

MINUTES**SPECIAL MEETING**

Honorable Bernard C. "Jack" Young, President
Honorable Catherine E. Pugh, Mayor
Honorable Joan M. Pratt, Comptroller and Secretary
Rudolph S. Chow, Director of Public Works
David E. Ralph, Interim City Solicitor
Bernice H. Taylor, Deputy Comptroller and Clerk

President: "Good morning. The January 12, 2017 Meet -- Special Meeting of the Board of Estimates is now called to order. In the interest of promoting the order and efficiencies of these hearings, persons who are disruptive to the hearing will be asked to leave the hearing room. Meetings of the Board of Estimates are open to the public for the duration of the meeting. The hearing room -- room must be vacated at the conclusion of the meeting. Failure to comply may result in a charge of trespassing. We are here today to consider the Settlement Agreement and Con -- and Con -- Consent Decree with U. S. Department of Justice. We will hear from the public. Please understand that this will not be the final opportunity for the public to uh -- voice to be heard on this Consent Decree. Before the Consent Decree is finalized, it must be

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approved by the Federal Judge. The City has asked the Judge to hold a public hearing on this Consent Decree to hear from you. After the public comment this morning, the Board members will have some comments. And finally, we will vote on whether to approve the agreement. We will now turn to the input from the public. I will call the names of any persons who have signed in and wish to offer public comments in groups of ten. When I call your name, please form a line down the center aisle -- center aisle. When it is your turn to speak, state your name and who you are representing and speak into the microphone. Each person will have two minutes to speak before the Board. Please review the Public Comment Guidelines given to you at the sign-in table before to speak -- before coming to speak. Time will be kept by the front of the room and -- that's Liam, he raised his hand. You will be alerted when you have 30 seconds left by holding up a yellow card. At that time you should start bringing your remarks to a close. You will be alerted when you are out of time by holding a red card. Okay. Alright. We're going to ask that the presenters come up and present the Consent Decree."

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Ms. Sangree: "Good morning Madam Mayor, Council President, Comptroller, uh -- Commissioner Chow, and Solicitors. I'm Suzanne Sangree from the City Law Department and I'm here to present the Settlement Agreement and Consent Decree for your consideration and approval. At the then Mayor's invitation, the Department of Justice conducted an investigation of the Baltimore Police Department beginning in May of 2015. The Department of Justice issued its findings from that investigation on August 10 of 2016 and the -- that is the same day that the City, the Police Department, and DOJ released our agreement, in principle, and agreement to work out the terms of the agreement that is here before you today. The purpose of today's agreement is to ensure that the City and BPD protect individual statutory and constitutional rights, and treat individuals with dignity and respect and promote public safety in a manner that is fiscally responsible and responsive to community priorities. The parties are thus committed to effective constitutional law enforcement. The parties recognize that these outcomes require a partnership between the BPD and

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the communities that it serves. One in which the Department is transparent about its processes and provides community members with a voice in its functions. This agreement is designed to enhance BPD's relationship with its community through increased transparency and public input, improved oversight and accountability systems to ensure that the Department will collect and analyze data on officer activities, impose discipline for misconduct fairly and efficiently, and enhance support for officers through robust employee wellness programs, law enforcement policies, training, and supervision. The City and BPD have already begun the critical work of reform and this agreement is designed to build upon the work that has already begun. BPD has already made meaningful changes to numerous policies, provided additional training, supplied officers with new equipment, including beginning the implementation of body cameras. It has committed additional resources to its community outreach efforts, particularly with youth, and it has invested in additional technology and infra-

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structure. While the parties recognize this progress, they also recognize that much work remains, including in those areas where reform has already begun. The parties recognize that police officers work in difficult conditions risking their well-being and physical safety, including the ultimate sacrifice of their lives and they do it for the public good. The City and BPD commit to ensure that its officers have the resources to perform their duties successfully and within constitutional boundaries to protect officer and public safety. For this agreement to obtain the Force of Law, if this Board approves it, it will later this morning be filed in the Federal Court along with a Complaint. At the time that it's filed in Federal Court, it will become a public document. The agreement, once reviewed and entered by the Court and we've requested, as the Council President mentioned, a public hearing before it becomes final in the Court that the Court hold a public hearing. Then, once it's entered, the decree will effectively end the Complaint without litigation and we will proceed to the work of implementing the

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reforms of this agreement. Thank you."

President: "Thank you. Okay, before we start, I want to recognize Councilman Leon Pinkett, who is with us, uh -- Councilman Brandon Scott, who is the Chair of um -- our Public Safety Committee um -- any other elected officials? Oh, um -- Reverend Jerome Stephens, representing Congressman, I mean Senator Ben Cardin's office. Any more elected officials? Okay. Alright uh -- the first person signed up is Christina Flowers. I mean, I'm just joking. Chris -- I wanted Kim Trueheart to say something. Members of the DOJ is here as well. Uh -- the first citizen to sign up is Ms. Kim Trueheart."

Ms. Kim Trueheart: "Good morning."

President: "Good morning."

Mayor: "Good morning."

Ms. Trueheart: "This is my first chance to see you in action. This is good."

Comptroller: "State your name."

Ms. Trueheart: "My name is Kim Trueheart. Born and raised in

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Baltimore and sadly I've lost five cousins to gun violence in this City and so folks wonder why I do what I do. Uh -- there will not be a sixth member of my family lost to gun violence in this City. Um -- Why? Because we're going to reform the Baltimore City Police Department. I have every, every desire, hope, and confidence that the reforms that the people have asked for will occur. Because I didn't hear the kinds of reforms to the degree that I'm hoping for described this morning. So, that concerns me. See, you can't just change policies. You just can't write new stuff. You just can't shift things around. Alright? We need reform and we need deep, deep reforms in the Department that has brutalized citizens and in some respects, while not proven in Court, killed people. I don't get what the retitist -- reticence is to reform the Department um -- but if this Decree doesn't go far enough, and I'm a skeptic, absolute skeptic, uh - - you're not going to have a happy City. Cause we're not already happy. We're very concerned that it doesn't go far enough. But, we'll wait to see. Alright? Uh -- I filed a written protest uh - - I don't' like this process. I would much prefer that locally

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we address any concerns that the citizens of Baltimore have rather than make us go to the court system to implement any change or fixes that we don't like. Uh -- thank you for what you've done. I thank the officers who wear the uniform proudly and serve and protect us. But, there are some bad ones. Thank you."

President: "Thank you -- Ms. Trueheart."

Mayor: "Thank you."

President: "Uh -- Christina Flowers."

Ms. Christina Flowers: "Good morning your honor. Good morning Madam Mayor."

Mayor: "Good morning."

President: "Good morning."

Ms. Flowers: "Uh -- I represent"

President: "-- your name?"

Ms. Flowers: "Oh uh -- my name is Christina Flowers --"

President: "Lift it up so you won't have to stoop so low."

Ms. Flowers: "Okay. Let me bring it closer to me, cause I'm taller--"

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President: "Put it right up, straight up."

Ms. Flowers: "-- so I won't hurt my back. My name is Christina Flowers, um -- a Community Homeless Advocate and I'm here to represent the homeless population. Uh -- it's a voice of individuals that have been affected by so many harms and dangers uh -- not only from this DOJ report uh -- just from a community of individuals -- we have over ten homeless encampments in the City. And there always a issue to where they're either being harassed, bothered, or messed with by the Police Department. So, myself as a Homeless Advocate, represent that population to understand that I would like to be a part and aware of uh -- some of the reforming and when it goes around this community and that population of individuals so that we can make sure -- and I know Madam Mayor this is one of your biggest peeves, that our homeless population is not only uh -- treated with dignity and respect, but they're also given a consideration of safety when they're in the homeless situation that they're in and until we move forward and do much better with ending homelessness. So, all my Council people that are here, I am grateful -- even my uh

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-- Leon Pinkett, my Councilman uh -- we look forward to being a part of this so that we can make sure that our homeless community is taken care of. Thank you guys very much. Have a great day."

President: "Thank you. Uh -- before uh -- I allow the Mayor to recognize um -- I -- I want to recognize the Council people -- you can recognize him."

Mayor: "I wanted to uh -- recognize uh -- one of our former City Solicitors, Mr. Zollicoffer. Good morning."

Mr. Thurman W. Zollicoffer, Jr.: "Good morning."

President: "Welcome back. Uh -- I like to recognize Councilman Stokes, uh -- Councilman Burnett, and Councilman Bullock, who have joined us as well. Okay, the next speaker is Jacqueline -- is it Robarge? Did I pronounce that right?"

Ms. Jacqueline Robarge: "Robarge."

President: "Okay. I think I said that."

Ms. Robarge: "Hi. I'm Jacqueline Robarge, the Director of Power Inside and our program works on behalf of homeless women, women impacted by street prostitution, addiction, and uh -- trauma and because I did not have the opportunity to look at the remedies

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being proposed, I'll talk about what needs to be remedied. So, right up until last night about 10 o'clock, I'm taking testimony from victims of crime, sexual assault, primarily who uh -- are being mistreated by the Baltimore City Police Department. Right -- right up to and including being sexually assaulted by Baltimore City Police officers. And so, we know that the Consent Decree must include meaningful and assessable reporting mechanisms from multiple avenues to allow vulnerable people, and victims of crime, and victims of police brutality and police misconduct to report those crimes. We also know that we need adequate representation on the Civilian Review Board and have accountability that is transparent to the entire community. And I really uh -- am having difficulty commenting on a process -- on a document that we have not seen and it -- I uh -- was reluctant to comment at all because I do not feel like this is a meaningful public input process with a document that is mostly finalized. So, thank you for hearing my comments."

President: "Thank you."

Mayor: "Thank you."

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President: "Uh -- before uh -- first of all, I want to ask is there any more citizens who have signed up? We only had the three. Okay. I want to thank the invi -- the individuals who have come out to provide comments. Uh -- we have heard the pleas for meaningful reform from the citizens of Baltimore far too long. Today your City will take a major step towards providing the constitutional policing that every citizen deserves. That this change is hard fought is an understatement. There have been loved ones from mothers and daughters, brothers and sons, to wives, grandmothers, aunts, and uncles who have long sought justice. I know because I've met a great number of you. You have stopped me on the streets, in the grocery stores, at schools, and in barber shops to plea for meaningful reforms to policing in Baltimore. This passing was behind my push more than two years ago to get the Department of Justice to carry out the very action that has brought us here at this moment at this time. To the families, we have heard you. We took seriously your cries for justice and as we prepare to make police reforms official, I want to thank you for never giving up, for continuing to fight

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and for believing that the rights of every citizen are worth protecting. To the men and women of the Baltimore Police Department, I know that a great many of you too have wished for this day. I've come -- I've come across countless officers who understand that police reform have the ability to restore trust in the Department and ultimately make the job of policing in our City much easier. Citizens need to be partners with police and today's Consent Decree with the Federal government is a first step towards a renewed relationship between our officers and the citizens of Baltimore. I'd like to thank Mayor Pugh and her staff for taking this work seriously. They assumed control in early November and hit the ground running. You and your team have sacrificed holidays and sleep. They've given up time with your families and worked around the clock to make today's signing of the Consent Decree possible. I want to thank you for your hard work and dedication to the citizens of -- of Baltimore. Let's keep the fire lit as we work to bring about the change that so many of us fought long and hard for and thank you

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very much. And thanks to your team. Now, I'll turn it over to Joan, Comptroller Joan Pratt."

Comptroller: "I'd just like to say that I am pleased that the settlement has been -- that a settlement has been reached that promotes community and officer safety and improves public confidence in the -- law enforcement and civic lead -- leadership. The Consent Decree and the Settlement Agreement is intended to treat all stakeholders, including the Baltimore City public -- the Baltimore City Police Department, along with the community at large, with dignity and respect while protecting the cons -- constitutional rights of all parties. Thank you."

President: "Madam Mayor."

Mayor: "Uh -- let me just first thank all those who took time out to come and speak. But, I also want to take time to thank all of the people in the community who spoke out, spoke up, stood up. I attended some of those forums and I know that even through my campaign effort, you know, folks were pressuring me, when you get there, are you going to deal with this? And thank you for doing that. Uh -- but more importantly, what I want to

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say to you all is that this particular part of the process is a closed process. Uh -- that is according to the DOJ and the laws thereof. However, this is only the beginning of the process and that's why there'll be a suit filed in court that opens up the public process so that you get to see everything and this document becomes public once we sign it. That's what will occur at 10:30. It will be on line. It will be available. You get to see every single aspect of this document and then you get to comment again on the document. When we put the mediator in place, you know, that creates another community engagement process. You are all -- also invited to engage in that process as we begin looking for who will help us to carry out this agreement. And I want to say to those of you who spoke of very specific communities, the homeless uh -- those who are sexually assaulted, you'll find in this agreement that there is special monitoring put in place, just as it relates to those particular areas and discussions that you've made. The intent of this agreement is to make sure that we accommodate every single citizen. Every citizen, regardless of their age, their uh - wh--

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their residency, whatever their problems may or may not be, is considered in this document, because every single citizen in this City deserves fair treatment. And I just want to take a moment to say thank you David Ralph. Thank you uh -- where's Ganesha [Martin]? Uh -- thank you. Uh -- because I was on the phone and sometimes sitting here till 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning because I instructed this team and -- Mr. President, it was December the 6th that I was inaugurated and December the 7th when I walked in here, I think less than uh -- I think 33 days that we've been on the job and I said we will do this. We will get it done. This again is the process. And so, I -- I thank you all, the entire negotiating team, because I've spoken -- I remember one morning at 1:30 in the morning, 1 o'clock in the morning, I was talking to uh -- with the negotiating team and they said, 'okay, we'll get back to work'. And uh -- my uh -- City Solicitor said, 'we'll call you -- I'll call you back.' And so, I called back at 1:30 in the morning. I said -- he said, 'what are you still doing up?' I said, 'I'm waiting for you'. And so, this has been an intense process and I want you all to

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know that I am here to represent the citizens of Baltimore and as I committed to uh -- you all when I became the Mayor of this City, things that involve our citizens are essential -- they're important. You elect us to represent you. But, I also want thank the Baltimore City Police Department because they didn't wait until this agreement was in place. Just on yesterday, I attended a mediation uh -- organization that I was invited to see what they were doing and over 500 police officers and students uh -- they talked about how they put them in a room and uh -- the police sat on one side and the young people sat on the other side. But, through community mediation, by the end of the -- the mediation, you know, they were beginning to understand each other, they were sitting next to each other, they were having conversations. So, things are going to happen. But, I want folks to know that this was never for me, never about how much it cost. Yesterday, last night probably around 10 or 11 o'clock, I talked to uh -- Senator Van Hollen. I talked to Senator Ben Cardin. I talked to our Congressman and they said, 'we will roll up our sleeves because we want to help you. Uh -- they asked how

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much it was. I said, we -- we never even looked at the cost. This is about rightful treatment of the citizens of Baltimore. So, I commit to you that the open process allows you all to continue to speak, to review this, to make sure it is what you need it to be uh -- all of the things that were talked about. I think I uh -- attended -- what was it, the Hip Hop uh -- Community Forum with all the -- what was it? The Caucus uh -- Forum and uh -- the ideas and so forth that were suggested from that group I thought were awesome and you'll find that some of that, most of that is included here. So, Mr. President uh -- we know just by virtue of research that many of these agreements take 13 months, 14 months, a year. Uh -- we're serious about this work -- and we're very serious about this work. And so I thank everybody that participated in it and I look forward to uh -- seeing Ms. Lynch later on today and more importantly, I think that this is a wonderful and great day for Baltimore that we've taken this step forward. Uh -- thank you to the leadership, Mr. President. Thank you Madam Comptroller and to the members of this Board for at least allowing us to have this special meeting

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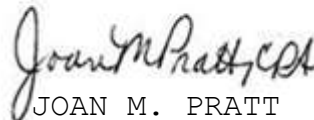
because we did not want to miss anybody's deadline. More importantly, our deadline for the citizens of Baltimore. The process begins. Uh -- so, Mr. President, I Move approval of the Settlement Agreement and Consent Decree with the United States Department of Justice, and I thank all of you."

Comptroller: "I Second."

President: "All those in favor say Aye. Those opposed Nay. The Motion carries. There being no more business before this Board, we will recess until bid opening on January 18th at 9 a.m. Thank you."

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There being no objections, the Board, UPON MOTION duly made and seconded, adjourned until its next regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2017.



JOAN M. PRATT
Secretary

Kim A. Trueheart

January 12, 2017

Board of Estimates
Attn: Clerk
City Hall, Room 204
100 N. Holliday Street,
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Ms. Taylor:

Herein is my written protest on behalf of the underserved and disparately treated school age children of Baltimore City who appear to be victims of a lack of vision, poor fiscal planning and management and by most municipal entities within Baltimore City.

The following details are provided to initiate this action as required by the Board of Estimates:

- 1) Whom you represent: Self
- 2) What the issues are:
 - a) **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CONSENT DECREE WITH U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, if approved:**
 - i) Fails to afford Baltimore City residents the opportunity to pact as informed citizens who can cogently comment on this items before this board opts to vote to approve them;
 - ii) Continues to demonstrate the disdain and disrespect that pervades actions by this municipal board that heap untoward and oppressive government conditions on its already disadvantaged residents;
 - iii) Undermines the overwhelming need for greater and more transparent relationships between government, specifically the Baltimore City Police Department and the citizens it is intended to protect and serve;
 - iv) Demonstrates the continuance of a top level municipal arrogance that routinely excludes the residents of Baltimore City from participating in a true democracy;
 - v) Coveys to municipal employees, specifically our sworn police officers, that the past hubris of municipal and elected officials will continue by their superiors notwithstanding the ongoing failings and victimizations validated in the findings of the August 10, 2016 DOJ investigation Report.
 - vi) Please provide for inspection documents detailing:
 - (1) The Settlement Agreement with the US DOJ; and
 - (2) The negotiated Consent Decree with the US DOJ.
- 3) How the protestant will be harmed by the proposed Board of Estimates' action:
 - a) As a citizen I am experiencing a significant financial burden with annual tax increases, sewer and water service increases, user fee increases, parking meter rate increases and significantly reduce services as a resident.

5519 Belleville Ave
Baltimore, MD 21207

- b) When tax payer funds are NOT spent to strategically address systemic disparities and violations of the law that have been historically present in police operations the citizens, including myself, will continue to be victimized by municipally paid perpetrators;
- c) I have been a victim of the disparate and illegal actions of Baltimore City police officers who will continue to inflict harm on me and my fellow residents because the authentic reforms needed to be implemented have NOT been included in the negotiated terms.
- d) This already onerous burden will be exacerbated by the continued wasteful and inequitable spending by the Baltimore City municipal entities within this administration.
- e) The remedy I seek is that these items be immediately released for at least a 24 hour public review period prior to this board voting on these vitally important items.

I look forward to the opportunity to address this matter in person at your upcoming meeting of the Board of Estimates on January 12, 2017.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please telephone me at (410) 205-5114.

Sincerely,
Kim Trueheart
Citizen, Resident, Voter

*5519 Belleville Ave
Baltimore, MD 21207*