

President and Members Of the City Council c/o 409 City Hall

January 17, 2019

Baltimore City Information and Technology (BCIT) pleased to have the opportunity to review 19-0316 - Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation - \$5,217,659. The purpose of this legislation is to provide funding for dispatch consoles, fire station alerting and their core infrastructure.

In 1996 the City had Motorola install the existing dispatch consoles for 1st responders. Due to system limitations the current consoles have not been upgraded since 2014. In 2015 Motorola notified the City that the dispatch consoles would no longer be supported as of December 31, 2018, necessitating the need for the City to procure new consoles. The average life expectancy of dispatch consoles is 10-15 years, the City's system has been in place for 22 years. The new dispatch consoles will have both a scalable and flexible architecture allowing for the complexities of network management, easier future migrations, and more cohesive connectivity between dispatch operators and field personnel.

For the forgoing reasons, Baltimore City Information and Technology request a favorable report on Council Bill #19-0316.

Respectfully,

Frank A. Johnson **Chief Information Officer**

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