



Catherine Pugh
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Gary Tuggle
Interim Police
Commissioner

June 11, 2018

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

**Re: City Council Bill No. 18-0223
Equity Assessment Program**

Dear Council President Young and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 18-0223. This legislation is 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.

The BPD agrees with the concept of the bill. As you know, the Baltimore Police Department is currently under a Consent Decree that requires it to reform just about every aspect of the Department. The overarching goal of the reform effort is to ensure that all interactions, with the public and members, are constitutional and equitable. The BPD is required to regularly report its progress to the Department of Justice and the Monitoring Team and would be happy to provide similar updates to the appropriate department in charge.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The BPD looks forward to working with the City Council on this matter.

Sincerely,

Danielle Butcher
Office of the Police Commissioner