

CLIF FY27 Spending Plan

LDC Agency Q&A

January 8, 2026 | Department of Planning



Agenda



- CLIF Overview
- CLIF Logo Sneak-Peek
- FY27 Spending Plan Process Updates
- Proposed Spending Plan Q&A
- Next Steps
- Closing



New Logo!



As you may have heard, we've been working on a new Logo, and a style rebrand for CLIF!

Big thanks to Natalie for driving the design and revision process

We'll present the new branding (and perhaps some CLIF swag) at the January 22nd meeting.

However, as a thank you for your participation this evening,
we thought we would give you a sneak peek!

So now, without further ado...



New Logo!



CLIF FY27 Spending Plan Process

Input and
Feedback

- City and LDC hosted a public meeting to present the draft Spending Plan, where all proposed projects were presented and publicly reviewed on December 8, 2025.
- After the first public meeting, DOP issued a survey to the LDC to record their questions and feedback for each proposed project in the FY27 Draft Plan.
- DOP also received and shared feedback via email, phone, and through meetings with individual LDC members who wished to provide additional information or pose additional questions.
- Agency Q&A session focused on LDC understanding each proposed project ahead of the January 22nd decision making meeting.
- **New:** Optional LDC mid-year meeting to discuss LDC recommendations for process improvements and currently funded project updates.



CLIF Spending Plan Process Improvements

Transparency

- **New:** LDC members received Project Info Documents of each proposed project in the FY27 Draft Spending Plan which includes:
 - Project Overview
 - Funding Summary
 - Scope of Work
 - Performance Measures
 - Line-Item Budget
- **New:** All summary documents are available to LDC members during the Spending Plan process to ensure that LDC can make informed recommendations.
- **Upcoming:** In FY27, applicants will complete a detailed project request form ahead of the start of the recommendations process.
- **Upcoming:** Dashboard to show CLIF allocations by geography.



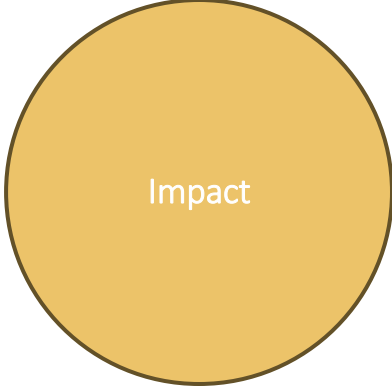
CLIF Spending Plan Process Improvements

Accountability

- All projects required to show measurable activity, performance targets and goals so that City, LDC, and community will be able to more clearly track outcomes of funding.
- Organizations and agencies requesting funding are invited to respond to feedback at LDC Q&A session.
- **Upcoming:** Quarterly reports resume to provide expenditure and project progress.



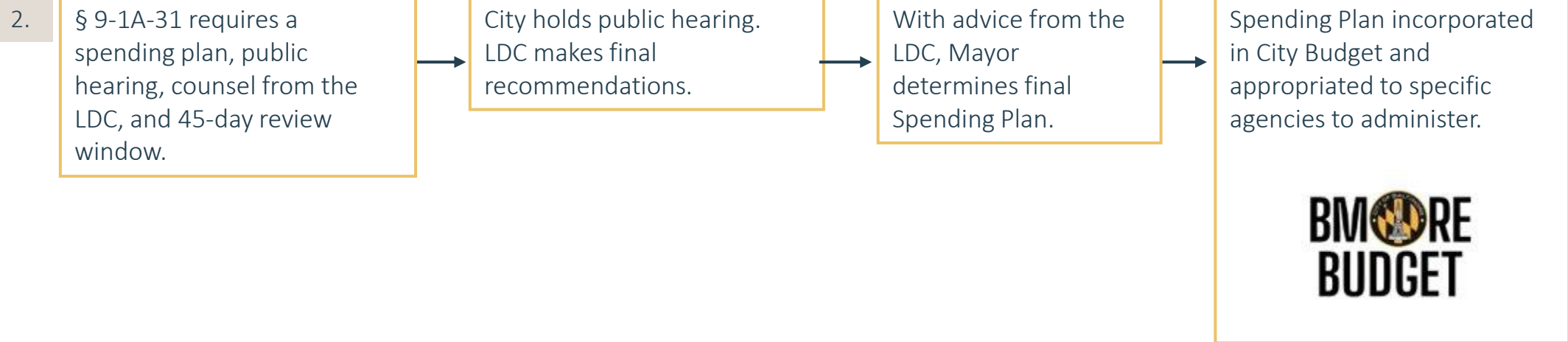
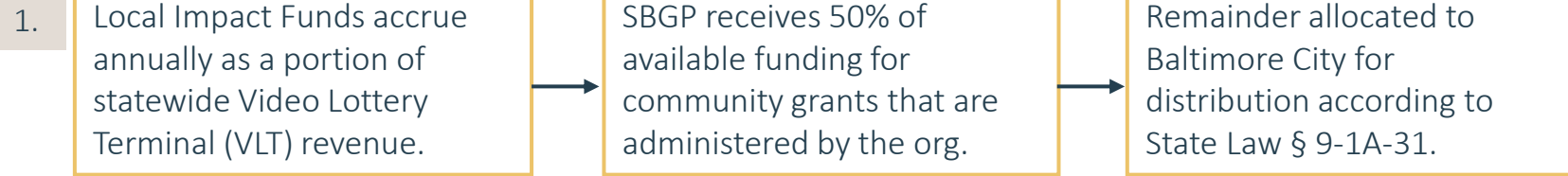
Example of Reporting on Performance Measures



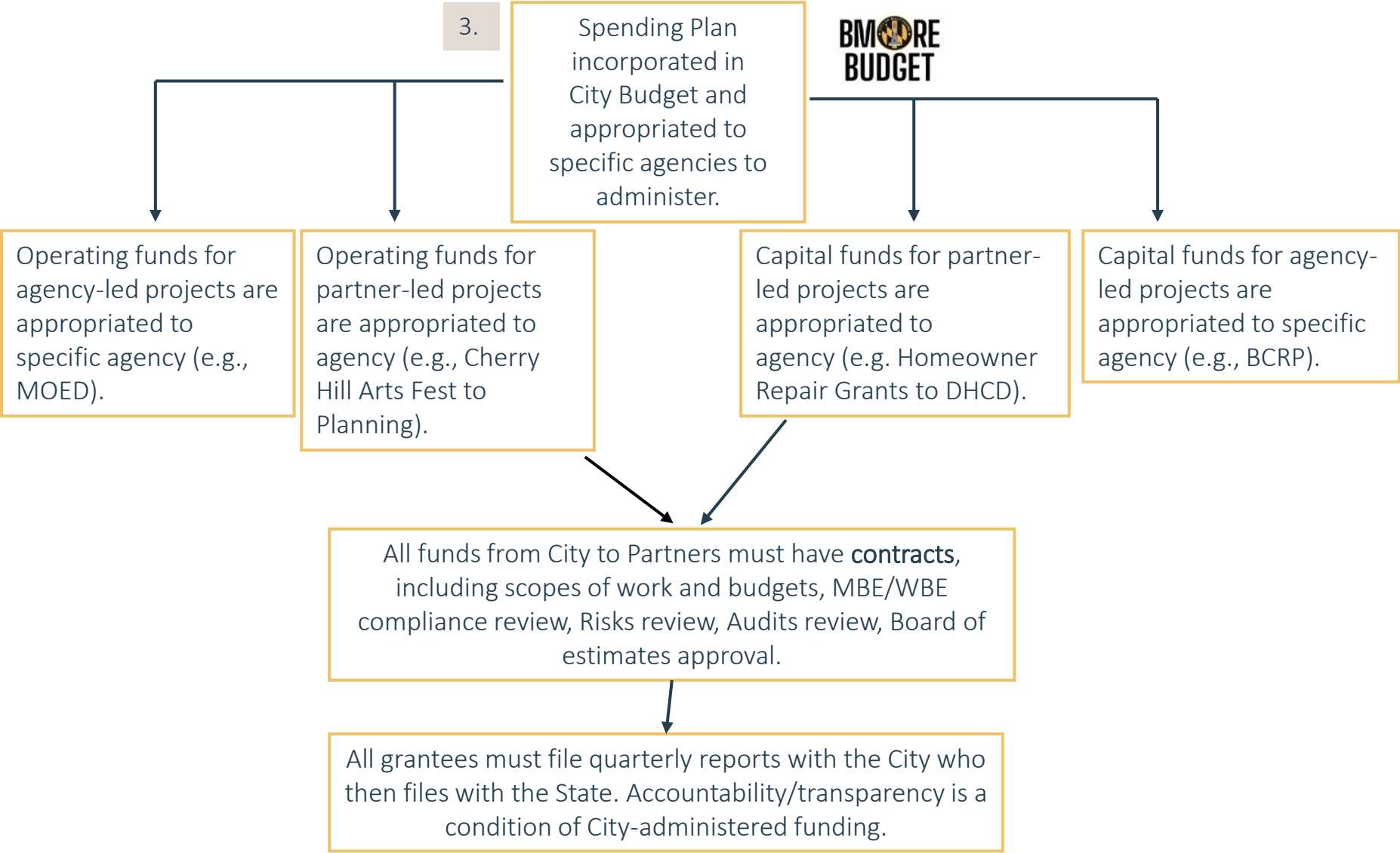
	Activity	Performance Target	Goal
1	Complete renovation of Lakeland Park Soccer Pitch and support relevant programming.	Project completed and field in use.	Strengthening community activity and available recreations resources.
2	Host community organizing/placemaking events	10% residents engaged	Residents substantially engage or participate in programming.
3	Launch block projects launched by neighborhood area	3 to 5 block projects/events	Residents substantially engage or participate in programming
4	Promote tax credits, support tangled title clarification, conduct senior home repair, and assist individuals looking for homeownership.	Support at least 25 new or existing homeowners	Increase homeownership and retain homeowners
5	(Subject to separate capital funding) Home repair grants and loans in target neighborhoods.	10 total projects	Increase homeownership and retain homeowners



State Law & COB Fiscal Administration



City of Baltimore - Fiscal Administration



Next Steps for CLIF Process



- **New:** For FY28, the City will invite members of the LDC to participate in developing process improvements in the Spring of 2026.
- Upcoming process improvements include:
 - Clear project request form including scope of work, performance measures, line-item budget, timeline, equity question, and connection to community.
 - LDC review process ahead of the release of the Preliminary Draft Spending Plan.
 - Project review session with applicants available to answer questions.
 - Consistent quarterly reporting to show process on projects previously allocated funding.
- **Proposed:** City and LDC to meet quarterly to share updates on process and collaborate on the FY28 recommendations process.



FY27 Proposed Spending Plan



- 23 proposals
- \$11,472,240 total funding requested
- 10 Agencies/Departments
- 5 community partners

Goal/Project or Program	Total FY27 Budget Allocation
Goal #0 - Coordination	\$800,000
Project Coordination (CLIF Staff)	\$800,000
Goal #1 - Transportation Connectivity	\$2,120,000
Complete Streets Projects	\$1,120,000
Warner-Stockholm Complete Streets	\$1,000,000
Goal #2 - Environmental Sustainability	\$6,211,840
Carroll Park District Operations	\$300,000
Clean Corps	\$411,840
Enhanced Solid Waste Services	\$225,000
Florence Cummins	\$1,100,000
Reimagine Middle Branch Initiatives	\$725,000
Solo Gibbs Phase 1	\$1,150,000
Solo Gibbs Phase 2	\$2,300,000
Goal #3 - Safety	\$160,000
CitiWatch Maintenance Reserve	\$30,000
Community Outreach (MONSE)	\$130,000
Goal #4 - Community Development & Revitalization	\$1,425,000
Community Development Fund	\$800,000
Community Enhancement Projects	\$250,000
Housing Code Enforcement	\$375,000
Goal #5 - Economic Growth	\$1,305,000
Employment Connection Center	\$775,000
Job Training Programs & ITA's	\$30,000
YouthWorks Summer Employment	\$500,000
Goal #6 - Education	\$340,000
Educational Partnerships	\$140,000
Environmental Education Programming	\$50,000
Summer Head Start - Assoc. Catholic Charities	\$150,000
Goal #7 - Health & Wellness	\$292,240
Harbor Hospital Produce rx	\$130,000
Homelessness Strategies	\$162,240
Grand Total	\$12,654,080

*FY25 CLIF Supplemental Budget was approved by the Mayor, however it was not submitted for Council for approval. Therefore, it must be included here for the allocations to become official.



Department of Transportation



- Baltimore Greenway Trails
 - Bush Street Cycle Track (\$500,000)
 - Middle Branch to Inner Harbor (\$500,000)
- Warner-Stockholm Complete Streets (\$1,000,000)



Warner-Stockholm Complete Streets (\$1M)



This Complete Streets Project includes **extensive underground utility work--burying existing above-ground electrical, water/sewer upgrades, etc.**—and a protected 2-way walk/roll paths with landscaping for Gwynns Falls Trail. **This is the final installment of the \$10,500,000 capital commitment** for the Warner-Stockholm Complete Streets project, which matches \$5,000,000 in state funds. Construction began in September 2025 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.



Bush Street Cycle Track (\$500,000)



The scope of this project is to **design and construct a .62-mile shared-use path** that is a segment of the broader Baltimore Greenway Trails Network. This segment will be **located within city Right-of-Way along Bush St through the Carroll-Camden Industrial Area and will complete the final link of the 22-mile Gwynns Falls Trail**. The project is currently advancing from 30% design to 100% design, and the Casino Local Impact Funds will fill the gap needed for construction.



Middle Branch to Inner Harbor Trail (\$500,000)



The scope of this project is to **design and construct a .58-mile shared-use path** that is a segment of the broader Baltimore Greenway Trails Network. This segment will be **located within city Right-of-Way along Sharp St, Henrietta St, Leadenhall St, Montgomery St, and Light St through the Sharp-Leadenhall and Federal Hill neighborhoods**. The project is currently advancing from 30% design to 100% design, and the Casino Local Impact Funds will serve as local match to apply for federal USDOT grant funds for construction.



Baltimore City Recreation & Parks (BCRP)



- Carroll Park District Operations (\$150,000)
- Mt. Clare Mansion Improvements (\$100,000)
- Florence Cummins (\$1.1M)
- Solo Gibbs- Phase 1 (\$1.15M)
- Solo Gibbs- Phase 2 (\$2.3M)
- Lakeland Soccer Field (



Carroll Park District Operations (\$150,000)



In recognition of the numerous park initiatives included in the South Baltimore Gateway Master Plan and the Reimagine Middle Branch Plan, Recreation and Parks is using CLIF funding **to support half of two positions to support capital projects, improve coordination and planning for programming, as well as address maintenance requirements.** CLIF is committed to funding these positions through FY28.



Mt. Clare Mansion Improvements (\$100,000)



This funding will provide for improvements to Mount Clare Mansion Museum to fix **fencing and gates**, as part of a larger project including **foundations, lighting, cameras and other security and water infiltration** issues.



Florence Cummins (\$1.1M)



- This will provide for **substantial renovations to Florence Cummins Park**, including ballfields, play equipment, a pavilion and seating. Substantial walk/roll path upgrades will be made, providing better access to the public.



Solo Gibbs Phase One



- Funding is appropriated for advancing the Solo Gibbs Park Master Plan which was completed in 2019-2020 by Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP), through full design and construction documents, and into construction. Work began in spring 2023 on Phase 1A, which will create a new playground in the northern segment of the park. Phases 1B and 1C, which will rebuild fields, benches, and other amenities are still in the design phase and are expected to break ground in FY27. Total CLIF commitment to Solo Gibbs Phase 1 is \$8.65 million; \$1.5M was allocated in FY23, \$2.5M in FY24, \$500K in FY25, \$3M in FY26, and \$1,150,000 in FY27.



Solo Gibbs Multi-Sport Court



- In preparation for Phase I of the Solo Gibbs Park renovation, the need to have at **least one sports court open during construction was requested by the community**. The renovation of this multi-sport court is a partnership with the Washington Capitals, and will provide facilities for playing deck hockey, futsal/soccer, or basketball on the court. Resurfacing the court has been completed to date.
- The **installation of fence skirting, the BCRP logos and possible touch up of the Capitals logo**.



Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success



- St. Veronica's Summer Academy (\$30,000)
- Elev8 Summer Academy (\$100,000)
- Summer Head Start (\$150,000)



St. Veronica's Academy (\$30,000)



CLIF will continue funding for St. Veronica's Summer Reading Academy, which has been in operation for the past 35 years in the Cherry Hill community. It is a literacy-based camp that addresses the needs of its participants so they can participate at grade level and address any projected summer learning loss.

Most of our students begin in grade one and stay each summer until they age out of the program. Partners provide workshops on anti-bullying, team building, music, sign language, dance, crafts and for the past three years we have included ESL.



Elev8 Summer Academy (\$100,000)



The Elev8 Freedom School Summer Program was implemented across 3 South Baltimore City school sites, offering a **culturally responsive and academically enriching experience for scholars over the Summer**. Freedom Schools emphasized literacy, community engagement, and personal development. Each site follows a consistent framework while adapting to the unique needs of their students, creating a unified program that celebrated identity, learning, and collaboration.

Elev8 Baltimore enrolled 134 students and served 103 students from the Cherry Hill Community throughout the summer at Arundel Elementary School, Westport Academy, and Francis Scott Key EMS. Early and frequent family engagement led to high attendance and consistent student participation. Strong student retention resulted from the program's engaging activities and a welcoming environment.



Summer Headstart (150,000)



The City has contracted with **Catholic Charities Head Start (CCHS)** since 2015 to **expand summer Pre-K education slots available for South Baltimore families**. The program utilizes the Frog Street curriculum – a comprehensive, research-based and Maryland State Department of Education-approved program that integrates instruction across developmental domains. The curriculum integrates science, social studies, and physical development. The Conscious Discipline approach, which includes strategies to support social-emotional development, is incorporated into daily routines in a welcoming and inclusive setting.



Baltimore City Information Technology (BCIT)



- CitiWatch Maintenance Reserve (\$30,000)
 - This is a **perpetual Maintenance Reserve** for previously- CLIF-funded conduit, cameras and fiber that may become damaged.



Department of Public Works (DPW)



Bureau of Solid Waste (BSW) will provide a dedicated “Casino Crew” serving a **daily route to empty trash from “corner cans” on Washington Boulevard in Pigtown, in the Federal Hill Main Street district**, and along other major corridors on weekdays, 7AM to 3PM, plus weekends and holidays. BSW also provides **“Hokey” workers** addressing litter in Pigtown and Federal Hill Main Streets. The Casino Crew also provides **proactive dirty street and alley 311-responses**.



Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)



- Digital Harbor School-Based Violence Intervention (**\$130,000**)

The Movement Team at Digital Harbor High School is a cornerstone of Baltimore's School-Based Violence Intervention Pilot (SBVIP), a two-year initiative launched in 2023 to create safer, more supportive school environments through proactive conflict mediation, youth leadership, and prevention-focused supports.

The Team works collaboratively to intervene in conflicts, provide individualized student support, facilitate peer mediation, offer enrichment and leadership development opportunities, and connect students and families to school-based and community resources. Student Ambassadors serve as peer leaders who help identify emerging conflicts and reinforce positive school culture.



Digital Harbor School-Based Violence Reduction (\$130,000)



The Movement Team at Digital Harbor High School is part of Baltimore's **School-Based Violence Intervention Pilot (SBVIP)**, to create safer, more supportive school environments through proactive conflict mediation and youth development. Engaging directly with students to **intervene in conflicts, provide individualized support, offer enrichment opportunities, and connect youth to vital resources.** Since launch, the Digital Harbor team has conducted **over 180 mediations and interventions**, helping to prevent violence and foster a more positive school culture.



Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)



- Homeowner Repairs & Homebuying Assistance (\$500,000)
- Housing Code Enforcement (\$375,000)



Homeowner Repairs & Homebuying Assistance (\$500,000)



This allocation will be spent on the following two activities. Exact split of funds will be developed as DHCD analyzes market forces.

- Support **homeowner repair projects** district-wide.
- **Downpayment assistance** to homeowners purchasing recently remodeled vacant houses.



Housing Code Enforcement (\$375,000)



In FY25 began CLIF support for an **additional code enforcement officer** to issue citations to encourage owners of vacant properties to bring their properties back to code, and eventually to use and occupancy. When owners do not abate vacant building notices, DHCD can take legal action to enforce those notices.

New for FY27 is funding for the annual salary of **one Assistant Counsel and one Paralegal**. The Assistant Counsel will provide **legal code enforcement actions, up to and including receivership, on vacants** within the South Baltimore Gateway District. The paralegal will support the attorney. This legal pair will enable the Department of Housing and Community Development to increase the number of receivership filings. This is a 3-year commitment from CLIF to fund these positions, and will be re-evaluated for FY30



Mayor's Office of Homeless Services (MOHS)



Enhanced Homeless Outreach (\$162,240)

- The Mayor's Office of Homeless Services' **Street Outreach Team** acts as **navigators, mediators, constituent-service agents, and overall ambassadors** for Baltimore's homelessness strategy.
- CLIF funding is used to support one additional outreach worker in the 10th & 11th Districts



Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED)



- Youthworks (\$500,000)
- Job Training and ITAs (\$30,000)
- Employment Connection Center (\$775,000)



Youthworks (\$500,000)



YouthWorks is Baltimore City's summer jobs program that annually places thousands of City residents between the ages of 14-21 in jobs with public and non-profit sector worksites. This employment provides minimum wage pay, as well as career-building skills, for youth working 25 hours per week over a five-week period.

YouthWorks gives Baltimore City teens and young adults real world experience that helps them develop essential workplace skills, exposes them to career options and pathways, and prepares them to successfully enter the workforce. City and state agencies, nonprofit and community organizations, and private sector employers can serve as worksites.

CLIF provides funding for an additional 200 participants



Job Training and ITAs (\$30,000)



The Employment Connection Center (ECC) provides **career development and placement services to jobseekers**, and **recruitment and training services to employers**, within the Casino Impact Area.

These funds are used to pay **direct costs of training programs, Individual Training Accounts, and the forthcoming Lyft Training Access Pilot Program.**

Prior FY funds are available as Carry Forward for any expenses above the \$30K awarded in FY27. BBMR is working to provide MOED with an exact amount available before July 1st, 2026.



Employment Connection Center (\$775,000)



Established in 2015, the ECC is modeled on MOED's Community Job Hub Initiative, **offering** jobseekers the opportunities to upgrade basic computer skills and gain certifications, explore careers, prepare for interviews, and connect to employers.

New for FY26 and FY27 is a position to **coordinate the Lyft Training Access Pilot**, as well as **in-community outreach and engagement** for all of MOHS's services. This position will administer the Lyft training pilot program, as well as attend regular monthly office hours within communities, in partnership with the neighborhood associations and other local stakeholders.



South Baltimore Employment Connection Center

MacKenzie Garvin

Mark Hooper

Bill Carnes

01/28/2026



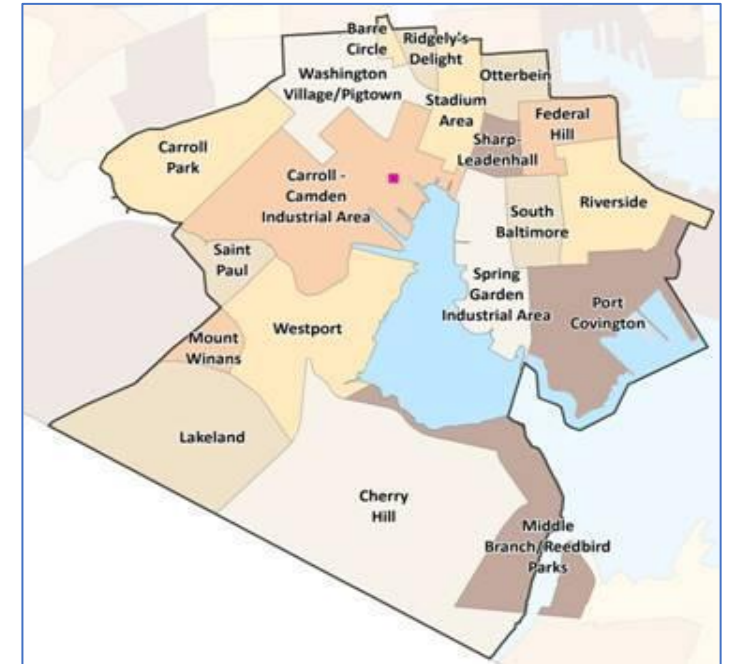
Our mission is to deliver economic justice to Baltimore City residents:

To us, economic justice means creating an equitable workforce system that responds to all residents' needs and provides viable economic opportunities to all residents, especially those who have been generationally and systemically disadvantaged.

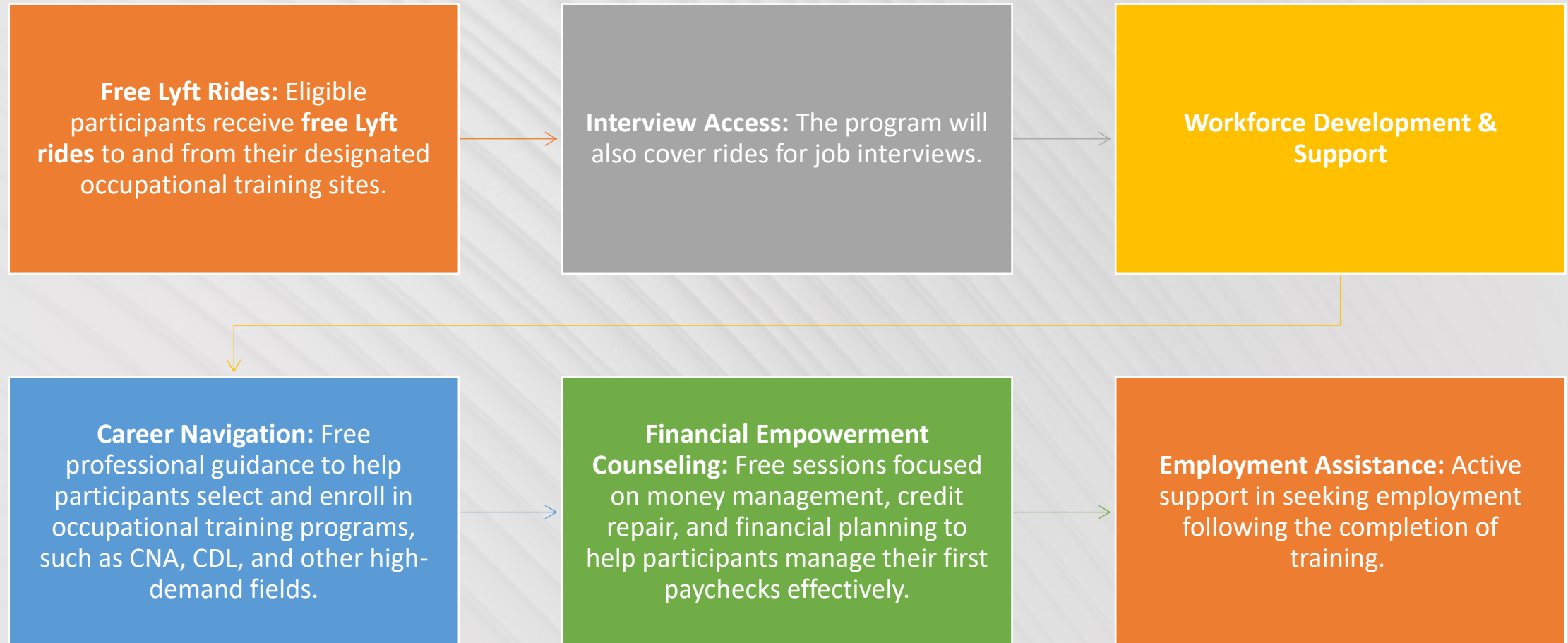


South Baltimore Workforce –

- In 2015, the Employment Connection Center (ECC) was established in response to an Environmental Scan and Needs Assessment of [South Baltimore's Casino Impact Area](#) in conjunction with the [South Baltimore Gateway Master Plan](#).
- Below are 6 targeted industries that the SBECC focus on:
 - Manufacturing & Warehouse
 - Transportation & Logistics
 - Construction
 - Hospitality & Tourism
 - Healthcare
 - Culinary and Customer Service



SBECC Rideshare Program



SBECC – Employer and Job Seeker Services

Job Seeker Services:

- Career guidance and counseling for job seekers, including interest and aptitude assessments
- Resume and interview preparation
- Job readiness workshops to address soft skills and retention
- Occupational training in high growth sectors (and financial support for training programs)
- Job search and placement assistance
- We have met all job placement goals for FY'25

Employer Services:

- Targeted industry or employer-specific recruitment events
- Applicant prescreening and referrals
- Labor market info, tax credit and wage information
- Customized training to meet employer specific needs
- No cost job posting, outreach and recruitment
- Job fairs and mini recruitments

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- A large, solid orange circle is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially cut off by the edge.
- Community Outreach
 - Overview of SBECC/MOED services
- 
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Department of Planning (DOP)



- Baltimore Greenway Trail: Baltimore Peninsula (\$120,000)
- Clean Corps (**Revised-\$411, 840**)
- Marine Debris Removal & Prevention (\$550,000)
- Reimagine Middle Branch Initiatives (\$175,000)
- Community Development Fund (\$250,000)
- Middle Neighborhoods Initiative (\$200,000)
- Cultural Spaces Grant Program (\$200,000)
- Environmental Education (\$50,000)
- Cherry Hill Arts and Music Festival (\$30,000)
- Harbor Hospital Produce Rx (\$130,000)
- Horseshoe Security Support (\$500,000)



Baltimore Greenway Trail: Baltimore Peninsula



The scope of this project is to complete a **concept-level design plan for the waterfront** along Baltimore Peninsula, to include an approximately **2-mile long trail** that is part of the broader Baltimore Greenway Trails Network. This segment will be located along public and private property.



Clean Corps



Clean Corps works with four Baltimore-based nonprofits in partnership with community leaders in 42 underserved neighborhoods experiencing neighborhood cleanliness issues like illegal dumping. Clean Corps grantees **hire Baltimore City residents to clean and maintain community-selected vacant lots, alleys, sidewalks, tree pits and public trash cans daily.** The Clean Corps regional team services **Westport, Mount Winans, and Saint Paul neighborhoods.**



Marine Debris Removal & Prevention (\$550,000)



A public-private partnership that improves the water quality of the Middle Branch by **removing trash and debris while providing crucial job training and workforce development opportunities to Baltimore's underemployed residents.**

Through the targeted removal and prevention of marine debris (**installation and maintenance of trash cages and booms**), the Marine Debris Prevention and Removal Pilot will eliminate existing and potential sources of pollutants, improve safety for boaters, and support the ongoing shoreline habitat restoration efforts that address longstanding environmental injustices.



Reimagine Middle Branch Initiatives (\$175,000)



RMB Personnel (\$150,000)

- The Reimagine Middle Branch Manager is responsible for **advancing the Reimagine Middle Branch (RMB) Plan and uplifting climate resilience and adaptation initiatives**. This funding covers **salary, benefits, travel, and professional development** opportunities.

RMB Events (\$25,000)

- To support events in the South Baltimore Gateway area that furthers the goals and initiatives of RMB. The annual **Sustainability Open House** will return to a South Baltimore neighborhood for the third year in a row, bringing together hundreds of community members, non-profit organizations, and city agencies to share sustainability initiatives in the City. In partnership with DOT and Recreation and Parks, The **Department of Planning will host Park(ing) Day events** at South Baltimore schools that reimagine parking spaces into playful community spaces.



Community Partner Support Grants (\$250,000)



CLIF is launching a new commitment to support our community-based organizations, in the form of **grants of up to \$50,000 each to support Community Development Corporations, Main Street and other community-led organizations.**

The exact guidelines for these grants are being developed in partnership with the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business, and other relevant stakeholders.



Middle Neighborhoods Initiative (\$200,000)



An **expansion** of the Middle Neighborhood Strategy from Cherry Hill and Lakeland to also **include Westport, Mount Winans, Saint Paul, Pigtown, and Barre Circle**. The Middle Neighborhoods strategy and investment approach is geared towards stabilizing and growing our middle neighborhoods in hopes of strengthening housing markets and improving quality of life for middle neighborhood residents.

(Healthy Neighborhoods Inc)



Cultural Spaces Grant Program (\$200,000)



This pilot will provide funding to non-profit and community organizations who wish to **restore, redesign, or create new small-to-medium scale (\$5k-\$50K) cultural and artistic fixtures** in the South Baltimore Gateway District. This program will be managed by Baltimore National Heritage Area (BNHA) and is a companion program to existing city-wide Cultural Spaces Support Grants for larger capital grants.



Environmental Education Initiative (\$50,000)



The **National Aquarium** supports **10 schools** in the South Baltimore Gateway area with **sustainability initiatives**. This includes **supporting project design; funding applications through the Green, Healthy, Smart Challenge; planning; finding partners; and project implementation**. Projects can include vegetable or pollinator gardens, recycling programs, outdoor learning areas, composting, and more. In addition to sustainability projects, we facilitate opportunities for schools to access **environment focused field trips and professional development opportunities**. These projects and opportunities contribute to school certifications such as the **Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) Green School** program.



Cherry Hills Arts & Music Festival (\$30,000)



With funding from Baltimore City, the Youth Resiliency Institute will pay for **private security and equipment** necessary to produce a safe and family friendly festival.



Harbor Hospital: Produce Rx (\$130,000)



MedStar Harbor Hospital's Produce Rx Program is an evidence-based and community-driven strategy tailored to **address food insecurity and chronic disease prevention and management** in South Baltimore.

Patients with diet-related conditions, including diabetes Type 1 and Type 2, heart disease, and food insecurity, receive ongoing one-on-one care, education, and consultations by a Community Health Advocate (CHA) and Dietitian, as well as customized, ongoing healthy food assistance at no cost to the patient.



Horseshoe Security Support (\$500,000)



Horseshoe Casino hires security staff to patrol the grounds of the casino and works with the Southern District to address any issues that arise.

This funding replaces prior annual CLIF allocations directly to the Southern District between \$1M-\$2.5M annually.

