


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Michelle Pourciau, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (DOT) 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill Report 18-0223		

TO: Mayor Catherine E. Pugh

DATE: June 8, 2018

TO: Respective City Council Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

FROM: Department of Transportation

POSITION: Support

RE: Council Bill 18-0223 – Equity Assessment Program

INTRODUCTION - For the purpose of providing for the implementation of an Equity Assessment Program for Baltimore City, to be developed and overseen by the Department of Planning; requiring City agencies to assess existing and proposed policies and practices for disparate outcomes based on race, gender, or income and to proactively develop policies, practices, and investments to prevent and redress those disparate outcomes; defining certain terms; providing for the adoption of rules and regulations to carry out this Program; requiring certain notices and reports; and generally relating to the goal of eliminating structural and institutional racism and other forms of discrimination based on immutable characteristics.

PURPOSE/PLANS – The purpose of this bill is to analyze processes and practices that currently exist throughout the city that aid in exacerbating social inequities throughout Baltimore City. This legislation aims to eliminate such processes and practices, and create new, all-inclusive policies in their place. The new policies will be created and instituted in an effort to eliminate institutionalize racism, and discrimination, city wide.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION – The Department of Transportation, working with the Department of Planning and other agencies, is embarking on the city’s first Comprehensive Transportation Plan which will engage a complete analysis of the city’s public space and right-of-way, identify needs of decaying infrastructure and technology, analyze current and future demands on a limited right-of-way, address safety issues, and identify opportunities for public space investments that will catalyze neighborhood improvements. The Comprehensive Transportation Plan will take a comprehensive look at financial constraints and help prioritize investment of limited resources, as well as identify a path toward growing the resource pool. It will also establish processes for performance measurement. This plan will establish a vision for transportation in the city and make recommendations for ensuring a comprehensive multimodal network that meets the needs of today and long-term.

This level of analysis will provide a global view of resource allocation and will provide information regarding investment need. Once this data is available, it can be analyzed based on equity factors and provide for more informed decision-making through and with the Department of Planning.

The Department of Transportation has also begun analyzing individual programs regarding funding allocation and needs to find ways to work more closely with partner agencies and outside entities to grow the resource pool to provide for fully funded improvement programs in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

The Department of Transportation **supports** City Council Bill 18-0223, and respectfully requests a favorable report. We look forward to engage in a process to develop implementation policies that have flexibility that may rectify any conflict with our future selection and prioritization processes.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Eboni Wimbush. She may be reached at Eboni.Wimbush@baltimorecity.gov or 410-396-6802.

Sincerely,



Michelle Pourciau
Director