

**Baltimore Casino Local Development Council Meeting**  
**LDC Meeting Minutes: October 9, 2014**  
**6:30 PM Dept. of Planning, Baltimore, MD**

**LDC Members:**

*Present* Senator Ferguson, Rev. Gwynn, Bill Reuter, Keisha Allen, James Alston, Samuel Himmelrich, Amy Mutch, Wayne Vance, Alex Dixon (for Chad Barnhill)

*Absent* Del. Clippinger, Councilman Reisinger, Eric Costello; Matt Tary, Corwin Jones

*Quorum Present: Yes*

**Proceedings:**

- Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the Chair, Senator Ferguson.
- Minutes approved (August and September); Include notation that the benefits accrue to the local communities
- **Casino Update:**
  - Alex Dixon, Assistant General Manager for Horseshoe Casino (proxy for Chad Barnhill ) reported that Casino was in 7th or 8th week of operation and getting into rhythm, starting to see normal flow of business.
  - People are pleased for the most part.
  - Casino is still hiring and looking for dealers.
  - Casino is still partnering with BCC.
  - Great police presence inside and out and the partnership with police and fire continues to work well.
- **Presentation by City agencies:**

The PowerPoint on the website gives more details of the presentations.

  - **Police**
    - FY '15 allocation allowed for fewer officers than needed.
    - Police interested in additional funding for next fiscal year because they are shouldering additional amount by paying overtime, which is not economical.
    - Police substation needs to be reviewed; travel to and from Southern District is too far; additional cost for ongoing monitoring of CitiWatch cameras needs to be assessed ; keeping Police close is important.
    - Casino has alcohol policy established and strives to observe people who are intoxicated.
    - Would be helpful to produce a breakdown of police activity at the new post.
  - **Fire**
    - Run totals have gone up 400%, mostly for EMS calls.
    - FY '15 funded provides for four shifts with two medics only-no equipment or facilities. Fire overtime funds provide the additional staffing.
    - \$200,000 is the cost for the EMS equipment needed.
  - **DOT**
    - Will establish complete street typology
    - For 17 identified neighborhoods, community meetings are scheduled in October; will have all the community group meetings by December.
    - Funding provided for TEOs will be sufficient.
    - Traffic has stabilized.
  - **MOED**
    - RFP for needs assessment out and the study will be completed by early 2015.
    - Recommendation is to continue the funding for the Employment Connection

(Continued)

- Center for five years to be fair to job seekers in the community. Those in the Construction Careers training would live in impact area.
- The funds for summer jobs would be in addition to the regular funding.
  - **DPW**
    - Put out eight big belly trashcans.
    - Load-packer will arrive in December.
    - Want to add two more crews in Tier 2 if feasible.
    - Added mechanical street sweeping citywide so no special funds are needed.
    - Would like to request the same level of funding in FY '16 to have more presence in South Baltimore neighborhoods; more cans will arrive on 10/10 and start the week of 10/13. Well look into Fort Avenue, Hanover and Ostend calls and tailgating at Hamburg and Ostend.
  - **BDC**
    - Will meet with Wayne Vance to develop facade improvement program.
    - Will work with Planning to solicit bids from consultants for Warner Street study.
  - **BOPA**
    - Arts can be a capstone and relate to goals of Master Plan.
    - Need to develop system to determine where art would go.
    - Could use existing process or develop a new process.
    - Question about whether BOPA can do more than just murals.
    - 1% of capital projects for certain agencies must go toward public art, but Impact Funds could supplement this or provide for separate projects.
    - Will look into the issue of not providing feedback for proposals that were not funded.
  - **Recreation and Parks**
    - Will narrow down the locations for tree planting before November .
    - The area has capacity for several plantings of 1000 trees.
  - **Health**
    - Health Assessments continue to support the need for the virtual supermarket program.
  - **Health**
    - Community grants are given for important community projects.
  - **Community Enhancement Projects**
    - LDC wants \$300,000 of the funding earmarked for the "Community Benefits District" in FY '15 to be approved for quick-turnaround physical projects.
  - **Public Comments**
    - Michael Middleton agrees that the neighborhood associations should decide on how to spending money on enhancement projects.
    - Erica Brockman, principal of SW Charter School, reminded the LDC to keep schools impacted by the Casino in mind for the future.
  - **Announcements**
    - Mackenzie Garvin stated that the Mayor's Office is looking into how to flag casino-related calls to 311.
    - The next meeting will be held on October 30, when the draft spending plan will be presented and the official 45-day review period will begin.

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.*