



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 14-0192R **Version:** 0 **Name:** Investigative Hearing - Charm City Circulator
Type: City Council Resolution **Status:** Adopted
File created: 10/6/2014 **In control:** Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee
On agenda: **Final action:** 1/26/2015
Enactment date: **Enactment #:**
Title: Investigative Hearing - Charm City Circulator

FOR the purpose of calling on representatives from the Departments of Finance and Transportation to appear before the Council to report on the costs and ridership numbers for the Charm City Circulator, as well as whether or not the revenue sources originally intended to pay for Circulator operations have proven to be sufficient; and to discuss the contents of the RFP to operate the Circulator in future years, including the possibility of requiring a \$1 fare for each Circulator ride.

Sponsors: President Young, Warren Branch, Edward Reisinger, Bill Henry, Helen L. Holton, William "Pete" Welch, Carl Stokes, James B. Kraft, Sharon Green Middleton, Robert Curran
Indexes: Charm City, Circulator, Investigative Hearing

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. 14-0192R~1st Reader.pdf, 2. DOT 14-0192R.pdf, 3. Finance 14-0192R.pdf, 4. 14-0192R~2nd Reader.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
1/26/2015	0	Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee	Recommended Favorably	
1/26/2015	0	City Council	Adopted	
12/4/2014	0	Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee	Scheduled for a Public Hearing	
10/9/2014	0	The City Council	Referred for a Report	
10/9/2014	0	The City Council	Referred for a Report	
10/6/2014	0	City Council	Introduced	
10/6/2014	0	City Council	Assigned	

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THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.
INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: President Young

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning
Investigative Hearing - Charm City Circulator

FOR the purpose of calling on representatives from the Departments of Finance and Transportation to appear before the Council to report on the costs and ridership numbers for the Charm City Circulator, as well as whether or not the revenue sources originally intended to pay for Circulator operations have proven to be sufficient; and to discuss the contents of the RFP to operate the Circulator in future years, including the possibility of requiring a \$1 fare for each Circulator ride.

Recitals

Now in its 5th year of service, the Charm City Circulator continues to be an important transit option for many Baltimoreans and visitors to our city, as its more than 10,000 daily riders can attest. However, with the current operating contract for the Circulator expiring at year's end, now is an appropriate time to reexamine whether the current model being used for the Circulator continues to make sense for Baltimore.

As a starting point, it is important to make firm data about the costs and benefits of operating the Circulator, including ridership numbers, publically available. A real accounting of the funding sources for the Circulator, especially an analysis of whether or not the funding sources originally designated for it have proven sufficient, is also needed for any evaluation of the Circulator's current operating model.

The idea of adding a \$1 per trip fare for the Circulator should also be included in any discussion about its future. Charging this nominal fee for each of the millions of Circulator rides could make the service much more sustainable and provide funding for not only the Circulator but potentially other City priorities such as recreation and parks programs. It could also help to address concerns about the inappropriate use of the Circulator by riders without any genuine destination that detracts from this service's intended purposes.

As the City prepares to enter into a new operating contract for the Circulator, all options, including the installation of fare boxes, need to be on the table. This opportunity to more fully align the Circulator's operations with the City's needs should not be allowed to pass without real discussion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council calls on representatives from the Departments of Finance and Transportation to appear before it to report on the costs and ridership numbers for the Charm City Circulator, as well as whether or not the revenue sources originally intended to pay for Circulator operations have proven to be sufficient; and to discuss the contents of the RFP to operate the Circulator in future years, including the possibility of requiring a \$1 fare for each Circulator ride.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Director of Transportation, the Director of Finance, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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