



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 9, 2023

**DIRECTOR JASON MITCHELL ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION FROM BALTIMORE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**Baltimore, MD** – Today, the Baltimore Department of Public Works has announced that Director Jason W. Mitchell, Ed.D., has submitted his resignation from his position as the Director of Public Works, effective April 28, 2023. Director Mitchell will continue his service for the next several months to ensure a seamless transition.

"I am so proud of the work Baltimore DPW has been able to accomplish during my tenure since July 2021. Given family and health related concerns, I have made this difficult decision to resign," said Director Mitchell. "I am grateful to have been able to serve the greater Baltimore community this past year and a half, while also having the chance to work alongside some of the hardest-working and dedicated public servants in the Department. I personally want to thank Mayor Scott for his 100% support of DPW."

Under Director Mitchell's leadership, Baltimore DPW has made key strides, including:

- Increasing the water rates for residents to 3.0% for water; 3.5% for sewer; and 3.0% for stormwater service. The requested rate adjustment represents a 67% reduction from previous water rate increases and is the [lowest rate increase proposal presented](#) to BOE by DPW and the City's Department of Finance in over 24 years.
- Overseeing a plan to expand recycling access to every citizen of Baltimore. Though the decision to expand recycling citywide was made prior to Director Mitchell's tenure, DPW met increased demand while still providing routine trash and recycling collection during a pandemic.
- Improving customer service and process improvements, by reducing call times from 20 minutes to 2 minutes; email responses from 25 days to 5 days; and the setup of payment plans from 70 days to 10 days.
- Launching of the Water4all discount program that provides over \$1 million in discounts to City of Baltimore residents; implementing Promise Pay; increasing the success rate of meter reads; spearheading \$17 million in capital improvements for renovation of solid waste facilities, and launching the Eradicating Blight Program.
- Launching community empowerment campaigns including the B'More LOVE Volunteer Network; Residential Advisory Council, Eco-Warriors of the Future Schools Competition; and the B'More WISE workforce training program.

- Spearheading efforts to maintain compliance at the wastewater treatment plants, including the Headworks Project, a program integral in helping fulfill the City's Consent Decree requirements at Back River. The Headworks facility now processes 750 million gallons of wastewater a day – more than four times the 180 million gallons Back River treated before the launch of Headworks.

Additionally, DPW created new initiatives to boost morale internally across the agency, including:

- A revised onboarding process for new employees; Class A Uniforms for the Environmental Police Force; and the rebranding and production of the video, "Through the Eyes of a Child. "

Under the leadership of Director Mitchell, the administration has gone above and beyond to make sure staff feel trusted, valued, and respected. These changes have directly contributed to increased revenue and improved performance agency-wide.

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