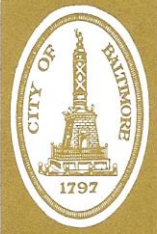


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Christopher Shorter, City Administrator	CITY of BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Office of the Mayor 100 N. Holliday Street, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Baltimore, MD 21202		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill # 22-0220 Study and Report – Tax Increment Financing (TIF)		

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

DATE: September 15, 2022

**Position: Support with amendments**

Herein lies the report from the Office of the City Administrator in response to Council Bill #22-0220, Study and Report – Tax Increment Financing (TIF). The bill requires the Director of Finance, the City Administrator, the City Solicitor, the Commissioner for the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Director of the Office of Equity and Civil Rights, in collaboration with advocates, practitioners, and residents, to submit a report “that details how Tax Increment Financing can be used for community development and eliminating vacant and abandoned properties.” The bill also details topics to be addressed in the report and requires the report to be published at least 30 days before final submission to seek public comment.

The Office of the City Administrator supports the amendments suggested by the Department of Finance to remove the inclusion of advocates, practitioners and residents in the development of the report. The Department of Finance has estimated the cost of the report requested in this legislation at being \$30,000 through Municap, Inc, the city’s financial advisor, and has already provided some of the data requested in the committee report for this hearing. The requirement to include advocates, practitioner and residents in the development of the report may delay the production timeline and increase the total cost of production. Further, Finance suggests extending the submission deadline for the report to allow for production of the report and for the public comment period. The perspectives and opinions of advocates, practioners and residents will be heard through the public comment process.

**Conclusions:**

The Office of the City Administrator supports the intent of this legislation which is aimed at understanding the use of Tax Increment Financing as a potential additional tool to support the goal of eliminating vacant and abandoned properties. The City Administrator’s Office will be represented at the hearing and requests that the committee reviews and supports the amendments suggested by the Department of Finance.