

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 16-0283R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Spector, Clarke, President Young, Councilmembers Kraft,  
Middleton, Costello, Scott, Stokes, Curran, Branch, Henry, Welch, Reisinger, Mosby

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2016

Assigned to: Housing and Community Development Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Department of Housing and Community Development,  
Department of Planning, Baltimore Development Corporation, One Baltimore

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Vision to Jobs – Strategic Community/Jobs Collaboration**

3 FOR the purpose of calling on representatives from Baltimore Rising, the Citizens Planning and  
4 Housing Association, the Community Law Center, One Baltimore, the Department of  
5 Housing and Community Development, the Baltimore Development Corporation, and the  
6 Department of Planning to join the City Council and representatives from two of Baltimore’s  
7 community associations – the Glen Neighborhood Improvement Association and the Howard  
8 Park Civic Association – to discuss how to coordinate efforts to use new and tried tools to  
9 advance community based job opportunities concurrently with improvements to housing  
10 stock, buildings, and open spaces in Baltimore’s neighborhoods.

11 **Recitals**

12 Helping neighborhoods to move from distressed, to rebounding, all the way to stable is a  
13 complex and difficult process that often requires that problems in a number of different areas be  
14 engaged with and overcome. Baltimore has many programs that are effective at addressing the  
15 particular narrow problems that they focus on in neighborhoods, but too often the neighborhoods  
16 that they work in are not able to take full advantage of these efforts because other concerns  
17 beyond the scope of a single program remain unaddressed.

18 In order to truly move neighborhoods forward, a more collaborative and holistic approach is  
19 required. For instance, making significant improvements to a community’s housing stock is of  
20 limited value in attracting new residents to fill previously vacant and nuisance homes unless  
21 there are concurrent additions of job centers, and other community resources that will induce  
22 people to look into moving to the neighborhood, or remaining in-place, in the first place. And  
23 bringing new jobs to neighborhoods can be more transformational if existing employees and new  
24 local hires can buy into the community to enliven it outside of business hours as well.

25 In order to maximize the return on investment for our rebounding neighborhoods and free up  
26 more resources for distressed neighborhoods, it is important that efforts focused on improving  
27 housing stock or eliminating vacant properties be paired with efforts to bring employers and jobs

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1 to the same communities. Entities running programs focused on these different aspects of  
2 community building, such as CPHA, the Community Law Center, One Baltimore, HCD, BDC,  
3 and the Planning Department, should work together to support each other’s programs with  
4 coordinated investments and efforts.

5 Getting these organizations together, along with representatives from community associations  
6 citywide, would provide community organizations with an opportunity to use new and tried tools  
7 to advance community-based job opportunities in support of efforts to improve their physical  
8 environments. New businesses, job training centers, and other community resources should be  
9 steered to these rebounding neighborhoods to help them transition into stable communities and  
10 free up the resources to repeat the process again in neighboring areas in need of more assistance.

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
12 Council calls on representatives from Baltimore Rising, the Citizens Planning and Housing  
13 Association, the Community Law Center, One Baltimore, the Department of Housing and  
14 Community Development, the Baltimore Development Corporation, and the Department of  
15 Planning to join it and representatives from two of Baltimore’s community associations – the  
16 Glen Neighborhood Improvement Association and the Howard Park Civic Association – to  
17 discuss how to coordinate efforts to use new and tried tools to advance community based job  
18 opportunities concurrently with improvements to housing stock, buildings, and open spaces in  
19 Baltimore’s neighborhoods.

20 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
21 Director of Baltimore Rising, the Director of the Citizens Planning and Housing Association, the  
22 Executive Director of the Community Law Center, the Steering Committee for One Baltimore,  
23 the Housing Commissioner, the President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation,  
24 the Director of Planning, neighborhood representatives from the Glen Neighborhood  
25 Improvement Association and the Howard Park Civic Association, and the Mayor’s Legislative  
26 Liaison to the City Council.