

Ashley Esposito (written testimony)

21-0032R: Informational Hearing for Studying the Feasibility of a Small Hauler Incentive Program

Position: Favorable

My name is Ashley Esposito. I am a Baltimore City resident living in Violetville and I am also a litter picker and a member of the Village of Violetville, Inc. board. I have seen and experienced the difficulty in getting illegal dumping removed and trying to find a small hauler available to remove items from individuals. The current process is in response to the dumping after it has already occurred. It is a burden on city resources, and it takes a long time for the bulk items to actually be removed. Many of my neighbors who are elderly rely on haulers to get rid of larger items. The current supply of small haulers is in short supply.

I am more in favor of preventative programs, then reactive programs. I support this initiative because that is exactly what it will do. It will reduce the amount of illegal dumping by making it easier to find small haulers to transport larger items. I also believe that anything that allows re-entry and youth the opportunity to become small businesses owners is priceless. I think the Baltimore City Council should do everything in their power to:

1. Allow more economic growth for those who know this is an opportunity to be self-employed.
2. Help communities all over the city get some relief from the dumping of bulk items.
3. Ensure that this program has the proper outreach efforts to the re-entry and youth populations for them to take advantage of this opportunity.

If I could make another suggestion, once this is passed it would be amazing to have a directory of haulers who are part of this program for me, my neighbors, and other Baltimore City residents to contact these new entrepreneurs. Thank you for your time and I hope you all will support this much needed program.

Ashley Esposito