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BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

On behalf of the Citizens of Baltimore City, the mission of the Budget and Appropriations Committee is to analyze and oversee the continuing operations, efficiency, and functions of Baltimore City government.

The Committee provides regular oversight of the funding and spending practices of City agencies, periodically analyzes the budget reports and activities of those agencies, and maintains a high level of fiscal accountability in City government.

As a result of its analysis and oversight, the Committee will recommend reforms to improve the operations of any of these agencies; through legislative, administrative, and/or budgetary improvements.

**The Honorable Eric T. Costello
Chairman**

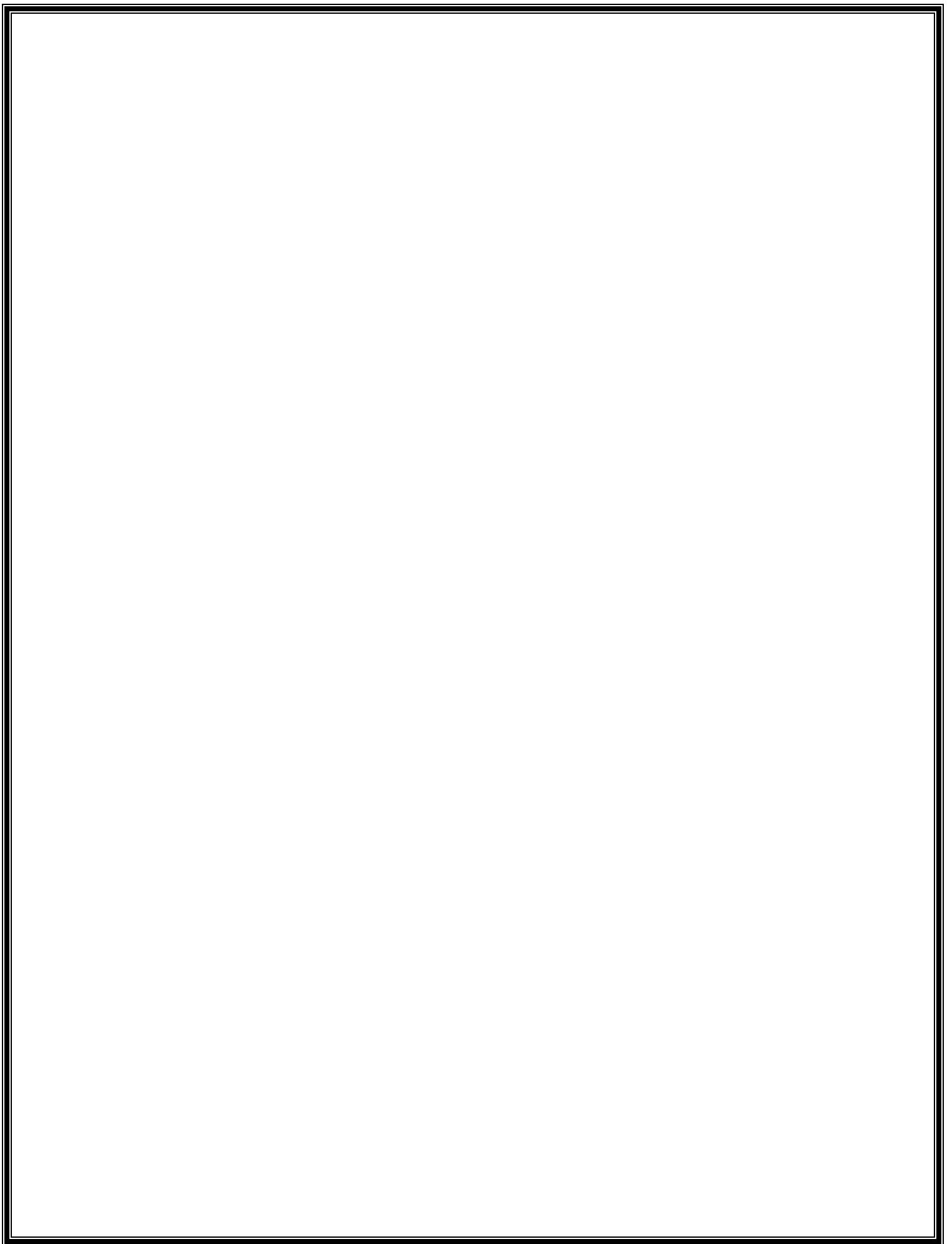
PUBLIC HEARING

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020
2:04 PM**

VIRTUAL WEBEX MEETING

Council Bill #20-0600

General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer – Department of
Transportation (Service 690) to Police Department (Service 622) -
\$2,000,000



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BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Budget and Appropriations

Council Bill: 20-0600

**General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer - Department of Transportation
(Service 690) to Police Department (Service 622) - \$2,000,000**

Sponsor: *President Scott at the request of the Department of Finance*

Introduced: *September 21, 2020*

Purpose:

For the purpose of transferring a General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$2,000,000 from the Department of Transportation (Service 690: Sustainable Transportation) to the Police Department (Service 622: Police Patrol); and providing for a special effective date.

Effective: On the date it is enacted.

Agency Reports

Law Department	
Police Department	
Department of Transportation	
Department of Finance	Favorable
Board of Estimates	Approved

Analysis

Current Law

Article VI - Board of Estimates, Section 9 - Ordinance of Estimates - Uses of Appropriations - the Baltimore City Charter governs the mandates for the transfer of an appropriation. As follows:

§ 9. Uses of appropriations. 9(a)(2)

(a) In general. Following the passage of the Ordinance of Estimates and the enactment of the revenue measures necessary to achieve a balance between expected revenues and anticipated expenditures for the next fiscal year, the sums contained in the Ordinance of Estimates shall, after the beginning of the fiscal year to which it is applicable, be and become appropriated for the purposes therein named.

No appropriation provided for in the Ordinance of Estimates shall be used for any purpose other than that named in that ordinance, except:

(1) the Board of Estimates may increase the amount for a particular program, purpose, activity, or project or introduce an amount for a new program, purpose, activity or project by transferring thereto amounts already appropriated to that agency; and

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Board of Estimates, **the City Council by ordinance may authorize the transfer of an appropriation contained in the Ordinance of Estimates from one municipal agency to another municipal agency**; provided, however, that new or different amounts for capital projects from those stated in the capital budget portion of the Ordinance of Estimates shall not be authorized unless the Board of Estimates has received and considered the reports and recommendations thereon of the Planning Commission and the Director of Finance.

Background

The transfer of funds from the Department of Transportation is required to balance the Police Department's budget (**Service 622: Police Patrol**) for fiscal year 2020; ending June 30, 2020.

Per the Department of Finance, the funds are needed for additional expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council Bill 20-0600, upon the approval of the City Council and Mayor will complete the process necessary to allocate these funds to the Department of General Services.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Source of Funding: Department of Transportation: due to savins on Circulator bus services following the adoption of a new operating contract.

Information Source(s): City Charter, Council Bill 20-0600 and all agency reports received as of this writing.

Analysis by: *Marguerite M. Currin*
Direct Inquiries to: 443-984-3485

Analysis Date: September 28, 2020

Council Bill 20-0600

AGENCY REPORTS

BaltAC

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cename, Budget Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (410) 396-4774		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 20-0600—General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer- Department of Transportation (Service 690) to Police Department (Service 622)- \$2,000,000		

DATE:

TO

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

September 24, 2020

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 20-0600, General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer-Department of Transportation (Service 690) to Police Department (Service 622)- \$2,000,000, the purpose of which is to transfer \$2 million from the Department of Transportation to balance the Baltimore Police Department Fiscal 2020 budget.

Background

The Baltimore City Charter requires that each agency ends the fiscal year in balance. The Department of Finance recommends appropriation transfers and supplementary appropriations when an agency is projected to close the fiscal year in deficit. This transfer is required to meet the Charter mandate.

Fiscal Impact

The Baltimore Police Department has a \$2 million deficit for Fiscal 2020 due to additional expenditures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and protest responses in the final quarter of Fiscal 2020. This action transfers surplus appropriation from the Department of Transportation, which experienced savings from lower-than-projected rates in the new operating contract for the Circulator bus service.

Conclusion

This transfer is required to meet the Charter mandate that every agency closes the fiscal year in balance and transfers \$2 million in surplus funds from the Department of Transportation to the Baltimore Police Department.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 20-0600.

cc: Henry Raymond
Matthew Stegman
Nina Themelis

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 20-0600
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Introduced and read first time: September 21, 2020
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Police Department, Department of Transportation, Department of Finance, Board of Estimates

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **General Fund Operating Appropriation Transfer –**
3 **Department of Transportation (Service 690) to**
4 **Police Department (Service 622) – \$2,000,000**

5 FOR the purpose of transferring a General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of
6 \$2,000,000 from the Department of Transportation (Service 690: Sustainable Transportation)
7 to the Police Department (Service 622: Police Patrol); and providing for a special effective
8 date.

9 BY authority of
10 Article VI - Board of Estimates
11 Section 9(a)(2)
12 Baltimore City Charter
13 (1996 Edition)

14 **Recitals**

15 Article VI, § 9(a)(2) of the City Charter provides that, on recommendation of the Board of
16 Estimates, the City Council by ordinance may authorize the transfer of an appropriation
17 contained in the Ordinance of Estimates from one municipal agency to another municipal agency.

18 The sum of \$2,000,000, as appropriated to the Department of Transportation (Service 690:
19 Sustainable Transportation) in the Fiscal 2020 Ordinance of Estimates, is not needed for the
20 purpose for which it was appropriated and, therefore, is available for transfer to another agency.

21 On September 16, 2020, the Board of Estimates recommended the transfer authorized by this
22 Ordinance.

23 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
24 sum of \$2,000,000, contained in the Fiscal 2020 Ordinance of Estimates as a General Fund
25 Operating Appropriation, is transferred from the Department of Transportation (Service 690:
26 Sustainable Transportation) to the Police Department (Service 622: Police Patrol).

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 20-0600

1 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is
2 enacted.