

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RUDOLPH S. CHOW, P.E., Director
200 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

November 18, 2019

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

Dear Inspector General Cumming:

On November 6, 2019, I received a Report of Investigation regarding Office of Inspector General (OIG) case 19-0067-I, which pertained to an allegation that the Village of Cross Keys was receiving additional mixed refuse collection service that was not in accordance with Article 23 of the Baltimore City Code. I thank you and your team for the report and the analysis provided.

As noted in your report, the allegation was substantiated. The Village of Cross Keys was receiving two (2) days of mixed refuse curbside collection and one (1) day of recycling collection, in addition to condominium collection services. Article 23 of the Baltimore City Code specifies the manner by which mixed refuse and recycling may be collected by the City and specifies the limitations in terms of quantities that may be collected. For condominiums and apartment complexes, the limitations may be exceeded if the Director of Public Works has authority to do so by the Board of Estimates and if the condominium or apartment complex in question provides specific information to the Department. As indicated in your report, there is no Board of Estimates authorization for additional mixed refuse collection for the Village of Cross Keys and the required documentation has never been submitted.

Upon being alerted to this issue, the Department of Public Works immediately discontinued one (1) of the mixed refuse collection days. The Department is willing to work with the Village of Cross Keys should they wish to obtain approval for additional collection in accordance with Article 23.

Should you have any additional questions or would like any clarification, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew W. Garbark". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Matthew W. Garbark
Deputy Director