

OUR CORE MISSION

To build Baltimore as a diverse, sustainable, and thriving city of neighborhoods and as the economic and cultural driver for the region.

STAY CONNECTED



YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Public engagement is vital to our work. We encourage you to participate In:

- **Community Meetings:** Share your Ideas on proposed projects and plans.
- **Public Hearings:** Provide feedback on zoning changes and development proposals.
- **Workshops & Forums:** Learn more about planning issues and contribute to solutions.

CONTACT US & LEARN MORE

We are here to serve the residents of Baltimore City. Don't hesitate to reach out with your questions, Ideas, or concerns.

CONTACT INFORMATION

417 E Fayette Street, 8th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202

410-396-PLAN (7526)
plan@baltimorecity.gov

baltimorecity.gov/planning

OFFICE HOURS

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM



Brandon M. Scott
Mayor



CHECK US OUT!

Visit our website for detailed Information on:

- Our Commissions
- Current Projects
- Data and GIS mapping
- Meeting Schedules and Agendas
- Sign up for our newsletter, The Compass



**Baltimore City
Department of Planning**



SHAPING OUR CITY TOGETHER

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WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Baltimore City Department of Planning Is dedicated to creating a more vibrant, equitable, and sustainable Baltimore. We work with communities, stakeholders, and other city agencies to guide the physical development of our city, ensuring a high quality of life for ALL residents.

The Department of Planning Is the City agency entrusted with guiding the physical development of the City of Baltimore. The Department staffs three Mayoral-appointed City commissions:

- Planning Commission
- Commission for Historical & Architectural Preservation (CHAP)
- Sustainability Commission

We are comprised of seven dedicated divisions, each playing a crucial role In shaping Baltimore's future.

OUR DIVISIONS AND THEIR IMPACT

Policy & Data Analysis Division

The Policy & Data Analysis Division prepares the City's capital budget and provides information, research, analysis, and evaluation of planning practices to inform the Department's policy-making and neighborhood revitalization activities. The division is responsible for:

- Preparing the City's capital budget;
- Preparing the City's Comprehensive Plan;
- Providing GIS-based information and data analysis to support planning initiatives;
- Producing the City's cooperative population and employment forecasts in collaboration with the member jurisdictions of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council;
- Preparing for each decennial census and working with the US Census Bureau to produce annual population estimates.

OUR DIVISIONS AND THEIR IMPACT

Land Use & Urban Design Division

The Land Use and Urban Design Division (LUUD) serves as the first stop for development in the City. LUUD works closely with the Planning Commission to fulfill its responsibilities and meet City Charter and State development mandates. Key functions of the Land Use and Urban Design Division include:

- Review of new development and subdivision proposals.
- Review and evaluation of proposed revisions to the Baltimore City Zoning Code.
- Provide recommendations to the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals on all conditional use and residential building conversions.
- Coordinate the interagency Site Plan Review Committee's evaluation of development proposals, such as traffic circulation, parking, and landscaping treatments.
- Staffing the Urban Design and Architecture Advisory Panel (UDAAP).

Office of Sustainability

The City's Office of Sustainability staffs the City Commission on Sustainability. The office actively promotes a cleaner, healthier, greener, and safer Baltimore City by integrating People, Planet, and Prosperity into its initiatives. The division also manages the Forest Conservation, Flood Plain, and Critical Area Programs to protect property and enhance the City's natural resources.

The division concentrates its efforts in the following areas:

- Climate Change and Resiliency
- Community Greening and Environmental Education
- Green Economy
- Social Equity
- Resource Conservation and Energy Programs
- Pollution Prevention and Waste Management

Food Policy & Planning Division

The Food Policy and Planning Division oversees the Baltimore Food Policy Initiative (BFPI), which has three pillars - interagency collaboration, the Food Policy Action Coalition (Food PAC), and Resident Food Equity Advisors (RFEA). Together, these efforts seek to build an equitable and resilient urban food system by addressing health, economic, and environmental disparities in areas with high food insecurity.

Food Systems Approach:

- Use policy to create a more equitable food system
- Increase food resilience at household, community, and food system levels
- Strengthen and amplify the local food economy
- Create agriculture land use policies that encourage urban farms and local food production.

OUR DIVISIONS AND THEIR IMPACT

Historical & Architectural Preservation Division

The Historical & Architectural Preservation division works to preserve and renew the City's community fabric, and educate residents and stakeholders about the City's rich history. Preservation planners directly support the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) by:

- Completing designations of Baltimore City Landmarks and Historic Districts.
- Reviewing plans impacting historically designated structures and assisting applicants with the City's historic tax credit process.
- Supporting policies and programs that foster preservation of Baltimore City's historic assets, including State and Federal historic guidelines and tax credits.
- Assisting other divisions by providing preservation planning expertise on development proposals and neighborhood planning initiatives.

Community Planning and Revitalization Division

The Community Planning and Revitalization division helps Baltimore neighborhoods thrive. We work closely with colleagues on the Department of Planning's Historic Preservation, Sustainability, Food Planning and Policy, and Land Use and Urban Design teams, as well as across government, to support a diverse, sustainable, thriving City. Every neighborhood is assigned a community planner who can work with residents and community partners to:

- Envision and plan for the future of their neighborhood.
- Recommend land uses, zoning, and development patterns to support neighborhood needs.
- Support implementation of existing plans.
- Participate in related City processes.

Office of the Zoning Administrator

The Office of the Zoning Administrator is responsible for ensuring that construction activity and land use comply with the City's zoning code.

Primary Responsibilities include:

- Issuing zoning authorizations and use permits
- Inspect structures and review land uses to ensure compliance with the zoning code
- Initiate appropriate actions when zoning violations exist

In addition, the Zoning Administrator maintains permanent records of all maps adopted under the zoning code; all amendments to the zoning code; applications for and approvals of conditional uses and variances; and appeals that are submitted to the Board of Municipal Zoning Appeals (BMZA).