

Former Mayor's Office Response

Case # 20-0052-I



BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG
MAYOR

*100 Holliday Street, Room 250
Baltimore, Maryland 21202*

August 27, 2020

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

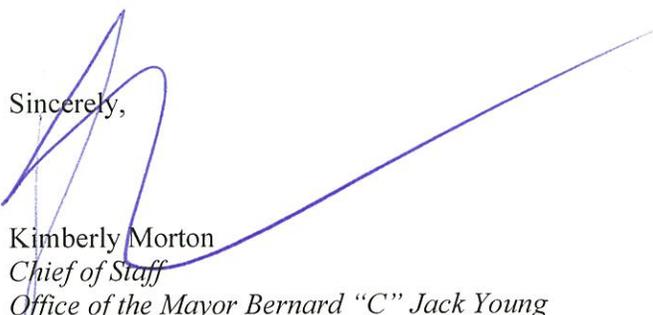
Dear Inspector General Cumming,

Thank you for your detailed Management Alert (OIG Case #20-0052-I) involving a complaint received regarding the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Your report alleges that DHCD withheld certain desirable properties from public auction at the request of [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] requested private developers pay them fees to acquire City-owned properties through the DHCD.

These actions have a strong appearance of impropriety and inequity, and the Administration was shocked to learn of this complaint. No organization or entity is allowed to reach out to DHCD for a request regarding transfer of property. The Administration will be working with the Department of Real Estate (DRE) and the Law Department to thoroughly address this concern.

As it pertains to the unofficial and unauthorized Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) proposed between DHCD [REDACTED] please be advised that neither the Mayor's Office nor the Law Department was made aware. In the best interest of transparency, the Acting Housing Commissioner, Alice Kennedy will be notified to ensure this precedence and operation does not continue. Thank you again for your thorough report, and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Kimberly Morton
Chief of Staff
Office of the Mayor Bernard "C" Jack Young