

Baltimore Casino Local Development Council

Agency-Grantee Workshop

November 14, 2023 – 6-8:00PM

Platform: MS Teams

Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Chris Firehock & Ethan Cohen, Baltimore City Department of Planning

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions.
2. Recap of process
3. Review of projects and Q&A
4. Next steps

Attending Staff--Department of Planning:

1. Ethan Cohen
2. Chris Firehock
3. Chris Ryer (Director)

Agencies (City) and Grantees:

1. Swathi Ayyagari, National Aquarium in Baltimore
2. Eric Booker, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Code Enforcement
3. David McGinnis, DHCD Special Investigations Unit
4. John Burklew, Bureau of Budget and Management Research
5. Mark Hooper, Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED), South Baltimore Employment Connection Center
6. Craig Lewis, MOED
7. Kim Knox, Department of Planning (Clean Corps)
8. Ava Richardson, Department of Planning -- Office of Sustainability
9. Linda Lo Cascio, CBAC/Horseshoe Casino Baltimore
10. Michael Luca, Department of Public Works (DPW) -- Bureau of Solid Waste (BSW)
11. Noell Lugay, Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success (MOCFS)
12. Stefanie Mavronis, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)
13. Brianne Young, MONSE
14. Roland Selby, Mayor's Office of Homeless Services (MOHS)
15. Mark Soresi, DemoUSA (Contractor for DPW BSW)
16. Jessi Stevens, MOHS

Attending – LDC Members, Proxies, or Representatives:

1. James Alston (Westport)
2. Serena Watters, Proxy for Councilwoman Phylcia Porter (Barre Circle)

Meeting started at 6:09

1) Welcome and introductions.

Welcome by Ethan Cohen

2) Recap of process

Ethan led intro/recap of spending plan review process.

3) Review of projects and Q&A by Agency:

- MOCFS–Noelle Lugal briefed the group on MOCFS’s process for assessing potential K-12 program grantees for CLIF funding in FY25.
- MOED – Craig Lewis and Mark Hooper briefed the group on outreach efforts, programs for jobseekers and employers, and data on program outcomes.
- DHCD – Eric Booker reported on the role of the additional Code Enforcement Inspector.
- DHCD – David McGinniss reported on the plan for deploying anti-dumping cameras (FY24 funds).
- DHCD – Chris Firehock reported on the Community Development Fund, including the Middle Neighborhoods Strategy for fostering home ownership in Cherry Hill and Lakeland
- MOHS –
 - Roland Selby and Jessi Stevens spoke about the two outreach workers supported with CLIF grants, and their impact on guiding unhoused individuals to services.
 - Mark Soresi from DemoUSA added that his company continues to collaborate with MOHS on clean-up of homeless encampments near the shoreline where DemoUSA provides cleanup under a contract with DPW funded by CLIF.
 - James Alston asked if MOHS has contemplated tiny houses for unhoused individuals.
- BCIT – Ethan spoke about plans to complete CitiWatch expansion projects and how fiberoptic infrastructure installed for cameras is being leveraged for community broadband pilot projects.
- MONSE – Stefanie Mavronis spoke about how the CLIF school-based violence intervention programs is key to City’s strategies. The pilot at Digital Harbor High School is in development and should be fully implemented in time for the 2024-2025 school year.
- DOP –
 - Kimberly Knox reported on the CleanCorps program in Westport.
 - Swathi Ayyagari of the National Aquarium reported on the environmental education program offered to 10 schools in South Baltimore.
 - Ava Richardson reported on creating a Reimagine Middle Branch planner position.
- Department of Transportation & Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) – Linda Lo Cascio reported on progress of the Warner-Stockholm Street project.
- Baltimore Police Department (BPD) – Major Bennett of the Southern District wrote that he had attempted to attend the meeting in person, unaware that it had been changed to virtual-only. BPD sent a message committing to respond to questions that had been posed for this meeting.

4) Conclusion and Next steps

- Chris Firehock repeated the timeline for the LDC to respond on the FY25 Draft Spending Plan.
- Chris Ryer thanked the agency and grantee representatives for participating in the workshop and thanked LDC members for their service in helping plan for the use of the CLIF monies, which is intended for the betterment of their communities.

Adjourn 8:00