

Baltimore Local Development Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 8, 2018, 6:30-8:00PM
Baltimore City Department of Planning
417 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Attendance -- LDC Members:

Keisha Allen, Del. Luke Clippinger, Sandra Dennis (proxy for Aparna Jain), Bill Ferguson (Chair), Jill Johnson, Alvin Lee, Karl Lowe, Rev. Willie Pack, Sr., Bill Reuter, Wayne Vance, Beth Whitmer.

Quorum Present: Yes

Baltimore City Agency Representatives: Ethan Cohen (Mayor's Office, Liaison to LDC), plus Lt. Craig Hartman (BPD), Lenora Henry (BOPA), Brent Flickinger (Department of Planning), Geon Floyd (MOHS), Stacy Freed (HCD), Terry Hickey (MOHS), Valorie LaCour (DOT), David Mitchell (BOPA), Dana Moulden (BOPA), Davi Peterson (MOED), Muriel Rich (DPW Bureau of Solid Waste), Mary Sloat (MOED).

Public:

Kim Lane (Pigtown Main Street), others

Proceedings:

1. Sen. Ferguson called the meeting to order at 6:35PM with introductions by LDC members and welcome to representatives of partnering agencies and organizations and members of the public.
2. Minutes were presented for the meeting on July 11, 2018. At the opening of this meeting there was not a quorum present. Acceptance of the minutes was tabled but then approved after 10 minutes; motioned by Rev. Pack, seconded by Mr. Lee
3. Per the agenda, committee reports were tabled for input by LDC committee members on individual projects.
4. Meeting schedule: the next meeting will be Wednesday, December 5, which will be for discussion of the FY'20 spending plan, to be presented tonight, starting the 45 day review period.
5. Senator Ferguson tabled the discussion of appointments and term limits, yet noting that some current LDC members who are in their sixth consecutive years of service are affected.
6. Ethan Cohen introduced the first quarter report on FY'19 activities, reviewing the summary "dashboard." He introduced Melanie Shimano of Baltimore City Department of General Services who presented a preview of efforts to develop new, more detailed dashboards showing individual projects and aggregated spending by Master Plan goal. This is a new but ongoing project.
7. The presentation on FY'19 activity was then combined with a discussion of the FY'20 Draft Spending Plan. Ethan summarized for LDC members the memo and attachments that were emailed out to LDC members on December 6. The copy presented at the meeting also includes additional notes on projects based on information received since the plan was issued. Senator Ferguson then led the LDC's review of the budget table for FY'20 and updates on individual initiatives from agency and partner organization representatives present. Discussions of specific programs were as follows:
 - a. Forestry/Tree Planting – Jill Johnson commented that there are areas of street tree planting near Harbor Hospital where the trees have died. It is important to follow up

and determine who was responsible for these trees – City or NGO’s – and what measures are in place for replacing and maintaining street trees.

- b. Parks operations funding – Brent Flickinger asked how the projects or programs here integrate with those funded by the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership. Ethan responded there are two lists of projects – the LDC/City’s funded projects starting with FY’17 funds and the SBGP’s list. Nonetheless, it is important that these be checked against each other and these efforts coordinated.
- c. Mikah Zaslow of DOT provided an overview of the Complete Streets projects. A question was raised about the Bush Street Cycle track (“What is it?”). Mikah explained the intent and status of that project.
- d. BDC’s Ira Kowler reported that funding for the façade grant program is either spent down or all committed to projects. BDC’s Kristin Dawson reported that the grocery store feasibility study was completed and signals future opportunities. The Food Coop feasibility study is still in progress.
- e. Representatives from MOHS’ Homeless Street Outreach Team were present: Geon Floyd and Angela McAuley, who announced that a second outreach worker has been hired for the South Baltimore Gateway area. The team spoke to challenges and successes and cited that having a second member in South Baltimore will allow greater coverage and safety for assisting homeless residents.
- f. Acting Health Department Commissioner Mary Beth Haller reported on the status of the Baltimore City Animal Safety (BCAS) facility.
- g. Representatives from BOPA (David Mitchell and Emily Sollenberger Dobbins) gave a presentation on continued outreach and implementation of cultural heritage/arts planning in the South Baltimore Gateway.
- h. Parks and People Executive Director Lisa Millspaugh Schroeder provided an update on the consultant selection and stakeholder engagement progress in “Phase One” of the project. The FY’20 Spending Plan recommends an additional \$200,000 towards Phase Two.
- i. Safe Streets Deputy Director Anisha Thomas described the proposed collaboration with MedStar Harbor Hospital, starting in January 2019 (FY’19), implementing a “hospital responder” program integrated with Cherry Hill Safe Streets. Jill Johnson and Rev. Pack both spoke to the effectiveness of Cherry Hill Safe Streets at curbing violence and commented on how the hospital responder/caseworker function will only enhance the benefits of the program.
- j. As a follow up on this discussion, Senator Ferguson reminded LDC members that the body has 45 days to review and provide comment on the plan. He requested that comments be sent to him ahead of the December 5 meeting.
- k. Senator Ferguson also spoke to the item of appointments for 2019, asking that an application and explanation of duties be distributed to current members including those who are in their last year of services. He asked for recommendations on filling seats from communities where representatives are term-limited.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM

Next meeting: scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, 2018