

# City of Baltimore

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



## Meeting Agenda - Final

**Monday, March 10, 2025**

**5:00 PM**

**Virtual Meeting Link: <https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?>**

**MTID=m4eb6302916f96a387809fdb3c24e6bb4**

**Password: Public**

**City Hall, 4th Floor, Du Burns Chambers**

## **Baltimore City Council**

***Zeke Cohen, Council President - District 1: Mark Parker - District 2: Danielle McCray - District 3: Ryan Dorsey - District 4: Mark Conway - District 5: Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer - District 6: Vice President Sharon Green Middleton - District 7: James Torrence - District 8: Paris Gray - District 9: John Bullock - District 10: Phylcia Porter - District 11: Zac Blanchard - District 12: Jermaine Jones - District 13: Antonio Glover - District 14: Odette Ramos***

**Call to Order**

**Invocation**

Rev. Lucille Griffin, Mount Zion Baptist Church

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**Approval of the Journal**

February 24, 2025

**Communications from the Mayor**

**Bills Signed by the Mayor**

***March 6, 2025***

[25-0019](#)

## Midtown Community Benefits District and Management Authority — Establishment

FOR the purpose of creating a community benefits district within Baltimore City; specifying the boundaries of the District; creating an Authority and describing its rights, duties, and powers; designating the initial interim Board of the Authority and providing for the selection and approval of a full Board; creating the administrator for the Authority to administer the District; mandating the financial responsibilities of the Authority and the City in conjunction with the operation of the District; providing for a supplemental tax to be collected by and for the Authority; establishing limits and minimums on the amount of the supplemental tax; incorporating the assessment, collection, and enforcement process for the supplemental tax within the procedures and processes already existing; specifying the role of the City in maintaining and enhancing existing services; encouraging the creation of partnerships between and among the Authority, the City, the State, the federal government, and other property owners not subject to the supplemental tax; establishing the Board of Estimates as the entity charged with reviewing and approving various matters relating to the District and the Authority; providing for the renewal, expiration, termination, and approval of the District and the Authority; and otherwise providing for the existence, operation, and control of the District and the Authority.

**Sponsors:**

Zac Blanchard, Mark Parker, Mark Conway, James Torrence, Phylcia Porter, Jermaine Jones, Antonio "Tony" Glover, Odette Ramos

[25-0024](#)

## Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Board of Elections – \$1,417,451

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$1,417,451 to the Board of Elections – Service 899 (Fair Conduct of Elections), to provide funding for emergency security equipment and unbudgeted mailing costs from 2024 elections; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

[25-0025](#)

## General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer – M-R Debt Service Service 123 - General Debt Service) to Department of Finance (Service 703 - Payroll) – \$4,228,173

FOR the purpose of transferring a General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$4,228,173 from M-R Debt Service (Service 123 - General Debt Service) to the Department of Finance (Service 703 - Payroll); and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

[25-0026](#) Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Fire Department – \$33,361,780

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$33,361,780 to the Fire Department – Service 602 (Fire Suppression and Emergency Rescue), to provide funding for overtime due to sworn vacancies and unbudgeted EMS contractual services; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0027](#) Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Health Department – \$5,251,429

FOR the purpose of providing a supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$5,251,429 to the Health Department (Service 315 - Emergency Services), to provide funding for reimbursable COVID-related contract costs; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0028](#) General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer – Department of General Services to Department of Law (Service 861 - Controversies) – \$1,514,351

FOR the purpose of transferring a General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$1,514,351 from the Department of General Services to the Department of Law (Service 861 - Controversies); and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0029](#) Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Liquor License Board – \$250,323

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$250,323 to the Liquor License Board – Service 850 (Liquor Licensing), to provide funding for overtime for inspectors beyond budget; state salary adjustments for full time positions; and providing for a special effective date

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0030](#) Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Police Department – \$3,275,384

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$3,275,384 to the Police Department – Service 622 (Police Patrol), to provide funding for overtime due to sworn vacancies; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0031](#) Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Department of Public Works – \$5,982,755

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$5,982,755 to the Department of Public Works – Service 663 (Waste Removal and Recycling), to provide funding for unbudgeted contractual collection services and tipping fees beyond budgeted amount; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0032](#) Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation – Recreation and Parks – \$6,973,547

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$6,973,547 to the Department of Recreation and Parks – Service 646 (Park Maintenance), to provide funding for overspending on contractual services and overtime in Urban Forestry, Park Maintenance; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0033](#) General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer – M-R Debt Service (Service 123 - General Debt Service) to Office of the Sheriff (Service 882 - Deputy Sheriff Enforcement) – \$4,564,341

FOR the purpose of transferring a General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$4,564,341 from M-R Debt Service (Service 123 - General Debt Service) to the Office of the Sheriff (Service 882 - Deputy Sheriff Enforcement); and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

[25-0034](#)

General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer – M-R Debt Service (Service 123 - General Debt Service) to Department of Transportation (Service 683 - Street Management) – \$1,039,801

FOR the purpose of transferring a General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$1,039,801 from M-R Debt Service (Service 123 - General Debt Service) to the Department of Transportation (Service 683 - Street Management); and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

**Bills Introduced****25-0036**

Property Taxes – Baltimore City Payment in Lieu of Taxes Task Force

FOR the purpose of establishing the Baltimore City Payment in Lieu of Taxes Task Force; providing for the membership, staffing, compensation, and procedures of the Task Force; establishing the duties of the Task Force; requiring a certain annual report; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Baltimore City Payment in Lieu of Taxes Task Force.

**Sponsors:**

Phylicia Porter, Mark Conway, Sharon Green Middleton, James Torrence, Paris Gray, Zac Blanchard, Jermaine Jones, Odette Ramos, Zeke Cohen

*Budget and Appropriations Committee*

**25-0037**

Zoning – Conditional Use Conversion of Single-Family Dwelling Unit to 3 Dwelling Units in the R-8 Zoning District – Variances – 1727 McCulloh Street

FOR the purpose of permitting, subject to certain conditions, the conversion of a single-family dwelling unit to 2 dwelling units in the R-8 Zoning District on the property known as 1727 McCulloh Street (Block 0341, Lot 020), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat; granting a variance regarding off-street parking requirements; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

James Torrence

*Land Use and Transportation Committee*

**25-0038**

City Property – Naming the Playground Located at Senator Troy Brailey Easterwood Park to be the Margaret L. Powell Playground

FOR the purpose of naming the playground located at Senator Troy Brailey Easterwood Park to be the Margaret L. Powell Playground.

**Sponsors:**

James Torrence, Mark Parker, Sharon Green Middleton, John Bullock, Phylicia Porter, Jermaine Jones, Odette Ramos, Zeke Cohen

*Housing and Economic Development Committee*

**25-0039** City Streets – Closing – A 16 Foot Alley and a Portion of a 10 Foot Alley

FOR the purpose of condemning and closing a 16 foot alley and a portion of a 10 foot alley bounded by Presstman Street, Brunt Street, Robert Street, and Pennsylvania Avenue, as shown on a plat numbered 312-A-11A, prepared by the Survey Section and filed in the Office of the Department of Transportation; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

*Land Use and Transportation Committee*

**Resolutions Introduced****25-0013R** Request for State Action – Fully Fund the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future

FOR the purpose of calling on the Maryland General Assembly to reject House Bill 504/Senate Bill 429, the “Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act”, as introduced and to restore funding to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future, specifically to the Concentration of Poverty Grant Program and to fund increased teacher collaborative planning time.

**Sponsors:** John Bullock, Zeke Cohen, Mark Parker, Ryan Dorsey, Mark Conway, Sharon Green Middleton, James Torrence, Paris Gray, Phylcia Porter, Jermaine Jones, Antonio "Tony" Glover, Odette Ramos

*IMMEDIATE ADOPTION*

**25-0014R** Informational Hearing – Vacant and Abandoned Garages

FOR the purpose of requiring representatives from the Department of Housing and Community Development to appear before the City Council to provide insight into the issue of vacant and abandoned garages in Baltimore City and to discuss strategies, including in rem liens or foreclosures, to manage and control the issue and its impact on safety, aesthetics, and community economies.

**Sponsors:** Sharon Green Middleton, Mark Parker, Ryan Dorsey, Mark Conway, James Torrence, Paris Gray, John Bullock, Phylcia Porter, Zac Blanchard, Jermaine Jones, Antonio "Tony" Glover, Odette Ramos, Zeke Cohen

*Housing and Economic Development Committee*

**Consent Calendar****2R Second Reader*****Housing and Economic Development***

[25-0001](#)

## Department of Consumer Protection and Business Licensing

FOR the purpose of creating the Department of Consumer Protection and Business Licensing; providing for the leadership and staffing of the Department; establishing the Department's purpose, powers, and duties; creating the Board of Consumer Protection and Business Licensing; providing for the membership of the Board; establishing the purpose, powers, and duties of the Board; transferring the administration of certain business licenses to the Department; repealing certain obsolete Boards; allowing the Department to suspend a certain license if the licensee engages in unfair, abusive, and deceptive trade practices; providing for a special effective date; making conforming changes; and generally relating to consumer protection and business licensing.

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT*

**Education, Youth, and Older Adults**[25-0002](#)

## Study and Report – Absences in Baltimore City Schools

FOR the purpose of requiring the Baltimore City Public School System ("City Schools") to prepare a report exploring the causes of student absences to better identify solutions to address the most persistent barriers students face to attending school; requiring City Schools to collaborate with certain City agencies to propose recommendations to address the root causes of unexcused absences found in the report; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

Mark Conway, Mark Parker, Ryan Dorsey, Sharon Green Middleton, James Torrence, John Bullock, Phylicia Porter, Zac Blanchard, Jermaine Jones, Antonio "Tony" Glover, Odette Ramos, Zeke Cohen, Paris Gray

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT*

**Budget and Appropriations**[25-0007](#)Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – \$270,000

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$270,000 to the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – Service 916 (Opioid Restitution Administration), to provide funding for additional positions to oversee grants awarded through the Opioid Restitution Fund; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE*



[25-0008](#)

Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – \$10,000,000

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$10,000,000 to the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programming – Service 917 (Opioid Grants - Named Organizations), to provide partial grant funding for non-profit organizations named in settlement agreements; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE*

[25-0009](#)

Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Mayoralty – \$1,773,000

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$1,773,000 to the Mayoralty – Service 918 (Opioid Restitution Administration), to provide funding for additional positions to provide direction and guidance regarding the City's opioid response, establishment of the Restitution Advisory Board, contractual support to establish a trust fund for litigation proceeds, and community engagement; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE*

[25-0010](#)

Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Department of Law – \$100,000

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 to the Department of Law – Service 862 (Transactions Contracts), to provide funding to create 2 additional positions to oversee contract agreements with grant organizations; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration), Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE*

[25-0011](#) Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Baltimore City Health Department – \$500,000

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$500,000 to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 715 (Health - Administration), to provide funding for planning costs for a replacement facility for the Westside clinic; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE*

[25-0012](#) Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Baltimore City Health Department – \$2,000,000

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$2,000,000 to the Baltimore City Health Department – Service 307 (Health - Substance Use Disorder), to provide funding for staffing and support costs for opioid response and recovery strategies; and providing for a special effective date.

**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

*RECOMMEND FAVORABLE*

**3R Third Reader (requires invocation of CC Rule 12-1 for same day advance from 2nd to 3rd Reader)**

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**Sponsors:** City Council President (Administration)

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**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

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**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

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City Council President (Administration), Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

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**Sponsors:**

City Council President (Administration)

## Committee Announcements

## Announcements

## District Spotlight - 3rd District

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025, AT 5:00 P.M.**

## Adjournment

Thank you all for attending this meeting.  
Please check the area around your seat to make certain that you have everything that you brought with you.

We will be closing the room shortly and ask that everyone exit promptly to the 1st floor main entrance.  
Thank you for visiting City Hall.