

Mayor's Response

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG

Mayor



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

100 Holliday Street, Rm 250
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

January 30, 2020

Ms. Isabel Mercedes Cumming, Inspector General
Office of the Inspector General
100 Holliday Street, Suite 640
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Inspector General Cumming,

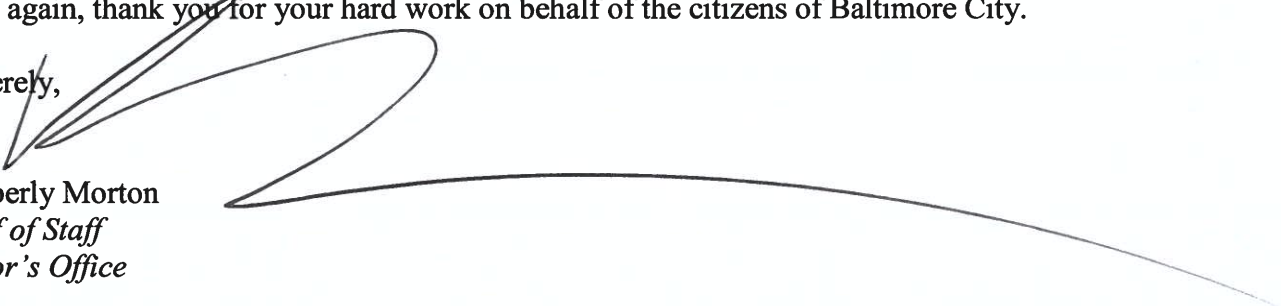
Thank you for your detailed Report of Investigation (OIG Case #19-0084-I) involving the disposition of city property to Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church.

I am writing in response to the actions of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) employees involved in this matter. I have reviewed the report with the Housing Commissioner and several members of his team and requested the following actions:

1. Review the current SOP's for the land disposition process and ensure that city employees are working in accordance with the procedures.
2. Determine the point of failure in the Real Estate Committee process that allowed the purchase to proceed to the Board of Estimates (BOE) without community impact.
3. Draft new SOP's to shore up that point of failure.
4. Review the Land Disposition agreement and determine the appropriate action to take concerning the church's failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.
5. Mayor concurs with a central public abstentions list of members of the BOE.

Once again, thank you for your hard work on behalf of the citizens of Baltimore City.

Sincerely,


Kimberly Morton
Chief of Staff
Mayor's Office

cc: Mayor Bernard C. "Jack" Young
Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner
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