



**Bernard C. "Jack" Young**  
*President,*  
Baltimore City Council

---

100 N. Holliday Street, Room 400 · Baltimore Maryland 21202  
410-396-4804 · Fax: 410-539-0647

**MEDIA ADVISORY  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Monday, April 12, 2010

Contact: Dennis Edwards  
(410) 396-5538 (office)  
443-474-3093 (mobile)

### **CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT APPLAUDS THE MAYOR'S BUDGET PLAN FOR PRESERVING PARKS & REC, BUT URGES LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS**

**BALTIMORE, MD** – “My colleagues and I will spend the next couple weeks pouring over Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake’s new budget plan, which includes nearly a dozen fee increases and taxes to partially address our \$121 million budget deficit. I believe we must balance the need to collect much-needed revenue without placing an inappropriate financial burden on our citizens.

I applaud the Mayor’s decision to keep all the city’s swimming pools and recreation centers open through the summer, however, we must address the long-term sustainability of these programs. I believe that providing activities through city recreation centers and swimming pools is a key element to successful public safety. I plan to work with my colleagues on the City Council to ensure that all of the city’s recreation centers and swimming pools are preserved for our youth and senior residents.

I am also happy to see the restoration of funding to our police department, and the preservation of much-needed officers on the street. However, I am still looking for ways to avoid what adds up to roughly 250 job cuts.

I will analyze each of the Mayor’s proposed fee increases and taxes, and I will, where appropriate, propose alternative revenue-generating solutions.

The coming weeks and months will prove difficult, but I am certain that Baltimore will emerge stronger and better-positioned for the future.”

# # #

Please visit our website at [www.baltimorecitycouncil.com](http://www.baltimorecitycouncil.com)