



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
Wednesday, June 09, 2010

Contact: Lester Davis
(410) 396-4804 (office)
443-835-0784 (mobile)

**ACTION BY BOARD OF ESTIMATES HELPS FULLY CLOSE FUNDING GAP
FOR CITY POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS**
*City Council committee prepares to vote Thursday on an additional package of revenue
enhancements that will fully restore funding for remaining vital services.*

BALTIMORE, MD – The Board of Estimates, chaired by City Council President Bernard C. "Jack" Young, today approved a revenue-generating measure that will help the city fully restore proposed cuts in services and jobs to the Police and Fire Departments for fiscal year 2011.

On Monday City Council members moved a package of revenue-generating bills totaling \$20.3 million one step closer to passage. Today's action by the Board of Estimates, in approving \$3.1 million in parking meter rate increases, brings the council's initial revenue enhancement package to **\$23.4 million** – enough to prevent layoffs of police officers and firefighters; continue funding for aviation, marine and mounted police units; and reduce the number of fire company closures.

"Today's announcement, while welcome news, is certainly no cause for celebration," Council President Young said. "My colleagues on the City Council and I recognize the fact that we're asking our residents, city workers and business leaders to shoulder a heavier burden. We thank you for stepping up at a time when your city desperately needs your assistance in closing a record budget shortfall. We remain committed to bringing the city out of financial darkness, which will better-position Baltimore for the future."

The Council's Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee is set to vote on a second package of revenue enhancements that will fully close the city's budget gap and restore funding to vital services and prevent the closure of city recreation centers and swimming pools; allow for infrastructure improvements; and continue bulk trash service, to name a few.

###

Please visit our website at www.baltimorecitycouncil.com