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Memorandum

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee

From: Dan Hymowitz, Director, Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation

Subject: Council Bill 22-0111R - Informational Hearing - Addressing Youth Violence in Baltimore City

Date: August 15, 2022

The Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation (OPI) has reviewed Council Bill 22-0111R. We understand that this bill asks City agencies to appear before the City Council to discuss youth violence in Baltimore and efforts being made to address this. OPI is looking forward to participating in this hearing and to answering questions about this issue that the Council is seeking to discuss.

The bill specifically asks about YouthStat and metrics being discussed in YouthStat. YouthStat is a process that uses data and convenes stakeholders with the aim of improving outcomes for young people in Baltimore. YouthStat has previously included an examination of some metrics connected to young people and violence. Some of those metrics that have been reviewed in the past have included: data related to BPD-youth interactions including youth arrests; data related to actions taken by BPD after a young person was arrested (such as being released to a parent or guardian); numbers of young people referred to DJS; data related to actions taken by DJS (such as whether a young person was referred to the State's Attorney).

That said, YouthStat stakeholders have indicated that YouthStat going forward should focus on issues relevant to both City Schools and Baltimore City government and where there may be opportunities for further collaboration or problem solving, that go beyond youth violence. Some of these future topics that have been planned for include issues related to attendance and transportation.



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Issues of young people and violence are also consistently examined within PoliceStat. PoliceStat is held every two weeks and looks at different violence trends and the Baltimore Police Department's (BPD) strategies and operations to respond to violence.

As part of that ongoing and rigorous review of violence trends, OPI consistently analyzes whether there are trends related to the age of victims or those who have committed acts of violence. When there are trends and patterns involving young people, PoliceStat will feature extra analysis and discussion related to these issues. And while OPI is limited in the data that it has access to when it comes to young people and violence, PoliceStat is able to feature discussions about data trends that relate violence and young people and BPD's responses to those trends.