



City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	21-0026R	Version:	0	Name:	Investigative Hearing - COVID-19 and Small Business Re-Openings
Type:	City Council Resolution	Status:		Status:	Adopted
File created:	3/8/2021	In control:		In control:	Ways and Means
On agenda:		Final action:		Final action:	5/3/2021
Enactment date:		Enactment #:			
Title:	Investigative Hearing - COVID-19 and Small Business Re-Openings For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore Development Corporation to brief the City Council on their efforts to support small businesses and economic development in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.				
Sponsors:	Phylicia Porter, Mark Conway, John T. Bullock, Danielle N. McCray, Odette Ramos, James Torrence, Robert Stokes, Sr., Sharon Green Middleton, Zeke Cohen, Antonio Glover				
Indexes:	COVID-19, Investigative Hearing, Opening, Small Business				
Code sections:					
Attachments:	1. 1921-0026R~1st Reader, 2. Law 21-0026R, 3. Finance 21-0026R, 4. BDC 21-0026R, 5. Final Synopsis 21-0026R, 6. XX Hearing Notes 21-0026R, 7. Handout 4 20 21 PowerPoint Presentation BDC 21-0026R, 8. 21-0026R~2nd Reader				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/3/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Adopted	
5/3/2021	0	Ways and Means	Recommended Favorably	
4/20/2021	0	Ways and Means	Recommended Favorably	Pass
4/5/2021	0	Ways and Means	Scheduled for a Public Hearing	
3/11/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to City Solicitor	
3/11/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Baltimore Development Corporation	
3/11/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Dept. of Finance	
3/8/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Assigned	
3/8/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Introduced	

* **Warning:** This is an unofficial, introductory copy of the bill.
The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

Introductory*

City of Baltimore Council Bill (Resolution) R

Introduced by: Councilmembers Porter and Conway

A Resolution Entitled

A Council Resolution concerning

Investigative Hearing - COVID-19 and Small Business Re-Openings

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore Development Corporation to brief the City Council on their efforts to support small businesses and economic development in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recitals

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on Baltimore's economy, especially the small business community. The Baltimore Development Corporation ("BDC") is the City's economic development agency. BDC has led the City's response and recovery effort with respect to the economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

BDC has strived to deliver an innovative and equitable response to help local business through the pandemic and has emphasized supporting resident-, women- and Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC)-owned businesses. BDC's efforts have been recognized both locally and nationally.

To date, BDC has awarded over 1,000 small business assistance grants totaling approximately \$13 million. Sixty-three percent of all small business assistance grants were awarded to BIPOC-owned businesses; 57% of all small business assistance grants were awarded to women-owned businesses; and 66% of all small business assistance grants were awarded to Baltimore City resident-owned businesses.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, BDC and the Baltimore Small Business Support Fund ("BSBSF") partnered to ensure relief resources reached as many businesses as possible and especially BIPOC-owned businesses in disinvested neighborhoods. This partnership formed the Baltimore Small Business Technical Assistance Network ("TA Network"), a partnership of 19 organizations coordinated by BDC and funded by the BSBSF coalition of foundations. To date, the TA Network has more than 1,400 business tracked in its shared database. Sixty percent of the businesses are BIPOC-owned and 80% of the businesses are sole proprietors or have five or fewer employees.

As BDC addresses the current economic crisis, the agency is also undertaking a robust economic strategic planning effort. BDC recently released an interim report on its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy named "Baltimore Together - A Platform for Inclusive Prosperity". This effort describes the BDC will take to promote inclusive economic recovery and growth in the City over the next 5 years.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of Baltimore, That the City Council invites representatives from the Baltimore Development Corporation to brief the City Council on their efforts to support small businesses and economic development in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

And be it further resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.