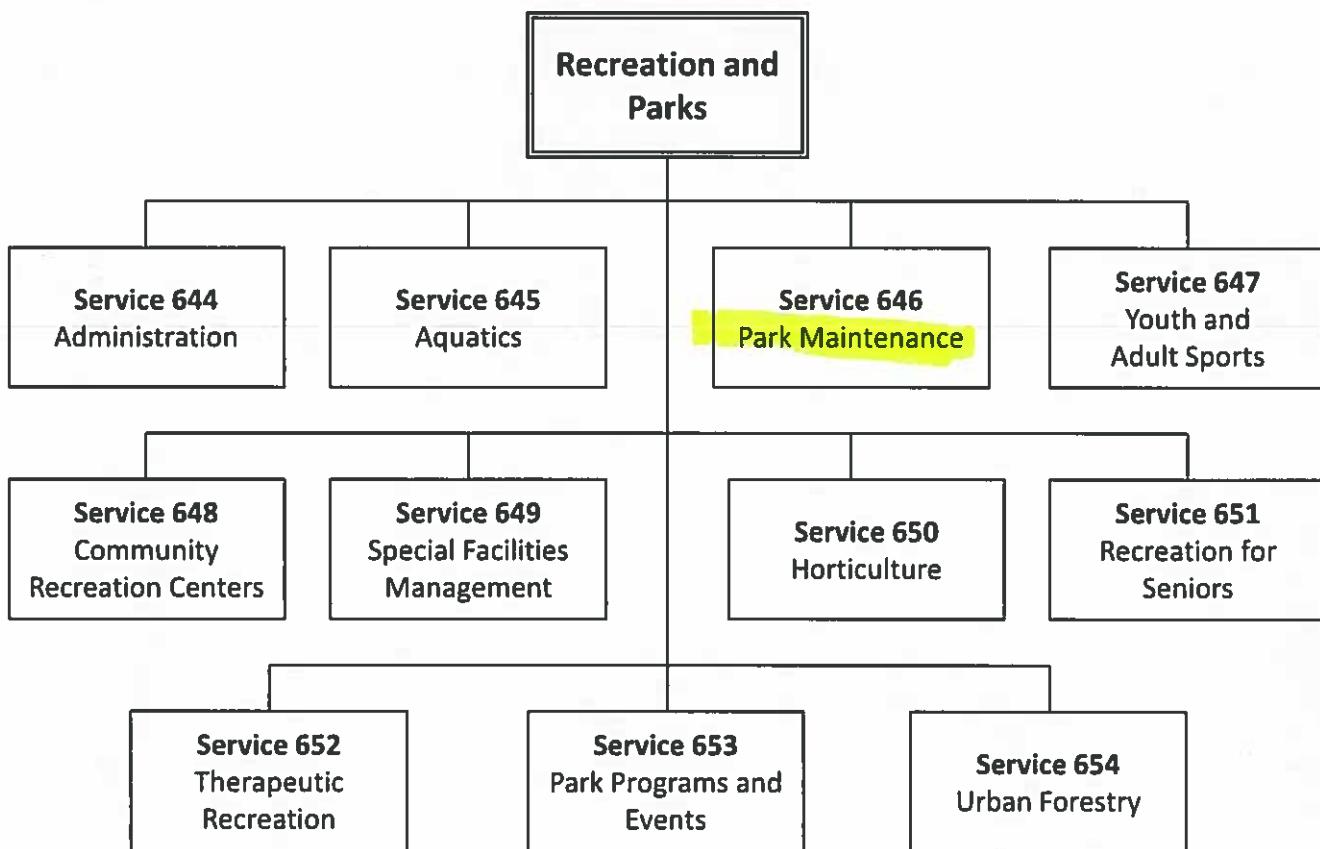
Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020	Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2022
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
Effectiveness Outcome	# of burrows baited	49,037	27,237	23,948	25,000	12,668	22,000
	# of citizen complaints related to rats	5,524	5,323	3,971	5,200	3,989	4,000
Efficiency Efficiency	\$ Value of liens billed (in millions)	\$4.6M	\$5.6M	\$4.3M	\$3.0M	\$4.3M	\$3.0M
	% of cleaning and boarding requests completed on time	94%	71%	56%	90%	54%	70%

- The "# of burrows baited" decreased significantly due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- The "% of cleaning and boarding requests completed on time" decreased due to temporary suspension of services as a result of COVID-19.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The recommended budget includes \$1.2 million in CDBG funds to provide for the cleaning and boarding of vacant housing in target neighborhoods.
- The recommended budget includes \$86,018 in additional funding to support the rental of code 2 equipment from Fleet Management for the Property Management Division.
- The recommended budget maintains \$1.5 million for the mowing and cleaning of vacant and abandoned properties using private contractors.
- The budget eliminates 2 Laborer positions.
- The budget transfers 6 Solid Waste Worker positions to Service 663: Waste Removal and Recycling to accurately capture where the work is being performed.



Recreation and Parks

Baltimore City Recreation and Parks (BCRP) is the primary provider of recreational, cultural, and physical activities to the citizens of the City of Baltimore. Active lifestyles and a connection to nature have been scientifically proven to improve both physical and mental health in all age groups. BCRP provides a wide range of activities in its sports facilities and 43 community centers. There are specialized recreational activities for the physically and emotionally challenged, and senior citizen's programs. City residents can participate in indoor/outdoor aquatics, ice and roller skating, hockey, soccer, basketball, football, dancing, acting, music, tennis, track and field, boxing, afterschool and out-of-school programs. The Bureau of Parks is responsible for the beautification, management and maintenance of 4,600 acres of parkland. It also plans and implements outdoor recreation programs in City parks, including nature and environmental education at Carrie Murray. Regular park maintenance functions include grass mowing, ball fields preparations, buildings and playgrounds repairs. The Horticulture Division is responsible for the Rawlings Conservatory and Cylburn Arboretum. The Urban Forestry Division is responsible for the planting and caring of all trees in the public rights-of-way and City parks. Park Programs is responsible for the Rhythm and Reels, park permits, park volunteer program, the "\$5 5K" running series, biking, kayaking, hiking and camping in city parks.

Operating Budget Highlights

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	43,263,981	300	43,362,067	341	45,714,877	348
Federal	0	0	439,661	0	439,661	0
State	2,205,966	2	5,604,840	18	5,511,523	19
Special	5,655,173	12	8,487,139	13	7,885,822	13
Special Grant	182,681	0	300,000	0	300,000	0
TOTAL	51,307,801	314	58,193,707	372	59,851,883	380

- The Fiscal 2022 budget includes funding for the safe reopening of BCRP facilities and programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Fiscal 2022 will mark the first full year of operation of the Cahill Fitness and Wellness Center. The Fiscal 2022 budget includes \$1.1 million in the General Fund to support the Cahill Recreation Center staffing and operations.
- The recommended budget includes \$548,041 of General Fund support for the transition of the Mounted Police Unit to BCRP. This funding includes 3 new positions and care and stable rental costs.

Capital Budget Highlights

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Budget	Fiscal 2021 Budget	Fiscal 2022 Budget
General	3,600,000	0	0
State	8,881,000	8,805,000	20,850,000
General Obligation Bonds	7,300,000	9,300,000	11,400,000
Other	12,108,000	0	0
TOTAL	31,889,000	18,105,000	32,250,000

- The recommended Fiscal 2022 capital budget includes \$32.3 million for recreation and parks in State and local funds.
- In Fiscal 2022, the State allocated an additional \$13 million above the typical Program Open Space funds for pool, park, and playground improvements.
- The recommendations include \$5 million for Reebird Park improvements, \$4.5 million for Chick Webb Recreation Center renovation, \$4.5 million for pool improvements, and \$2.15 million for Gwynns Falls Athletic Field renovations.
- The Fiscal 2022 recommendations include funding for major recreation facility construction.

Service 646: Park Maintenance

This service is responsible for the maintenance of 4,600 acres of parkland spread over 276 individual sites, including Druid Hill Park, historic Mt. Vernon Place, neighborhood parks and playgrounds. Maintenance includes: cleaning/repairing playgrounds; preparation/maintenance of athletic fields, basketball and tennis courts; cleaning trails; and mowing grass. This service also mulches trees, supports special events, and removes leaves/snow.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	11,597,366	76	13,056,596	84	13,490,118	89
State	1,182,174	0	3,933,185	2	3,761,052	2
Special	113,702	0	1,823,996	0	450,000	0
TOTAL	12,893,242	76	18,813,777	86	17,701,170	91

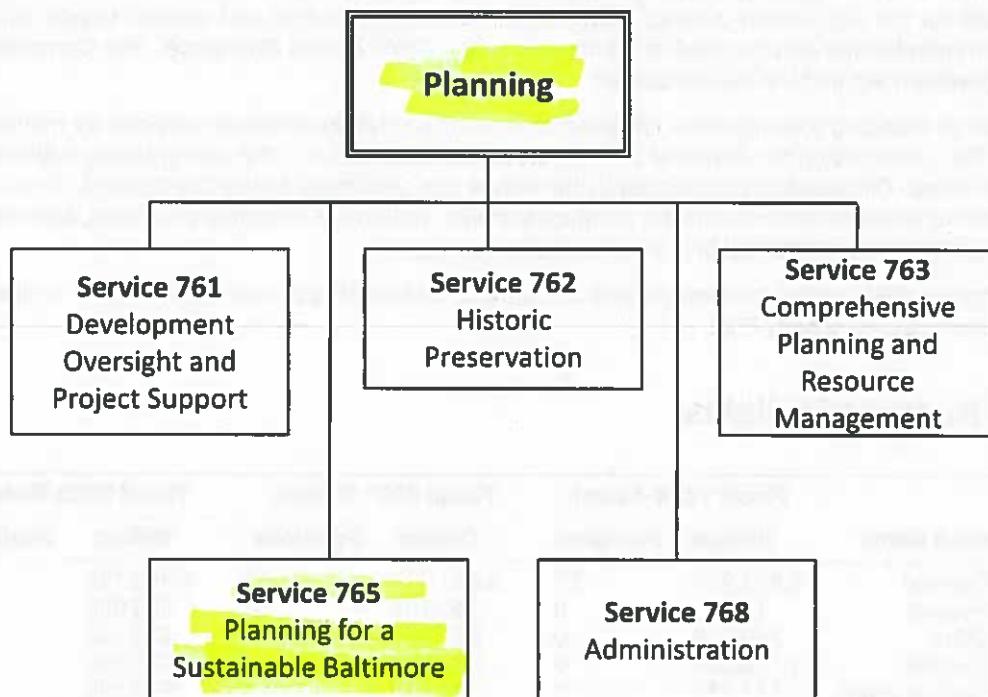
Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017		Fiscal 2018		Fiscal 2019		Fiscal 2020		Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022	
		Actual	Target										
Output	# of City-maintained park playgrounds	114		120		120	120	121		120		122	
Effectiveness	# of playgrounds with 100% functional components	72		77		80	85	61		128		N/A	
Effectiveness	% of Facility Maintenance SRs completed on time	N/A		N/A		19%	N/A	38%		35%		50%	
Effectiveness	% of Park Maintenance SRs completed on time	N/A		N/A		27%	N/A	24%		35%		50%	

- The service did not meet its target for "# of playgrounds with 100% functional components" because of park maintenance schedule disruptions due to COVID-19 precautions to reduce crew sizes for social distancing practices. Additionally, vendors that supply replacement playground equipment experienced supply chain issues due to the pandemic.
- The service added new performance measure, "Percentage of Facility Maintenance SRs Completed on Time", and replaced "Frequency at which parks are inspected and receive maintenance" with "Percentage of Park Maintenance SRs Completed on Time". These measures better evaluate the service's maintenance response.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The budget transfers 5 CDL driver positions from Service 648: Community Recreation Centers.



Planning

The Department of Planning provides services and leadership in urban and strategic planning, historical and architectural preservation, zoning, design, development, and capital budgeting to promote the sustained economic, social, and community development of the City of Baltimore. The services provided by the Department of Planning are mandated by Articles VI and VII of the Baltimore City Charter and the Zoning Code. The Planning Commission is the policymaking authority for the Department and consists of the Mayor or designee, the Director of Public Works or designee, a member of the City Council, and six City residents appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

The Charter authorizes the Planning Commission to develop and update plans for the physical development of the City, review proposals for the subdivision of land, submit an annual capital budget and six-year Capital Improvement Program, and make recommendations on proposed amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance. The Comprehensive Master Plan guides future development and the capital budget.

The Department of Planning also provides historical and architectural preservation services as mandated by Article VI of the City Code. The Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation is the policymaking authority for these services and consists of eleven City residents appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The Commission relies on department staff to make recommendations, conduct surveys, implement incentive programs, and make policy and other recommendations related to historical and architectural preservation.

The Office of Sustainability, within the Department of Planning, was created by ordinance in 2007 to develop and implement the City of Baltimore Sustainability Plan.

Operating Budget Highlights

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	5,971,972	57	6,661,397	48	6,959,199	48
Federal	13,085	0	768,105	0	500,000	0
State	206,349	0	867,748	0	835,200	0
Special	1,185,835	0	830,000	0	1,035,646	1
Special Grant	151,943	0	977,142	0	839,000	0
TOTAL	7,529,184	57	10,104,392	48	10,169,045	49

- The recommended budget includes \$440,000 of Casino Support, which includes \$40,000 in funding organizing school projects around "Reimagine Middle Branch" starting Fall 2021, \$300,000 for Middle Branch planning in cooperation with Recreation & Parks, and \$100,000 for a one-time grant for First Mile Stable debt service.
- The budget includes \$405,000 to support updating various reports that must be started in Fiscal 2022, including the Comprehensive Plan, Climate Action Plan, Disaster Preparedness Plan, and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory.
- The budget funds a Floodplain Manager position that will oversee the Floodplain Management Program and maintain the participation in the Community Rating System program, which saves City property owners \$800,000 per year.
- This budget establishes 4 new Special Revenue fund accounts and transfers funds from the capital budget to these funds. These new Special Revenue funds better reflect the variety of work conducted within this service.

Capital Budget Highlights

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Budget	Fiscal 2021 Budget	Fiscal 2022 Budget
General	200,000	0	0
Other	0	150,000	(1,261,000)
TOTAL	200,000	150,000	(1,261,000)

- The Fiscal 2022 recommendation includes a negative appropriation for the Critical Area programs. This will move these programs to the operating budget.

Service 765: Planning for a Sustainable Baltimore

This service funds the Baltimore Office of Sustainability (BOS), which is guided by the Baltimore Sustainability Plan (2019) that lays out a broad, inclusive, and community responsive sustainability agenda. The Office provides staff support to the Baltimore Commission on Sustainability and supports the implementation of the Baltimore Food Matters program. The service oversees federal floodplain and insurance regulations as well as City oversight of the State Critical Area Management Program and Forest Conservation Act, and the City's landscape regulations. This service also provides the City with FEMA and MEMA (natural and man-made) disaster planning.

Fund Name	Fiscal 2020 Actual		Fiscal 2021 Budget		Fiscal 2022 Budget	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
General	1,398,526	11	1,317,800	11	1,553,443	11
Federal	13,085	0	518,105	0	250,000	0
State	4,000	0	542,748	0	510,200	0
Special	0	0	75,000	0	482,046	1
Special Grant	151,943	0	926,142	0	663,000	0
TOTAL	1,567,554	11	3,379,795	11	3,458,689	12

Performance Measures

Type	Measure	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020		Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2022
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Target
Outcome	# of customers engaged and/or equipped by the Office of Sustainability to promote and/or implement sustainable practices	N/A	18,561	21,148	29,000	54,685	30,000	60,000
Effectiveness	% of Baltimore Sustainability Plan strategies initiated	9.0%	2.0%	14.0%	6.0%	9.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Effectiveness	% of Climate Action Plan (CAP) recommendations completed	7.0%	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	6.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Outcome	The City's current Community Rating System (CRS) rating	N/A	2,546	2,546	3,000	2,707	3,000	3,000
Output	Total area (sq. ft.) of vacant lots greened using Green Pattern Book patterns	301,954	234,418	549,424	500,000	599,490	300,000	500,000

- The "Total area (sq. ft.) of vacant lots greened using Green Pattern Book pattern" increased by 99,490 square feet due to improved coordination and collaboration between partners. This led to more funding opportunities and involvement from other partners, and more efficient use of capital dollars by identifying and prioritizing projects that support the overall Baltimore Green Network Plan.
- Based on recommendations from Audits, the "% of Climate Action Plan (CAP) recommendations completed" and "% of Baltimore Sustainability strategies initiated" have been revised to reflect annual performance instead of cumulative performance.

Major Operating Budget Items

- The budget funds a City Planner II position that will operate as the City's Floodplain Manager and oversee the City's Floodplain Management Program and maintain the City's participation in the Community Rating System program.
- The recommended budget includes \$75,000 to update the City's Disaster Preparedness Plan, which is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and updated every 5 years.
- This budget includes \$50,000 to update the Climate Action Plan, which is required to be updated every 10 years.
- The budget includes \$30,000 to update the City's Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory, which is required to be updated every 2 years.

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 21-0047R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Burnett, Cohen, Dorsey, Bullock

Introduced and read first time: June 8, 2021

Assigned to: Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, City Administrator, Department of Planning, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Transportation, Department of Finance, Department of Public Works, Office of the Comptroller, Department of Recreation and Parks, Office of Sustainability

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Upkeep and Maintenance of Vacant Lots and Public Green Spaces

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the
4 Director of the Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the
5 Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the
6 Bureau of Solid Waste, the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the
7 Comptroller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on
8 the annual cumulative total of calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots
9 and green spaces; and recommending to the Administration that a single City agency be
10 charged with the responsibility for mowing all City-owned lots, parcels, parks, and green
11 spaces.

12 **Recitals**

13 According to data provided by the Department of Housing and Community Development and
14 the Department of Planning, there are currently 9,297 vacant or abandoned properties owned by
15 the City of Baltimore and 7,946, or over 85%, of these are vacant lots requiring mowing. With
16 the total number of vacant City-owned lots hovering around 8,000, a single bureau would
17 increase both the efficiency and effectiveness of this City service.

18 In 2010, 4,000 lots owned by the Mayor and City Council, which are managed by the
19 Department of Housing and Community Development, averaged \$760 per lot for 3 grass cutting
20 seasons and \$1,015 per lot for annual trash and debris removal, totaling a little over \$7,000,000
21 for total average maintenance cost for all the lots.

22 Consolidating all mowing operations in a single agency will eliminate confusion in
23 determining which City agency is responsible for mowing which City-owned parcel. It would
24 also create opportunities for the City to provide better service with greater efficiency in both cost
25 and response time.

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

Council Bill 21-0047R

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the City
2 Council requests the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the
3 Department of Planning, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the
4 Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid Waste,
5 the Sustainability Coordinator, a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, and the Chief
6 of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research to report on the annual cumulative total of
7 calls for service for the upkeep and maintenance of vacant lots and green spaces; and
8 recommends to the Administration that a single City agency be charged with the responsibility
9 for mowing all City-owned lots, lots, parcels, parks, and green spaces.

10 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
11 Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Director of the Department of Planning,
12 the Sustainability Coordinator, the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of
13 the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Head of the Bureau of Solid
14 Waste, the Office of the Comptroller, the Chief of the Bureau of Budget and Management
15 Research, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.