

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

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HEARING NOTES

Bill: 23-0414

Property Tax Credit Reform – Work Group

Committee: Finance and Performance
Chaired by: Councilman John T. Bullock
Hearing Date: Thursday, September 21, 2023
Time (Beginning): 3:05 PM
Time (Ending): 3:45 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 20 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Committee Members in Attendance:

John T. Bullock Phylicia Porter
Eric T. Costello Danielle McCray

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video or audio-digitally recorded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Evidence of notification to property owners?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

Robert (Bob) Cennname, Finance Department
Eric Holcomb, Planning Department
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office
Dana Moore, Office of Equity and Civil Rights



Major Issues Discussed

1. This is the first hearing held by the newly formed Finance and Performance Committee.
2. The chairman talked about the mission and goals associated with the Committee and gave opening remarks regarding Property Tax Credit Reform.
3. The chairman went over the agency reports with the agency representatives.
4. The representative from the Finance Department talked about some of the processes associated with tax credits including some of the terms and sunset dates.
5. Committee/council members asked questions, made comments, and stated concerns. Some highlights of same were:
 - Mayor's Tax Reform Review
 - Is this review still on the table?
 - When do you envision the creation of a task force and/or when will they convene?
 - Finance's Report on Estimated Cost of Tax Credits
 - Reviewing the report can be challenging understanding what is being said!
 - Is there anything in your comprehensive review that you think the workgroup need to focus on?
 - Workgroup Moving Forward
 - What should the workgroup focus on moving forward?
 - What kind of benchmarks should the workgroup be focusing on?
 - Believes the workgroup will be getting into a bigger "stakeholder" engagement!
 - Suggestion: The composition of the workgroup – suggested that members of the community be part of the workgroup
 - Comment
 - Tax credits should be benefiting the entire city!
 - To Planning:
 - Can you talk about some of the assessments Planning conducts regarding tax credits?
 - To Finance:
 - Have you started working on any of the recommendations listed in your report?
One response: When the group is formed, we will need some type of mutual trust!
 - Are there any overlaps? (Specific items you could talk about?)
 - Comment:
 - Regarding the importance of urgency for moving plans forward; if not, someone else will do it for us!
 - Other Questions
 - What is the difference between the two (2) workgroups? The group for the 10-year plan and this upcoming workgroup?
 - Believes establishing this workgroup is important!
 - **Requested by Member Porter:** Provide a matrix for the 10-Year Plan within the next two (2) weeks if possible but no later than a month; and included in the columns should be:
 - Benchmarks
 - Dates
 - Target audience, and etc.
 - **Per Councilwoman Ramos:** Would like to be a part of the 10-Year Plan.
6. No one signed up to testify.
7. Hearing was called to recess.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe.

1. See #5 above – highlighted in “red and yellow.”

Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

cc: Bill File

OCS Electronic File

Date: September 27, 2023



Baltimore City Council

Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: **Mayor and City Council Resolution** – Property Tax Credit Reform – Work Group

Bill #: 23-0414

Committee: Finance and Performance

Chair: John T. Bullock

Date: **Thursday, September 21, 2023**

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: **Council Chambers**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

What is
your
position on
this bill?

Lobbyist:
Are you
registered in
the City?*

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY

Testify

First Name

Last Name

Address / Organization / Email

For

Against

Yes

No

John

Doe

400 N. Holliday St.
Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com

✓

✓

✓

✓

✓

Tylor

Schnella

Office of equity & civil rights

Dana

Moore

Equity & Civil Rights

Eric

Holliday

*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

City of Baltimore

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Finance and Performance Committee

Thursday, September 21, 2023

3:00 PM Du Burns Council Chamber, 4th floor, City Hall, Phone:
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2344 004 6042, Password:
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=mc9f8d9369c50434fad455936fe8f55a2)
[MTID=mc9f8d9369c50434fad455936fe8f55a2](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=mc9f8d9369c50434fad455936fe8f55a2)

23-0414

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 4 - John T. Bullock, Chair Eric T. Costello, Chair Danielle N. McCray, and Chair
Phylicia Porter

Absent 1 - Chair Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

23-0414

Property Tax Credit Reform - Work Group

For the purpose of forming an inter-departmental work group, including broad representation from stakeholders outside Baltimore City government, to study and make recommendations for reforms to the City's property tax credit system.

Sponsors: John T. Bullock, President Nicholas J. Mosby, Odette Ramos, Phylcia Porter, Zeke Cohen, James Torrence, Mark Conway, Sharon Green Middleton, Robert Stokes, Sr., Eric T. Costello, Kristerfer Burnett

Hearing called to recess.

ADJOURNMENT