



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable City Council President Nick Mosby Members of the City Council
FROM	Reginald Moore, Executive Director, Baltimore City Recreation & Parks <i>Reginald Moore</i>
DATE	October 18, 2024
SUBJECT	City Council Bill 24-0584 Baltimore City Government Entities - Language Access

Baltimore City Recreation & Parks (BCRP) has been assigned Baltimore City Government Entities - Language Access For the purpose of requiring a certain Baltimore government entity to appoint a language access liaison and adopt a Language Access Plan; requiring a Baltimore government entity to provide language access services to specified individuals; establishing certain reporting requirements; defining certain terms; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the provision of language access services by Baltimore government entities.

The BCRP Division of Human Resources (BCRP HR) does not have a practice in place to support the Language Access Program. BCRP HR models protocol provided by the City of Baltimore Human Resources.

However, BCRP Community Engagement & Strategic Partnerships (CESP) has worked very closely with MIMA on community outreach and engagement, especially to the Latino community. CESP currently enjoys the benefits of two City certified bilingual staff members (though soon to be one).

Translation services are costly and BCRP does not proactively translate materials, such as marketing fliers, registration forms, waivers, etc. Though BCRP is able to provide some spanish translation, Korean, French, or Chinese (top non-English languages in Baltimore requires these services is not available. BCRP has also had the occasion to translate materials into Nepalese. CESP conducted a bilingual hybrid charette and the rate was \$150/hr. There is access to telephonic interpretation through MIMA, but that is not effective for live translation, particularly when hosting a meeting. Community charrettes needing translation will require that translation costs be

accounted for in the Capital project budget.

BCRP encourages and supports the Language Access legislation to create a level playing field for all City residents, but it is paramount that the requisite budget and infrastructure be put in place to achieve this.

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Morgan at jmorgan@baltimorecity.gov