

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 22-0101R
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Ramos, Bullock, Porter

Introduced and read first time: April 25, 2022

Assigned to: Economic Development Committee

Referred to the following agencies: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, City Administrator, Department of Public Works, Department of Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – Mayor’s Recommendations –**
3 **30-Day Review of Strategies to Eliminate Vacant and Abandoned Properties**

4 FOR the purpose of inviting the City Administrator, the Deputy Mayor for Community and
5 Economic Development, the City Solicitor, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing
6 and Community Development, the Director of Finance, and the Director of the Department of
7 Public Works to appear before the Baltimore City Council to present the findings and
8 recommendations of the Mayor’s 30 Day review for eliminating privately and publicly owned
9 vacant and abandoned properties.

10 **Recitals**

11 On January 24th, 2022, three brave firefighters died when entering a vacant and abandoned
12 building to save lives in a dramatic fire. In addition, throughout the last few decades, several
13 Baltimore neighborhoods have continued to decline, causing more vacant and abandoned
14 buildings and increasing trauma and violence in our city. Several racist policies and practices
15 lead to this decline, and in some ways, still exist today.

16 There are roughly 15,000 vacant and abandoned properties that have Vacant Building Notices
17 (“VBN”) on them – which is our official count of vacant and abandoned properties. Many more
18 are vacant but do not have the VBN. These vacant and abandoned properties are concentrated in
19 a few communities – the communities that have been traditionally ignored.

20 These factors lead to the Administration’s 30 day review of agency and stakeholder
21 recommendations for eliminating vacant and abandoned properties by rehabilitation or
22 demolition. On March 11, 2022, the Administration announced the results of that 30-day review
23 along with the allocation of \$100 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding to projects across
24 the City, and \$39 million of that for eliminating blight.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
2 Baltimore City Council invites the City Administrator, the Deputy Mayor for Community and
3 Economic Development, the City Solicitor, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and
4 Community Development, the Director of Finance, and the Director of the Department of Public
5 Works to appear before the Baltimore City Council to present the findings and recommendations
6 of the Mayor’s 30 Day review for eliminating privately and publicly owned vacant and
7 abandoned properties.

8 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the City
9 Administrator, the Deputy Mayor for Community and Economic Development, the City
10 Solicitor, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the
11 Director of the Department of Finance, the Director of the Department of Public Works, and the
12 Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the Baltimore City Council.