EXECUTIVE ORDER

ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE BALTIMORE BABY FUND

WHEREAS, upon approval of Question I by Baltimore City voters on November 3, 2026, there will be a Baltimore Baby Fund ("the Fund"), which is a continuing, non-lapsing fund, effective December 3, 2026.

WHEREAS, beginning in Fiscal Year 2028, the Fund is to receive annual revenues equivalent to $0.03 for every $100 of taxable assessed property in Baltimore City, through the City's annual budget and appropriation process.

WHEREAS, unexpended monies in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and shall not revert to the General Fund at the close of the fiscal year since the fund is non-lapsing.

WHEREAS, the Fund shall be used exclusively to "enhance the economic stability of families with newborns in Baltimore City."

WHEREAS, in 2022, the City launched the Baltimore Young Families Success Fund, a guaranteed income pilot providing unconditional monthly cash assistance to young parents, demonstrating the City's commitment to and experience with supporting families through direct financial assistance.

WHEREAS, the City seeks to build upon this successful initiative by using the Fund to fund a direct cash assistance program for families with newborns in Baltimore, enabling them to meet their most pressing needs, including housing, food, transportation, childcare, and other essential expenses (the "Program").

NOW THEREFORE, I, Brandon M. Scott, Mayor of the City of Baltimore, by virtue of the authority vested in me in Article IV, Section 4 of the Baltimore City Charter, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

1. Authority and Administration

To the extent permitted by applicable law, including laws governing the City's budget and appropriation process:

A. The Mayor shall establish and make publicly available a Program framework outlining Program benefits, eligibility requirements, application and enrollment procedures, and allocation of Fund resources.
B. Monies from the Fund shall be appropriated in accordance with the Mayor's Program framework.
C. The Mayor may amend the Program framework, including funding amounts, eligibility criteria, benefit amounts, and structure at any time without amendment of this Executive Order.

2. Initial Program Framework

The initial Program framework shall include the following benefits for eligible Baltimore City residents:

A. Universal Newborn Benefit
    a. All parents of newborns residing in Baltimore City may be eligible for a one-time cash payment per newborn upon Program enrollment.
B. Enhanced Family Benefits
    a. Based on eligibility criteria and screening conducted during Program enrollment, selected expectant and new parents may be eligible for additional assistance, including:
        i. A one-time cash payment during pregnancy;
        ii. Monthly cash assistance following the birth of the child;
        iii. A contribution to a Maryland 529 college savings account for the child;
        iv. Connection to B'More for Healthy Babies to receive care coordination support with maternal and child health services.
C. The Mayor shall establish the program design, budget, eligibility, screening, selection, and enrollment criteria for enhanced benefits, subject to available funding.
D. The Mayor may modify, expand, or discontinue any benefit established under this initial framework, provided that the Fund continues to serve its stated purpose.

4. Program Partnerships

A. The City will reactivate the Mayor's Guaranteed Income Advisory Board to provide input into program design, implementation, and to advise the Mayor on the Program.
B. The City may establish partnerships as necessary to implement and evaluate the Program.

5. Transparency and Accountability

A. The City shall maintain publicly available information about the Program, including a description of the current uses of the Fund, eligibility criteria, and benefits available to participating families.

B. The City shall publish an annual report detailing the Fund's revenues, expenditures, number of families served, benefits distributed, and Program outcomes.
C. The annual report shall be made publicly available.

6. Effective Date

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon execution, and the Fund shall exist upon passage of Question I, effective December 3, 2026.

ATTEST:

CUSTODIAN OF THE CITY SE

This document has been electronically sealed

APPROVED FOR FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY BY THE BALTIMORE CITY LAW DEPARTMENT

EBONY THOMPSON
CITY SOLICITOR

BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR
CITY OF BALTIMORE

Date: 10-21-26