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| FROM | NAME & TITLE | Robert Cenname, Chief | CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO |  |
| | AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS | Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (410) 396-4941 | | |
| | SUBJECT | City Council Bill #18-0075R Informational Hearing - Municipal Broadband Feasibility Study | | |

TO

DATE:

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
Room 400, City Hall

January 15, 2019

City Council Resolution #18-0075R has been introduced for the purpose of bringing together the Department of Finance, the Department of Transportation, and the Mayor's Office of Information Technology to appear before City Council to discuss how they can collaborate to produce a formal feasibility study on developing a municipal-owned broadband network in Baltimore capable of ensuring that all Baltimore families have adequate internet access options.

This resolution seeks to ensure multiagency collaboration in addressing the lack of access by most Baltimore families to a high-speed internet connection. The private sector to date has not invested in fiber to the premises (FTTP) internet networks in Baltimore and thus it has been proposed that Baltimore explore developing a municipal-owned FTTP network as other municipalities have done. In exploring this option, it is important to have a full understanding of the costs, benefits, and funding options involved.

The Department of Finance has reviewed the responses of other agencies, and understands that the Baltimore City Office of Information Technology's recently released strategic plan includes the development of a detailed fiber communications strategy and plan that examines the potential for municipal broadband and expects that plan to take six months to complete.

The Department of Finance will be on hand at the hearing for this Resolution to discuss collaborative next steps in developing a feasibility plan and exploring the costs, options, and benefits involved with regards to building Baltimore City's high-speed broadband network capacity.

cc: Henry Raymond
Kyron Banks