

**Baltimore City Chamber of Committee**  
**MONTHLY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**  
**Due each Tuesday before monthly Board Meeting**

**Committee Name:** Public Policy Committee (PPC) \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Chair/Co-Chair:** Hal Resnick \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Report Date:** July 2020 \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Last Committee Meeting:** July 14, 2020 \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Next Committee Meeting:** September 8, 2020 \_\_\_\_\_

**Upcoming Event and Date (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Old Business/Issues:**

- 1) The City Primary results indicate that there will be three new Citywide officials (Mayor, City Council President, Comptroller) and five new members of the City Council (Districts 4, 7, 10, 13, 14) following the November election. The Chamber/PPC has drafted a congratulatory letter to the successful candidates and will sponsor a virtual Meet and Greet for the candidates in the fall.
- 2) Aerial Surveillance program contractor (Persistent Surveillance Systems) has secured the cooperation of the Baltimore Police Department and will provide a webinar at no cost. The webinar will be held on July 16 at noon.
- 3) City Bill (20-0488) requiring a “project labor agreement” with contractors on major City contracts awaiting action by Labor Committee. Possible adverse impact on small/minority businesses
- 4) City Bill 20-526 Baltimore City COVID-19 Renter Relief Act passed by City Council and signed by Mayor (Ordinance 20.364). Significant concerns have been raised about the post 90-day effect of the Ordinance that could result in evictions of renters unable to pay past-due rents.
- 5) City Bill 20-535 COVID-19 Premium Pay for essential Workers has been introduced in City Council and is in review by the Labor committee
- 6) General Assembly Bill HB1354 “targeting” certain services passed by General Assembly and is in review by House committee
- 7) HB732 Tobacco Tax, Sales and Use Tax, and Digital Advertising Gross Revenues Tax to provide revenue for HB1300 Blueprint for Maryland’s Future – Implementation (i.e., “Kirwan Bill”) have been passed by General Assembly, but have both been vetoed by Governor
- 8) HB695/SB002 – Digital Advertising Gross Revenues – Taxation is in the House Ways and Means Committee. It is a Bill intended to raise revenue by taxing a service. Given the decreased tax revenues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, pressure to raise taxes on many other services can be foreseen.

**Progress Report:** 1) Aerial Surveillance Program webinar will be presented by the contractor with the support of the Baltimore Police Department

**New Business/Issues:** 1) Two City Bills (a) 20-0543 COVID-19 Employee Retention and (b) 20-0544 Laid-Off Employees Right of Recall will be addressed.

2) The PPC will consider the development of a program to provide advocacy-related information and guidance for businesses addressing contemporary critical issues, such as those arising from George Floyd’s death and the treatment of minorities

**Action Items to Report Next Meeting:**

1) Old and new business /issues (above)\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please maintain list of all committee members here: Beverly Williams, Chris Costello, Faviola Donato-Galindo, James Dorf, Kimya Dennis, Mostafa Razzak, Moshe Pelberg, Philip Cronin, Sonny Morstein, Will Honablew, Hal Resnick**