

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Brandon M. Scott Mayor

Michael S. Harrison Police Commissioner

February 16, 2021

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

RE: City Council Bill #21-0004

 $Of fice\ to\ End\ Homelessness-Establishment, Administration, and\ Permanent$

Housing Voucher Program

Dear Council President Mosby and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 21-0004 which is for the purpose of establishing the Baltimore City Office to End Homelessness; declaring that the policy of the Mayor and the City Council of Baltimore is to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring; providing that the Office will be led by an Executive Director; requiring the Office to provide annual reports; establishing the Permanent Housing Voucher Program; providing for certain funding for the Permanent Housing Voucher Program; establishing procedures for a family's admission and removal from the program; etc.

The BPD takes no position on City Council Bill 21-0004. Thank you for allowing us to comment on this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wirzberger, Esq.

Director of Government Affairs

cc: Natwana Austin, Executive Secretary of the Baltimore City Council

Natasha Mehu, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations

Nina Themalis, Special Assistant and Legislative Liaison, MOGR

Brittany Lewis, Chief of Government Affairs, Office of the Council President

Eric Melancon, BPD Chief of Staff

Andrew Smullian, BPD Deputy Chief of Staff