TEL: 410-632-1194
FAX: 410-632-3131
WEB: www.co.worcester.md.us

COMMISSIONERS
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ERIC J. FIORI, VICE PRESIDENT
CARYN G. ABBOTT
ANTHONY W. BERTINO, JR.
MADISON J. BUNTING, JR.
JOSEPH M. MITRECIC
DIANA PURNELL

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Worcester County
GOVERNMENT CENTER
ONE WEST MARKET STREET • ROOM 1103
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND
21863-1195

WESTON S. YOUNG, P.E.
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CANDACE I. SAVAGE, CGFM
DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
ROSCOE R. LESLIE
COUNTY ATTORNEY

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, older adults, those most often serving as leaders, mentors, volunteers, and vital and active community members, deserve to be treated with dignity and respect; however, the reality is that elder abuse is a widespread problem. Nearly five million Americans ages 65 and older are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and up to 95% of these incidents go unreported; and

WHEREAS, we stand with representatives from the Worcester County State's Attorney's Office and the Department of Social Services to raise awareness and build support to protect elders from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Together we can end the cycle of elder abuse through education, detection, and intervention.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland, do hereby proclaim June 2023 as **Elder Abuse Awareness Month** and June 15 as **Elder Abuse Awareness Day** and urge citizens to recognize and report signs of elder abuse.

Executed under the Seal of the County of Worcester, State of Maryland, this 3rd day of June, in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

Theodore J. Elder, President

Eric J. Fiori, Vice President

Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.

Madison J. Bunting, Jr.

Caryn G. Abbott

Joseph M. Mitrecic

Diana Purnell

Worcester County Sheriff's Office

Matthew Crisafulli
Sheriff

Nathaniel Passwaters
Chief Deputy

TO: Worcester County Commissioners
FROM: WCSO (Carrie Tingle)
DATE: May 27, 2025
RE: Out of State Travel Request **FY25**

Out of State Travel Request

WCSO	est 4-5	100.1101.030.7000.100
Department	# of Attendees	GL Account Code
Pittsfield, MA	est 6/11/25	est 6/12/25
Destination	Depart	Return

Purpose of Travel: To pickup ARV from factory

Estimated Costs:			
	Airfare	0.00	
	Lodging	680.00	est 5x136 (1 night)
	Meals	645.00	est 5x145 (2 days, both travel)
	Registration Fees	0.00	
	Car Rental	0.00	
	Other Transportation	0.00	
	Other	0.00	
	Total	**$1,325**	

Worcester County Sheriff's Office

Matthew Crisafulli
Sheriff

Nathaniel Passwaters
Chief Deputy

TO: Worcester County Commissioners
FROM: WCSO (Carrie Tingle)
DATE: May 27, 2025
RE: Out of State Travel Request **FY26**

Out of State Travel Request

WCSO	1	100.1101.030.7000.040
Department	# of Attendees	GL Account Code
Quantico VA	6/28/2025	9/4/2025
Destination	Depart	Return

Purpose of Travel: Attend FBI Leadership Academy

Estimated Costs:	Airfare	0.00	
	Lodging	0.00	
	Meals	500.00	most provided by training, separate costs should not exceed this amount
	Registration Fees	0.00	n/c
	Car Rental	0.00	
	Other Transportation	0.00	
	Other	250.00	tolls, misc
	Total	**$750**	

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW AND PERMITTING
Worcester County

ZONING DIVISION
BUILDING DIVISION
DATA RESEARCH DIVISION

GOVERNMENT CENTER
ONE WEST MARKET STREET, ROOM 1201
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND 21863
TEL:410.632.1200 / FAX: 410.632.3008
http://www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/drp

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
CUSTOMER SERVICE DIVISION
TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Weston S. Young, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Jennifer K. Keener, AICP, Director
DATE: May 27, 2025
RE: Findings of Fact and Resolution – Crepe Myrtle Court Residential Planned Community

****

Attached please find the County Commissioners' Finding of Fact and Resolution drafted by Kristen Tremblay, AICP, Zoning Administrator, for the above referenced Step I residential planned community application which was heard by the County Commissioners on May 6, 2025. I have reviewed the documents and find that they are satisfactory and would therefore recommend that the County Commissioners adopt and execute these findings and resolution.

I would like to note to the County Commissioners that § ZS 1-315(k)(2)A.4. of the Zoning and Subdivision Control Article states that "[a]ny residential planned community approved by the County Commissioners must be unconditionally accepted as approved, in writing by the applicant requesting such use within ninety days after approval by the County Commissioners." The regulations further state that "[f]ailure to so accept, in writing, any such residential planned community so approved by the County Commissioners shall be considered a rejection and abandonment by the applicant of the approval, and thereafter any such residential planned community so approved shall be null and void and of no effect whatsoever." Thus, the applicants will need to accept the approval and the conditions imposed by the County Commissioners.

If you have any questions, or need any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

cc: Kristen Tremblay, AICP, Zoning Administrator

RESOLUTION NO. 25-

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, PURSUANT TO SECTION ZS 1-315 OF THE ZONING AND SUBDIVISION CONTROL ARTICLE OF THE CODE OF PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, ESTABLISHING A RESIDENTIAL PLANNED COMMUNITY FLOATING ZONE ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SHOWN ON TAX MAP 26 PARCEL 157 KNOWN AS CREPE MYRTLE COURT RPC

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section ZS 1-315 of the Zoning and Subdivision Control Article of the Code of Public Local Laws of Worcester County, Maryland, Kathleen Clark, owner, has filed an application for the establishment of a Residential Planned Community (RPC) Floating Zone on approximately 4.82 acres of land shown on Tax Map 26 as Parcel 157, located on the southerly side of MD Route 707 (Old Bridge Road), west of Greenridge Lane, in the Tenth Tax District of Worcester County, said residential planned community designated as Crepe Myrtle Court RPC; and

WHEREAS, said application was referred to the Worcester County Planning Commission which gave the application a favorable recommendation during its review on February 6, 2025; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to a public hearing held on May 6, 2025, following due notice and all procedures as required by Sections ZS 1-315, 1-113, and ZS 1-114 of the Zoning and Subdivision Control Article of the Code of Public Local Laws of Worcester County, Maryland, the County Commissioners made the finding that the establishment of a Residential Planned Community Floating Zone on the subject property would be compatible with the Worcester County Comprehensive Plan and the Worcester County Zoning and Subdivision Control Article.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commissioners of Worcester County, that the land partitioned by Kathleen Clark, shown on Tax Map 26 as Parcel 157, and consisting of approximately 4.82 acres of land, is hereby approved and established as a Residential Planned Community Floating Zone in accordance with the provisions of § ZS 1-315 of the Worcester County Zoning and Subdivision Control Article.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the effective date of this Resolution shall be nunc pro tunc, May 6, 2025.

EXECUTED this ____ day of _____ 2025.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST	*	
FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A	*	
RESIDENTIAL PLANNED COMMUNITY	*	CREPE MYRTLE COURT
FLOATING ZONE	*	
KATHLEEN CLARK	*	
BERLIN, MARYLAND	*	

****

FINDINGS OF FACT

Subsequent to a public hearing held on May 6, 2025, and after a review of the entire record, all pertinent plans and all testimony, the Worcester County Commissioners hereby make the following findings as the County Commissioners' findings of fact pursuant to the provisions of § ZS 1-315(k)(2)A.4 of the Worcester County Zoning Ordinance. These findings are made relative to the request submitted by Kathleen Clark for the establishment of a residential planned community (RPC) floating zone for the proposed RPC project known as Crepe Myrtle Court. Furthermore, these findings are made relative to the Step I plan as submitted as part of the original application.

Regarding the relationship of the RPC with the Comprehensive Plan, zoning regulations and other established policy guidelines: The County Commissioners find that the subject property is currently in the "Existing Developed Areas" land use category of the Comprehensive Plan. One aspect of this land use category is to identify areas to be utilized for infill residential development. The project is consistent with surrounding densities and type of development. It is also providing protection to the sensitive wetland areas that are an important environmental feature. Connectivity to main transportation networks is another feature of the proposed development that is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. Access will be via a single commercial entrance onto MD Route 707 (Old Bridge Road), therefore limiting multiple points of access.

Relative to consistency with the zoning regulations, the County Commissioners find that the project site is zoned R-4 General Residential District, the R-4 District being a zoning classification in which residential planned communities are permitted. It also finds that the project as proposed complies with those requirements cited in § ZS 1-315 relative to maximum density, maximum limitation for residential uses, minimum requirement for common use open space and recreational areas, and types of permitted uses. The County Commissioners therefore conclude

that the submittals relative to the proposed project comply with the requirements cited in § ZS 1-315(k)(2)A.1.

Regarding the general location of the site and its relationship to existing land uses in the immediate vicinity: The County Commissioners find that the subject property is located on the southerly side of MD Route 707 (Old Bridge Road), west of Greenridge Lane. This area can best be characterized as mainly residential land uses of varying types. The R-4 General Residential District encourages infill development and higher densities to encourage traditional neighborhood development. The County Commissioners conclude that the proposed use as a duplex and single-family development is consistent with existing land uses in the vicinity.

Regarding the availability and adequacy of public facilities, services and utilities to meet the needs of the RPC and the long-term implications the project would have on subsequent local development patterns and demand for public facilities and services: The County Commissioners find that the property proposed to be developed into the Crepe Myrtle Court RPC is presently zoned R-4 General Residential District. The surrounding developed lands are similarly zoned for residential uses. Due to the sites' R-4 General Residential District zoning classification, duplex and single-family residential development at a density of eight (8) dwelling units per one (1) acre is permitted by zoning. Furthermore, residential planned communities of the same density are permitted by that zoning district. Thus, the proposed density of 5.18 dwelling units per acre was anticipated for this immediate vicinity. In addition, the development proposes to cluster the residential dwelling units in an effort to avoid the Critical Area 100' buffer while preserving the existing forested areas and wetlands, which is encouraged by the Comprehensive Plan. Therefore, the County Commissioners conclude that the proposed Crepe Myrtle Court RPC will not have an adverse long-term implication on development patterns in the area.

Relative to certain public facilities, public water and sewer is available to serve the proposed development. The County Commissioners conclude that the proposed Crepe Myrtle Court RPC will not have an adverse long-term implication on development patterns in the area and there are adequate public facilities, services and utilities to serve the proposed development without any significant impacts to public facilities or services.

Regarding the consistency of the RPC with the general design standards as contained in Subsections (j)(1) through (j)(5): The County Commissioners find that the development has taken steps to protect the sensitive areas on the subject property, such as the tract of existing forested areas and non-tidal wetlands located within the 100' Critical Area buffer. The open space provided exceeds the minimum required under the RPC regulations.

Relative to the general layout and clustering of the development, the County Commissioners find that the proposed RPC consists of 24 two-family dwellings, one single-family

dwelling and minimizes land impacts, especially to environmentally sensitive lands, while maximizing contiguous open spaces. The traffic circulation patterns promote connectivity within the proposed development, and limit access to the public road system to one commercial entrance. A sidewalk is proposed to be provided along the MD Route 707 road frontage for future connections, and an internal community sidewalk is proposed for residents. The County Commissioners conclude that the RPC has demonstrated consistency with the general design standards contained in §ZS 1-315(j)(1) through (j)(5).

Regarding the relationship of the RPC's proposed construction schedule, including any phasing, and the demand for and timely provision of public facilities, services and utilities necessary to serve the project: The County Commissioners find that construction is anticipated to commence in the fall of 2025 according to the applicant's narrative, with the phasing of the project done based on market demand.

Regarding the capacity of the existing road network to provide suitable vehicular access for the RPC, the appropriateness of any existing or proposed improvements to the transportation network, the adequacy of the pedestrian and bicycle circulation, and the proposed means of connectivity of the project to surrounding residential, commercial and recreational development and uses: The County Commissioners find that the Step I plan indicates that there will be one (1) point of access for vehicular traffic onto MD Route 707 (Old Bridge Road). As previously stated, no traffic study is required, just a Commercial Access Permit from the State Highway Administration. Relative to the adequacy of pedestrian and bicycle circulation, the road network appears to serve these functions, and a sidewalk will be provided along the front property line should connectivity be provided for in the future, as well as a sidewalk with the community for residents. The County Commissioners conclude that the access point to MD Route 707 (Old Bridge Road) will not have a significantly adverse impact on traffic patterns in the area.

Regarding the relationship of the proposed method of wastewater disposal and provision of potable water service with the goals, objectives and recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan, Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan, and other established policy guidelines: The County Commissioners find that, according to the comments provided by the Department of Environmental Programs, the development is currently served by public sewer via the West Ocean City service area.

Based upon their review, the County Commissioners hereby approve the request for the establishment of the residential planned community floating zone for the Crepe Myrtle Court RPC.

Adopted as of this 6th day of May, 2025. Reduced to writing and signed this _____ day of _____, 2025.

The Circuit Court for Worcester County
First Judicial Circuit of Maryland

ILENE D. MUHLBERG
COURT ADMINISTRATOR
COURT HOUSE - ROOM 208
ONE W. MARKET STREET
SNOW HILL, MD 21863
(410) 632-2342

Date: May 19, 2025

To: Weston Young, Chief Administrative Officer
Worcester County Commissioners

From: Ilene Muhlberg, Circuit Court Administrator

Re: Grant Award Acceptance

We respectfully request your approval of the attached Grant Award and Acceptance Form for $459,959.14 in FY 26 grant funds from the Maryland Judiciary Administrative Office of the Courts to support the operations of the Circuit Court Family Services Program. Due to state budget constraints, the award amount is $38,732.00 less than requested, and $7,226.67 less than the amount awarded in FY 25.

Thank you for your consideration.

c: Administrative Judge Brian D. Shockley
Anne Turner, Interim Family Services Coordinator

Administrative Office of the Courts
JUVENILE AND FAMILY SERVICES
187 HARRY S. TRUMAN PKWY., ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
PH: 410-260-1262; DJFSGrants@mdcourts.gov

GRANT AWARD & ACCEPTANCE FORM

Grant Award Number: G26JU2425I
Organization: Worcester County Commissioners
Division/Agency/DBA (if applicable): Circuit Court for Worcester County
Applicant ID Number: 6374
Project Name: G26JU2425I Worcester Family Services
Grant Award Period: 07/01/2025 – 06/30/2026

Grant Award Amount:	$459,959.14

The Administrative Office of the Courts, Juvenile and Family Services, in accordance with the terms of the FY26 Juvenile and Family Services Jurisdictional Budget Request Funding Opportunity # FO-2026-JFS-001, awards a grant for:

Summary of the Grant: Grant funds support the operations of the Circuit Court Family Services Program.

Additional Terms, if applicable: N/A

This Grant Award incorporates all the information, activities, and assurances contained in the grantee's application, FY 26 Juvenile and Family Jurisdictional Grants. Grant recipients are required to manage these grant funds and submit all required reporting electronically.

Budgeting of Grant Funds: Upon execution of this agreement, grant recipients will be required to finalize the project budget based on the award amount and the budget submitted in the application referenced above. Limitations on the award budget, if any, are outlined below.

Budget Limitations:
Personnel Costs: Salary adjustments for grant-funded circuit court employees will be provided consistent with those appropriated by the legislature for state Judiciary positions. Grant support for fringe benefits will also change commensurate with any salary adjustments made. Local governments are authorized to provide supplemental funds for salary and fringe benefits beyond the amount provided under a grant.
Adjustments to the budgeted amounts for the grant-funded court positions will also be permitted when,

- a position becomes vacant, and the new hire has a different salary/fringe rate,
- the position is reclassified by the county's human resources department, and/or
- for other good cause upon submission of a modification request.

Costs that are not allowable:

- Indirect costs for courts and government grantees,
- Professional association and licensure dues for individuals,
- Building-related costs (includes, but not limited to furniture, cubicle walls, courtroom flags or emblems), and
- Other costs not related to the effective operation of the family division or family services programs.

Indirect Costs
Indirect Costs are ___allowable _X__ not allowable on this award.

Once approved by Juvenile and Family Services, the final budget is incorporated into this award. Subsequent changes will require a budget modification per the terms of the General Grant Conditions and the Special Conditions for FY26 Jurisdictional Family Services Grants.

Continued on the next page

Grant Award Number: G26JU2425I
Organization: Worcester County Commissioners
Division/Agency/DBA (if applicable): Circuit Court for Worcester County
Applicant ID Number: 6374
Project Name: G26JU2425I Worcester Family Services
Grant Award Period: 07/01/2025 – 06/30/2026

Acceptance of Grant Award

This Grant Award is subject to the General Grant Conditions and the Special Conditions for FY26 Jurisdictional Family Services Grants.
By signing below, the grant recipient agrees to accept the grant and abide by all terms contained in both the General Grant Conditions and Special Conditions for FY26 Jurisdictional Family Services Grants. The grant recipient understands that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements, documents, or claims submitted in relation to this award may subject the grant recipient to any applicable civil or criminal penalties, as well as administrative penalties including but not limited to the reduction, suspension, and/or termination of the award, and the recovery of any monies awarded to the grant recipient as a result of the submission.

Authorized Official for the Grantee:

Signature:
Name (printed):
Title (printed):
Date:

FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Approved for form and legal sufficiency by:

Signature:
Name: Stephane J. Latour
Title: Managing Legal Counsel
Date:

Approved for funding by:

Signature:
Name: Judy K. Rupp
Title: State Court Administrator
Date:

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

Worcester County Department of Environmental Programs
Worcester County Government Center, 1 West Market Street, Rm 1306 | Snow Hill MD 21863
Tel: (410) 632-1220 | Fax: (410) 632-2012

Memorandum

To: Weston S. Young, P.E., Chief Administrative Officer

From: Robert J. Mitchell, LEHS, REHS/RS
Director, Environmental Programs

Subject: **Maryland Coastal Bays Program**
Request for Annual Cost Share

Date: 5/13/25

Pursuant to their request for cost share information, I have reviewed the attached letter from Mr. Kevin Smith, the Executive Director for the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. In this letter, Mr. Smith shares that the program is receiving funds totaling $850,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency's National Estuary Program for the time frame of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026. This is a continuation of the Program's increase in direct funding from the Federal government to support education, research, and restoration work in our Coastal Bay watersheds. They use non-federal money spent in the Coastal Bays watersheds as leverage for these federal funds.

In prior years, the County Commissioners approved an in-kind match, specifically the State funds expended for the purchase of Rural Legacy Easements in our Coastal Bays Rural Legacy Program Area and other state grant and in-kind services conducted by the County aimed at the protection and restoration of our Coastal Bays.

Our annual funding from the State of Maryland under local grants from the Bay Restoration Fund (BRF) are used for sewer connections and septic pre-treatment upgrades. Historically, most of the annual BRF funding is expended in the Coastal Bays Watershed and I believe we would be right to project that a significant portion of this funding program (at a minimum, $250,000) will be expended in the Federal Grant Cycle detailed in the letter within Coastal Bays watersheds.

Our expected level of funding would total $600,000 from the State in Rural Legacy Grant Funds for three (3) upcoming easement settlements in Coastal Bays watersheds that we expect to close on within the subject time period. We will also have one (1) large Maryland Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) conservation easement in excess of $1MM that will close this fall-winter as well.

Continuing our past practice of matching these grants in this manner will be of assistance to the Coastal Bays Program without requiring any cash being directly paid by the County. This will not cost the County at all to offer this matching funding. We would respectfully request the County Commissioners approve a commitment letter detailing this in-kind match of non-federal funding.

Should the County Commissioners concur and wish to approve this same type of in-kind match in the amount of $850,000, a draft letter to the Maryland Coastal Bays Program is attached herewith for your consideration

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

Attachment

cc: Katherine Munson

MARYLAND COASTAL BAYS PROGRAM
8219 Stephen Decatur Highway
Berlin, Maryland 21811
(410) 213-2297 - PHONE
(410) 213-2574 – FAX
mcbp@mdcoastalbays.org
www.mdcoastalbays.org

May 13, 2025

Mr. Weston Young
Worcester County Government Center
One West Market St., Snow Hill, MD 21863 – 1195

Dear Mr. Young,

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program is once again applying for the EPA National Estuary Program grant funding for the time frame of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026. This grant-funding year, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program is expected to receive $850,000 from the EPA. The program must provide as match an equivalent amount of $850,000 from other non-federal sources.

I am attaching the letter from FY 25 that the County was able to provide to MCBP. We would appreciate whatever match Worcester County can provide. In order to facilitate the grant application process, please respond by May 31, 2024, if at all possible.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program appreciates your support and involvement in the National Estuary Program. If you have questions, please contact me on my cellphone at 443-564-6285.

Thank you,

Kevin Smith
Executive Director

Cc: Bob Mitchell
Katherine Munson

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

Worcester County Administration
One West Market St. Room 1103 | Snow Hill MD 21863 | (410) 632-1194 | www.co.worcester.md.us

June 18, 2024

Mr. Kevin Smith
Executive Director
Maryland Coastal Bays Program
8219 Stephen Decatur Highway
Berlin, MD 21811

Re: National Estuary Program Grant match, FFY25

Dear Mr. Smith:

As you are aware, at their meeting on June 18, 2024, the County Commissioners approved an in-kind match of approximately $700,000 for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Estuary Program (NEP) grant for the period October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

Worcester County will use the non-federal Rural Legacy Program funds, expended during the above-stated time period for part of this match. There will also be a match from the Bay Restoration Fund (BRF) grants for the same time period along with Maryland Agricultural Preservation Foundation conservation easement funding and other County programs that could qualify as a match for your partner funding requirements. The Department of Environmental Programs will assemble and submit the necessary documentation required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the Coastal Bays Program. Please contact Robert Mitchell and Katherine Munson directly regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Weston S. Young, P.E.
Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Robert Mitchell, Director, Environmental Programs
Katherine Munson, Planner V, EP
Kimberly Reynolds, Budget Officer

May, 2025

Mr. Kevin Smith
Executive Director
Maryland Coastal Bays Program
8219 Stephen Decatur Highway
Berlin, MD 21811

Re: National Estuary Program Grant match, FFY26

Dear Mr. Smith:

As you are aware, at their meeting on May 20, 2025, the County Commissioners approved an in-kind match of approximately $850,000 for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Estuary Program (NEP) grant for the period October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026.

Worcester County will use the non-federal Rural Legacy Program funds, expended during the above-stated time period for part of this match. There will also be a match from the Bay Restoration Fund (BRF) grants for the same time period along with Maryland Agricultural Preservation Foundation conservation easement funding and other County programs that could qualify as a match for your partner funding requirements. The Department of Environmental Programs will assemble and submit the necessary documentation required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the Coastal Bays Program. Please contact Robert Mitchell and Katherine Munson directly regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Weston S. Young, P.E.
Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Robert Mitchell, Director, EP
Katherine Munson, Planning Manager, EP
Kimberly Reynolds, Budget Officer

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

Worcester County Department of Environmental Programs
Worcester County Government Center, 1 West Market Street, Rm 1306 | Snow Hill MD 21863
Tel: (410) 632-1220 | Fax: (410) 632-2012

Memorandum

To: Weston S. Young, P.E., Chief Administrative Officer

From: Robert J. Mitchell, Director
Katherine Munson, Planning Manager

Subject: **Maryland Coastal Bays Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)**
2025 Update to 2015 Plan

Date: 5/23/25

We are writing to request a short presentation of the updated CCMP to the County Commissioners by staff and the Executive Director of the Program, Kevin Smith.

Introduction

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) is a member of EPA's National Estuary Program (NEP). The program aims to protect and restore the ecological integrity and water quality of estuaries of national significance. These estuaries, designated by the EPA, are crucial for numerous ecosystem services and economic benefits. The NEP, through a combination of funding, grants, and partnerships, helps states develop comprehensive management plans to restore and protect these valuable resources. The NEP Partners have a history of leveraging additional funding from various sources to maximize the impact of its efforts. Their value lies in the NEP's ability to protect and restore vital ecosystems, ensuring the continued benefits they provide to their local environment, economy, and communities.

Over the last two years, the Implementation Committee (IC) for the MCBP has been working with their local and state partners in crafting a revised CCMP for the years 2025 to 2035. The plan is a partnership with MCBP, Worcester County, the towns of Ocean City and Berlin, the National Parks Service, USEPA and Maryland state agencies: DNR, MDE, MDA and MDP. Responsibilities for management and implementation activities are articulated in the plan for the various partners.

The original plan, prepared after three years of work, was a 160-page plan for the initial ten (10) year planning period. That plan was done with the participation of the local and state partners, concerned citizens, farmers, fisherman, and developers all interested in developing a consensus on the future of the Coastal Bays and how to practically manage the bays' resources. Back in 1999, the bays had much less protection or investigation than currently exists. Today, a great deal more is known and the CCMP, with technical participation from the local, state, and federal partners will assist management decisions by steering policy makers and the public towards ecosystem improvements and protection.

At the heart of the new CCMPs are four themes which are the umbrella under which are placed the goals and actions for each:

- Provide Healthy Waters
- Protect Fish, Wildlife and Their Habitat
- Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems
- Develop Public Engagements and Partnerships

Progress Made

Significant progress has been made on actions included in the 2015 CCMP. Some of the notable accomplishments in this timeframe from all partners includes the following:

- Water quality improvements, since 2015, the overall grade for the bays has improved to C+ and B- in annual report cards
- In 2014 the EPA approved a TMDL for the Bays and a Watershed Plan for Assawoman Bay was approved by EPA in 2020 and will be replicated for other bay watersheds as well.
- Installation of enhanced stormwater management facilities in Berlin, Ocean Pines, and Ocean City
- Significant progress by Worcester County in increasing sewer connections, particularly in the Rt. 611 and Rt. 589 corridors, coupled with septic system pretreatment upgrades in non-sewered areas.
- Identification, prioritization, and restoration of degraded saltwater marsh habitat in partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, DNR, Audubon, Lower Shore Land Trust, and others to address shoreline erosion and interior ponding.
- Ongoing management of an Oyster Gardening initiative engaging volunteers to grow more than 43,000 oysters in cages off their personal docks, which are then deployed on an underwater reef in the St. Martin River.
- Promoting and organizing litter prevention and cleanup initiatives, including source reduction/cigarette butt upcycling in Ocean City and marine debris collection events.
- Published Economic Value of the Maryland Coastal Bays Watershed study to demonstrate that the watershed provides real and significant economic benefits to the regional economy and is worthy of investment to keep these natural resources healthy and productive.
- Partner achievements in restoration activities, , elimination of point source discharges, upgrades to wastewater treatment capabilities.
- Increasingly robust and diverse education programming reaching local schools and the community to increase environmental literacy with particular focus on Coastal Bays ecology.
- Supported and implemented land conservation programs resulting in the protection of hundreds of acres in the watershed and realized the establishment by Worcester County of a second Rural Legacy Area within the Coastal Bays Watershed in the Bishopville-Showell area.
- MCB and their partners have planned and designed eight major resilience restoration projects: three completed (Assateague State Park Shoreline, Bainbridge Pond in Ocean Pines, and Selsey Road in West Ocean City), four awaiting construction permits (Tizzard Island, Reedy Island, Jenkins Point, Sinepuxent South Shoreline), and one shelved due to property owner concerns (Big Millpond).

Theme Summary

The new plan has 124 actions vs. 222 in the old plan. The reductions were made due to completion of previous items and institutionalization of items by actions and policies of the watershed partners. Many of EPA's identified important areas for concentrating on future program resources such as building innovative resiliency in community projects and policies,and reaching a broader cross-section of the watershed community are already being implemented through the current workplans. The 2025 CCMP provides an opportunity to add strength to the identity of those priorities, and to ensure that their implementation continues during these next ten years. The MCBP recognizes the need for additional grant resources for ecological enhancements for bird habitat, improving marsh health, water

quality improvements, and shoreline restoration requiring a partnership approach with multi-level investments for success.

In a nutshell, the basic goals of the four action plan sections are as follows:

1. **Provide Healthy Waters**
    a. Reduce Nutrient and Pollutant Loading in the Watershed
    b. Protect and Conserve Groundwater
    c. Develop and Implement Comprehensive Watershed Programs and Strategies to achieve TMDL Goals
2. **Protect Fish, Wildlife and Their Habitat**
    a. Develop and implement a comprehensive Monitoring Plan and Habitat Protection/ Restoration Strategy
    b. Monitor and manage finfish, shellfish, and other aquatic species
    c. Monitor and manage aquatic and estuarine habitats.
    d. Monitor and manage plants and wildlife in the watershed.
    e. Monitor and manage terrestrial habitats
3. **Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems**
    a. Enhance resilience of ecosystems to natural disasters, sea level rise, and other environmental stressors
    b. Enhance resilience of community assets and infrastructure to natural disasters, sea level rise, and other environmental stressors.
    c. Implement the MCBP Adaptation Action Plan.
    d. Coordinate with partners to develop and implement a Maryland Coastal Bays Sediment Management Plan.
    e. Monitor and conduct research to assess conditions and identify trends and challenges to guide resilience policies, programs and projects.
    f. Promote and facilitate conservation of land, natural resources, energy, and manufactured materials.
4. **Develop Public Engagements and Partnerships**
    a. Support the NEP program effort through the MCBP program administration and Management Conference
    b. Promote environmental literacy for the public through education, outreach, communication, and engagement activities.
    c. Coordinate with MCBP partners to develop and deliver academic programming.
    d. Cultivate volunteer participation in all aspects of community science, education, and outreach activities.
    e. Develop and support partnerships that advance mutual interests and are aligned with CCMP goals.

These are noble and ambitious goals, but, as always, the availability of future funding will determine whether many of the actions can be fully carried out. The plan is part advocacy, research, education, monitoring, and restoration programs all wrapped into one focused plan. Each partner will be doing their part in this effort. For example, MD DNR will be the lead on many useful research and monitoring efforts.

Conclusion

Looking forward, there will be a Policy Committee meeting on June 24th at 10:30 AM at Harrision to review and approve the new CCMP. At that time, the Policy Committee will be requesting from the partners for their consensus with the section goals, challenges and actions for each of the four planning themes that make up the new plan.

This revised plan has been extensively reviewed and commented on by County staff. We have attended working meetings, and outreach assemblies and have commented on and reviewed drafts for all the sections of the entire document. The CCMP is a fine example of cooperation between the partners, and it is hoped that the spirit of this

endeavor is carried through when the "rubber meets the road" when funding and implementation commitments are debated and offered

Staff, along with the MCBP Executive Director, will be available to answer any questions you and the County Commissioners may have on this matter.

Enclosures

1. Revised CCMP Draft
2. Invitation to the County Commissioners for the Policy Committee meeting and signing event on June 24th (sent via email on May 15th)

cc: David Bradford, DEP
Brian Soper, DEP
Lily Wagner

SAVE THE DATE

June 24, 2025 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Maryland Coastal Bays
Policy Committee Meeting

At

Harrison's Harbor Watch Restaurant

Lunch will be served

Following lunch, there will be a Signing Ceremony (1:30 – 2:00 p.m.) celebrating the new Maryland Coastal Bays Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP) at the Ocean City Lifesaving Museum which is located next to Harrison's Harbor Watch at the southern terminus of the Boardwalk

Agenda to Follow

Please RSVP by June 13, 2025

The Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan for Maryland's Coastal Bays (2025–2035)

Suggested citation

Maryland Coastal Bays Program, Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, Berlin, Maryland (revised 2025), first published in 1999.

Compiled by

Maryland Coastal Bays Program for adoption by the EPA, on behalf of MCBP Management, Implementation and Scientific & Technical Advisory Committees

Layout and design

Ann Foo and Nathan Miller, Integration and Application Network, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.

Funding provided under Section 320 of the 1987 Clean Water Act (CWA) Amendments as a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) place-based program to protect and restore the water quality and ecological integrity of estuaries of national significance.

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University of Maryland
CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

A Letter from Maryland Coastal Bays Program Leadership

Dear Partners,

For nearly 30 years, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) has championed the preservation and enhancement of one of our nation's most treasured estuaries. Guided by our Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP), we have worked collaboratively to set ambitious goals, measure progress, and implement effective conservation strategies. This commitment has united agencies, organizations, and dedicated volunteers in a shared mission to protect the Coastal Bays for future generations.

Over the past 29 years, in collaboration with our dedicated partners and volunteers, we have amassed a comprehensive database on water quality, the health of wetlands and forests, and the status of wildlife and fisheries. This invaluable long-term data not only uncovers critical trends and patterns but also highlights current priorities. It enables us to anticipate emerging challenges, ensuring we can address pressing issues both now and in the future.

Our collective efforts have yielded encouraging results. Fish populations remain mostly stable, water quality in many of our bays is improving, and clam populations have made a remarkable recovery. However, significant challenges persist. Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) has yet to return to our northern bays, vast stretches of tidal marsh are disappearing due to sea level rise and other factors, and iconic coastal bird species struggle to nest successfully, hindered by the ongoing loss of habitat. Rising water temperatures, intensifying storms, and accelerating sea level rise are challenges that demand urgent attention, with their impacts set to grow even more pronounced in the next decade.

This document outlines our strategy to confront the defining environmental challenges of the next decade while highlighting the roles of lead agencies and organizations. Certain actions will be best addressed by external partners, while the Maryland Coastal Bays Program will spearhead others. Regardless of the lead, these management efforts are a testament to the power of collaboration—a shared commitment between partners working in unison to safeguard the Coastal Bays.

Since 1996, this collaborative approach has driven remarkable achievements—made possible by the unwavering dedication of our partners, volunteers, and supporters, as well as the vision of our past Directors, Board members, and staff. Their tireless efforts have sustained the Coastal Bays, ensuring its vitality for current and future generations. With that same spirit of commitment, we embark on the next 10 years, focusing on the actions necessary to preserve and enhance this beloved local treasure and nationally recognized estuary.

Sincerely,

Kevin Smith
Executive Director
Maryland Coastal Bays Program

Steve Taylor
Chairman of the Board
Maryland Coastal Bays Foundation

A Letter From the Governor

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The Maryland Coastal Bays Program wishes to offer thanks and appreciation to all the partner agencies and organizations that have provided content and review of the CCMP. We look forward to the continued partnership for the next ten years.

Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
National Park Service / Assateague National Seashore (NPS/ASIS)
Worcester County Soil Conservation District (WCSCD)
Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA)
Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)
Maryland Geologic Survey (MGS)
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES)
University of Maryland Extension (UME)
University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES)
Worcester County Government (WC)
Town of Ocean City (OC)
Town of Berlin
Ocean Pines Association (OPA)
Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT)
Assateague Coastal Trust (ACT)
Baltimore National Aquarium
Worcester County Public Schools (WCPS)
Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE)
MCBP Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)
MCBP Implementation Committee (IC)
MCBP Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

INTRODUCTION

This Place We Call Home

The stories of the Coastal Bays echo throughout history, emanating like ripples from a stone dropped in water. A tale is told in each beat of a saltmarsh sparrow's wings, every ribbon of eelgrass waving beneath the water's surface, and within the shifting shape of shorelines. Stories of the people who once roamed these marshes, forests, and waters hum beneath our feet. Although their footprints have long since been swallowed by a squelch of detritus or swept clean by the incoming tide, their stories offer a deeper understanding of this place we call home.

Around 80,000 years ago, *Homo sapiens* took a brave step outside our African homeland in a spirit of exploration our species embodies to this day. This spark can be observed in the fishermen roaming Chincoteague Bay in their skiffs during flounder season, or in the birdwatcher bushwhacking on Assateague Island in search of a northern saw-whet owl. Humans migrated onto the Eastern Shore more than 10,000 years ago, drawn by an abundance of fish, fur, and fowl. These first people used the Coastal Bays as seasonal hunting and fishing grounds. The Pocomoke and Assateague peoples made it their home, and continue to live here today.

The introduction of maize farming in the Late Woodland period around 900 C.E. enabled permanent settlements to take root. Villages sprouted along with the corn the Native Americans grew, cozy huts with reed-woven roofs nestled on the banks of tributaries. Native people crafted dugout canoes from cypress trees found deep in knobby-kneed forested swamps. They combed shallow bay waters for shellfish in what one can imagine was the first rendition of the "Assateague Shuffle" as they located hard clams beneath their feet. The land provided nuts from oak, hickory, and pine forests, and the marsh supplied edible tubers known as "tuckahoe." Whittled spears and intricately constructed nets and fishing weirs were used to catch shad, striped bass, and white perch.

Native Americans fishing by canoe. Illustration by John White, courtesy of the British Museum, CC BY-NC-SA 4.0.

Maize/corn has dominated Coastal Bays agriculture since the earliest settlements. Photo by Jane Hawkey, IAN Image Library.

Around this time only a few thousand indigenous people lived on the Eastern Shore, with about 300 permanent residents in the Coastal Bays, although many more migrated through the region with the seasons.

In 1524, the leather soles of colonists marched across the landscape like words on a page, writing the beginning of a new chapter for the Coastal Bays. Giovanni de Verrazzano and his crew are recognized as the first Europeans to explore this nook of the Shore, and a trickle of hunters, fisherman, and trappers soon followed. The area remained sparsely populated by settlers for the next hundred years, yet by the mid-1600s pressure began to mount on the native people who had spent thousands of years accepting the bounty that this productive area offered. Despite this deep relationship to the land, European settlers uprooted indigenous people to a reservation on the banks of the Pocomoke River in 1686. Challenging living conditions on site drove most of them to move north into Delaware after only a few years, integrating with other tribes, many of which ultimately followed various migration routes out of the region.

Beach tourism drives the local economy today. Ocean City, MD pier via Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0.

For years the narratives of these original storytellers of the Coastal Bays remained stacked like a pile of books on a side table, spines faded from age and waiting to be read. In recent years those books have been reopened, setting the stories free to be met with appreciation, acknowledgment, and reverence for the rich indigenous history that knits the foundation for humans in the Coastal Bays.

During the colonial period the abundance of the area was harnessed in new ways. Change came slowly at first as the Coastal Bays watershed became fluent in farming, logging, fishing, and tourism. Rich soils were fielded and farmed to produce crops of tobacco, corn, and wheat. Trees became timber, providing valuable harvests of cypress, oak, poplar, and gum. Railroads zippered across the Eastern Shore in the 1800s, bringing population growth to remote areas with the newfound ease of transportation. As the 19th century gave way to the 20th, Ocean City metamorphosed from a rustic fishing village to a popular resort destination. Each summer, visitors flocked to the growing city like royal terns returning to nest, drawn by the weathered wooden boardwalk perfect for strolling and the cool summer breezes sweeping off the Atlantic.

While humans have played their part in shaping this region, mother nature is not to be forgotten. A hurricane ripped up the coast in the August of 1933, cleaving Fenwick Island in two as an inlet broke through in a rush of floodwater. This act of nature set Assateague Island on its own unique course. While the Coastal Bays were connected to the ocean periodically in the past with inlets opening and closing during storm and tide events, the 1933 breach was structurally stabilized to ensure it remained open, creating the Ocean City Inlet that we know today. With the establishment of a marina and an open door to the ocean, pound fishing gave way to thriving offshore ocean fisheries. In March of 1962, another storm caused extensive flooding and threatened to destroy Ocean City. But what followed was a building boom.

Change is the only constant in the Coastal Bays. When the engineering triumph of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge was completed in 1952, a summer weekend at the beach became feasible for many families. Tourism flourished and the population of the Coastal Bays watershed boomed. In a nod to the unspoken draw of raw and wild places, Assateague State and National Parks were designated in the mid-1960s. This conservation effort preserved a landscape where visitors can hear the whispers from the past more clearly without the noise of boardwalk arcades or weekend traffic.

Today the Coastal Bays exhibit a library of voices, from the buzz of recreational boat motors in August, to the throaty squawk of a great egret settling onto a pitch pine branch, to an energized crowd shouting the chorus at a musical festival on the beach. The stories from the past to the present weave around one another, intertwining to become a unique and dazzling body of literature. One need not open a book to discover this enchanting story; perhaps the best place to read the novel of this place we call home is in the quiet solitude of a sunset upon a golden marsh.

The Ocean City Inlet was created by the 1933 storm. Photo by Jane Hawkey, IAN Image Library.

EPA Acknowledgment

The Federal Water Quality Act of 1987 amended and extended the Clean Water Act Section 320, and formally established the National Estuary Program (NEP) to promote long term planning and management of nationally significant estuaries threatened by pollution, development, or overuse.

The NEP is an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) non-regulatory place-based program, created to protect and restore the water quality and ecological integrity of estuaries of national significance. Twenty-eight estuaries found along the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts and in Puerto Rico are included in this collection. These NEPs were selected after national solicitations seeking nominations to the program. The twenty-eight chosen NEPs are located in a variety of institutional settings, including state and local agencies, universities and individual nonprofits. In overseeing and managing the national program, EPA provides annual funding, national guidance and technical assistance to the local NEPs.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) was inducted into the National Estuary Program (NEP) in 1996 and became the 28th NEP in the U.S. Since that time, partners and stakeholders have been engaged and have worked to fulfill the mission of the MCBP. This could not have been achieved without the support of the EPA and guidance of the National Estuary Program.

Maryland Coastal Bays Program: Who We Are

Maryland's Coastal Bays are a treasured natural resource, offering a wide range of ecological, recreational, and economic benefits to the community. The health and long-term sustainability of the Coastal Bays is, however, threatened by a variety of human activities in the Bay system and adjacent watershed. As a National Estuary Program, Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) is a non-profit partnership among the towns of Ocean City and Berlin, the National Park Service (NPS), Worcester County, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Maryland Departments of Natural Resources, Environment, Agriculture, and Planning.

The MCBP program goal is to protect and enhance the Maryland Coastal Bays watershed, which includes Ocean City, Ocean Pines and Berlin, and Assateague Island National Seashore. Located east of Route 113, the 175-square-mile Maryland Coastal Bays watershed is home to the treasured resources of the St. Martin River, Newport Bay, Assawoman Bay, Isle of Wight Bay, Sinepuxent Bay and Chincoteague Bay. The watershed includes more than 189,000 acres of land, 71,000 acres of water, 248 miles of shoreline, and nearly 35,000 acres of wetlands. Guided by our partners and stakeholders, MCBP staff engages the local community and beyond to implement creative solutions for resource protection and conservation in the Coastal Bays.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Foundation is the incorporated part of MCBP. The Foundation receives and manages public and private dollars to ensure the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP). The Foundation also ensures program finances are managed in accordance with federal and state laws and that appropriate administrative policies are in place for the organization.

MCBP's mission is to protect and conserve the waters and surrounding watershed of Maryland's Coastal Bays to enhance their ecological values and sustainable use for both present and future generations. To achieve this mission, MCBP:

- Engages federal, state, and local partners as well as the public in defining the health concerns and conservation needs of the Coastal Bays and their watersheds;
- Implements management strategies defined in the CCMP following the Federal Clean Water Act as the Maryland Coastal Bays National Estuary Program;
- Develops and uses factual scientific information to improve the health and sustainable use of the Coastal Bays and their watersheds;
- Promotes responsible stewardship and actions to improve the Coastal Bays and their watersheds through public outreach, education, and partnerships; and
- Conducts fundraising activities to secure public and private grants and donations to support environmental improvements beyond those provided by existing funding sources.

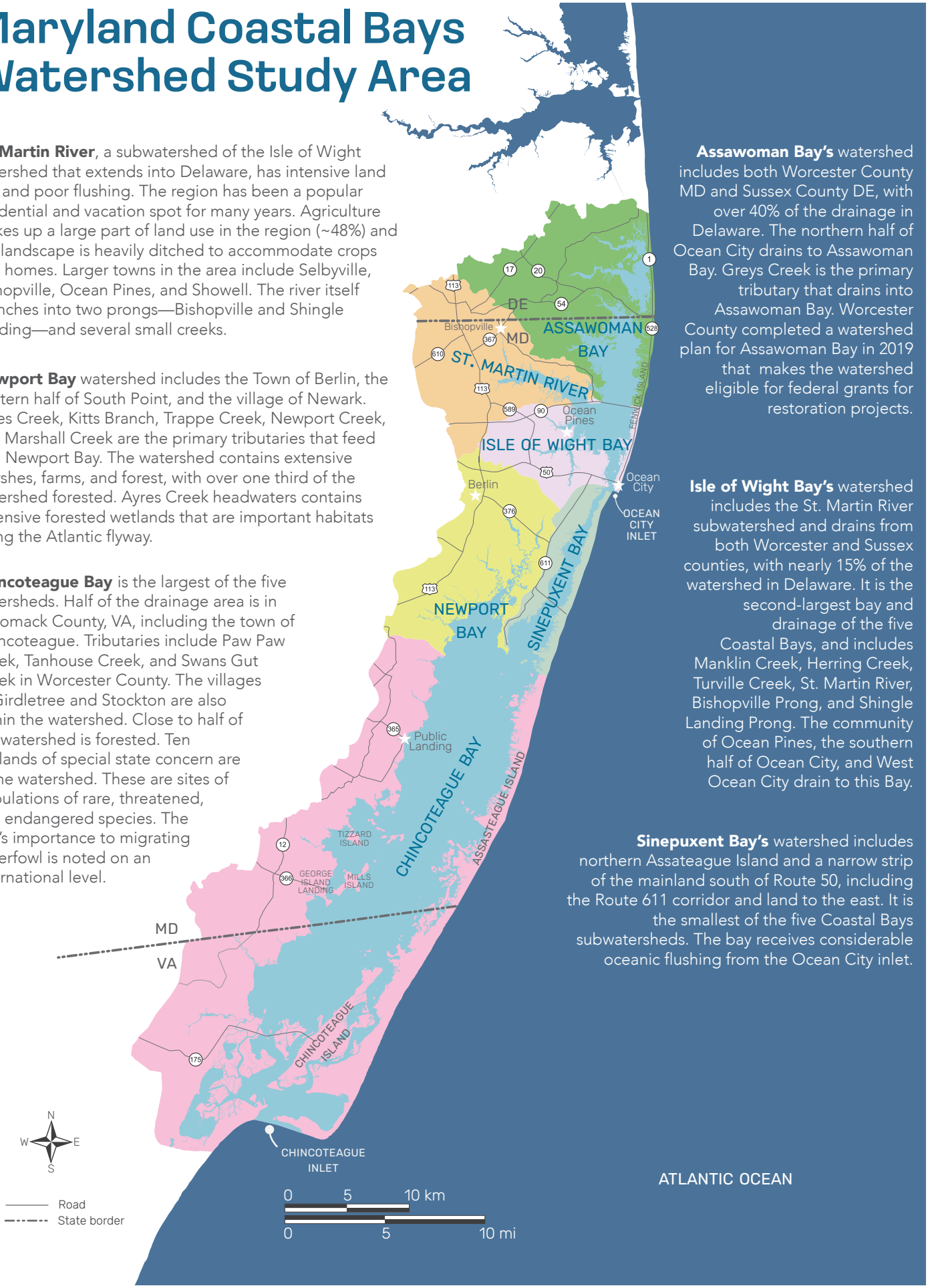
MCBP staff meeting 2024. Photo by Tom Simon.

Maryland Coastal Bays Watershed Study Area

St. Martin River, a subwatershed of the Isle of Wight watershed that extends into Delaware, has intensive land use and poor flushing. The region has been a popular residential and vacation spot for many years. Agriculture makes up a large part of land use in the region (~48%) and the landscape is heavily ditched to accommodate crops and homes. Larger towns in the area include Selbyville, Bishopville, Ocean Pines, and Showell. The river itself branches into two prongs—Bishopville and Shingle Landing—and several small creeks.

Newport Bay watershed includes the Town of Berlin, the western half of South Point, and the village of Newark. Ayres Creek, Kitts Branch, Trappe Creek, Newport Creek, and Marshall Creek are the primary tributaries that feed into Newport Bay. The watershed contains extensive marshes, farms, and forest, with over one third of the watershed forested. Ayres Creek headwaters contains extensive forested wetlands that are important habitats along the Atlantic flyway.

Chincoteague Bay is the largest of the five watersheds. Half of the drainage area is in Accomack County, VA, including the town of Chincoteague. Tributaries include Paw Paw Creek, Tanhouse Creek, and Swans Gut Creek in Worcester County. The villages of Girdletree and Stockton are also within the watershed. Close to half of the watershed is forested. Ten wetlands of special state concern are in the watershed. These are sites of populations of rare, threatened, and endangered species. The bay's importance to migrating waterfowl is noted on an international level.



Assawoman Bay's watershed includes both Worcester County MD and Sussex County DE, with over 40% of the drainage in Delaware. The northern half of Ocean City drains to Assawoman Bay. Greys Creek is the primary tributary that drains into Assawoman Bay. Worcester County completed a watershed plan for Assawoman Bay in 2019 that makes the watershed eligible for federal grants for restoration projects.

Isle of Wight Bay's watershed includes the St. Martin River subwatershed and drains from both Worcester and Sussex counties, with nearly 15% of the watershed in Delaware. It is the second-largest bay and drainage of the five Coastal Bays, and includes Manklin Creek, Herring Creek, Turville Creek, St. Martin River, Bishopville Prong, and Shingle Landing Prong. The community of Ocean Pines, the southern half of Ocean City, and West Ocean City drain to this Bay.

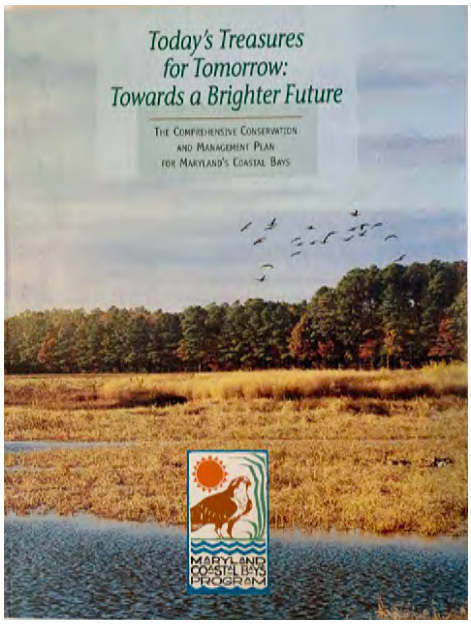
Sinepuxent Bay's watershed includes northern Assateague Island and a narrow strip of the mainland south of Route 50, including the Route 611 corridor and land to the east. It is the smallest of the five Coastal Bays subwatersheds. The bay receives considerable oceanic flushing from the Ocean City inlet.

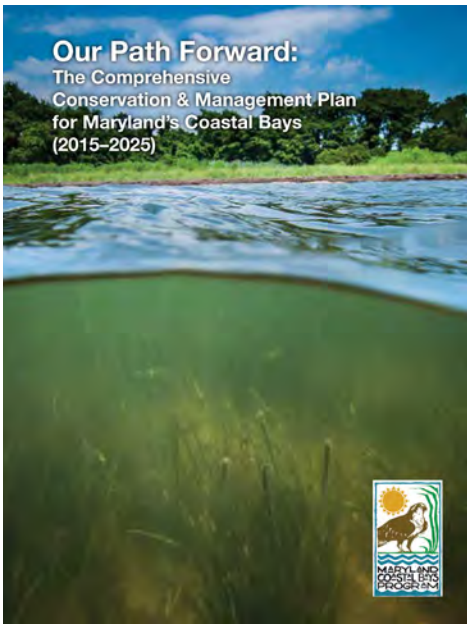
What is a Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan?

Each estuary program works within its community to develop a Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP) designed to protect water quality, habitat, and living resources within its watershed. The CCMP is uniquely tailored to the local environmental conditions and is based on input by local, city, state, federal, private, and non-profit stakeholders, thereby supporting local priorities.

The CCMP provides a long-term framework for action. Actions within the CCMP that inform the annual MCBP workplan specify partners responsible for successful implementation. The Plan also names periods for completion, range of potential costs, milestones for completion, and performance measures to provide intended results. In addition, the CCMP includes critical components for monitoring along with strategies for Finance, Habitat Protection/Restoration, and Communication/Outreach.

EPA describes the CCMP as a critical part of the NEP model of adaptive management, suggesting a continual process of integrating new data and results. As such, there are provisions within the EPA guidance for both updating (minor changes) and revising (major changes) to the CCMP.





Revising the CCMP

The 2025 CCMP is the third in a series of original and revised CCMPs designed to guide the MCBP since its nomination to the NEP in 1995. The first CCMP process began in 1996 with a widely expanded membership of the Management Conference to include not only the Policy Committee, but also a Management Committee (later to become the Implementation Committee), Interested Parties and Citizens Advisory Committees (CAC), Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), and MCBP staff. Their hard work culminated in a draft plan in June 1999 and was published in 2000.

The 2000 CCMP was revised in 2015, after a three-year process of engaging stakeholders to define the most significant issues related to water quality and environmental health of the watershed. This plan was also a compilation of management recommendations from local, state, and federal partners and the public, approved by EPA and including four plans, 15 goals, 33 challenges, and 222 actions to guide watershed management efforts for the next ten years.

As a "living document" it is EPA's expectation that the CCMP be re-examined and revised on a regular basis. Several criteria to decide the necessity for revision to the 2015 Plan include the significance of new CCMP goals, latest information obtained through study and monitoring, and a 10-year time span since the earlier CCMP. EPA has issued FY 2021 – FY 2024 CLEAN WATER ACT §320 NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM FUNDING GUIDANCE Appendix 5 - NEP Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan Revision and Update Guidelines for revisions to an existing CCMP for all NEP organizations. The MCBP has paid close attention to that guidance in the revision of the 2015 plan.

Priorities and goals that have changed significantly during the 10-year period 2015–2025 to include the embrace of resiliency planning throughout the watershed. MCBP has also developed a robust environmental literacy element to the program efforts through education at all levels, communication, outreach, and engagement for all watershed residents and visitors.

In 2020, MCBP completed a midpoint assessment of the 2015 CCMP that was approved by the EPA. The goal of the midpoint assessment was to characterize progress made toward completing CCMP actions, and consider if incomplete activities should be changed, more resources added, continued as is, or discontinued. The full results of the report provided a solid foundation for the CCMP revision process. The assessment process also provided a renewed interest and understanding among the partners of their respective and collective commitments and responsibilities under the CCMP.

During the 10-year period of the 2015 CCMP, there were two Program Evaluations conducted by EPA of MCBP. The primary purpose of the evaluations, jointly conducted by EPA Region 3 and Headquarters NEP staff, was to decide if the 28 member NEPs are making continuous progress implementing their CCMPs. In 2019 and 2024, EPA determined that MCBP had made significant progress in implementing the CCMP. Each evaluation summarized program strengths and indicated where programs could improve and grow. It was through the Program Evaluation that Coastal Resiliency was identified as an area to increase capacity during the 2025–2035 period. The evaluation process also recommended building effective strategies for broader community engagement.

EPA offered additional funding opportunities over the past decade for projects that addressed resilient infrastructure and clean water concerns. This funding has provided MCBP with a host of important projects to design, complete, and in some cases launch new program partnerships that will carry over into the 2025 CCMP and beyond.

The program science strategies, guided through the STAC, have produced two comprehensive State of the Bay Reports in 2016 and 2022. In addition, annual Report Cards on the health of the bays are created using environmental indicators developed through a body of strong science in monitoring, data collection and synthesis. In partnership with University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, MCBP has made the results of these key assessments an important part of the revision in the 2025 CCMP.

The revision to the 2015 CCMP began in June 2022 during a meeting with EPA Headquarters and Region 3 representatives to lay out a path forward and timeline for the CCMP project. After discussion of the EPA checklist for CCMP revision and identified priorities, it was determined that the project should proceed with frequent participation and updates for EPA and all Management Conference members.

MCBP conducted a review of other recently completed CCMP documents to evaluate structure, design, content, and conformance with EPA criteria. The CCMPs reviewed included Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, Barnegat Bay Partnership, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Peconic Bay Estuary, and Coastal and Heartland NEP. MCBP reached out to NEP representatives of several of the organizations as well to document the experience they had in the development of these plans. This step was critical in setting a course for the MCBP revision process.

Next steps included a series of brainstorming sessions with MCBP leadership and staff in the fall of 2022 to consider a revised set of primary Themes for the MCBP CCMP and how to identify those with new priorities, while maintaining the identity of current program effort.

With a range of options presented from other CCMP recently completed, along with new ideas shared by the group, the 4 Themes for the revised CCMP were drafted as Provide Healthy Waters; Protect Fish, Wildlife and their Habitat; Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems; and Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships. Staff were encouraged to consider Goals that fit the Theme for their respective areas of expertise and draft Goals were identified.

MCBP staff and consultant presenting draft CCMP to Science and Technical Advisory Committee.

Further conversations with EPA were held to benchmark initial progress, and to ensure the path for development of document structure, outline of narrative content, creation of revised Themes, Goals, and Actions, and partner input and engagement were all sound approaches.

In early 2024, document version 1.0 was created using the following steps: 1) Solicit broad ideas for revised Themes and Goals and draft those in place; 2) Crosswalk previous Actions (completed, in-progress and not initiated) with revised Themes and Goals to begin adding those Actions to the draft outline; 3) Engage STAC and IC in progress to date; 4) Identify new or heightened areas of focus and determine how to integrate those into a prioritization for inclusion into the CCMP (Resilience, Environmental Education, Habitat Restoration); 5) Develop new Actions around any updated focus areas and revise skeleton draft; and 6) Identify areas to be discontinued or lessened in the number of Goals and Actions.

Simultaneously, work began with a cooperative agreement with the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Integration and Application Network (UMCES-IAN) for the design, layout, and communication of the information produced in the revised CCMP.

During the summer and fall of 2023, Themes, Goals, and Actions content V. 1.0 was sent out to MCBP partners for agency review as well as the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and the Implementation Committee (IC). The reinvigorated Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) was also introduced to the revision process and began their evaluation of the initial changes.

A follow-up meeting with EPA in September of 2023, indicated support for the direction the revision was heading, with positive comments on the process, and especially the effort related to the involvement of stakeholders and the public. EPA also evaluated the Themes as drafted and said that they reflected well on the components of the EPA Program Evaluation.

At this meeting, MCBP noted that the revised CCMP would be significantly informed by the need for resilience planning. This would include addressing the effects of recurring extreme weather events on the estuary through the identification and assessment of vulnerabilities in the watershed.

The MCBP completed an EPA-approved Vulnerability Assessment in 2017. The Vulnerability Assessment utilized a risk-based approach to consider future weather-related impacts and identify how these factors, and their associated consequences, would affect CCMP Themes, Goals and Actions. This assessment was shared with the partners through the Science and Technical Advisory Committee, the Implementation Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee. Two public meetings were also held to provide the public at large with an opportunity to understand how this assessment was conducted and provide them with an opportunity for comment. This assessment led to the development of an Adaptation Action Plan completed in 2024. These two documents were instrumental in informing changes to the CCMP revision process so that these Themes, Goals and Actions are aligned for the future. Like the CCMP itself, the Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Action Plan will be updated as needed based on data-driven science and will feed into all CCMP Actions and Workplans as appropriate.

MCBP Public Input Meeting flyer.

From fall and winter of 2023, online and in-person meetings were held and the program received over 300 comments from 15 agency partners, MCBP staff, Board, and Committees. These comments formed the basis for V. 2.0. As a result, 23 new Actions were added, 52 Actions discontinued or combined, and 126 Actions carried over in the revision. Work progressed to add the required elements to the draft Actions and in June 2024, the full draft of V. 2.0 was sent for review to the full complement of partners and agencies for review.

Concurrently, MCBP conducted outreach to the public, key stakeholders, and public officials soliciting input for the revised CCMP. This included an online questionnaire, a series of public input sessions in locations across the watershed, and briefings with County and municipal policymakers. Comments from agency partners and input from these outreach activities were reviewed and incorporated into the draft of the Themes, Goals and Actions in the CCMP. This draft, along with the narrative sections of the revised Plan authored by MCBP staff and consultants, were compiled and submitted to EPA, partners, the public, and Management Conference committees for a final round of review and comment. This last review period culminated in the complete published CCMP document that will guide MCBP and partner efforts for the 2025–2035 period.

Updates from the 2015 CCMP to the 2025 CCMP

In revising the 2015 CCMP, MCBP was intentional in the decision to be forward leaning in the program priorities while building on the successful implementation of the current CCMP. Many of EPA's identified important areas for concentrating future program resources such as building innovative resiliency in community projects and policies, and reaching a broader cross-section of the watershed community are already being implemented through the current workplans.

The 2025 CCMP provides an opportunity to add strength to the identity of those priorities, and to ensure that their implementation continues during these next ten years. As well, MCBP recognizes the need for additional grant resources for ecological enhancements for bird habitat, improving marsh health, water quality improvements, and shoreline restoration requiring a partnership approach with multi-level investments for success.

The four Plans in the 2015 CCMP: Water Quality, Fish and Wildlife, Recreation and Navigation, and Community and Economic Development, have shifted to a more action-oriented emphasis to better represent the current and future 10-year priorities. Water Quality is steadfast in importance, and the 2025 Theme of Provide Healthy Waters is a statement of need for overall ecosystem health. Fish and Wildlife is now represented in a Theme for Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Their Habitat. It is important to recognize that a healthy habitat is vital for living resources in the Coastal Bays.

Two Plans prominent in the 2015 CCMP, Recreation and Navigation, and Community and Economic Development are not lost in the revision. Their implementation is now being brought into the broader Themes of "Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems" and "Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships." Resilient community actions, such as beneficial use of dredged materials, are planned for the next ten years in the CCMP that will improve navigation and recreation opportunities in the bays, continue building for future challenges, and confirm that economic vitality is connected to a healthy ecosystem.

"Developing Public Engagement and Partnerships" as a Theme creates synergy for all the Goals and Actions in the 2025 CCMP. It will take a new level of education and outreach, from school and classroom learning to citizen action, to continue to meet the challenges for the bays in the next 10 years. Partnerships among federal, state, and local agencies working together, perhaps in ways not done in the past, will be necessary to fund, build and monitor natural infrastructure well beyond the period of the revised Plan.

The 2025 CCMP also streamlines the approach to implementation in a way that improves the 2015 Plan. Themes, Goals, and Actions now directly feed into the Annual Workplan so that each year, along with the added Strategies for Monitoring, Finance, Habitat and Communication, the Annual Workplan stays current and on-target for strong impacts toward the conservation and restoration of the bays.

2015 CCMP	2025 CCMP
4 Action Plans	**4 Themes**
Water Quality	Provide Healthy Waters
Fish and Wildlife	Protect Fish, Wildlife and Their Habitat
Recreation and Navigation	Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems
Community and Economic Development	Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships

CCMP 2015–2025: Ten Years of Action

Implementation of the CCMP Actions during the past decade has been very successful. Based on an interim assessment conducted several years ago, more than 50% (114) of the 222 Actions had been completed or were achieving their main activities and operating on an ongoing basis. Only about 10% (21) of the 222 Actions had yet to be initiated, and only 5 Actions were slated to be removed due to their lack of current relevance, utility, or feasibility.

Resources for CCMP Action implementation have been primarily provided through annual grants to MCBP from EPA administered Clean Water Act funding; federal, state and local partner budgets; and project-specific grants from public and private sources.

Below is a summary of some of the significant activities undertaken and accomplishments during this period.

MCBP staff conducting stream water quality monitoring.

Water Quality

- Coastal Bays health, as measured in the annual Report Card, is defined as the progress of four water quality indicators (nitrogen, phosphorus, chlorophyll a, and dissolved oxygen) and two biotic indicators (seagrass and hard clams) toward scientifically derived ecological thresholds or goals. Since 2015, the overall grade for the health of the bays has held steady between a C+ and a B-, with the C+ earned in 2017 and 2022.
- In August of 2014, EPA approved the new TMDL for nitrogen and phosphorus for the Worcester County, MD portion of the Coastal Bays watershed. The sources of impairment in the watershed include some limited point sources (municipal wastewater treatment plants, spray irrigation facilities, concentrated animal feeding operations). These discharges have been dramatically reduced, including the removal of several significant point sources in Berlin and on Assateague Island reducing discharges by more than 1.3 million gallons per day. No new direct point source discharges are allowed according to Worcester County statute.
- Nonpoint sources are the primary concern, including runoff from urban and agricultural land; on-site wastewater disposal (septic) systems; atmospheric deposition; and ditch and stream channel erosion. Efforts to monitor and address these sources have included:
- Ongoing annual water quality monitoring activities are conducted by MCBP staff and volunteers, Maryland DNR, and Assateague Island National Seashore. The resulting data is synthesized into the annual Report Cards and the State of the Bays reports.
- Monitoring of harmful algal blooms (HABs), including Brown Tide, on an ongoing basis by DNR with assistance from MCBP, local partners and, beginning in 2024, trained volunteers.
- Installation of two new continuous water quality monitoring stations in tidal waters to replace non-functioning stations.
- Completion of a draft Maryland Coastal Bays Watershed Plan in 2017 establishing strategies for reducing pollutant loads from nonpoint sources. Only the Assawoman Bay portion of the Plan has been approved by EPA to date, and efforts to secure approval for the remaining watersheds will be a priority focus in the new CCMP term.
- Completion of two assessment studies to identify and prioritize site-specific conservation and restoration project opportunities to reduce nonpoint source nutrient inputs from urban, agricultural, and coastal-based sources.
- Installation of enhanced stormwater management facilities in Berlin, Ocean Pines, and Ocean City to improve water quality and reduce flooding to downstream communities.
- Significant progress by Worcester County in increasing sewer connections, particularly in the Rt. 611 and Rt. 589 corridors, coupled with septic system pretreatment upgrades in non-sewered areas.
- Reduction and enhanced treatment of runoff from agricultural lands from implementation of nutrient management plans, including installation of best management practices (BMPs) such as buffers and cover crops.
- MCBP has completed one, and will soon complete a second, non-tidal wetland restoration on non-productive agricultural properties designed to capture and treat nutrient-laden runoff (see full story on page 12).

Maryland DNR's Steve Doctor assisting with Horseshoe Crab Spawning Survey.

Fish and Wildlife

- Monitoring and habitat conservation/restoration for imperiled bird populations, with special focus on colonial waterbird species reliant on bay islands for nesting habitat (see full story on page 12).
- Identification, prioritization, and restoration of degraded saltwater marsh habitat in partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, DNR, Audubon, Lower Shore Land Trust, and others to address shoreline erosion and interior ponding.
- Monitoring, maintaining, and enhancing terrestrial and shoreline habitat in restoration sites managed by MCBP.
- Ongoing monitoring of finfish and shellfish species for population assessment and commercial and recreational fisheries management.
- Monitoring and promotion of responsible local aquaculture industry.
- Annual surveys of horseshoe crab and diamondback terrapin populations using volunteer community scientists.
- Ongoing management of an Oyster Gardening initiative engaging volunteers to grow more than 43,000 oysters in cages off their personal docks, which are then deployed on an underwater reef in the St. Martin River.

Trail map for Ilia Fehrer Nature Preserve.

Recreation and Navigation

- Ongoing dredging of navigational channels and offshore ocean bottom for beach replenishment in Ocean City and shoreline stabilization on Assateague Island. Dredge material from an upland storage facility was also used for the Selsey Road Resiliency Project in West Ocean City.
- Development of sediment management plan to encourage and facilitate new focus on "dredging for restoration" and to better balance timing and location of dredging activity with need for material on island, marsh, and shoreline restoration projects.
- Facilitating and supporting enhanced access to watershed features and restoration sites for recreational and educational activities, including water access and trail development.
- Promoting and organizing litter prevention and cleanup initiatives, including source reduction/cigarette butt upcycling in Ocean City and marine debris collection events (see full story on page 13).

MCBP staff conducting marsh assessment.

Community and Economic Development

- Published Economic Value of the Maryland Coastal Bays Watershed study to demonstrate that the watershed provides real and significant economic benefits to the regional economy and is worthy of investment to keep these natural resources healthy and productive.
- Supported and implemented land conservation programs resulting in the protection of hundreds of acres in the watershed and realized the establishment of a second Rural Legacy Area within the Coastal Bays Watershed in the Bishopville-Showell area.
- Ongoing outreach and communications with stakeholders from all sectors of the community, including residents, visitors, businesses and policymakers to inform them about environmental achievements, opportunities, and challenges in the watershed.
- Increasingly robust and diverse education programming reaching schools and the community to increase environmental literacy with particular focus on Coastal Bays ecology (see full story on page 13).
- Engaged community in a broad range of citizen science opportunities, including wildlife surveys and restoration site maintenance/enhancement activities to promote community understanding and stewardship.
- Planned and designed eight major resilience restoration projects: three completed (Assateague State Park Shoreline, Bainbridge Pond in Ocean Pines, and Selsey Road in West Ocean City), four awaiting construction permits (Tizzard Island, Reedy Island, Jenkins Point, Sinepuxent South Shoreline), and one shelved due to property owner concerns (Big Millpond).
- Developed and initiated implementation of an outreach strategy presenting the strategies, projects, and activities through which MCBP and partners would seek to identify and respond to the needs and interests of a broadened range of populations in the watershed.

Water Quality: Reducing Nutrient Runoff by Transforming Wet Cornfields into Wetland Habitat

Nutrient-laden runoff from agricultural fields is a major source of water quality impairment in the Coastal Bays. At the same time, poor drainage conditions exacerbated by increasing storm events and sea level rise is rendering significant areas of farm fields unproductive due to wet soils and saltwater intrusion.

A win-win-win solution to this confluence of events is the use of government cost-share payments to property owners to support the creation or restoration of wetlands on unprofitable sections of agricultural properties, providing for the storage and filtration of runoff, and creating habitat for wildlife dispossessed by farm fields and development sprawl.

In 2020, MCBP reached out to a property owner in the Church Branch watershed which drains into Isle of Wight Bay to explore possible nutrient reduction opportunities on his farm. Two years later, the farmer invited staff to visit his property to see what could be done to resolve drainage issues on perpetually wet sections of his land. This led to the design of a series of connected nontidal wetlands which was installed in 2024 with a combination of federal cost-share and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding. The results: improved drainage, reduced nutrient runoff, and an oasis for wildlife.

The hope is that this project will be a model for other farmers interested in pursuing a similar triple-win solution on their properties; a hope already bearing fruit with a commitment by a neighboring property to replicate the project later in 2025!

Aerial view of completed wetland. Photo by MCBP staff.

Fish and Wildlife: Build an Island…Terns Will Come

Between 1990 and 2020 the number of State-Endangered Common Tern pairs nesting in the Coastal Bays fell from over 1,000 to approximately 35. This precipitous decline is the direct result of the coincident loss of suitable sand island habitat due to erosion and sea level rise. After efforts to restore bay islands with dredge material from 2014 to 2016 were literally washed away by 2017, MCBP in partnership with Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Audubon elected to pursue a dramatic alternative strategy: build and deploy a floating nesting platform to attract and protect these nesting Terns.

And the results have been astoundingly successful! In the first year it was deployed in 2021, the platform hosted 23 nests from which 22 chicks were safely fledged. Buoyed by this initial success, a larger platform was deployed the following year, yielding 155 nests in 2022, 322 nests in 2023, and 304 nests to in 2024, hosting the largest breeding colony of Common Terns in the State. Despite this bountiful record, the artificial island is recognized as a short-term, stopgap measure. The only viable long-term solution is the creation or restoration of "natural" island habitat designed for sustainability in the face of storm-induced erosion and sea level rise.

Expanded floating tern raft as deployed in 2024.
Photo by MCBP staff.

Recreation and Navigation: Preventing and Removing Litter and Marine Debris: Whether from Land or Sea

During the early years of the CCMP term, MCBP partnered with Ocean City and Ocean City Surf Club on beach and neighborhood litter collection programs engaging volunteers in the collection and disposal of tons of litter. A major source reduction and cigarette butt collection initiative called "Protect Our Sand & Sea" was implemented in partnership with the Town of Ocean City from 2019-20. The source reduction component focused on engaging the Town's restaurant/hotel industry in the reduced use of single-use plastic and styrofoam products. The cigarette litter collection component included the deployment of cigarette "Butt Hut" collection receptacles in targeted sites around the Town and the subsequent shipping of collections to an entity that upcycled the butts into various products including benches, some of which were placed in the Town. This component yielded the collection of approximately 500,000 cigarette butts.

More recently, MCBP refocused its efforts on marine debris collection. This effort has been built on the earlier "Ghost Pot" collection project partnering with local watermen in the retrieval of abandoned commercial and recreational crab pots in the Coastal Bays.

These activities evolved in 2022 into an ongoing series of pirate-themed marine debris collection events called "Marine Debris Plunder" engaging community volunteers together with local watermen in the collection of marine debris from the water and land. The 2022-23 events featured the participation of 293 community volunteers and the collection of more than 3,000 pounds of debris from Coastal Bays waterways and shorelines.

Community volunteers' Marine Debris Plunder treasure boat. Photo by MCBP staff.

Community and Economic Development: Environmental Education During COVID: Bringing the Outside In

The COVID 19 pandemic created major barriers for the delivery of environmental education, particularly given the experiential learning focus of these services. The MCBP team, with critical funding support from the Community Foundation for the Eastern Shore, rose to these challenges with extraordinary innovation and creativity.

The pandemic challenged staff to keep children engaged in the process of learning. Kids were stuck at home with video screens as their gateway to the world. MCBP developed virtual learning modules for students, parents, and teachers that delivered online lessons and companion "resource kits" paired with outdoor activities that could be undertaken from the safety of their neighborhoods.

Examples of these learning modules included:

Journey Up the Coast: A Virtual Exploration of the Coastal and Inland Bays—A two-day virtual tour of these adjacent watersheds for 8–12-year-olds with follow-up in-person field experiences reaching 45 students.

Virtual After-School program—A nine session weekly online program for 10 Berlin Intermediate School students focused on Coastal Bays environmental challenges.

Virtual Service Presentations—Online program providing safe project ideas and guidance for 360 8th graders needing to complete community service requirement.

Give A Day for the Bays—Monthly program reaching more than 200 adults and their families providing suggestions and coaching on opportunities for "giving back" to the watershed through practical outdoor activities.

Resource Kit provided to students participating in COVID-19 era virtual learning program. Photo by Liz Wist.

Ten Years of Data: What We've Learned About the Bays

Long-Term Monitoring of Coastal Bays Health

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) has been working with its partners to maintain a statistically robust and repeatable monitoring program that can be used to track general environmental conditions over the long term. The directed monitoring efforts use four water quality indicators (nitrogen, phosphorus, chlorophyll a, and dissolved oxygen) and two biotic indicators (seagrass and hard clams) to assess the overall health of the bays. These indicators are assessed using science-based ecological thresholds and management goals to understand current conditions and track progress in Coastal Bays health. Indicators are collected by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the National Park Service (NPS), MCBP, and Virginia Institute for Marine Science (VIMS), and data are conveyed to the public through annual report cards coordinated by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences (UMCES).

Health scores generally improved over the past ten years (Figure 1). However, the improvement was relatively small, with the overall score increasing from 59% in 2014 to 64% in 2023. While overall health scores generally improved in each bay, the St. Martin River and Newport Bay consistently scored lower than other areas. In contrast, Sinepuxent Bay always scored the highest.

The highest-scoring indicators were nitrogen and chlorophyll a. Scores for other indicators were considerably lower, and biological health in the bays continues to struggle. Especially disappointing was the demise of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the northern bays by 2014, with only minor improvement in Chincoteague Bay (Figure 2). Additionally, increases in clam densities in the northern bays were offset by relatively low densities in Chincoteague Bay (Figure 3).

Long-Term Monitoring of Fisheries

DNR Fisheries maintains a long-term monitoring program that tracks fin fish, shellfish and macroalgal abundance. Sampling results were highly variable and showed no clear trends, but clearly illustrated the complex nature of the bays as an important nursery for a wide variety of recreationally and commercially important species.

Focused Research Projects are Vital to Coastal Bays Management

Monitoring data were also collected for a specific purpose or project and reflect a snapshot of conditions. Results of these efforts are compiled and presented every five years in the State of the Bays Report, which is a user-friendly summary of research projects. Many of these projects have provided critical information that has improved our understanding of the Coastal Bays and directly informed management. Below, we highlight some examples to illustrate the importance of these research efforts for the Coastal Bays.

Documenting Successful Restoration

The Lizard Hill seepage wetland project was completed in 2014. This project converted an abandoned gravel mine to a sand seepage wetland supporting an Atlantic white cedar bog community. The wetland intercepts agricultural runoff from entering Bunting Branch, a tributary of the St. Martin River. It also serves as an important habitat for a number of wetland dependent species and contributes to carbon sequestration, which is a globally important function. Water quality monitoring at the Lizard Hill seepage wetland has documented over 9,500 lbs of nitrogen removal since its completion in 2014. This water quality monitoring is essential for showing the importance and understanding the benefits of wetland restoration projects.

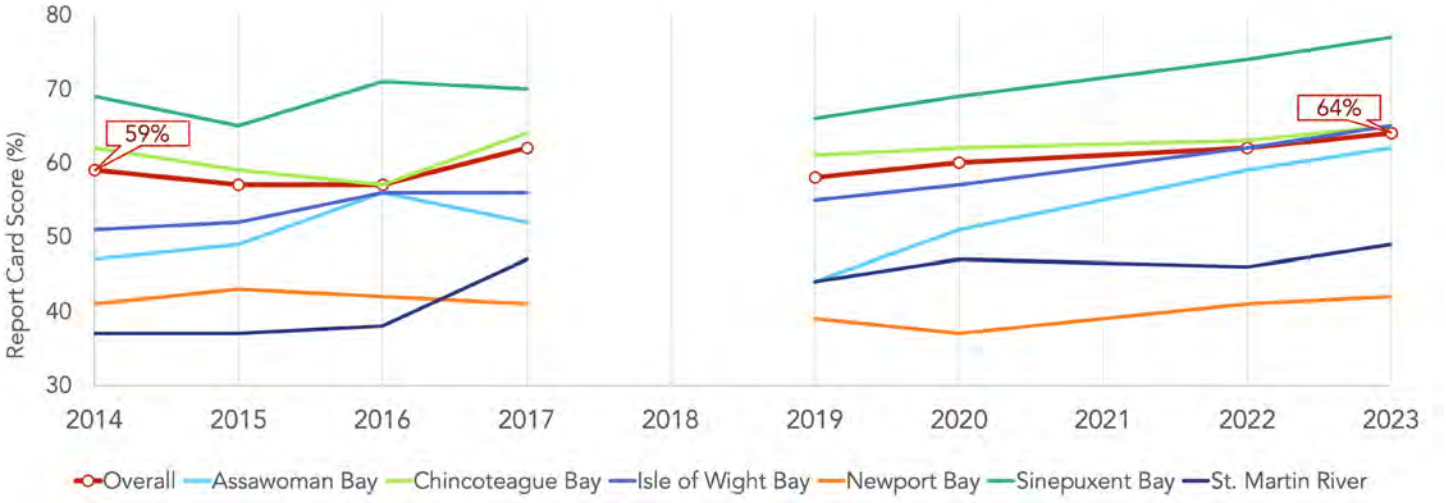


Figure 1. Report card scores for overall and individual bay health. The 2018 Report Card scores were incomplete due to no SAV or clam surveys conducted that year.

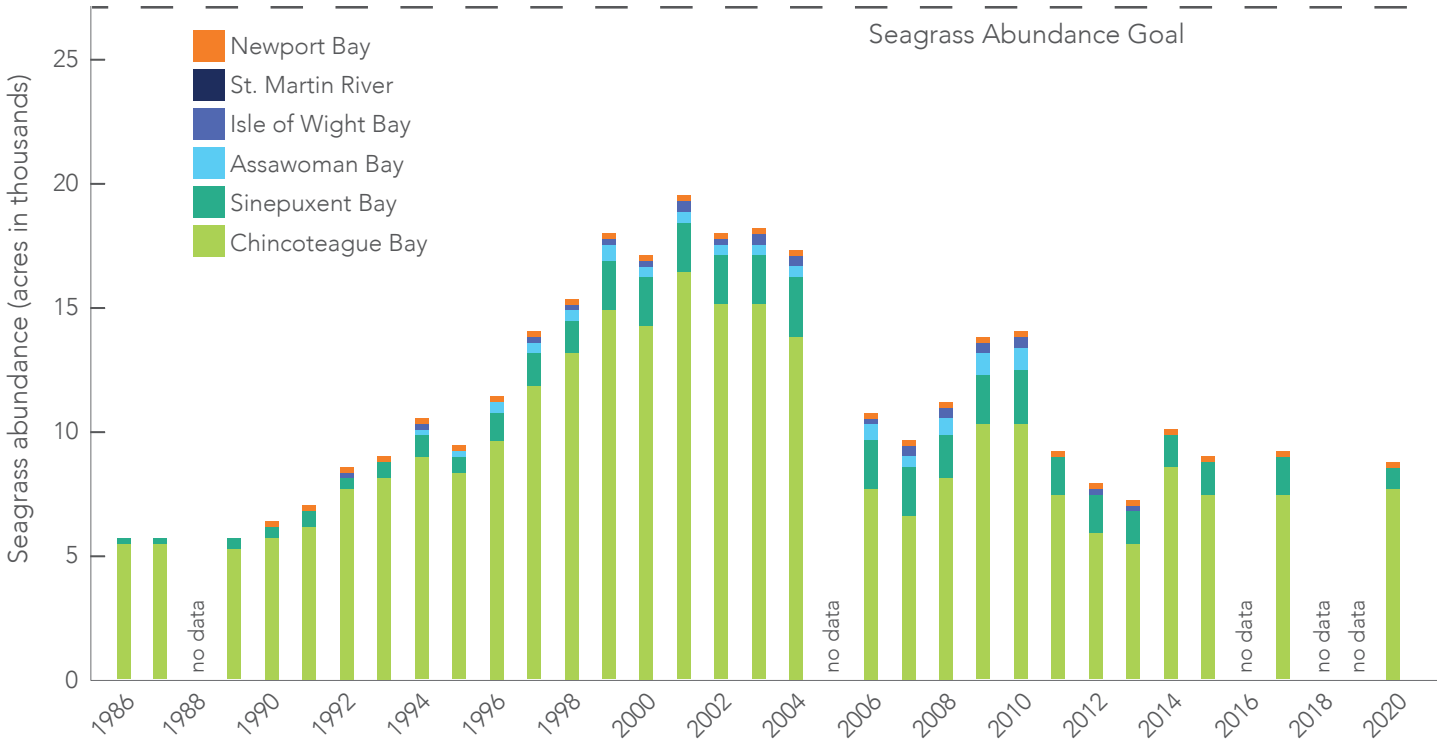


Figure 2. Annual seagrass abundance (acres) vs. seagrass goal. Data from Virginia Institute of Marine Science survey. Recent weather events and poor water clarity have prevented the aerial survey from occurring in 2016, 2018, and 2019.

Improving Habitat Connectivity

Stream connectivity is important in coastal areas to provide access to freshwater spawning areas for a number of fish species that live in salt or brackish water. Monitoring data indicated that the dam at Bishopville on the St. Martin River, the largest freshwater flow into the Coastal Bays, prevented upstream migration for fishes except for American eel. Migrating species such as alewife, white perch and gizzard shad were prevented from moving to upstream freshwater spawning areas. An innovative design featuring natural weirs and step pools replaced the 150-year-old dam in 2014, allowing for fish passage yet maintaining the historic mill pond. Subsequent monitoring documented passage of alewife, white perch and gizzard shad.

Documenting Declining Habitat for Birds Informs Restoration

Monitoring tidal marshes and islands by DNR, Audubon and MCBP revealed significant declines in marsh and island dependent bird species. The decline was associated with tidal marsh and island loss attributed to natural hazards such as sea level rise and increased storminess. Innovative methods of evaluating marshes based on the degree of interior flooding of the marsh were developed by the U.S. Geological Survey and are being used to target restoration practices spearheaded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Island restoration is a top priority for future sediment management planning by MCBP, Audubon, and local, state and federal agency personnel.

Emerging Monitoring Issues

Elevated nutrient levels were recently found with the presence of bloom-forming harmful algal species offshore. This indicates a change in the species composition that is cause for concern and should be used as a baseline for future phytoplankton community analyses and thus supporting coastal monitoring programs (Wolny *et al.* 2024). In another recent study, the presence of endocrine disruptors in fish and sediment in the Coastal Bays were found, highlighting the need for monitoring of emergent contaminants (Ali *et al.* 2022).

Challenges to future monitoring efforts include increasing costs of continuing to maintain long-term sampling programs, incorporating new technologies that need to dovetail with existing but dated technology, and taking on additional monitoring duties as emerging issues and contaminants become known.

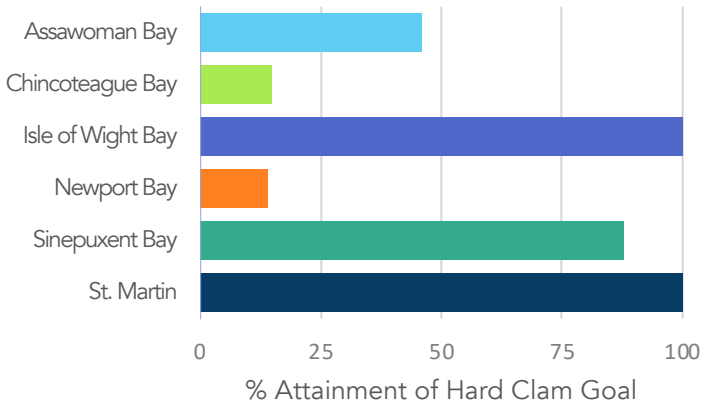


Figure 3 (right). January 2024 progress towards clam density goals. St. Martin River and Isle of Wight Bay not only met but exceeded their hard clam goals, but Chincoteague Bay and Newport Bay continue to score poorly. Data courtesy of MD DNR.

MCBP Management Conference

Led by a Policy Committee composed of federal (EPA, National Park Service), state (Departments of Environment, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Planning) and local (Worcester County, Berlin and Ocean City) government entities and guided by the Foundation Board, Implementation, Science and Technical Advisory and Citizens Advisory committees, this framework has governed and guided MCBP through 29 years of service. (See Management Conference organizational chart below.)

The Management Conference (MC) serves to review and approve annual workplans and budgets, provides guidance on programmatic focus, priorities, projects and activities, and assists in identifying and navigating trends, opportunities and challenges faced by the Program.

The original CCMP for the Coastal Bays identifies an organizational structure dependent on improving efficiency, being consensus driven, and increasing opportunities for citizen involvement. This organizational connection among the various Committees has served MCBP well for over 29 years of program implementation.

The Policy Committee (PC) is a network of governmental and community leadership at the highest-level working to achieve the goals of MCBP. This Committee was originally identified as central for providing broad policy direction for the program, approving priorities for CCMP implementation, seeking and developing funding sources to conduct the CCMP, and approving changes that further the goals of the CCMP.

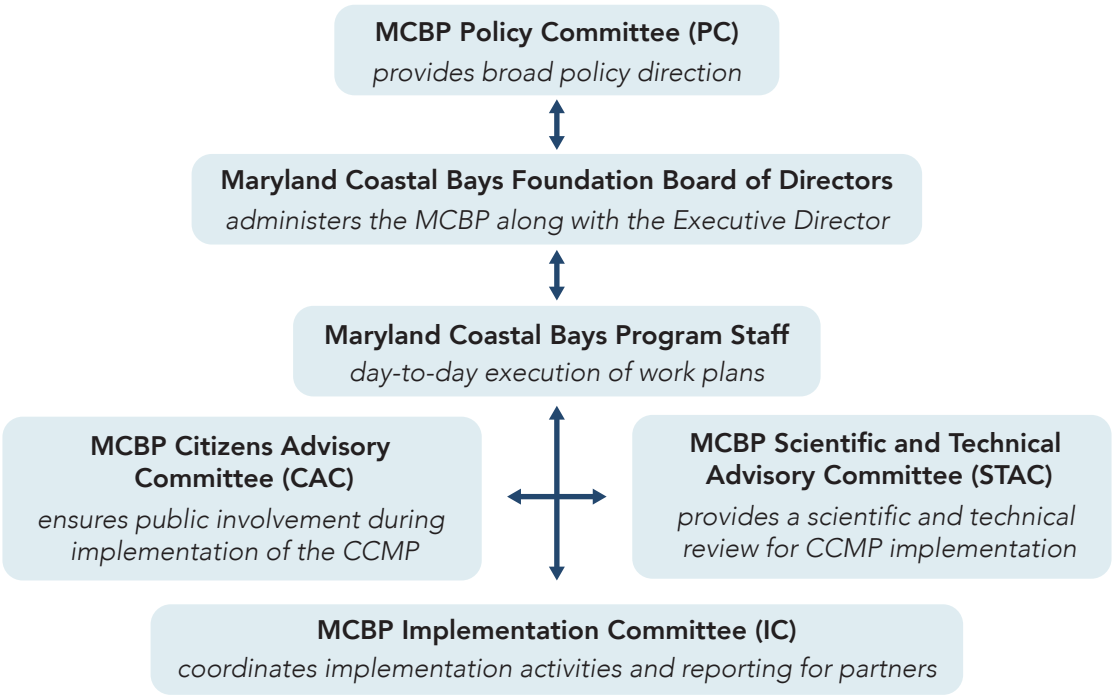
This committee meets annually and provides a forum for bay-related issues to be discussed providing resource officials and the public with information necessary to make informed decisions about the management of the Coastal Bays.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Foundation is the non-profit organization responsible for the administration of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. The Foundation establishes fiscal and administrative policies necessary to manage MCBP. It also oversees the development of the annual workplan and has budgetary oversight for MCBP programs. The Board of Directors guides organizational growth to support and implement the long-term management plan for use and enhancement of the natural resources of Maryland Coastal Bays and the associated watershed.

The Board of Directors meets quarterly along with the Executive Director to review finances, program accomplishments, discuss progress on current initiatives and conduct business throughout the fiscal year. Staff are invited on a rotating basis to present their work on various CCMP related programs and projects to allow the Board to stay informed.

The MCBP Program staff are divided into five sections: Administrative, Science and Restoration, Education and Outreach, Development and Communications and Watershed Management. The program staff is augmented throughout the year with interns, special limited hires through programs such as the Chesapeake Conservation Corps, and seasonal staff.

Management Conference Organizational Chart



Led by the Executive Director, who works directly with the Foundation Board, the staff is responsible for conducting the actions within all program workplans. In cooperation with program partners and committees, staff interaction is interwoven in all aspects of CCMP implementation.

The Executive Director is also the liaison between the Board and staff regarding program policies and procedures.

The Implementation Committee is a standing committee comprised of partner organizations and federal, state, and local agencies who directly fulfill the goals and actions of the CCMP.

Through regular meetings (2–3 times a year), this committee discusses progress and oversees implementation of the CCMP. The Committee develops the implementation tracking reports provided to MCBP for the purpose of reporting progress to the public and Policy Committee.

MCBP staff are engaged with many of the programs and projects undertaken within the Implementation Committee, and this relationship helps to coordinate activities and ensure that progress is evaluated for CCMP milestones and performance measures.

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) is comprised of the region's natural resource managers, practitioners and scientists and is responsible for providing a sound scientific basis for program direction. Through STAC, semi-annual meetings are held where the staff and STAC work together with input from the IC and CAC on development of a science agenda and related workplans. These coordinated efforts move the program forward with research and monitoring, as well as completing projects aimed at improving water quality and habitat restoration throughout the Coastal Bays.

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) includes various stakeholders in the watershed interested in furthering the goals of the Coastal Bays Program. Local fisherman, developers, golf course professionals, business owners, community associations, recreational bay users, farmers and environmentalists work together for the same outcomes to protect the Coastal Bays. The CAC coordinates with the MCBP Executive Director, program staff liaison as well as a Board representative to ensure public involvement during implementation of the CCMP.

Regular meetings (2–3 times a year) of the CAC also provide a forum for discussion about citizen involvement in outreach efforts, environmental advocacy, and areas of legislative interest.

MCBP Management Conference is led by the Policy Committee composed of partner agency leadership. Photo by MCBP staff.

Management Agreement

Whereas, Maryland's Coastal Bays are a treasured national resource and should be managed and protected for current and future generations; and

Whereas, Maryland Coastal Bays Program is one of 28 National Estuary Programs recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency as a place-based program to protect and restore the water quality and ecological integrity of estuaries of national significance; and

Whereas, The Maryland Coastal Bays watershed is affected by actions in many communities, by activities of many individuals, and by decisions made by many agencies and organizations; and

Whereas, Cooperation and commitments between federal, state and local governments, and other partner organizations is essential to meeting the goals of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and implementing the Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan.

Therefore, The Undersigned hereby resolve to support the Maryland Coastal Bays Program as it oversees CCMP implementation; to endorse the CCMP and its implementation; and to work diligently, to the extent practicable, to implement the actions for which their agency or organization is responsible.

(Placeholders for partner signatures)

Key Local Stakeholders Are Vital to CCMP Implementation

Local watershed stakeholders play a crucial role in the success and sustainability of our Coastal Bays Management Plan. Our stakeholders include a diverse range of individuals and groups, including local communities, government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), school groups, businesses, and citizen volunteers, each contributing unique perspectives and expertise. Our stakeholders provide valuable local knowledge about the conditions, historical changes, and ecological dynamics of our watershed. This expertise is essential for understanding and addressing the challenges we face together.

Over the past ten years, volunteers have dedicated thousands of hours to removing invasive species, participating in trash clean-up campaigns, assisting in outreach events, participating in community science initiatives, and more. Our volunteer community is immeasurably valuable, and the Maryland Coastal Bays Program is grateful to the hundreds of people who have contributed to the success of our organization over the years!

Top: Sun Communities' Castaways education program.
Bottom: Transporting oyster gardeners' harvest to St. Martin River reef.

Since 2009, MCBP has highlighted the amazing work of our stakeholders through Gold Star awards presented in our annual Coastal Bays Report Card publication. Some notable examples from the past ten years are highlighted below.

- 2015: Maryland farmers planted a record-setting 492,244 acres of cover crops as part of the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Cover Crop Program. Cover crops are one of the most economically and environmentally viable ways for farmers to meet nutrient and sediment reduction targets.
- 2016: The Ocean City Reef Foundation has placed almost 15,000 concrete blocks at eight sites offshore of Ocean City, creating artificial reefs that provide habitat to many species. These reefs also benefit fisheries, attracting sport fishes like black sea bass, tautog, and summer flounder.
- 2017: Through a partnership with Sun Communities' Castaways RV Resort and Campground, MCBP's education team has provided free summer programs on Castaway's bayfront beach for over 8 years. These educational seining programs provide hands-on learning opportunities about the Coastal Bays for people of all ages.
- 2018: The Ocean City chapter of the Surfrider Foundation launched the "Strawless Summer" campaign, encouraging restaurants and visitors to go straw-free to reduce the volume of single-use plastic in the waste stream. This initiative kickstarted a multi-year source reduction campaign in Ocean City.
- 2019–2020: Since 2018, the Protectors of the St. Martin River have worked to improve the health of the St. Martin River through oyster gardening. This organization has built oyster cages, donated thousands of oysters to MCBP for restoration, and expanded the oyster gardening community in our watershed.
- 2022: The Worcester County Public Schools (WCPS) have been expanding their environmental literacy plans, incorporating local ecology and challenges into science curricula. WCPS also supports the MCBP high school leadership and career development program: the Worcester Environmental Training, Leadership and Stewardship (WETLANDS) Retreat.
- 2023: Baywater Seafood is the first bay scallop farm in Maryland, and has partnered with MCBP on outreach and education events to raise awareness on the importance of sustainable aquaculture.

Thank You to Our Partners: Ten Years of Collaboration

Effective implementation of the CCMP over the past decade has only been possible through the collaborative effort of many partners led by: federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and National Park Service; Maryland state agencies, including the departments of Natural Resources, Environment, Planning, and Agriculture; local government entities, including Worcester County, Town of Ocean City, Town of Berlin, and Ocean Pines Association; and numerous other public, private, and nonprofit organizations with a stake in the protection and enhancement of the Coastal Bays watershed.

Partner inputs have included dedicated staff time, financial assistance in the form of grants and matching contributions, and other shared resources. Taken together, this collaborative investment in the Coastal Bays has generated significant dividends in terms of clean water, healthy habitats and resilient communities.

Implementation of the new CCMP over the next ten years promises to engage more diverse partners, leverage increased investments, and deliver improved results.

Thank you to our partners for all you have done and all that we will continue to do together!

What to Expect in the Rest of this Document

The 2025 CCMP is presented in a format that highlights each of the 4 Themes, 21 Goals and 124 Actions. The Plan is structured this way to provide an overview of the Themes; Provide Healthy Waters, Protect Fish, Wildlife and Their Habitat, Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems, and Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships. The Themes each offer active descriptions of the intent of the Theme.

The Themes in the revised CCMP are the umbrella under which are placed important Goals and Actions for implementation of the Plan. The Goals and Actions for each Theme vary in number by design and are distinct in how they serve that Theme. It was decided early in the revision process that there would not be a "template" for how many Goals or Actions would be set up under the four Themes. Rather, those components came into place as the document looked forward from the current 2015 CCMP, and how best to carry out the conservation and protection of the Coastal Bays.

As each Goal in the CCMP is described, hopefully it becomes clear to the reader why they were chosen to support each Theme. The Actions for each Goal are listed as well. For brevity and ease of reading, only the Action itself is listed under each Goal. The complete list of required elements for each Action is provided in a table as an Appendix to the CCMP. For each Action in the CCMP, there is included the Responsible Entities, Timeframe and Key Milestones, Cost Range and Funding, and Performance Measures.

Actions in the CCMP are developed to further inform the Annual Workplan for MCBP. When the Workplan is being developed each year, the staff, and Management Conference including all the Committees, are consulted on how to best continue to execute the important Actions in each Goal. EPA has final approval of that workplan each year and reviews for consistency with the CCMP to ensure the workplan reflects that roadmap of MCBP in all areas of its implementation.

Other specific elements of the CCMP that EPA needs to be included either as a Chapter or a separate document, include a Monitoring Plan, Finance Strategy, Habitat Protection/Restoration Strategy and Communication/ Outreach Strategy. They are included as a supplement to the main body of the CCMP.

Included also as a required part, is a crosswalk of CCMP revisions allowing a comparison of the 2015 CCMP to the revised 2025 document. The crosswalk allows the reader to easily see the changes in the two documents in their structure, and how and why changes were made during the revision.

THEME 1

PROVIDE HEALTHY WATERS

Water is the lifeblood of the Coastal Bays. Its network of bays, creeks, and streams define this coastal region. Whether boating, fishing, crabbing, parasailing, or simply laying on a beach, water is the tie that binds the Coastal Bays together. It is no wonder that the quality of water in the Coastal Bays is the most important factor in maintaining a healthy and diverse ecosystem. The Coastal Bays watershed supports vibrant human and biological communities alike, and fuels the State of Maryland's largest tourist economy. The watershed directly or indirectly supports over 50,000 jobs and over $1.5 billion in annual wages. All of this depends on swimmable and fishable waters. In fact, all of the other focal areas of this CCMP—Protect Fish, Wildlife, and their Habitat; Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems; and Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships —depend on this single critical factor.

The greatest threat to water quality is nutrient over-enrichment. Nutrients, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, enter the water column from a wide range of point and non-point sources. Non-point sources include runoff from urban areas, agriculture, septic systems, groundwater, atmospheric deposition, and natural sources such as wetlands, marshes and forests. Point sources include drainage ditches and wastewater treatment plants. Nutrients fuel plants, which in turn feed other organisms such as shellfish, fish, birds, and mammals.

Microscopic plants, phytoplankton, are the base of estuarine food webs. However, elevated concentrations of algae can lead to a reduction in water clarity and dissolved oxygen when the algae respires at night and consumes the oxygen that was created during the day. The oxygen depletion can create unsuitable conditions for organisms such as fish and shellfish.

The Coastal Bays region is expected to experience a continuing increase in precipitation along with an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme storm events. This will undoubtedly lead to more flooding and higher levels of runoff. Furthermore, expected increases in water temperatures, paired with excess nutrients, will promote the growth of phytoplankton. Phytoplankton are especially proficient in using nutrients, and can proliferate excessively, producing harmful algal blooms (HABs). Macroalgae, sometime called seaweed, also is especially adapted to nutrient uptake. It grows very quickly and tends to smother seagrasses. Decreasing nutrient inputs will reduce the chances of HABs and facilitate the recovery of seagrass beds. Therefore, MCBP must reduce nutrient loading by meeting the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) goals set in each of our bays.

The bays and their tributaries are not the only water sources threatened by point and non-point sources of pollution. Our groundwater sources are also at risk of contamination. The entirety of the population in the Coastal Bays is solely dependent on groundwater for drinking water, agricultural irrigation, and industrial/business needs. Public water systems, including major community and municipal water systems, have the potential to withdraw up to 19.5 million gallons a day of groundwater in addition to the potential withdrawal of about 2.1 million gallons a day from the county's 8,400 private residential users. These are sourced from a combination of unconfined and confined aquifers. Confined aquifers are deep and typically are not affected by surface contaminants. However, unconfined aquifers are shallow and are at risk of contamination from both point and nonpoint sources. Outside of public wells, there are hundreds of private wells in the Coastal Bays watershed that use tens of millions of gallons of water daily. Ensuring we are responsibly using and protecting our groundwater resources is important to our current and future generations' health and livelihoods.

Since the inception of the Coastal Bays Program, Worcester County and the towns of Berlin, Ocean City, and Ocean Pines, along with state and federal partners, have made remarkable strides towards improving the water quality of the Coastal Bays. These improvements have been facilitated by progressive zoning, protection and restoration of wetlands, the elimination of point sources of pollution, stormwater management, and implementation of state and federal measures to reduce both agricultural and residential run-off. Planned practices will achieve Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) goals for nitrogen and phosphorus in Sinepuxent Bay.

Over the next ten years the Coastal Bays will have several strategies and plans in place that will achieve TMDL goals in each of the bays and expand monitoring efforts to improve the management. Achieving these goals will improve water quality conditions in the watershed and protect its natural resources. Challenges will be met by implementing numerous monitoring programs, restoration projects, and education and outreach opportunities using the best available technology and innovative techniques.

In this section, we look at ways to:

1. Reduce Nutrient and Pollutant Loading in the Watershed
2. Protect and Conserve Groundwater
3. Develop and Implement Comprehensive Watershed Programs and Strategies to achieve TMDL Goals

These actions will facilitate implementation of a strategy to meet TMDL goals for all the waters in the Coastal Bays.

A view looking north along Sinepuxent Bay. Photo by Jane Thomas, IAN Image Library.

Goal 1. Reduce nutrient and pollutant loading in the watershed

The Maryland Coastal Bays watershed is largely made up of agricultural land use. However, the northern sub-watersheds in particular are projected to become more developed over the next ten years. Urban and agricultural lands are the greatest nonpoint source contributors to nutrient and pollutant loading in our watershed. Projected population growth will inevitably impact the health of our watershed as atmospheric deposition from air pollution, nutrient loads, and other harmful substances (PFAS, microplastics, and endocrine disruptors) become more prevalent.

It is likely that forests and wetlands will either decline or become more stressed as development increases. These habitats are critical to providing healthy waters since they act as natural buffers by filtering out excess nutrients, pollutants, and other harmful toxins that run off from nearby agricultural and developed areas. In addition to impacts on these ecosystems caused by humans, current models predict future declines in these habitats due to sea level rise and saltwater intrusion. As a result, it is critical that our organization and partners work with our community to mitigate the current and future threats that will negatively affect the health of our watershed.

Even with the future projections, reducing nutrient and pollutant loading in our watershed can be done. The best way to accomplish this goal is to identify, monitor, and allocate resources towards the point and non-point sources that are contributing the most nutrients and harmful pollutants to our waterways. There is existing guidance in the TMDL showing the nitrogen and phosphorus reductions that are needed in the Coastal Bays (Figure 4). Collaborating with our farming community and local municipalities to implement best management practices can lead to a reduction in the use of fertilizers, an increase in riparian buffers, improvement of septic and wastewater treatment, and proper disposal of hazardous materials. Relying on our partners to collect data that will provide insight on the transport and effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), endocrine disruptors, and microplastics will be vital in developing reduction strategies and management decisions. Additionally, encouraging the County to allocate funding towards improving current septic systems and maintaining the policy of no new point source discharges is critical in achieving this goal.

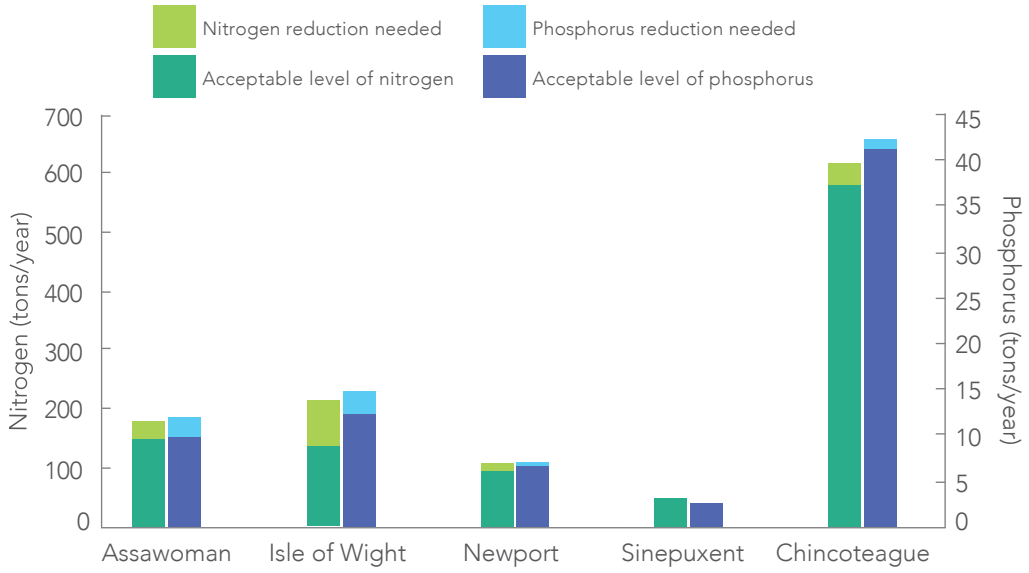


Figure 4. Nitrogen and phosphorus levels and the amounts of reduction needed in order to meet water quality goals.

Action Items

1.1 Provide funds and incentives to establish, improve, replace and maintain septic systems with Best Available Technology.

1.2 Promote meaningful interstate cooperation for nutrient reduction through watershed based planning strategies.

1.3 Protect and increase wetlands and buffers in riparian zones and stream corridors.

1.4 Partner with local farmers and Public Drainage Associations (PDAs) to develop and implement farm specific plans, including land conservation, soil conservation, water quality and nutrient management, utilizing federal and state cost share programs and loans.

1.5 Continue to support the Clean Marina Initiative including technical assistance and outreach materials on pollution prevention.

1.6 Quantify the volume of water and nutrients delivered from watershed ditches to the Coastal Bays to prioritize for nutrient reduction.

1.7 Keep and refine the policy of no new point source discharges to waterways, and facilitate removal of point sources while requiring spray irrigation or other technologies instead.

1.8 Provide environmental data and analyses collected offshore to inform coastal researchers about nutrient loading dynamics that affect the Coastal Bays through inlet flushing.

1.9 Determine trends in air pollution inputs from the National Atmospheric Deposition Program monitoring site.

1.10 Conduct hazardous waste disposal programs for farm and residential hazardous materials.

1.11 Identify the sources, loadings, fate and transport, and develop reduction strategies for emerging contaminants including Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), endocrine disruptors, and microplastics.

The removal of the Bishopville dam provided opportunities for anadromous fish passage and provided more ecologically robust and resilient stream and riparian corridor. Photo by Keith Pivonski.

Goal 2. Protect and conserve groundwater

The Coastal Bays region is solely dependent on groundwater for public drinking water supplies. Groundwater is also the source for agricultural irrigation, industrial/business needs, and much of the freshwater that flows into the bays. There are 40 public wells and thousands of private wells that are capable of providing 31 million gallons of water per day. Future growth projections indicate that the use of groundwater in the Coastal Bays watershed will climb to as much as 37 million gallons per day.

The shallow, unconfined aquifer of the watershed is very susceptible to both point and non-point source contamination from fertilizers, pesticides, septic effluent, and other sources, and can also be impacted by drought and salt water intrusion. The lag time from actions taken on the land surface and reaction within the water column has been estimated to be less than 10 years, near the surface, but up to over 100 years in deeper aquifers.

Action Items

2.1 Update the USGS surficial aquifer model with other known studies such as thermal imaging to prescribe solutions for water protection.

2.2 Fund continued monitoring of nutrient inputs to the Coastal Bays from groundwater.

2.3 Monitor and assess changes in Assateague Island groundwater resources related to natural hazards and weather variability.

2.4 Assess and report on quantity and quality of groundwater resources available for the Coastal Bays watershed.

2.5 Consider development of technology and standards to advance graywater reuse.

The installation of wells to monitor groundwater gives information about the concentration of nutrients in the groundwater.
Photo by MCBP staff.

Groundwater is the source for all drinking water and agricultural irrigation in the Coastal Bays watershed. Photo by Chris Parypa.

A central pivot irrigation system. Photo by Frank Liebig, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0 DE.

Goal 3. Develop and implement comprehensive watershed programs and strategies to achieve TMDL goals

The Clean Water Act of 1972 required all bodies of water identified as impaired under EPA to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). TMDLs are the maximum amount of pollutants allowed to enter a waterbody so that the waterbody will meet and continue to meet water quality standards. Since all five of the Coastal Bays are considered impaired, it is imperative that strategic plans are developed for each subwatershed to meet TMDL goals. Reducing nonpoint sources of nitrogen and phosphorus are the main reasons for developing and implementing strategic watershed plans.

These plans outline the primary nonpoint sources of pollution, management strategies, resource needs, and projects that will occur to ensure TMDLs are met for that subwatershed. Additionally, they provide timelines as to when projects and initiatives will take place to ensure goals are being met on schedule. Although TMDL standards have been established by EPA for decades now, four out of the five Coastal Bays subwatersheds still do not have approved Comprehensive Subwatershed Plans, including Sinepuxent Bay which has met its TMDL reduction goal, but does not yet have an approved Plan.

The approval of a Comprehensive Subwatershed Plan depends largely on EPA deciding whether ongoing water quality monitoring efforts provide enough data to determine the health of the Coastal Bays. The Assawoman Bay plan was approved in 2019 and showed that the efforts of the six organizations monitoring our waterways were adequate in accurately depicting trends in water quality. As of 2019, Assawoman Bay needed an additional 5,387 lbs of nitrogen removed annually to meet TMDL goals. The data summarized in these reports provides enough information to create a unique prescription that identifies where best management practices (BMPs) must be implemented to achieve healthy waters for current and future generations. Reducing the number of state-listed impaired bodies of water and reaching TMDL goals in the Coastal Bays is achievable through the development of these Comprehensive Subwatershed Plans.

"Maryland Coastal Bays Program has been a tremendous partner in our efforts to address stormwater management challenges in the Town of Berlin. MCBP and its partners have helped the Town reduce flooding in our neighborhoods while improving water quality as it drains into Newport Bay."

— Zackery Tyndall, Mayor, Town of Berlin

Action Items

3.1 Develop and implement Non-Point Source Management (A-I) Plans for all sub-watersheds in the Maryland Coastal Bays including plans requiring interstate coordination.

3.2 Collect and report data for existing and future BMPs, including Agriculture, to track progress toward the successful implementation of the subwatershed plans, and allow for adaptive management.

3.3 Fund and implement retrofits, improvements and long-term maintenance of conveyances, structures and natural landscapes for stormwater management.

3.4 Evaluate a tracking approach for land use indicators including but not limited to land use/land cover, impervious surfaces, amount of development occurring inside & outside of County Growth Areas/Priority Funding Areas, and other land use and growth metrics.

MCBP retained Straughan Environmental and Ecotone to conduct an assessment of the southern sub-watersheds to identify sites for non-point source nutrient reduction opportunities.

THEME 2

PROTECT FISH, WILDLIFE, AND THEIR HABITAT

The Coastal Bays and ocean waters support a variety of shellfish and finfish species of commercial and recreational value (the state controls waters out to three nautical miles offshore and federal waters extend from there out to 200 nautical miles). Most marine species of interest to the region spend at least part of their life cycle in the Coastal Bays, but may live offshore during other stages. Therefore, many species are managed at the regional level through cooperative efforts among states. Maryland also manages fisheries resources within the Coastal Bays and waters of the state. Management controls include commercial quotas, permit and license requirements, gear and time of year restrictions, and size and catch limits. The most substantial commercial and recreational fishing activity in the Coastal Bays is for blue crabs, summer flounder, striped bass (rockfish), sea trout, hard clams, Atlantic croaker, white perch, tautog, and bluefish.

Factors important to the health of the Coastal Bays fish and shellfish are habitat and water quality. Degradation of benthic habitat from warming waters, seagrass loss, nutrient overenrichment, reduced light penetration, and impacts from boating activities affect shellfish and many juvenile finfish species. Chemical contamination in dead-end canals (which receive contaminated runoff from developed areas, pilings, and boats) also contributes to degraded sediment quality. Shoreline erosion due to sea level rise, runoff, and boat wake also degrades aquatic habitat. In addition, hard shoreline stabilization methods reduce the habitat value of shorelines, essential for small fish, horseshoe crabs, birds, and terrapins. Streams and tributaries in the Coastal Bays watershed continue to exhibit a high level of habitat and water quality degradation due to ditching and lack of buffers.

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV; seagrass beds) are a particularly important resource in the Coastal Bays, providing habitat for fish and shellfish and food for aquatic species and birds. Eelgrass, the dominant species of SAV, was wiped out in the 1930s due to an eelgrass blight. Between 1986 and 2001, seagrass populations increased substantially but declined again beginning in 2002 and today are back down to pre-1986 levels. Unusually warm summers and high phosphorus levels have eliminated SAV beds in the northern bays and allowed only sparse beds in the southern bays. A combination of heavy macroalgal growth, turbid water, and struggling water quality combine to limit its growth.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The Coastal Bays are home to a broad variety of species. A number of these are listed at the federal or state level as threatened or endangered, including at least three bird, two insect, 14 other animal, and 89 plant species. In most cases, their threatened status is due to habitat loss and invasive plants. Of particular concern have been drastic declines in saltmarsh dependent birds (*e.g.* saltmarsh sparrow and black rail) and island-dependent birds (State endangered black skimmer, royal tern and common tern). Population declines have ranged from 68% to 99% since the 1990s and are primarily due to loss of island and marsh habitat.

Forests

Loss of forestland disrupts habitat corridors for many bird and wildlife species and can impact water quality in the Coastal Bays. Forests filter sediments from water, limit erosion by protecting soils and take up nutrients. The character or composition of a forest—its individual tree and shrub types, their sizes, ages and population densities—also affect the forested habitat for many species of plants and animals. Forest character and functions are altered when native forests are converted to pine monoculture or development. Deer, invasive plants, disease, and pest infestations can also alter forest character and functions. Although timber production plays an important role in the regional economy and in the overall protection of the watershed, biological diversity within forests is reduced substantially with pine production. Appropriate management of forested lands, particularly those in timber production and unharvested forests, is necessary to retain large, diverse forest tracts that support wildlife habitat needs. Additional forest management options can promote old-growth timber, increased hardwood production, or eco-tourism activities. Land managers are also encouraged to hold property in grasslands and early successional states due to the loss of so many species dependent upon these habitat types, including northern bobwhite quail.

Wetlands

In addition to forest and field habitat losses, tidal and non-tidal wetlands have decreased substantially, especially in the northern bays. Wetlands play an important role in providing habitat, buffering coastal storms, treating sediment and nutrient runoff, absorbing flood waters, and maintaining adequate water quality for all inhabitants of the Coastal Bays. The draining and clearing of wetlands for agriculture, development, and other human uses decreases habitat for wildlife and adversely affects the land's nutrient and sediment absorbing potential (e.g. buffering capability). Tidal wetlands are also succumbing to land subsidence and sea level rise causing shoreline erosion and interior flooding. Although habitat losses have slowed considerably due to federal and state laws restricting impacts to wetlands, losses still occur from changes in land use, alteration of hydrology, including shoreline erosion and interior flooding.

Islands

Islands in the Coastal Bays play an important role in protecting mainland areas and providing habitat to iconic species like horseshoe crabs, terrapins, and coastal waterbirds. Over 50% of all coastal waterbird species use islands as nesting grounds. Since 1989, the Coastal Bays have lost 14 islands, all of which were considered critical nesting and spawning grounds for numerous species. Several factors have contributed to island loss. Like tidal wetlands, islands are also affected by sea level rise, increased inundation, and erosion from wave energy. However, other factors such as the dredging of navigational channels and hardening of shorelines have further contributed to island loss due to altered sediment transport mechanisms.

Summary

In this section, the following are addressed: management of recreational and commercial fisheries; the protection of marine resources; seagrass, wetlands, island, and shoreline restoration; forest conservation; and the monitoring and protection of wildlife. The fish and wildlife actions rely heavily on existing resource management programs to meet current standards, catch limits and other requirements.

Bald Eagles were once labeled as Endangered in Maryland but made a tremendous comeback after a ban of the pesticide DDT. They are now thriving near the shorelines and wetlands of the Coastal Bays. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 1. Develop and implement a comprehensive Monitoring Plan and Habitat Protection/ Restoration Strategy

The Ecosystem Monitoring Plan, to be produced by STAC, will describe specific details of monitoring the species and habitats in the watershed. It will outline specific monitoring needs, goals, and measures of success. As the National Estuary Program, it is MCBP's responsibility to ensure all partners and community members are all working towards the same objectives to achieve monitoring and habitat management goals.

The Ecosystem Monitoring Plan and Habitat and Restoration Strategy will be reviewed annually to ensure monitoring efforts meet current and future needs. This plan will be developed, approved, and implemented by STAC, which has traditionally provided advice and guidance on research, data management, modeling, and monitoring efforts in the Coastal Bays. Establishing annual reviews will reinforce collaboration and promote the sharing of resources. The plan will be adaptable so that it can evolve as the environmental issues, impacts, and solutions evolve. Additionally, the periodic review will aid in the evaluation of the overall effectiveness of management practices.

Action Items

1.1 Utilize the Finance Strategy to support all monitoring needs in the MCBP Monitoring Plan and Habitat and Restoration Strategy.

1.2 Ensure that the recommended components within the Monitoring Plan, and Habitat and Restoration Strategy are considered each year for implementation in the MCBP and other partner's annual work plans.

MCBP has been collecting a variety of data relating to diamondback terrapin populations in the Coastal Bays. Organized terrapin headcount surveys began in 2012 in collaboration with Maryland DNR. Photo by Jane Hawkey, IAN Image Library.

Goal 2. Monitor and manage finfish, shellfish, and other aquatic species

Maryland's Coastal Bays provide critical habitat for finfish, shellfish, and other aquatic species such as horseshoe crabs and diamondback terrapins. Many of these species are of major local commercial and recreational importance. The economy of the Coastal Bays watershed relies upon healthy fish stocks. Currently, finfish populations are stable in the Coastal Bays. However, species abundance and species diversity may be negatively affected by sea level rise, habitat degradation, and pollution from land use activities. Survey data indicates that annual surface water temperature has been increasing since 1995.

Species of shellfish, including eastern oysters, bay scallops, and hard clams, have also faced historic declines due to overharvesting and disease. Their current populations are at a fraction of the historic benchmark. Despite the current lack of commercial harvest pressure, these species may need decades for their populations to return to historic density. The future is uncertain for populations of finfish, shellfish, and other aquatic species. However, it is likely that many populations will face declines if action is not taken to reduce habitat loss, pollution, and surface water temperatures.

It is important that MCBP collaborates with partner agencies to continue monitoring and sustainably managing important finfish, shellfish, and aquatic species in the Coastal Bays. Supporting Maryland DNR so they may continue to provide annual stock assessment data, harvesting thresholds, and fish abundance targets will help the Coastal Bays meet management goals and objectives. The annual survey data collected by DNR is essential to understanding whether we are managing the species populations and threats to their success effectively. They also help us remain proactive in addressing population declines and threats.

The aquaculture and commercial fisheries industries are extremely valuable to our local economy and culture. In fact, it is believed that bay scallop farming in the Coastal Bays has contributed to the increase in bay scallops in survey locations sampled in the 2024 shellfish survey. MCBP will continue to promote responsible commercial fishing and aquaculture farming businesses by providing education on best practices to those in the industries and the community.

Annual clam surveys are important element in Coastal Bays Report Card data.

Action Items

2.1 Work with partner agencies to manage and provide stock assessment data for recreationally and commercially important finfish and shellfish species to the targets and thresholds described in state and federal fisheries management plans.

2.2 Continue to improve the quality and timeliness of commercial landings reports by implementing online, multi-platform tools for real-time reporting for finfish and shellfish.

2.3 Provide the public with reports of finfish and shellfish harvest results.

2.4 Conduct diamondback terrapin and horseshoe crab spawning surveys and share data to partner management agencies and the public.

2.5 Complete an annual survey of shellfish resources within Maryland's Coastal Bays, and update the Coastal Bays Hard Clam and Blue Crab Fisheries Management Plan.

2.6 Assess the overall health of aquatic species and habitats, including the effects of emerging contaminants and microplastics.

2.7 Promote and support responsible shellfish aquaculture with incentives to assist production, and education and training on best practices to growers and the public.

2.8 MCBP will work with partners to continue the oyster gardening community science program.

Goal 3. Monitor and manage aquatic and estuarine habitats

The Coastal Bays have over 300 miles of shoreline. Shorelines are the transition area between our open water and upland habitat making it incredibly important to numerous species throughout various stages of their lifecycles. Many of our natural shorelines are made up of saltmarshes and bare sand beaches. Natural shorelines have been converted to bulkheads, riprap, and other hardened shorelines to protect infrastructure from sea level rise, flooding events, and storm surges. There is little to no habitat provided by hardened shorelines, which impacts species like terrapins, horseshoe crabs, and coastal waterbirds who rely on bare sand beaches and saltmarsh habitat. Additionally, hardened shorelines can inadvertently contribute to increased shoreline erosion as they deflect wave energy to nearby locations. Erosion can cause excess sediment which is detrimental to shellfish populations, SAV beds, and the health of aquatic habitats in our bays.

Converting hardened shorelines back to resilient, dynamic living shorelines, where appropriate, is an important mechanism to protect shorelines from extreme weather-related impacts and provide habitat for native species. Living shorelines replicate natural features that reduce erosion, provide habitat, and can adapt and change in the dynamic bay ecosystem. Furthermore, natural shorelines promote the facilitation of marsh and seagrass migration into upland areas as sea levels rise.

There are few migration corridors in the watershed that can naturally facilitate upland migration. Protecting these corridors is critical to managing these habitats, which is why landowners should be encouraged to protect migration corridors through conservation easements or by constructing their own living shorelines.

In addition to managing natural shoreline habitat, it is important to continue monitoring aquatic and estuarine habitats including streams, SAV beds, and water quality. These monitoring initiatives help guide management decisions and determine where resources should be allocated to have the best impact on improving aquatic habitats and resources or to evaluate management practices.

Action Items

3.1 Continue research and support for management, protection and restoration of seagrass beds and exploration of various methods of monitoring.

3.2 Protect horseshoe crab and other wildlife populations by preserving and restoring bay beaches and other bottom habitats.

3.3 Support efforts to monitor and assess Harmful Algae and Phytoplankton including special Brown Tide analysis.

3.4 Maintain and enhance bay water quality monitoring programs to assess nutrient loading, bacteria levels and living resource responses.

3.5 Continue to support sustained improvements in reef enhancement by sponsoring permits for the Ocean City Reef Foundation.

3.6 Monitor near shore plant and animal species and habitat.

3.7 Assess the historic presence and extent of marshes with the potential for marsh migration in response to sea level rise.

3.8 Continue to expand and update data and information via the Coastal Atlas to monitor coastal conditions and inform protective actions.

3.9 Monitor gains and losses and conduct assessments of wetlands in the watershed to prioritize creation, conservation and restoration activities.

3.10 Conduct monitoring and assessment to characterize the health of streams in the Coastal Bays Watershed.

3.11 Use stream characterization health data to identify and pursue potential aquatic habitat management, stream protection, and restoration projects.

Aerial image of E.A. Vaughn Wildlife Management Area showing how marshes in the Coastal Bays are degrading and drowning. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 4. Monitor and manage plants and wildlife in the watershed

The Coastal Bays is home to hundreds of species, including over 100 listed at the federal or state level as rare, endangered, and threatened species. Health of the watershed is evaluated through monitoring trends in various species including horseshoe crabs, colonial nesting birds, and fish species. Long-term data is especially useful to evaluate trends in estuarine species that have fluctuating populations. However, long term monitoring of terrestrial species has not kept pace with the aquatic species. For example, there is little known about the status of the reptile and amphibian species in the Coastal Bays. Herps (amphibians and reptiles) are good indicators of the health of streams and terrestrial habitats as they're highly sensitive to pollution and environmental degradation.

In addition to needing to improve monitoring efforts to understand populations for many of our wildlife species, we must monitor and manage invasive species in our watershed more effectively. Invasive species are problematic because they usually outcompete native species for habitat and resources. Ensuring that we are being proactive to introduced species before they become invasive is critical to maintaining the diversity of our watershed and health of our environment.

MCBP and partners are constantly working to expand our current monitoring efforts to better understand the status of species in our watershed. In addition to the annual surveys that monitor populations of horseshoe crabs, coastal waterbirds, and various threatened and endangered species inhabiting Assateague Island, MCBP has recently reincorporated the monitoring of herp species.

Collaborating with our partners and volunteers allows us to obtain annual survey data that helps us manage species and their environments more effectively. Each year we promote and encourage our community members to participate in various survey events like the Backyard Bird Count to gain important data on the bird species in our area. MCBP hosts various bioblitz events to maintain a running list of species found in our watershed and holds numerous programs to remove invasive species at our restoration sites.

Additionally, partners like Lower Shore Land Trust and Maryland Department of Agriculture provide significant resources to our community members about native plants, invasive plant management, and upcoming species of concern that have the potential to become invasive in our watershed. MCBP is in the process of updating our Homeowners Guide to the Coastal Bays. The guide will provide a wealth of information that will educate our community on how to create and maintain bay friendly homes and yards. This includes how to provide habitat to native species and manage invasives to reduce their spread.

Action Items

4.1 Monitor and reduce the presence of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species within the Coastal Bays watershed through accepted best management practices.

4.2 Use existing indicators, monitoring data and game harvest information to protect and restore plants and animals including rare, threatened and endangered species in the watershed.

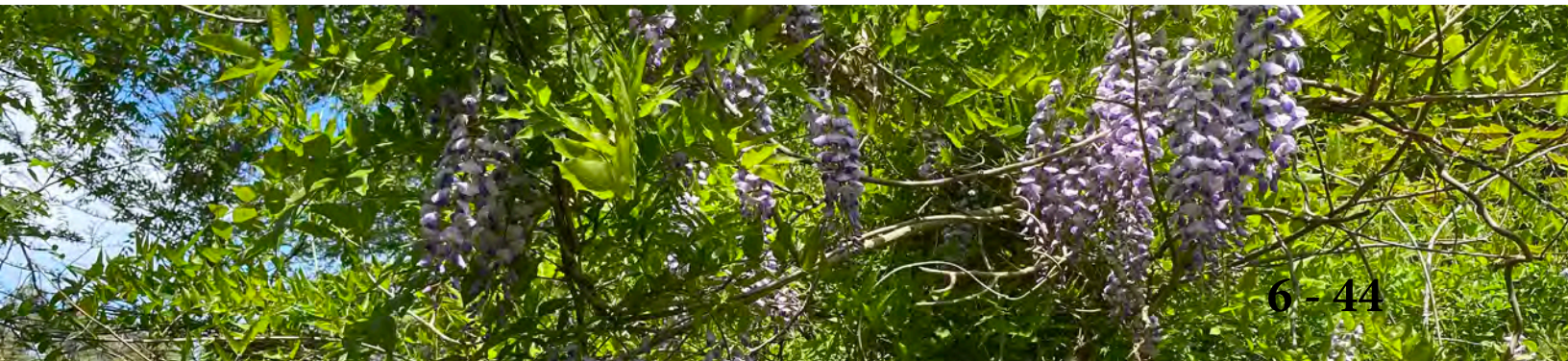
4.3 Monitor bird populations in the watershed to identify habitat and species enhancement needs and opportunities.

4.4 Encourage and require where appropriate, native vegetative plantings and conservation landscapes on public and private lands to enhance biodiversity.

"Maryland Coastal Bays Program recently awarded a grant to Lower Shore Land Trust for a Grasslands Habitat Restoration project. These habitats play a critical role in supporting biodiversity and maintaining ecological health. We greatly appreciate MCBP's recognition of this conservation challenge."

— Matt Heim, Executive Director,
Lower Shore Land Trust

Invasive plants like wisteria crowd out native plants. Photo by MCBP staff.



Goal 5. Monitor and manage terrestrial habitats

Terrestrial habitats are a rich mosaic of forests, shrubs and meadows. Forests make up over one third of the watershed and are most abundant in Chincoteague Bay. Forested uplands typically consist of oaks, hickories, sweet gum and poplar. As the land gets wetter, the forest consists of communities dominated by red maple, loblolly pine, and black gum. Even wetter communities are dominated by bald cypress.

Certain species of birds termed forest interior dwelling species (FIDS) depend on large contiguous forest that have an abundance of diverse tree species. Shrub areas exist on the edges of the forests and consist of species such as elderberry, sweet pepper bush, and spice bush. The smallest terrestrial habitats are meadows which typically exist in open sunny areas that are breaks in the forest canopy, abandoned farm fields and along power line rights of way. Meadows consist of warm and cold season grasses and plants such as columbine and milkweed which provide habitat to upland game birds such as bob white quail and a rich host of pollinators. Conserving these habitats is important as they provide valuable ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, land stabilization, water filtration and air purification.

Today, only about 50% of Worcester County is forested, and much of that forest consists of pine monoculture. Ecosystem services are diminished in large tracts of pine monoculture from timber management, often resulting in clear cut harvesting on a 40 to 60 year cycle. This practice limits the establishment of older growth forest and reduces biodiversity, resulting in an early successional community. In addition, large contiguous forests continue to be fragmented or lost as a result of land development.

Between 2013 and 2018, over 40% of total forest loss in Worcester County was due to forest transitioning into wetland, likely because of increased flooding and sea level rise. Sea level rise is causing saltwater intrusion to extend further inland threatening cypress swamps and other freshwater habitats. Increasingly salty soils and groundwater cause stress to forests, leading to stands of dead trees called "ghost forests." Saltwater intrusion is impacting agricultural land as well, causing some areas to no longer be productive.

Maintaining forest health is essential to the economy, community resilience, and maintaining biodiversity. Encouraging our local municipalities to plant trees and increase green spaces will provide several benefits to the community and environment. Specifically, trees provide shade and reduce temperatures, increase air quality, help mitigate flooding, and can reduce noise pollution. MCBP will continue to support efforts to monitor and assess forest cover in the Coastal Bays watershed, including an annual forest conservation report prepared by Worcester County for Maryland DNR, and encourage partners to develop annual reports that summarize survey data. Through education and outreach programs, we can increase landowner awareness on best management practices, restoration techniques, and conservation easement programs. Additionally, identifying large areas of turfgrass and non-productive agricultural land and restoring it to natural habitat will improve ecosystem function. Finally, MCBP will support programs that protect existing old growth forests and support projects that restore Atlantic white cedar communities, which were lost due to overharvesting.

Action Items

5.1 Utilize Best Available Technology to assess forest health including composition, tree cover and urban tree canopy.

5.2 Educate and provide support for private landowner preservation, afforestation and forest restoration opportunities including the preparation of Forest Stewardship Plans (FSPs).

5.3 Coordinate efforts to maintain forest health and extent for publicly owned lands.

5.4 Manage large extents of turfgrass areas in the watershed for improved habitat and ecosystem function reducing the need for chemical application.

5.5 Manage less productive agricultural lands for improved habitat and ecosystem function.

Opposite, top to bottom: Atlantic White Cedar Planting in Lizard Hill restoration site. A restored non-tidal wetland on agricultural property in Isle of Wight watershed. Native plant buffer adjacent to agricultural property. Photos by MCBP staff and Beth Sheppard.

THEME 3

CREATE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS

Resilience is the ability to bend and not break. That may be the simplest way to describe it, but it is much more than that. Resiliency is not only the ability to bounce back from an adverse situation, but the ability to bounce back stronger, with more flexibility and wherewithal than previously.

When we look to the next ten years, we have a pretty good idea of what we can expect—higher temperatures, more intense precipitation, more frequent coastal storms, an increase in high tide events, more flooding, prolonged droughts, and more people. With an annual population increase hovering around 1.5%, we need to be smart about what the future looks like—particularly in the face of rising sea levels and increased storm impacts. These circumstances will not only affect our daily lives, but will strain our shared natural defenses like marshes, dunes, and shorelines, that we count on for moderating the impact of extreme weather events.

Resilience efforts may include: providing more irrigation for farms facing an increase in summertime droughts, modifying drainage systems to accommodate increased storms, elevating roads and other built infrastructure, and eventually building bigger and stronger nature-based shoreline defenses.

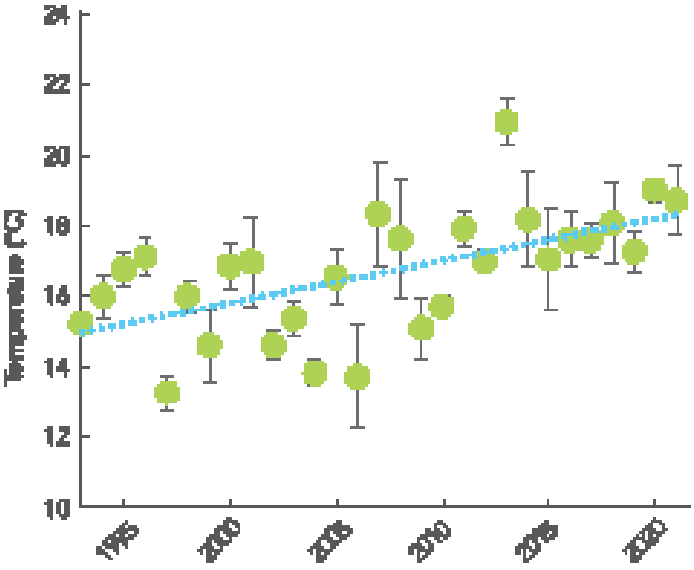


Figure 5. Data show significant interannual variation and increasing trend in surface water temperatures in the Coastal Bays in October from 1993–2021 (n=560, R2=0.59; 20 sites per month from the Delaware to Virginia state boundaries) (MD DNR Coastal Fisheries Trawl Survey).

With the input of the community and our county, state, and federal partners, the Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan is an opportunity to plan for the future and develop strategies that will help address these challenges. These strategies include:

- Enhancing our natural defenses (marshes and wetlands, Coastal Bay islands, shorelines and riparian zones).
- Improving our stormwater systems to handle and process larger storm events, prevent flooding, and improve water quality.
- Siting new development in areas that create minimal impact on our resources
- Mapping and protecting areas suitable for marsh migration.
- Educating the public about recent environmental trends based on science.
- Understanding the capacity for our marshes and forests to store carbon.
- Increasing acres of managed and protected forest lands.
- Understanding the effects of natural hazards and other environmental trends on our Coastal Bay ecosystems.
- Implementing the actions to increase the resilience of Coastal Bays ecosystems and infrastructure.
- Moving toxic and hazardous waste facilities at risk of damage from environmental stressors, land subsidence or natural disasters.

The Coastal Bays watershed is on the forefront of environmental stressors (Figure 5 and Figure 6). Understanding and adapting to this reality and planning for what we know is in front of us, is imperative. Implementing and carrying out the strategies and actions identified in this CCMP are critical to the long-term resiliency and viability of our resources and our communities.

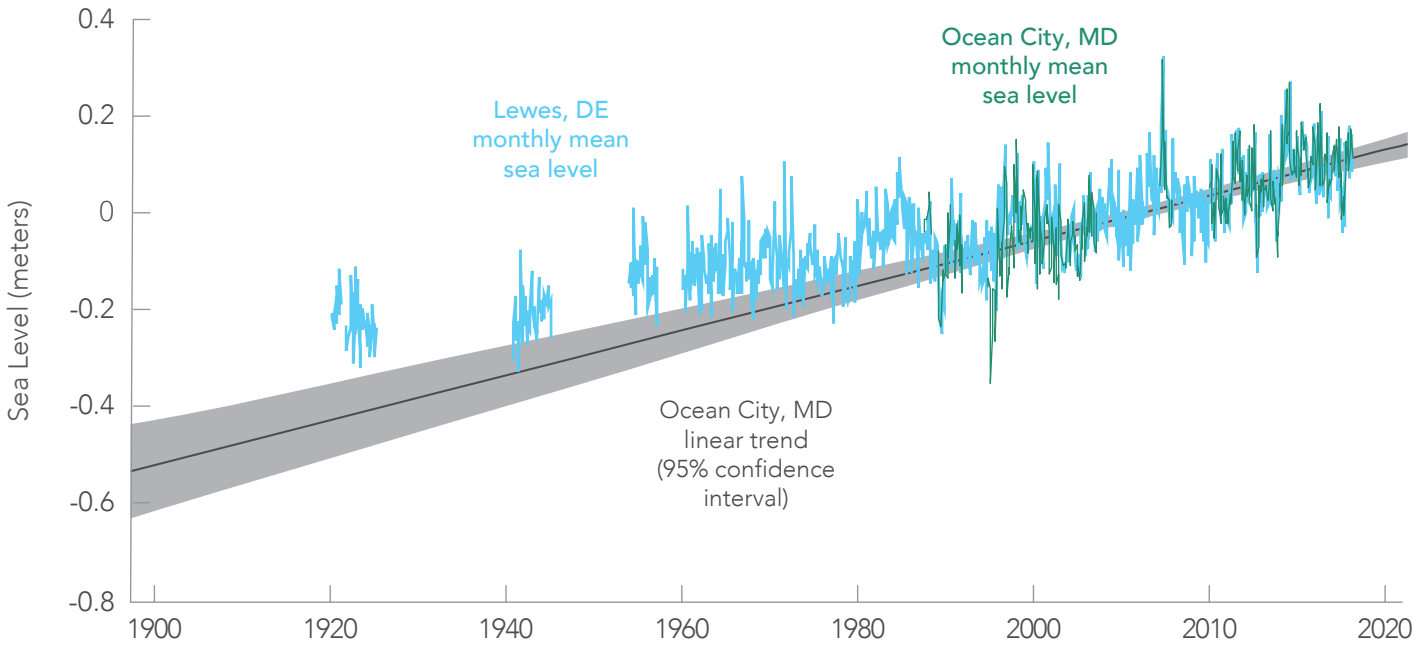


Figure 6. Mean sea level at the Ocean City inlet, MD and Lewes, DE. Sea level at Ocean City is rising at a rate of 5.6 mm (nearly a quarter-inch) per year, which is equivalent to a change of 1.84 feet in 100 years. Source: NOAA.

Increasing frequency of tidal flooding threatens both ecosystems and infrastructure. Photo by Jane Thomas, IAN Image Library.

Goal 1. Enhance resilience of ecosystems to natural disasters, sea level rise, and other environmental stressors

We are in the midst of changing environmental conditions. The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science anticipates a rise in sea level of 1 foot between 2000 and 2050. In addition to rising sea levels, other changes are already occurring. Some of those include:

- The number of days where the maximum temperature is higher than 77 degrees is growing. In our region, there are 40 more summer days each year compared to 100 years ago.
- There are fewer days in the year when the low temperature is less than 32 degrees.
- We are receiving 2 to 7 more inches of precipitation per year than a century ago.
- Over the past 100 years, growing seasons have lengthened by 20–40 days.

In order to respond to these realities, we must enhance our resilience to sea level rise and other environmental stressors. But how do we do that? First and foremost, we need to reduce our emissions by reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and using alternative sources of energy that produce less emissions. Second, we should practice conservation and reduce, where possible, our dependence on energy—particularly those fuels which release CO_2. Finally, we need to prepare—for both the present and the future.

Our natural resources are vulnerable to these changes. Healthy shallow water habitat, marshes, shorelines, dunal systems, and streams with functioning riparian areas are our first line of defense for the destructive power of coastal storm surges, high intensity rainfall, waves, wind, and increasing temperatures.

With sea level rise we are already seeing a loss of tidal marsh due to more frequent inundation. Marsh grasses cannot tolerate being flooded for too long which can hasten total marsh deterioration once the grasses die. The additional loss of shoreline due to erosion exacerbates the problem as it lessens the amount of marsh available to buffer storms and wave energy. Strengthening our natural resources so that they are healthy and robust are paramount in this effort and identifying where this can be most effective are steps that must be taken to provide resilience and prepare for the future.

Action Items

1.1 Identify and prioritize ecosystem restoration opportunities in the watershed.

1.2 Restore marshes, shorelines, islands and upland ecosystems within the Coastal Bays watershed, including post restoration monitoring for adaptive management.

1.3 Work with emergency management agencies and other partners to develop recovery plans to support ecosystem conservation and resilience in the wake of natural disasters.

1.4 Research the effects of environmental stressors on Coastal Bays ecosystem indicators.

1.5 Explore opportunities to improve permitting efficiency related to ecosystem restoration and resiliency projects.

The living shoreline project near the Assateague State Park boat ramp. Eroding shoreline was enhanced with headlands and beaches that dissipate wave energy and a freshwater wetland that intercepts storm water. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 2. Enhance resilience of community assets and infrastructure to natural disasters, sea level rise, and other environmental stressors

Our landscape is defined by the Atlantic Coast and the many bays and waterways that shape our surroundings. Not only do these features shape our landscape, but they also shape our way of life. Much of Worcester County is situated in low-lying areas which are subject to flooding from inland rainstorms or susceptible to the effects of storm surges and storm-driven wave energy. Understanding what lies ahead and what we need to do to properly prepare is an essential task.

Much of our infrastructure, including roads, housing, businesses, and stormwater and sewer systems, are located in areas that are vulnerable to weather-related concerns. Stormwater systems are easily overwhelmed with sudden and pronounced precipitation, particularly in areas with high amounts of impervious surfaces. Roads, buildings, and other structures vulnerable to storm surges and erosive forces may need to be elevated or moved to areas with less vulnerability.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program has completed an assessment to determine our most vulnerable actions from our 2015 CCMP and provide a framework for adaptation measures. Worcester County's Comprehensive Plan and the Worcester County Hazard Mitigation and Resilience Plan play a particularly important role in preparing for the future to address these issues.

Action Items

2.1 Partners will identify and prioritize adaptation strategies and actions to build resilience for protection of community assets including recreational amenities and infrastructure into local plans.

2.2 Encourage public and private marina owners to maintain and adapt existing marina facilities including piers, boat ramps, and kayak launch areas to enhance resilience to impacts of storm inundation and SLR.

2.3 Identify potential toxic risks from facilities that may be affected by weather-related and other environmental stressors, land subsidence and natural disasters as part of hazardous mitigation and resilience planning.

2.4 Consider adopting or modifying local standards to enhance resiliency for flood protection, and stormwater impacts including periodic review of locally based sea level rise projections.

2.5 Identify and document cultural and historic resources that may be impacted by environmental stressors and natural disasters to inform resilience strategies.

Ocean City suffered severe flooding during Hurricane Sandy, which impacted Maryland on October 29–30, 2012. Photo by Ricky Kerrigan.

An old electrical transfer station was converted into a submerged gravel wetland to collect and treat stormwater in a Berlin neighborhood prone to flooding. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 3. Implement the MCBP Adaptation Action Plan

The Maryland Coastal Bays Adaptation Action Plan was completed in 2024. This Plan was developed in response to an assessment which identified risks to the implementation of the CCMP posed by the impact of environmental stressors such as sea level rise and increased storminess. The Action Plan plays a key role in prioritizing future actions which will be a focus for the CCMP in the next 10 years. An annual analysis of how the recommendations of that plan are being incorporated into the Annual work plans for the Coastal Bays Program is essential to ensure focus for vital and strategic environmental adaptation and resiliency actions.

Action Items

3.1 Ensure that the recommended adaptation actions within the Adaptation Action Plan are considered each year for implementation in MCBP and partner work plans.

MCBP and Maryland DNR installed this living shoreline to protect the kayak launch area at Greys Creek Nature Park. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 4. Coordinate with partners to develop and implement a Maryland Coastal Bays Sediment Management Plan

Significant losses of our Coastal Bays islands, tidal marshes, and shorelines over the past 25 years are due to both human-induced actions and other environmental factors—particularly sea level rise. The area of bird nesting island decreased by 55% between 1989 and 2019. Tidal marshes have decreased by as much as 25% in some areas due to internal flooding and shoreline erosion.

These habitats are of critical importance to a host of bird species that use isolated islands and marshes to nest, raise young, and carry out their life-cycles in the marshes, shorelines, and open waters of the Coastal Bays. Of particular concern are the Black Rail, the Saltmarsh Sparrow, Royal Tern, Common Tern, and Black Skimmer—all listed as rare, threatened, or endangered in Maryland.

Beneficial use of dredged material is a key component to help restore and revitalize these habitats. However, navigational dredging is not happening at the rate necessary to provide these marshes and islands with the amount of material necessary to address the issue. More focus needs to be placed on opportunities for additional inlet dredging where material could be available to replenish the islands and marshes in Isle of Wight and Sinepuxent Bays.

Secondly, a serious investigation into the feasibility of dredging material outside of navigational channels is warranted. The Sediment Management Plan for the Coastal Bays outlines the necessity to investigate the opportunities and, if applicable, pursue them to mine the necessary material to restore drowning marshes and eroding islands and further protect our shorelines.

Action Items

4.1 Implement recommendations from and update the USACE Ocean City Water Resources Study (OCWRS) of 1998.

4.2 Perform periodic renourishment per the Atlantic Coast Project authorization in order to maintain Ocean City beaches and dunes for storm damage reduction.

4.3 Continue the Assateague Island North End Restoration Project to restore the natural sediment supply to the barrier island.

4.4 Implement the MCBP Sediment Management Plan to utilize sediment for restoration projects and habitat enhancement in the Coastal Bays.

4.5 Establish and maintain a Dredging Advisory Group (DAG) to coordinate and implement the Sediment Management Plan.

4.6 Maintain navigational channel marking, mapping, and maintenance dredging to ensure public access to waterways in the Coastal Bays.

This photo shows Tern Island in Isle of Wight Bay in the foreground, one of four islands constructed in the Coastal Bays in 2013/14 to provide new habitat for colonial nesting birds. All four islands have since disappeared due to erosion and changes in currents. Photo by Kathy Phillips.

Goal 5. Monitor and conduct research to assess conditions and identify trends and challenges to guide resilience policies, programs and projects.

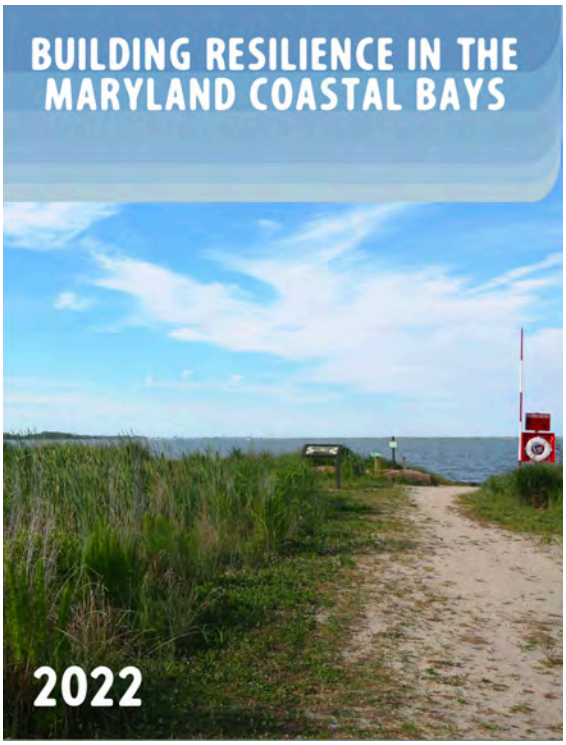
The Maryland Coastal Bays Program has been fortunate that we have been able to partner with highly respected and well-regarded science institutions over the years. Good, rigorous science is the backbone of our organization and conducting well-conceived monitoring has provided a solid baseline of water quality information over the years. Conducting similar monitoring to understand our changing environmental conditions is imperative to understanding how our watershed is responding to these changes. Water temperature trends, inundation and storm surge modeling, rainfall and stream flow measurements, all help us understand how these changes are affecting our surroundings and what remedies may be most effective.

Action Items

5.1 Monitor chemical, ecological, and spatial trends to assess the impacts of sea level rise and other environmental stressors to inform a long-term science agenda.

5.2 Regularly assess for research and monitoring needs and recommend priority assignments and schedule.

5.3 Partners will collect, manage, and share GIS data that are publicly available for the watershed.



The 2022 State of the Bays Report.

Former Chairman of the MCBP Science and Technical Advisory Committee Dr. Bill Dennison presiding over the release event for the 2022 Coastal Bays Report Card and State of the Bays Report. Photo by MCBP staff.

"Monitoring and research provide the critical scientific foundation for all that MCBP and its partners do to protect and restore ecosystems in the Coastal Bays watershed. Applying these tools to the challenges associated with our changing environment will be a vital component of our work over the next decade and beyond."

— Bill Dennison, Former Chairman of the MCBP Science and Technical Advisory Committee

Goal 6. Promote and facilitate conservation of land, natural resources, energy, and manufactured materials.

Rebalancing our energy sources and maintaining a healthy environment is one of our most effective avenues to mitigate the effects of continuing environmental changes. Forests, wetlands, and meadows that capture carbon, reduce runoff, and process nutrients are critical to this effort. Maintaining and increasing our natural lands is a proven strategy to help in that effort. Not only do they provide habitat value and improve water quality, but they also provide resilience for excessive precipitation events and help protect against storm damage.

Every opportunity to enhance and restore degraded landscapes and habitats should be pursued. Particularly in those areas where excessive stormwater runoff from urban and agricultural lands is an issue and where housing and infrastructure are threatened by storm driven wave energy and storm surges.

Strategically placed easements to provide for marsh migration, ensure the maintenance of healthy forest lands, and prevent the development of vulnerable areas should be prioritized. Worcester County is actively working to preserve farmland in the Coastal Bays watershed by using easement funds from the State's Rural Legacy Program. The County's Comprehensive Plan should identify the most vulnerable and most sensitive areas and target them for preservation through zoning and other means, particularly those areas that may provide additional resilience for weather-related events.

Reducing the use of plastics as well as active and robust recycling and composting programs reduce our consumption of energy and help maintain a healthier environment for future generations. Opportunities to use regenerative solutions to retrofit properties and improve stormwater facilities are available and cost-effective. These practices strengthen our communities, reduce our reliance on antiquated and outdated practices, and improve our overall resilience.

Action Items

6.1 Support efforts to retain farming and forestry as viable land uses in the watershed.

6.2 Promote, support and implement land conservation in the watershed to protect and enhance farms, forests and habitat.

6.3 Encourage and support waste reduction, recycling and re-use policies, and programs for commercial, institutional, governmental and residential generators.

6.4 Develop sustainable growth strategies that will preserve and regenerate ecologically beneficial site features for new and existing public and private land development.

6.5 Protect cultural, historical, and natural resource areas.

6.6 Support the development and implementation of energy conservation practices.

6.7 Support development of low-impact transportation and recreation infrastructure including walkable, bikeable and water use trails throughout watershed.

Benches can be made of recycled plastics from cigarette butts. Photo by MCBP staff.

THEME 4

DEVELOP PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

Our Coastal Bays communities weave together a variety of people, occupations, backgrounds, perspectives, and values. The Maryland Coastal Bays Program and partners serve as a resource for our communities by increasing environmental literacy for all people living in and visiting our watershed through information sharing and experiential learning. Public involvement is essential to the mission of the organization. We engage youth, adults, educators, decision makers, business owners, and visitors. By leveraging these diverse perspectives and facilitating partnerships, MCBP can amplify the voices within our community and ensure a healthy watershed for all.

This vital theme of "Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships" is supported by six goals. Each goal contains specific actions that will be implemented through our annual work plans over the next ten years.

We develop lifelong stewards of the Coastal Bays through "Promote environmental literacy for the public through education, outreach, communication and engagement activities" and "Coordinate with MCBP partners to develop and deliver academic programming." Outdoor experiential learning remains at the heart of our programming. By engaging with our audiences out in our watershed, the content becomes tangible, related, and reflective within their own lives. Over the nearly three decades of MCBP programming, we have learned that environmental literacy can take many forms. We shape our programs to serve each group's specific needs, abilities, and interests to spark and nurture connections to our watershed. Interpretive programs, learning resources, social media communications, and other outreach activities further education and engagement in the Coastal Bays.

Through a collaborative partnership, we created a Coastal Bays Watershed Map to provide visual representation of our watershed, its attributes, and the ecosystems and communities found within it. This first-of-its-kind map can be found hanging in dozens of classrooms around Worcester County, gracing the walls of welcome centers, governmental offices, and neighboring non-profits, and even framed in our residents' homes. Over the next ten years, we will continue to "Develop and support partnerships that advance mutual interests and are aligned with CCMP goals" to foster a meaningful network of Coastal Bays supporters.

MCBP is truly fortunate to have a robust volunteer partnership that devotes their time and energy toward our initiatives that protect, restore, and educate. The continued support of our community enables us to "Cultivate volunteer participation in all aspects of community science, education and outreach activities." Providing a multitude of participation options allows for volunteers of different backgrounds and abilities to give back to the Coastal Bays. Volunteerism empowers citizens, influences governmental decisions, and assists in providing pathways to finding solutions to issues around our watershed.

A portion of the profits from Assateague Outfitters support the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. Photo by Assateague Outfitters.

MCBP's oyster gardening program was established in partnership with the Marylanders Grow Oysters program, which fosters and promotes the restoration of oyster populations. Thanks to the collaborative efforts between state and nonprofit organizations, Coastal Bays' community members are able to grow spat in an oyster cage right off their dock at no cost to them. Over the course of a year, oyster gardeners get to watch as their spat grow into healthy juveniles while learning about the benefits oysters provide to water quality and estuarine environments. All oysters collected in this program are planted in the Coastal Bays where they continue to provide numerous ecosystem services This community science program has continued to grow and evolve due to the partnership with empowered volunteers and the community group, Protectors of the St. Martin River (the Protectors). Since 2018, the Protectors have taken on management aspects of the project and developed a more effective oyster cage design, which MCBP has adopted.

MCBP is guided by four committees which unite various stakeholders to solicit ideas, initiatives, and concerns through the Coastal Bays Management Conference. Together these consensus-driven committees "Support the NEP program effort through the MCBP program administration and Management Conference." Public involvement ensures the development and implementation of the goals and actions outlined in the Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan. In 2023 the Citizens Advisory Committee was revitalized with a goal to "Conduct outreach efforts to the public and policymakers to gain support and promote the Maryland Coastal Bays Program." This committee supports MCBP programs and initiatives through the participation of its diverse constituents, ensuring that public involvement and community education are a central component of the program.

We all have an impact on our watershed, and thus have a responsibility of stewardship to the Coastal Bays. The six goals in this theme, "Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships," detail current actions and future opportunities that will work to unite our community and incorporate their thoughts and values as we address the ever-changing nature of our watershed over the next 10 years.

Public educational seining event at Sunset Island in Ocean City. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 1. Support the NEP program effort through the MCBP program administration and Management Conference

Implementation of the CCMP is a consensus-driven effort managed by MCBP program staff and guided by partners and stakeholders organized into a Management Conference comprised of the MCBP Board of Directors, Policy Committee, Implementation Committee, Science and Technical Advisory Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee.

Underlying the broad Themes, Goals, and Actions outlined in the CCMP, more detailed management and programmatic implementation activities are guided by a series of Plans including a Habitat and Restoration Strategy; Monitoring Plan; Communication, Education, and Outreach Plan; and a Finance Strategy.

The Management Conference Committees meet regularly throughout the year to assist staff in prioritizing CCMP Actions and related Plans in the development of annual administration and project implementation workplans that guide the day-to-day activities of MCBP and partner entities.

Action Items

1.1 Implement and periodically revise a Communication, Education and Outreach Plan of the CCMP to ensure community involvement.

1.2 Implement and periodically revise a Finance Strategy that will establish long-term financial sustainability to implement the CCMP through diverse resources and partners.

1.3 Develop, implement, and periodically revise a Science and Research Plan to inform scientific decision making relating to the CCMP.

1.4 Develop workplans for approval and funding from EPA and other grantors to implement actions in the CCMP.

1.5 Engage the partners and watershed community through regularly scheduled meetings of the Management Conference committees.

Community meeting to reveal 2023 Coastal Bays Report Card featuring the highest grade of B- for the health of the bays since the founding of the program. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 2. Promote environmental literacy for the public through education, outreach, communication, and engagement activities

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program promotes environmental literacy within the community by providing the public with resources and skills to make informed, responsible decisions that will have a positive impact on the environment through a mix of outreach, education, and communication efforts. Providing space for personal experiences, direct connections with nature, and cultivating a sense of place can help create lifelong stewards of our environment.

Outreach events provide the public access to learn from and engage with MCBP staff and partner organizations about current issues facing the Coastal Bays. "Bay Day" is one of the largest collaborative events hosted annually with Ocean Pines Association. This environmental festival educates residents on actions that they can take to create more bay-friendly environments in their own backyard. Each year, over 35 environmental organizations participate with their focus ranging from forests, farms and birding to oysters, bay creatures, and ocean conservation. Attendees of all ages experience interactive and informational exhibits, educational boat tours on the St. Martin River and hands-on nature-based activities.

Environmental Education provides opportunities for citizens to foster a deeper connection to the natural world. MCBP strives to provide a variety of direct education opportunities for youth and adults through presentations, workshops, and experiences in the field. During the summer months, MCBP runs three one-week sessions of Estuary Explorers camp through the Ocean City Recreation and Parks Department. This camp is designed to immerse youth in nature through outdoor investigations, field trips, and hands-on exploration. For adults, the Explore the Estuary learning series offers a unique opportunity for community members to broaden their knowledge of the Maryland Coastal Bays watershed. Four programs are offered yearly and provide an in-depth look into both the natural world and conservation issues. Each program in the series features an expert who contributes professional knowledge to the program focus.

In-person events such as education programs and outreach events are only one component of the strategy to engage the public and promote environmental literacy. Science communication is another crucial way to connect an even broader audience to the issues and conservation efforts occurring in the Coastal Bays watershed. Through a mix of digital and print media, MCBP provides educational information, promotes events, and translates findings into learning resources. Each year, a report card is produced to enhance public awareness on the health of the bays and highlight important initiatives occurring. Over the next 10 years, MCBP will continue to grow our digital presence and produce materials to engage the public.

Guided boat tours of the bays introduced in 2022 provide opportunities to engage the community in educational experiences. Photo by MCBP staff.

Action Items

2.1 Collaborate with watershed partners to discuss resiliency planning and implement responsive actions.

2.2 Deliver direct educational opportunities such as workshops, events, and programs to explore the watershed, increase knowledge, and cultivate a sense of place for individuals and community groups.

2.3 Develop and translate findings into learning resources (*e.g.* Homeowner's Guide, Report Card) to explain research, support restoration, and promote general watershed health.

2.4 Provide information and promote events through digital communication including social media platforms, press releases, and newsletters.

2.5 Communicate to local businesses, watershed partners and residents the beneficial relationship of ecosystem health to economic development, tourism, recreation and quality of life.

2.6 Collaborate on education, outreach and engagement programs related to marine issues including responsible use by local stakeholders, marine debris and trash-free waters.

2.7 Facilitate stakeholder meetings to share information, collect feedback, and educate anglers on the purpose of fisheries management policies.

2.8 Provide outreach for integrated pest management including habitat for birds, bats, and natural predators.

2.9 Educate the public about "best practices" for water conservation, well safety, and septic system management.

2.10 Inform the public about farm conservation practices and support local farms, food and fiber.

2.11 Provide education and outreach to small acreage landowners and those with backyard habitat and forests through the Master Gardener, Watershed Protection and Restoration, and Maryland Woodland and Watershed Stewards programs.

2.12 Promote responsibly sourced local seafood and shellfish to inform consumers and support commercial fisheries.

2.13 Sponsor Beach District Planting and Bayscape Planting programs to provide water quality and habitat benefits.

2.14 Coordinate local educational and volunteer efforts to assist with stranded and injured animals throughout the watershed.

2.15 Enhance public awareness and information resources for public recreational facilities, and increase opportunities to access land and water based activities.

2.16 Conduct public outreach regarding hazardous materials spill and disposal contact information.

2.17 Encourage community members and businesses to implement bay friendly lawn care practices to reduce chemical run-off from residential and developed areas through education and outreach.

The annual Bay Day event in Ocean Pines has attracted more than 1,000 residents and visitors to engage with environmental exhibitors and family fun. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 3. Coordinate with MCBP partners to develop and deliver academic programming

MCBP works to develop place-based, interdisciplinary educational programs for watershed youth, educators, and higher education communities. The goal is to deliver programs that do more than provide knowledge about the watershed environment and restoration work, but also allow audiences to develop an understanding on how to address local issues. Outdoor experiential learning remains a priority at MCBP, featuring work to create intentional experiences that provide knowledge, connect to lived experiences, and open opportunities for personal growth.

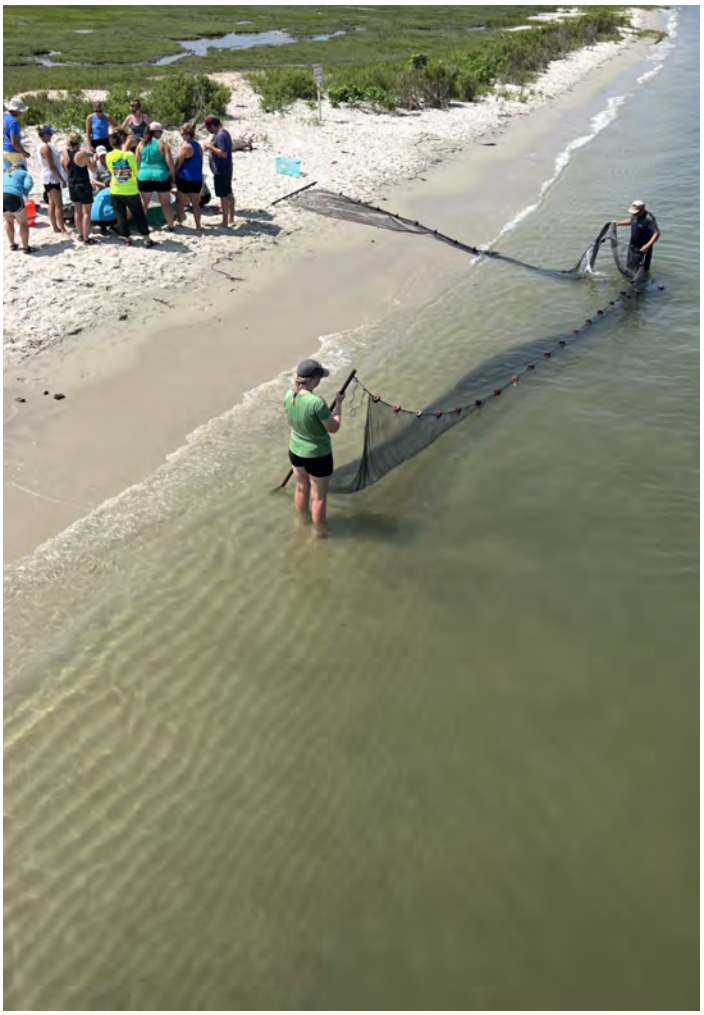
MCBP develops and delivers field excursions, in-the-field service trips, classroom presentations, and after-school programs to public school, private school, and homeschooled youth throughout Worcester County. MCBP also works collaboratively with higher education institutions on Maryland's Eastern Shore, such as Salisbury University and University of Maryland Eastern Shore, to provide internships, graduate research opportunities, and career development. MCBP offers various activities such as fish sampling, water quality monitoring, forest surveying, invasive removal, wetland plantings, sensory explorations, and nature journaling. These programs are customized based on student and subject need, and all lessons align with Next Generation Science Standards.

Over the past decade, MCBP and Worcester County Public Schools (WCPS) have worked to deepen their partnership to best serve local K-12 public school students. This partnership has been essential in reaching not just students, but their families. Collaboratively, MCBP and WCPS have designed new curriculum, developed grant programs and Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences, facilitated professional development opportunities for area formal and informal educators, and delivered after-school programs targeted at WCPS system Title I schools.

In 2024, in collaboration with WCPS, MCBP hired the first ever Environmental Literacy Specialist who works to finalize and implement an integrative Environmental Literacy Plan across Worcester County. The specialist works to design and execute cross-curricular activities, run environmental afterschool programs at Title I elementary schools, and support environmental education initiatives and outreach within both WCPS and MCBP.

MCBP works to personally connect with teachers, educators, and community leaders by providing opportunities to become more fluent in Coastal Bays ecology and issues, and to learn how to create transformative student-centered outdoor experiences. Through the years, professional development programs have been specifically molded to best suit local educators' needs based on yearly feedback. They are focused on connections to local resources, exposure to innovative conservation techniques and scientific inquiry, and building on a sense of place in the watershed that the teachers can use in their classrooms.

MCBP is actively engaged in the North American Association for Environmental Education, the Mid-Atlantic Marine Educators Association, the National Association of Interpretation, and the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE). MAEOE is one of MCBP's closest education partners and providers and supports our goals of providing high quality environmental education to our community.



Worcester County teachers practice seining during a professional development workshop. Photo by MCBP staff.

Action Items

3.1 Support the WC public and private schools and homeschool groups with resources and curricula development for environmental literacy, and the facilitation of meaningful outdoor experiences for K-12 students.

3.2 Provide education and career expanding opportunities to higher education undergraduate and graduate students, with a specific target of the Lower Shore area and institutions such as University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Salisbury University and Wor-Wic Community College.

3.3 Provide and facilitate professional development opportunities for both K-12 formal and informal educators with an emphasis on the Coastal Bays watershed.

3.4 Support the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) and other specialized education organizations.

"Maryland Coastal Bays has been a vital partner in advancing environmental education across Worcester County Public Schools. Their commitment to fostering environmental literacy continues to open new doors for students, inspiring deeper connections to the watershed and future stewardship."

— Jennifer Sills, Coordinator of Instruction: K-12 Science, Environmental Literacy, and School Library, Worcester County Public Schools

Students at the Assateague Education Program. Photo by MCBP staff.

Goal 4. Cultivate volunteer participation in all aspects of community science, education, and outreach activities

Community involvement in the protection and restoration of the Coastal Bays watershed through volunteer programs empowers citizens, increases knowledge of the watershed, and helps produce stewards of our local environment. Engaging our community can increase the support for our bays as well as policies and practices that impact our natural resources. Volunteers provide the necessary power to maintain, monitor, and manage the physical, chemical, and biological processes around the watershed.

Many opportunities are available for volunteers from different backgrounds and abilities to participate in a wide variety of programs. MCBP conducts community science efforts such as water quality monitoring and oyster gardening, which allow the participants to observe and collect data on their own, but with supervision and training. These programs retain volunteers for years since they are connected to their own interests and values. Other forms of community science include seasonal projects such as horseshoe crab and diamondback terrapin monitoring, which open the door to participation for both visitors and residents. These efforts not only create environmentally active community members, but also provide important data to evaluate the health of the waters of the Coastal Bays.

Scheduled volunteer programs offer staff-led opportunities on public and private watershed restorations sites. The "Discover Your Watershed" volunteer event series that runs yearly during the spring and fall months brings community volunteers of all ages to MCBP-managed restoration sites to develop firsthand knowledge of the properties and assist with trail development and maintenance, invasive species removal, property clean ups, habitat restoration, and biological monitoring.

Environmental education throughout the watershed can be leveraged and supported with using trained, informed volunteers. These volunteers become the face of the organization and advocate for the health of the watershed.

Community volunteers help plant beach grasses at Selsey Road shoreline restoration and resilience site. Photo by MCBP staff.

Volunteers assist in new trail development at Illia Fehrer Nature Preserve during Discover Your Watershed event. Photo by MCBP staff.

Activities conducted by volunteers have included working exhibit tables, leading bay boat tours, and teaching interpretive programming. These activities allow for increased outreach and education program opportunities, resulting in heightened awareness of the Coastal Bays strengths and challenges.

MCBP works to acknowledge our dedicated volunteers and their contributions. Each year, MCBP holds a volunteer celebration to recognize their dedication and hard work. Another level of recognition is through the annual Coastal Bays Report Card publication and announcement event. At the event, MCBP awards "Gold Stars" to individuals and organizations demonstrating exemplary commitment to volunteerism benefiting the Coastal Bays Program and the health of the watershed.

Action Items

4.1 Provide volunteer opportunities to individuals and community service organizations via events, festivals, property management and land stewardship.

4.2 Provide training for community scientists to monitor and survey natural resources, fish, and wildlife populations.

4.3 Recognize the contributions at many levels, of citizens, volunteers and organizations devoted to conservation in the Coastal Bays watershed.

4.4 Continue Horseshoe Crab and Terrapin counts and promote the use of cull rings and Turtle Exclusion Devices on all recreational pots.

Goal 5. Develop and support partnerships that advance mutual interests and are aligned with CCMP goals

One of the most impactful opportunities as a National Estuary Program is the ability to foster strong partnerships among stakeholders and create space for collaboration. Maryland Coastal Bays Program is proud to bring together diverse perspectives to pursue and achieve mutual goals leading to the improved health of the watershed.

Partnerships are fostered in many forms throughout the Coastal Bays watershed to promote conservation and restoration policies and activities, provide public access and recreational opportunities, and preserve and celebrate the history and culture of the watershed and its communities. MCBP serves as both participants and leaders of local and regional teams that work towards specific conservation and restoration goals.

MCBP is partnering with the Ocean City Lifesaving Station Museum to create an exhibit along the Ocean City boardwalk displaying a mural painted by a local artist that depicts the Coastal Bays estuarine ecosystem. MCBP is also a leading member of a partnership group working to bring to fruition a landscape-scale restoration plan for Maryland's salt marshes called "Marshes For Tomorrow."

Partners and local community organizations are supported by MCBP through financial grants, along with scholarships for students pursuing post secondary environmental degrees or employment training opportunities. The Program also has a robust internship and workforce development program, which equips high school, college, and post-graduate students with firsthand experience in the environmental field with a focus on environmental science and education.

Carly Toulan joined MCBP as an intern and was then hired as a full-time environmental scientist. Photo by MCBP staff.

Action Items

5.1 Provide scholarships, internships and other workforce development opportunities for high school and college students and graduates in the Coastal Bays watershed.

5.2 Implement Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) resulting from a violation settlement, preferably in the same subwatershed.

5.3 Respond and refer community concerns related to possible violations of environmental protections to the appropriate agency.

5.4 Participate in local and regional teams and networks to communicate and collaborate on conservation and restoration activities in the watershed.

5.5 Participate in and share information at conferences, meetings, workshops, and technology transfer opportunities to receive and provide professional development.

5.6 Seek partnerships that support activities generating revenue for MCBP and others, while advancing programmatic and organizational community interests.

5.7 Support agencies and organizations working toward mutual CCMP goals through financial partnerships including mini-grants, research grants, subawards and sponsoring memberships.

5.8 Provide expertise and a voice for the watershed by participating on boards, advisory councils, planning committees and attending relevant meetings.

5.9 Support organizations and programs working towards the preservation of the history and culture of the watershed and its communities.

5.10 Collaborate with partners and stakeholders to develop plans, projects, and maintenance guidelines that improve access and recreational opportunities on publicly owned lands.

Goal 6. Conduct outreach efforts to the public and policymakers to gain support and promote the MCBP

The key component of the National Estuary Program is its focus on consensus-based collaboration, meaning MCBP works with the public, policymakers, and partners to create and implement goals in this management plan to conserve and protect the Coastal Bays ecosystem and the communities that depend on it.

The goal of outreach efforts start with this actual management plan. Every ten years, MCBP reaches out to the community, partners, and policy makers to make sure this program develops a management plan that reflects and advances the needs and interests of the people, ecosystems, and wildlife that inhabit the watershed.

Outreach to develop consensus and promote collaboration continues into the Plan's implementation phase, including engaging with elected officials to enact supportive policies, engaging the public to cultivate increased understanding of watershed challenges and opportunities, and engaging with public and private funding sources to generate financial resources critical to project development, execution, and evaluation. This ongoing outreach takes on many forms, from traditional and social media, to direct meetings, to participation on boards, committees, and community issue forums.

Action Items

6.1 Inform federal, state and local agencies along with NGOs about the purpose and benefits of the National Estuary Program and establish dialogue among them.

6.2 Identify resource management issues and engage elected and appointed officials as to the challenges, possible solutions and funding needs.

6.3 Attend and participate in outreach events and meetings in the community to spread knowledge of watershed stewardship and best management practices.

6.4 Develop, implement and respond to opportunities to develop funding through public and private grants, to supplement core EPA funding in support of CCMP programs and activities.

EPA Headquarters and Region 3 staff join MCBP staff in unveiling of Ocean Boardwalk exhibit depicting Coastal Bays marsh ecosystem. Photo by MCBP staff.

State Senator Mary Beth Carozza presides over 2024 event showcasing new Maryland license plate commemorating Chesapeake and Coastal Bays. Photo by MCBP staff.

CCMP Crosswalk Table

Provided below is a chart identifying the major structural changes between the 2015 CCMP and 2025 revision. The 2015 Plans in the CCMP were replaced with action-oriented Themes. The new Themes "Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems" and "Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships" more accurately reflect the EPA guidance and MCBP program priorities. Notes on major changes are provided.

2015 CCMP	2025 CCMP
4 Action Plans	**4 Themes**
Water Quality	Provide Healthy Waters
Fish and Wildlife	Protect Fish, Wildlife and their Habitat
Recreation and Navigation	Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems
Community and Economic Development	Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships
2015: 14 Goals and 34 Challenges	**2025: 21 Goals**
Challenges were viewed as between a Goal and Action	Some 2015 Challenges became Goals, others Actions
222 Actions	**124 Actions** (Many of the 2015 Actions have been combined)

Water Quality Goals		Provide Healthy Waters Goals	
WQG1	Decrease nutrient loading throughout the watershed.	PHWG1	Reduce nutrient and pollutant loading in the watershed.
WQG2	Decrease inputs of toxic contaminants. (Toxic Contaminants are covered in PHW1 Pollutants.)	PHWG2	Protect and conserve groundwater.
WQG3	Implement a strategy to meet Total Maximum Daily Loads.	PHWG3	Develop and implement comprehensive watershed programs and strategies to achieve TMDL goals.
Fish and Wildlife Goals		**Protect Fish, Wildlife and Their Habitat**	
FWG1	Characterize, monitor, and manage fishery resources and habitats.	PFWHG1	Update and implement a comprehensive Monitoring Plan and Habitat Protection/Restoration Strategy as separate components of the CCMP.
FWG2	Characterize, monitor, and manage estuarine resources and habitats.	PFWHG2	Monitor and manage finfish, shellfish and other aquatic species.
FWG3	Characterize, monitor, and manage terrestrial resources and habitats.	PFWHG3	Monitor and manage aquatic and estuarine habitats.
FWG4	Expand upon the coordinated effort to collect and report on Coastal Bays geomorphic and biometric information. (FWG4 is represented in Theme 3 and 4.)	PFWHG4	Monitor and manage plants and wildlife in the watershed.
		PFWHG5	Monitor and manage terrestrial habitats.

2015 CCMP		2025 CCMP	
Recreation and Navigation		**Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems**	
RNG1	Improve recreational opportunities and access to the coastal bays and tributaries. (RNG1 and RNG2 now in DPEPG2.)	CRCEG1	Enhance resilience of Coastal Bays ecosystems to natural disasters, sea level rise, and other environmental stressors.
RNG2	Balance resource protection with recreational use. (RNG1 and RNG2 now in DPEPG2.)	CRCEG2	Enhance resilience of community assets and infrastructure to natural disasters, sea level rise, and other environmental stressors.
RNG3	Continue to implement the Ocean City Water Resources Study recommendations. (RNG3 and RNG4 now in CRCEG4.)	CRCEG3	Implement the MCBP Adaptation Action Plan.
RNG4	Manage sediment alterations in a manner beneficial to the local economy and natural resources. (RNG3 and RNG4 now in CRCEG4.)	CRCEG4	Coordinate with partners to develop and implement a Maryland Coastal Bays Sediment Management Plan (SMP).
		CRCEG5	Monitor and conduct research to assess conditions and identify trends and challenges to guide resilience policies, programs and projects.
		CRCEG6	Promote and facilitate conservation of land, natural resources, energy and manufactured materials.
Community and Economic Development		**Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships**	
CEG1	Manage the watershed to maximize economic benefits while minimizing negative resource impacts. (CEG1 now represented as a part of DPEPG2.)	DPEPG1	Support the NEP program effort through the MCBP program administration and Management Conference.
CEG2	Enhance the level of sustainability in land use decision making. (CEG2 now represented as a part of CRCEG6.)	DPEPG2	Promote environmental literacy for the public through education, outreach, communication and engagement activities.
CEG3	Educate and inform the population so it can make knowledgeable decisions for the community and its future. (CEG3 now represented as a part of a broader DPEPG2.)	DPEPG3	Coordinate with MCBP partners to develop and deliver academic programming.
		DPEPG4	Cultivate volunteer participation in all aspects of community science, education, and outreach activities.
		DPEPG5	Develop and support partnerships that advance mutual interests and are aligned with CCMP goals.
		DPEPG6	Conduct outreach efforts to policymakers to gain support and promote the Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

Understanding the 2025 CCMP Themes, Goals, and Actions Table

As presented in the narrative body of the CCMP, and within the guidance provided by EPA, CCMP Themes and Goals are accomplished by identifying specific Actions to be implemented by the MCBP partners to address watershed conservation, protection, and restoration issues.

Action alone does not achieve environmental results unless it includes accountability for who is responsible for implementation, funding necessary to carry out the objectives, metrics and milestones to measure performance, and how Action implementation is tracked.

The following table will provide this information for each Action, with emphasis on the continued partnership approach to collaborative success.

Action—Each Action is described in sufficient detail to know what is proposed in support of the Goal to be achieved. Some Actions may take place system-wide or involve policy changes rather than on-the-ground projects.

Responsible Partners—This area identifies the partner organizations and agencies responsible for carrying out the Action, listed alphabetically. Where more than one partner is identified in the Action, it is not the intent to identify one as "lead." The partners will provide support in many forms including direct participation, funding and communication to indicate the partner's willingness to be engaged in the Action implementation alone or with others. Abbreviations for agencies and organizations used in this table appear on the following page.

Key Timeframe and Milestones—These items describe the important timeframes and milestones for completion of certain elements of an Action. Specific milestones will also provide incremental steps to completing an Action. These might include a funding stream accomplished or development of a model to be used in implementing an action. Many of these are indicated as ongoing, highlighting the continuous nature of an Action or activity.

Symbol	Cost Range
$	Less than $25K
$$	$25K – $100K
$$$	$100K – $500K
$$$$	$500K – $1M
$$$$$	Over $1M

Cost Range and Funding Source—This area of the table contains a cost range and identification of funding sources. The cost range is represented by $ corresponding with the amounts in the table above.

"*Within partner resources*" means funding for base level implementation is able to be accomplished within operating resources.

When MCBP is the sole entity identified in an Action, "*within MCBP resources*" indicates the use of EPA CWA Section 320 funds allocated through the EPA/MCBP cooperative partnership as the primary source of funds.

Other special funds for all partners may indicate the need for grants, special funds, loans, or other appropriations to accomplish the Action.

Some supplemental funding needs are also identified when the level of implementation may be enhanced with additional resources.

Performance Measures—A performance measure allows for a quantitative measure of the effectiveness of an effort to implement an Action. It also provides details on the type of information that needs to be tracked or measured. The more general explanation of an environmental result may also be represented as a performance measure. For example, this could be described as "reduced flooding and improved water quality."

Abbreviation	Responsible Partner
ACT	Assateague Coastal Trust
ASIS	Assateague Island National Seashore
Delaware DNREC	Delaware Department of Natural Resource and Environmental Control
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
LES-PRISM	Lower Eastern Shore Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management
LSLT	Lower Shore Land Trust
MAEOE	Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education
MCBP	Maryland Coastal Bays Program
MDA	Maryland Department of Agriculture
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
MDEM	Maryland Department of Emergency Management
MDP	Maryland Department of Planning
MEA	Maryland Energy Administration
MHT	Maryland Historical Trust
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
OC	Ocean City
OPA	Ocean Pines Association
ORP	Oyster Recovery Partnership
PDA	Public Ditch Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
STAC	Science and Technical Advisory Committee
SU	Salisbury University
UMCES	University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
UME	University of Maryland Extension
UMES	University of Maryland Eastern Shore
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geologic Survey
VA DEQ	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
VIMS	Virginia Institute of Marine Science
WC	Worcester County
WCPS	Worcester County Public Schools
WSCD	Worcester Soil Conservation District

Themes, Goals, and Actions Table

Theme 1: Provide Healthy Waters	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 1	**Reduce nutrient and pollutant loading in the watershed.**				
PHW 1.1	Provide funds and incentives to establish, improve, replace and maintain septic systems with Best Available Technology.	ACT, MDE, WC	Ongoing. Annual Bay Restoration Fund (BRF) funding to WC. Additional funding through state legislation. Improvements to wastewater septic systems.	$$$ BRF to WC. Other public and private funding sources.	Funds provided annually (BRF, other). Number of septic systems improved or replaced. Number of sewer connections. Reduction of nutrients to groundwater.
PHW 1.2	Promote meaningful interstate cooperation for nutrient reduction through watershed based planning strategies.	Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, Delaware DNREC, EPA, MCBP, MDE, Town of Chincoteague, Virginia DEQ	Ongoing. Development of collaborative interstate watershed based plans for nutrient reduction. Hold initial watershed planning meetings with EPA, Delaware and Virginia in 2025.	$ Within partner resources. State grant funding.	Decreased nutrient and bacteria levels toward meeting the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Maryland Coastal Bays, including septic discharges.
PHW 1.3	Protect and increase wetlands and buffers in riparian zones and stream corridors.	Berlin, DNR, LSLT, MCBP, MDA, OC, OPA, WC, WSCD	Ongoing. Conduct education and outreach meetings with partners and property owners beginning in 2025. Wetland/ buffer creation and restoration.	$$–$$$ Within partner resources. Grants and cost-share programs.	Increase in wetland and buffers acres. Improved habitat and ecosystem function.
PHW 1.4	Partner with local farmers and Public Drainage Associations (PDAs) to develop and implement farm specific plans, including land conservation, soil conservation, water quality and nutrient management, utilizing federal and state cost share programs and loans.	LSLT, MCBP, MDA, NRCS, PDAs, WSCD, UME	Ongoing. Conduct education and outreach meetings with farmers and PDAs beginning in 2025. BMP installations. Periodic announcement of cost-share opportunities and solicitation of applicants. Development and updating of plans.	$$–$$$ Within partner resources. Grants and federal cost-share programs.	Number of outreach workshops provided. Increased number of Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed. Number of acres treated by BMPs. Number of landowners implementing BMPs. Reduction in non-point source nutrient runoff. 100% of farm acreage in compliance with nutrient management plans, and significant increases in implementation of land conservation, soil conservation and water quality practices.

Theme 1: Provide Healthy Waters	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
PHW 1.5	Continue to support the Clean Marina Initiative including technical assistance and outreach materials on pollution prevention.	DNR, MCBP	Ongoing. Education and outreach meetings with watershed marinas beginning in 2026. Technical Assistance provided.	$ Within partner resources.	Increase the number of marinas participating by 20%. BMPs implemented. Reduction in pollutant loading.
PHW 1.6	Quantify the volume of water and nutrients delivered from watershed ditches to the Coastal Bays to prioritize for nutrient reduction.	DNR, MCBP, USGS	As funding becomes available. Research and analysis of sources and inputs.	$$ No current funding identified. Possible future co-funding with USGS.	Identification of ditch sources and nutrient loads.
PHW 1.7	Keep and refine the policy of no new point source discharges to waterways, and facilitate removal of point sources while requiring spray irrigation or other technologies instead.	MDE, WC	Ongoing. Updated Master Water and Sewer Plan and County Comprehensive Plan in 2026. MDE approval for groundwater discharge permit for Worcester County.	$$$–$$$$ Within partner resources. Federal and state grants and loans, and private funds.	Stable or decreased point source nutrient discharges. Increased spray irrigation acreage.
PHW 1.8	Provide environmental data and analyses collected offshore to inform coastal researchers about nutrient loading dynamics that affect the Coastal Bays through inlet flushing.	ASIS, DNR, USACE, UMCES	Ongoing as funding is available. Ecosystem data and reports. Development of model with research data.	$$–$$$ Within partner resources. Research grants.	Identify nutrient loading through inlet flushing.
PHW 1.9	Determine trends in air pollution inputs from the National Atmospheric Deposition Program monitoring site.	ASIS, DNR, USGS	Ongoing. Continued data for loading. Begin to develop trend analysis in 2026.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Provide monitoring data on air pollution indices.
PHW 1.10	Conduct hazardous waste disposal programs for farm and residential hazardous materials.	WC	Ongoing. Public announcement of collection event schedule. Events held annually.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Number of participants. Volume and type of collections. Reduction in toxic loading.

Theme 1: Provide Healthy Waters	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
PHW 1.11	Identify the sources, loadings, fate and transport, and develop reduction strategies for emerging contaminants including Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), endocrine disruptors and microplastics.	ACT, MDE, UMES, WC	As resources are available. Inclusion of data collected and strategies in the WC Water and Sewer Plan. Findings of research by partners including ACT, UMES. Annual compliance reports from WC to MDE and customers. Development of state regulations.	$$–$$$ County enterprise and customer service fees.	Reduction of emergent contaminants entering Coastal Bays waterways. Number of sources identified. Performance and compliance with applicable permit conditions.
Goal 2	**Protect and conserve groundwater.**				
PHW 2.1	Update the USGS surficial aquifer model with other known studies such as thermal imaging to prescribe solutions for water protection.	DNR, USGS	As funding is available. Application of models, methods and studies. One-two year model update project with USGS Water Science Center if funding becomes available.	$–$$ Might be co-funding available.	Better understanding of nutrient flow paths and consequences. Recommendations for ecosystem improvements.
PHW 2.2	Fund continued monitoring of nutrient inputs to the Coastal Bays from groundwater.	DNR, USGS	As funding is available. Groundwater monitoring plan. Secure matching funds for additional groundwater monitoring.	$$ Possible matching funds for additional groundwater monitoring.	Assess flow volumes, groundwater age and nutrient concentrations by land use sector.
PHW 2.3	Monitor and assess changes in Assateague Island groundwater resources related to natural hazards and weather variability.	ASIS	As funding is available. Schedule staff as available to conduct monitoring activities and collect data.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Determine status and trends of ASIS groundwater resources, including saltwater intrusion.
PHW 2.4	Assess and report on quantity and quality of groundwater resources available for the Coastal Bays watershed.	WC	Ongoing. Source water protection reports with wellhead protection audits. Planning study for growth and water plant interconnection.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Planning recommendations and priority levels for the Water Resources Element chapter of the WC County Comprehensive Plan. Completed water plant interconnections.
PHW 2.5	Consider development of technology and standards to advance graywater reuse.	MDE	Ongoing. Development of graywater reuse technology and standards.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Graywater permits. Increased water conservation.

Theme 1: Provide Healthy Waters	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 3	**Develop and implement comprehensive watershed programs and strategies to achieve the TMDL standard.**				
PHW 3.1	Develop and implement Non-Point Source Management (A-I) Plans for all sub-watersheds in the Maryland Coastal Bays including plans requiring interstate coordination.	Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, Delaware DNREC, EPA, MCBP, MDA, MDE, VA DEQ, WC and municipalities	Ongoing—Complete all plans by 2030. Convene partners for initial planning meetings in 2025. Initiate plan development process in 2026.	$$–$$$ Within partner resources. EPA 319 non-point source and other public and private grant funding.	Reduction in non-point source nutrient loading and achievement of the watershed TMDL. Receipt of non-point source funding to develop and implement plans.
PHW 3.2	Collect and report data for existing and future BMPs, including Agriculture, to track progress toward the successful implementation of the subwatershed plans, and allow for adaptive management.	Berlin, MCBP, MDA, NRCS, OC, OPA, WC, WSCD	Ongoing as watershed plans are developed and implemented. Create a permanent subcommittee of the Implementation Committee (IC) to oversee the progress of this action. Use MDA's "Conservation Tracker" database for BMP implementation. Possible use of TMDL Implementation Planning and Progress (TIPP) tool.	$$ Additional partner resources needed.	Annual update of BMPs implemented and input into the watershed plans.
PHW 3.3	Fund and implement retrofits, improvements and long-term maintenance of conveyances, structures and natural landscapes for stormwater management.	Berlin, DNR, MCBP, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing. Community outreach to identify stormwater management needs and opportunities. Implementation of approved projects.	$–$$$ Project specific. Public and private funding sources. Grants. Agency budgets.	Number of projects completed. Reduced flooding and improved water quality.
PHW 3.4	Evaluate a tracking approach for land use indicators including but not limited to land use/ land cover, impervious surfaces, amount of development occurring inside & outside of County Growth Areas/ Priority Funding Areas, and other land use and growth metrics.	Berlin, MCBP, MDP, OC, OPA, WC	End of 2026, conduct a planning charette to evaluate the feasibility of coordinating data collection. Updated MDP land use/ land cover parcel data. Review and incorporation of Comprehensive Land Use Plans by collaborative partner agencies as they are updated.	$ Within partner resources. Possible grant funding.	Development of a land use data tracking approach.

Theme 2: Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Their Habitat	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 1	**Update and implement a comprehensive Monitoring Plan, and Habitat Protection and Restoration Strategy, as separate components of the CCMP.**				
PFWH 1.1	Utilize the Finance Strategy to support all monitoring needs in the MCBP Monitoring Plan and Habitat and Restoration Strategy.	ASIS, DNR, MCBP, STAC	Ongoing. Completion of the Draft Finance Strategy, Monitoring Plan, and Habitat and Restoration Strategy submitted to EPA in 2027.	$$ Plan Development within MCBP resources.	Development of adequate financing. Implementation of Monitoring Plan and Habitat and Restoration Strategy.
PFWH 1.2	Ensure that the recommended components within the Monitoring Plan, and Habitat and Restoration Strategy are considered each year for implementation in the MCBP and other partner's annual work plans.	MCBP and Partners	Annually, as the Monitoring Plan, and Habitat and Restoration Strategy are updated and implemented. Submission of annual Habitat and Leveraging Report.	$ Within MCBP and partner resources. Additional funding needed for enhanced monitoring capacity.	Development and implementation of specific activities in the Annual Work Plan consistent with the Monitoring Plan, Habitat and Restoration Strategy.
Goal 2	**Monitor and manage finfish, shellfish and other aquatic species.**				
PFWH 2.1	Work with partner agencies to manage and provide stock assessment data for recreationally and commercially important finfish and shellfish species to the targets and thresholds described in state and federal fisheries management plans.	DNR	Ongoing. Periodic updates of finfish and shellfish stock status. Annual management evaluations report. Compliance reporting to Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.	$ Within DNR resources.	Assessment, monitoring and reporting on the status of fishery resources. Ability to adaptively manage sustainable fisheries.
PFWH 2.2	Continue to improve the quality and timeliness of commercial landings reports by implementing online, multi-platform tools for real-time reporting for finfish and shellfish.	DNR	Ongoing. Development of digital reporting tools.	$$ Additional partner resources needed. Potential funding through Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program and other funding partners.	More timely and accurate data reporting from commercial watermen. Improved stock assessments.

Theme 2: Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Their Habitat	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
PFWH 2.3	Provide the public with reports of finfish and shellfish harvest results.	DNR	Ongoing. Dissemination of information as available through Fisheries Management Plan updates and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission compliance reports. Data available through the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program website.	$ Within partner resources.	Improved public understanding of fisheries harvest information.
PFWH 2.4	Conduct diamondback terrapin and horseshoe crab spawning surveys and share data to partner management agencies and the public.	DNR, MCBP	Annual horseshoe crab surveys. Terrapin surveys on hold pending possible development of regional protocol and database.	$ Within partner resources. Volunteer resources.	Scientific data for management of species and habitat. Number of surveys conducted. Compliance with horseshoe crab spawning survey requirements of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.
PFWH 2.5	Complete an annual survey of shellfish resources within Maryland's Coastal Bays, and update the Coastal Bays Hard Clam and Blue Crab Fisheries Management Plan.	DNR, MCBP	Ongoing. Completion of shellfish surveys.	$$ Within partner resources. Additional future resources needed.	Assessment of shellfish resources. Incorporation of hard clam data into annual Coastal Bays Report Card.
PFWH 2.6	Assess the overall health of aquatic species and habitats, including the effects of emerging contaminants and microplastics.	DNR, EPA, UMES	Ongoing. Research and reports. Completion of Index of Biotic Integrity as a part of the EPA National Coastal Condition Assessment every 5 years.	$$–$$$ Within partner resources. Additional resources needed. Grant funding.	Assessment and reporting of data and development of management strategies.
PFWH 2.7	Promote and support responsible shellfish aquaculture with incentives to assist production, and education and training on best practices to growers and the public.	DNR, MCBP	Ongoing. Implementation of outreach and education activities. Providing incentives to aquaculture growers. Quarterly meetings of the Aquaculture Coordinating Council.	$$ Within partner resources.	Increase in number of responsible aquaculture operations in the watershed. Reduced conflicts with waterway users. Refined Aquaculture Siting Tool. Enhanced industry performance, standards and best management practices. Implementation of outcomes from the Aquaculture Coordinating Council.

Theme 2: Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Their Habitat	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
PFWH 2.8	MCBP will work with partners to continue the oyster gardening community science program.	MCBP, ORP, Volunteers	Ongoing support to volunteer oyster gardeners. Periodic volunteer trainings. Annual collection and placement of grown oysters.	$ Within MCBP resources. ORP and volunteer resources.	Number of trained volunteer oyster gardeners. Numbers of oysters grown. Improved ecosystem function.
Goal 3	**Monitor and manage aquatic and estuarine habitats.**				
PFWH 3.1	Continue research and support for management, protection and restoration of seagrass beds and exploration of various methods of monitoring.	ASIS, DNR, MCBP, UMES, VIMS	Ongoing, Annual collection of data. Findings of DNR Report on alternative survey methods to General Assembly 12/25. Findings of ASIS funded research on seagrass resiliency. Explore seagrass bed survey and restoration opportunities.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Additional resources needed.	Selection of new survey methods. Protection and possible expansion of existing seagrass beds including mitigation during restoration projects.
PFWH 3.2	Protect horseshoe crab and other wildlife populations by preserving and restoring bay beaches and other bottom habitats.	DNR, MCBP	Ongoing preservation and restoration efforts.	$–$$$ Within partner resources. Grant funding. Additional resources needed.	Area of habitat protected, species population survey data.
PFWH 3.3	Support efforts to monitor and assess Harmful Algae and Phytoplankton including special Brown Tide analysis.	ASIS, DNR, MCBP, NOAA	Ongoing monitoring efforts including the NOAA Phytoplankton Monitoring Network. Collection and processing of data.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Additional resources needed.	Detection and communication of presence or absence of harmful algal bloom species. Protection of public and aquatic ecosystem health.
PFWH 3.4	Maintain and enhance bay water quality monitoring programs to assess nutrient loading, bacteria levels and living resource responses.	ACT, ASIS, DNR, MCBP, UMCES, WC	Ongoing monitoring efforts. Addition of continuous monitoring sites. Collection and processing of data.	$$$ Within partner resources. Additional resources needed.	Increase or decrease in Bay ecosystem health indicators. Adequate monitoring coverage. Enhanced data from continuous monitoring sites.
PFWH 3.5	Continue to support sustained improvements in reef enhancement by sponsoring permits for the Ocean City Reef Foundation.	DNR, OC	Issuance of necessary permits. Monitor possible transfer of permit issuance to DNR. Ongoing reef enhancement activities.	$ Within OC resources.	Timely issuance of permits. Enhanced offshore reef habitat and marine species.
PFWH 3.6	Monitor near shore plant and animal species and habitat.	DNR, MCBP	Ongoing monitoring efforts.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Improved species protection, health and abundance. Protection and restoration of habitat.

Theme 2: Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Their Habitat	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
PFWH 3.7	Assess the historic presence and extent of marshes with the potential for marsh migration in response to sea level rise.	Audubon Mid-Atlantic, DNR, MCBP, USFWS	Ongoing monitoring efforts. Inclusion of data in the Habitat and Restoration Strategy.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Grant funding.	Identification of potential marsh migration corridors. Number of acres identified.
PFWH 3.8	Continue to expand and update data and information via the Coastal Atlas to monitor coastal conditions and inform protective actions.	DNR	Ongoing expansion of data input into the Coastal Atlas.	$ Within DNR resources.	Expanded and updated Coastal Atlas. Improved resource management decision making.
PFWH 3.9	Monitor gains and losses and conduct assessments of wetlands in the watershed to prioritize creation, conservation and restoration activities.	ASIS, DNR, MCBP, MDE, USFWS	Ongoing. Monitoring and assessment reports. MDE regular reporting on permitting gains and losses.	$$–$$$ Within partner resources.	Improved and increased wetlands resources in the watershed. Improved data on saltmarsh elevation through the use of Surface Elevation Tables throughout the watershed.
PFWH 3.10	Conduct monitoring and assessment to characterize the health of streams in the Coastal Bays Watershed.	DNR, MCBP, MDE, UMCES	Ongoing. Periodic Stream Water Chemistry and Biological Monitoring Reports.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Volunteer resources.	Recruitment and retention of volunteers. Generation of reliable stream health data. Targeting streams and subwatersheds for necessary improvements.
PFWH 3.11	Use stream characterization health data to identify and pursue potential aquatic habitat management, stream protection and restoration projects.	MCBP, MDE, DNR	Ongoing. Use stream health data to inform Habitat and Restoration Strategy. Completion of watershed planning for implementation projects. Possible use of MDE TIPP screening tool under development.	$$–$$$ Within partner resources. Non-point source funding, Other grant funding.	All A-I watershed plans completed by 2030. Projects planned for each subwatershed.

Theme 2: Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Their Habitat	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 4	**Monitor and manage plants and wildlife in the watershed.**				
PFWH 4.1	Monitor and reduce the presence of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species within the Coastal Bays watershed through accepted best management practices.	DNR, LES - PRISM, MCBP, MDA and Partners	Ongoing monitoring. Periodic public outreach and removal activities by partners.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Volunteer resources.	3–5 volunteer invasive removal activities annually. Number of properties monitored. Number of public agency or organization sponsored invasive removal efforts.
PFWH 4.2	Use existing indicators, monitoring data and game harvest information to protect and restore plants and animals including rare, threatened and endangered species in the watershed.	ASIS, DNR, MCBP, USFWS	Ongoing. Implementation of monitoring plan. Use collected data and information to inform Habitat and Restoration Strategy. Periodic surveys and reports.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Stabilized or increased presence of rare, threatened and endangered species in the watershed.
PFWH 4.3	Monitor bird populations in the watershed to identify habitat and species enhancement needs and opportunities.	Audubon Mid-Atlantic, DNR, MCBP, USFWS	Ongoing. Periodic reports for bird populations conducted by partners and volunteers.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Identified species and habitat protection needs and opportunities.
PFWH 4.4	Encourage and require where appropriate, native vegetative plantings and conservation landscapes on public and private lands to enhance biodiversity.	LSLT, MCBP, WC and other Partners	Ongoing. Review of land development plans. Examine local development code requirements for potential modifications. Periodic outreach, workshops and demonstration projects.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Grants.	Improved land development code requirements. Number of planting projects and acres of native vegetation planted throughout the watershed on all land uses.
Goal 5	**Monitor and manage terrestrial habitats.**				
PFWH 5.1	Utilize Best Available Technology to assess forest health including composition, tree cover and urban tree canopy.	ASIS, DNR	Periodic assessments and field surveys including U.S. Forest Service inventory surveys, Chesapeake Bay Program land use/ land cover surveys and possible county or municipal surveys. ASIS conducts annual forest health monitoring at permanent plots along Assateague Island.	$ Within partner resources.	Reports and data sets related to changes in forest cover.

Theme 2: Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Their Habitat	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
PFWH 5.2	Educate and provide support for private landowner preservation, afforestation and forest restoration opportunities including the preparation of Forest Stewardship Plans (FSPs).	DNR, LSLT, WC	Ongoing outreach to landowners and preparation of FSPs by a Maryland Certified Forester.	$–$$ Additional resources needed for FSPs preparation and restoration opportunities. Grants.	Number of FSPs prepared for landowners. Implementation of recommended FSPs practices. Acres of forest restoration.
PFWH 5.3	Coordinate efforts to maintain forest health and extent for publicly owned lands.	DNR, WC	Preparation of FSPs. Periodic review of public forested lands. Annual report development. By 2027, develop recommendations for further protection of old growth forests.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Additional resources if contracted for FSPs preparation.	FSPs prepared for 75% of public forested lands within 10 years. Implementation of recommended practices in FSPs.
PFWH 5.4	Manage large extents of turfgrass areas in the watershed for improved habitat and ecosystem function reducing the need for chemical application.	Berlin, DNR, LSLT, OC, OPA, UME, WC	Ongoing research, annual education and outreach workshops to large landowners (public agencies, corporate lands, golf courses).	$ Within partner resources for outreach. $$ Grants for restoration and demonstration meadows and natural area creation.	Number of workshops held. Acres of turfgrass restored to natural areas and meadows. Less chemicals used for turf maintenance.
PFWH 5.5	Manage less productive agricultural lands for improved habitat and ecosystem function.	LSLT, MCBP, MDA, WSCD	Ongoing. Outreach to farmers and rural landowners.	$ Within partner resources for outreach. $$-$$$ For restoration efforts. Grants.	Number of workshops held. Number of landowners reached. Area of restoration on these lands.

Theme 3: Create Resilient Communities & Ecosystems	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 1	**Enhance resilience of Coastal Bays ecosystems to natural disasters, sea level rise, and other environmental stressors.**				
CRCE 1.1	Identify and prioritize ecosystem restoration opportunities in the watershed.	ASIS, DNR, LSLT, MCBP, USFWS, WC	Ongoing. Development of potential restoration projects in each bay watershed.	$ Within partner resources. $$ Additional resources if a contractor is needed to assist with the development of project portfolio. Grant funding.	Prioritized list of restoration opportunities. Grant funding obtained and restoration projects planned. Projects ready for funding.
CRCE 1.2	Restore marshes, shorelines, islands and upland ecosystems within the Coastal Bays watershed, including post restoration monitoring for adaptive management.	ASIS, DNR, LSLT, MCBP, USFWS, WC	Ongoing. Design and implementation of restoration project efforts.	$$–$$$$$ Requires grant and agency funding. May require multi-year grant funding from several sources.	Number of designs approved for permits and construction. Area and linear ft. of ecosystem restoration accomplished. Improved management of natural resources with post restoration monitoring.
CRCE 1.3	Work with emergency management agencies and other partners to develop recovery plans to support ecosystem conservation and resilience in the wake of natural disasters.	ASIS, Berlin, MCBP, MDEM, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing as Emergency Management, Hazard Mitigation and Comprehensive Plans are prepared.	$ Within partner resources.	Ecosystem value and function are considered in all Emergency Management Plans by 2030. Ecosystem conservation and restoration projects implemented after natural storm and disaster occurrences.
CRCE 1.4	Research the effects of environmental stressors on Coastal Bays ecosystem indicators.	ASIS, DNR, EPA, MCBP, UMCES	Ongoing research within the agency scope of expertise. Annual input into the MCBP Report Card.	$$–$$$ Additional funds for partner agency monitoring and research.	Data sets specifically related to environmental stressors for Ecosystem Health Report. Less mortality of plant and animal species related to environmental stressors.
CRCE 1.5	Explore opportunities to improve permitting efficiency related to ecosystem restoration and resiliency projects.	DNR, EPA, MCBP, MDE, OC, USACE, WC	Ongoing. Conduct periodic meetings with permitting agencies. Develop recommendations for agency consideration to improve permitting efficiency.	$ Within partner resources.	More effective permit language and timeframes for ecological restoration projects.

Theme 3: Create Resilient Communities & Ecosystems	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 2	**Enhance resilience of community assets and infrastructure to natural disasters, sea level rise and other environmental stressors**				
CRCE 2.1	Partners will identify and prioritize environmental adaptation strategies and actions to build resilience for protection of community assets including recreational amenities and infrastructure into local plans.	MCBP and Partners	Ongoing. Development of recommended adaptation strategies. Periodic updates to county and municipal plans including vulnerability assessments.	$ Within partner resources. Partners may need additional resources for relocation and restoration needs.	More comprehensive resiliency planning for community and recreational assets into local plans. More resilient infrastructure as protective plans are implemented.
CRCE 2.2	Encourage public and private marina owners to maintain and adapt existing marina facilities including piers, boat ramps, and kayak launch areas to enhance resilience to impacts of storm inundation and SLR.	DNR, WC	Updated County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan every three years. Periodic technical assistance and funding through DNR.	$$–$$$ WC may need additional resources. Federal and state grants.	Improved public access for recreation. Increased longevity and less storm damage to these facilities from weather-related and other environmental stressors.
CRCE 2.3	Identify potential toxic risks from facilities that may be affected by weather-related and other environmental stressors, land subsidence and natural disasters as part of hazardous mitigation and resilience planning.	Berlin, MDE, OC, OPA, SHA, WC	Periodic updates to hazard mitigation, source water protection and other resilience plans. Development of roster of vulnerable facilities.	$ Within partner resources.	Updated data set of facilities and possible contaminants impacted by natural occurrences. Coordinated effort by MDE to provide assistance.
CRCE 2.4	Consider adopting or modifying local standards to enhance resiliency for flood protection, and stormwater impacts including periodic review of locally based sea level rise projections.	Berlin, MDE, OC, OPA, WC	Periodic review of sea level rise projections and review of local codes. Updates to required local nuisance flooding plans every five years. Updates to state stormwater requirements.	$ Within partner resources.	Review and possible update to local codes. Better flood and risk reduction of local infrastructure and assets. Participation in the FEMA Community Rating System program.
CRCE 2.5	Identify and document cultural and historic resources that may be impacted by environmental stressors and natural disasters to inform resilience strategies.	Beach to Bay Heritage Area, Berlin, MDP, MHT, OC, WC	Develop initial inventory and resource assessment.	$ Within partner resources.	Adaptive management strategies undertaken to protect cultural and historic resources.

Theme 3: Create Resilient Communities & Ecosystems	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 3	**Implement and periodically update the MCBP Adaptation Action Plan**				
CRCE 3.1	Ensure that the recommended adaptation actions within the Adaptation Action Plan (AAP) are considered each year for implementation in MCBP and partner work plans.	MCBP and Partners	Annual review of AAP and inclusion of adaptation actions during Work Plan preparations.	$ Within MCBP and partner resources.	Number of AAP adaptation actions accomplished each year through implementation of partner work plans.
Goal 4	**Coordinate with partners to develop and implement a Maryland Coastal Bays Sediment Management Plan (SMP)**				
CRCE 4.1	Implement recommendations from and update the USACE Ocean City Water Resources Study (OCWRS) of 1998.	ASIS, DNR, EPA, MCBP, MDE, OC, USACE, WC	Periodic review and assessment of the OCWRS by partners to determine current applicability and develop progress timeline. Possible 2026 update to study.	$ Within existing resources for review and assessment. $$–$$$$$ Need additional multi-year funding for OCWRS and implementation projects. Federal and state funding and local share match.	Assembly of necessary funding. Acres of habitat enhanced. Number of recommendations and projects completed.
CRCE 4.2	Perform periodic renourishment per the Atlantic Coast Project authorization in order to maintain Ocean City beaches and dunes for storm damage reduction.	OC, USACE	4 year nourishment cycle based on funding, survey and needs. Continued USACE project permits and authorization.	$$$–$$$$$ Based on availability of federal funding and local share.	Linear miles of beach and dune nourished. Positive cost-benefit for property and infrastructure storm damage reduction.
CRCE 4.3	Continue the Assateague Island North End Restoration Project to restore the natural sediment supply to the barrier island.	ASIS, USACE	Annual sand bypassing and sediment restoration based on funding, survey needs and availability of dredge equipment. Annual ocean shoreline position and beach topography surveys along Assateague Island.	$$$–$$$$ Based on availability of federal funding.	Improved navigability of OC Inlet and Coastal Bays. Restoration of sand supply to Assateague Island. Data collected through the annual beach and shoreline surveys.

Theme 3: Create Resilient Communities & Ecosystems	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
CRCE 4.4	Implement the MCBP Sediment Management Plan to utilize sediment for restoration projects and habitat enhancement in the Coastal Bays.	ASIS, DNR, MCBP, MDE, OC, USACE	Completion of the MCBP Sediment Management Plan in 2025. Development and coordination of dredging schedule and project timelines.	$$$–$$$$$ Requires multi-agency funding through appropriations, grants.	Assembly of necessary funding. Coordination of habitat restoration projects with dredging needs, availability of sand.
CRCE 4.5	Establish and maintain a Dredging Advisory Group (DAG) to coordinate and implement the Sediment Management Plan.	ASIS, DNR, EPA, MCBP, MDE, OC, USACE	Semi-annual DAG meetings. Periodic progress reports.	$ Within partner resources.	Increased coordination and public participation for resources to complete MCBP Sediment Management Plan and OCWRS.
CRCE 4.6	Maintain navigational channel marking, mapping, and maintenance dredging to ensure public access to waterways in the Coastal Bays.	DNR, NOAA, OC, USACE, U.S. Coast Guard	Ongoing pending coordination of leadership and agency participation. Coordinate with USACE, NOAA and USCG for nautical map updates and channel markings.	$$–$$$$ Requires multi-agency coordination and funding.	Improved navigational channel maintenance. Improved public access, boater safety and sensitive species protection.
Goal 5	**Monitor and conduct research to assess conditions and identify trends and challenges to guide resilience policies, programs and projects.**				
CRCE 5.1	Monitor chemical, ecological, and spatial trends to assess the impacts of sea level rise and other environmental stressors to inform a long-term science agenda.	MCBP-STAC	Ongoing monitoring. Periodic updates to STAC Science Agenda.	$$–$$$ May require additional funding through research grants.	Development of research data sets. Adaptive management strategies for habitat and species.
CRCE 5.2	Regularly assess research and monitoring needs and recommend priority assignments and schedule.	MCBP-STAC	Annual science planning through STAC with periodic updates. Research grant needs and funding opportunities identified.	$ Within partner resources.	Update to MCBP Monitoring Plan. Schedule of research proposals.
CRCE 5.3	Partners will collect, manage and share GIS data that are publicly available for the watershed.	ASIS, DNR, LSLT, MCBP, OC, SU, WC	Ongoing. Annual meetings scheduled by MCBP to coordinate data collection.	$ Within partner resources. Some additional resources may be required to maintain GIS data hosting.	Coordination of data layers for Geographic Information. Better geo-spatially related data driven decisions.

Theme 3: Create Resilient Communities & Ecosystems	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 6	**Promote and facilitate conservation of land, natural resources, energy and manufactured materials.**				
CRCE 6.1	Support efforts to retain farming and forestry as viable land uses in the watershed.	DNR, MCBP, MDA, WC, WSCD	Ongoing coordinated outreach among partner agencies. Development of common agenda for farming and forestry sector support. Monitor actions by local elected and appointed officials regarding land use decisions.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Improved support among elected officials for agriculture and forestry as important and viable land uses in the watershed. Public support for economic incentives for farming and forestry.
CRCE 6.2	Promote, support and implement land conservation in the watershed to protect and enhance farms, forests and habitat.	DNR, LSLT, MDA, NRCS, WC	Ongoing. Develop funding opportunities for land conservation and protection. Establish land conservation goals.	$ Planning within partner resources. $$$–$$$$$ Funds for land easement and acquisition through state and federal program funds, grants, private donations, foundation funding.	Acres of land conserved and protected through acquisition and easements are increased from 26% to 30% by 2030 watershed wide, including at least 3,000 acres in the new northern bays Rural Legacy Area. Increased species and habitat protection through conserved lands.
CRCE 6.3	Encourage and support waste reduction, recycling and re-use policies and programs for commercial, institutional, governmental and residential generators.	Berlin, MDE, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing outreach programs and recycling efforts. MDE periodic updates to State mandated programs and policies.	$ Outreach and coordination of citizen programs within partner resources. State and federal grants. $$–$$$$ More robust recycling and waste stream reduction programs may need additional partner resources.	Number of watershed citizen cleanup efforts. Trash free waters and other grant funded programs completed. Improved local waste reduction strategies. Increase in waste reused and recycled. Improved source reduction.

Theme 3: Create Resilient Communities & Ecosystems	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
CRCE 6.4	Develop sustainable growth strategies that will preserve and regenerate ecologically beneficial site features for new and existing public and private land development.	Berlin, DNR, MDP, OC, OPA, SHA, WC	Ongoing. Coordinated development of improved standards for ecologically beneficial site features for land development. From 2027 to 2030, develop sustainable growth strategies in collaboration with MCBP Management Conference Committees.	$ Review and revise municipal standards within partner resources. $$–$$$$ Grant funding necessary for retrofits or demonstration projects.	Improved requirements for site design standards. Development of publication materials and workshops held for land review agencies, land development community and HOAs. Natural resource areas protected and new areas created.
CRCE 6.5	Protect cultural, historical, and natural resource areas.	Beach to Bay Heritage Area, LSLT, MHT, WC	Updates to county and local comprehensive land use plans, zoning codes, historic and preservation plans and critical area mapping.	$–$$ Review and revision of plans and codes within partner resources.	Review and improvement of local plans and codes to ensure these areas have appropriate protective standards and resources available. Increased protection and conservation of the resources identified.
CRCE 6.6	Support the development and implementation of energy conservation practices.	Berlin, MDE, MEA, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing. Continued development, implementation and compliance with standards and practices established by state and local governments. Outreach to businesses and consumers.	$ Continued development of standards and practices and consumer outreach within partner resources. $$–$$$$$ Funds for energy incentive programs and municipal retrofits and construction would require federal, state, local and public utility funding.	Meet required clean energy standards or goals through improved standards and incentives at consumer, business and government levels. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
CRCE 6.7	Support development of low-impact transportation and recreation infrastructure including walkable, bikeable and water use trails throughout the watershed.	Berlin, MCBP, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing. Completion and phased implementation of WC Greenways Master Plan. Installation of trails in MCBP and partner managed properties, including accommodations for physically disabled persons. Completion of Ilia Fehrer Nature Preserve and Showell Property trails in 2025.	$$–$$$$ Within partner resources for planning. Additional funds for trail and greenway construction needed. Grant funding.	Number and length of new trails developed. Increased accessibility for residents and visitors to watershed area sites and resources.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 1	**Support the NEP program effort through the MCBP program administration and Management Conference.**				
DPEP 1.1	Implement and periodically revise a Communication, Education and Outreach Plan of the CCMP to ensure community involvement.	MCBP	Ongoing. Develop and submit draft Plan for EPA review and approval in 2026. Develop annual updates to Plan with partner and CAC support.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Plan implemented and supported by CAC. Number of Plan activities completed annually. Program support through collaborative outreach efforts.
DPEP 1.2	Implement and periodically revise a Finance Strategy that will establish long-term financial sustainability to implement the CCMP through diverse resources and partners.	MCBP	Submit updated Strategy for EPA review and approval in 2026.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Strategy developed by MCBP and adopted by Policy Committee. Number of financing actions completed annually. Program actions completed through successful funding.
DPEP 1.3	Develop, implement, and periodically revise a Science and Research Plan to inform scientific decision making relating to the CCMP.	STAC	Develop Plan by 2026. Periodic updates as necessary.	$ Within partner resources.	Plan developed and adopted by STAC. Number of science and research actions funded and implemented. Resulting data applied to CCMP actions.
DPEP 1.4	Develop workplans for approval and funding from EPA and other grantors to implement actions in the CCMP.	MCBP	Ongoing as required by EPA and other grantors. Management Conference and EPA approval as necessary. 2030 conduct CCMP Update to evaluate implementation of CCMP Goals and Actions and modify as necessary.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Workplan actions from CCMP completed or significant progress achieved.
DPEP 1.5	Engage the partners and watershed community through regularly scheduled meetings of the Management Conference committees.	MCBP and CCMP Committee Partners	Regularly scheduled meetings. Public announcement of meeting schedules and outcomes.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Measurable progress toward CCMP actions through regular engagement of MCBP staff, MCBP Board, STAC, IC, CAC and PC.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 2	**Promote environmental literacy for the public through education, outreach, communication and engagement activities.**				
DPEP 2.1	Collaborate with partners to discuss resiliency planning and implement responsive actions.	MCBP and Partners	Ongoing. Periodic community workshops and meetings for public engagement and support.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Three community events annually. Completed actions from Adaptation Action Plan with community support.
DPEP 2.2	Deliver direct educational opportunities such as workshops, events, and programs to explore the watershed, increase knowledge, and cultivate a sense of place for individuals and community groups.	MCBP and Partners	Ongoing. Seasonal opportunities for outreach and field exploration.	$–$$ Within MCBP resources and grants.	Deliver at least 10 events per year. Number of participants reached in educational programs.
DPEP 2.3	Develop and translate findings into learning resources (*e.g.* Homeowner's Guide, Report Card) to explain research, support restoration, and promote general watershed health.	MCBP, UMCES and Partners	Ongoing. Annual and periodic guides, and public communication pieces. Report Card published annually. State of the Bays report published every five years. Year in Review published annually. Updated Homeowners Guide to be published in 2026.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Number of watershed residents reached with outreach resources. Increased actions by homeowners for watershed health improvement.
DPEP 2.4	Provide information and promote events through digital communication including social media platforms, press releases, and newsletters.	MCBP and Partners	Ongoing. Regularly scheduled communication items.	$ Within MCBP and partner resources.	MCBP to reach at least 10,000 people annually through social media and send 10 press releases and 12 digital newsletters annually. ASIS visitor viewing of park films to reach 10,000 views annually. Other partner metrics for public events to be reported.
DPEP 2.5	Communicate to local businesses, watershed partners and residents the beneficial relationship of ecosystem health to economic development, tourism, recreation and quality of life.	MCBP, UME	Ongoing. Periodic meetings with business, tourism and community groups. Annual Leveraging Report.	$ Within MCBP and partner resources.	Hold or attend at least 10 meetings per year. Increased community support for MCBP programs. Better understanding of the economic value of natural resources. Increased funding for MCBP programs.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
DPEP 2.6	Collaborate on education, outreach and engagement programs related to marine issues including responsible use by local stakeholders, marine debris and trash-free waters.	DNR, EPA, MCBP, NOAA, OC	Ongoing. Scheduled public events including marine debris and trash cleanup. Responsible water user education workshops.	$ Within partner resources. Local and federal grants.	Sponsor or participate in at least five events. Numbers of volunteers participating in community clean up programs. Volume of debris collected annually. Improved stewardship practices for water users.
DPEP 2.7	Facilitate stakeholder meetings to share information, collect feedback, and educate anglers on the purpose of fisheries management policies.	DNR	Ongoing. Periodic stakeholder meetings.	$ Within partner resources.	Community understanding and cooperation with fisheries management strategies. Better understanding of the species and aquatic resources and adherence to the regulations.
DPEP 2.8	Provide outreach for integrated pest management including habitat for birds, bats and natural predators.	LSLT, MCBP, UME	Ongoing. Periodic meetings and workshops.	$ Within partner resources.	Hold at least two meetings/workshops per year. Number of participants. Better pest management without chemical applications. More impactful homeowner stewardship. Less mortality to bird, insect and other species.
DPEP 2.9	Educate the public about "best practices" for water conservation, well safety, and septic system management.	MCBP, UME, WC	Ongoing. Periodic meetings and workshops and integrated outreach.	$ Within partner resources.	Hold 1-2 meetings per year. Number of participants. Better homeowner BMPs for water quality and conservation achieved. Improved septic system maintenance. Reduced incidence of well contamination.
DPEP 2.10	Inform the public about farm conservation practices and support local farms, food and fiber.	MCBP, WSCD	Ongoing. Periodic meetings, workshops and integrated outreach. Schedule Living Local program farm visits.	$ Within partner resources.	Hold at least two meetings/workshops per year. Number of participants. Increased public support for and understanding of farms and farm products.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
DPEP 2.11	Provide education and outreach to small acreage landowners and those with backyard habitat and forests through the Master Gardener, Watershed Protection and Restoration and Maryland Woodland and Watershed Stewards programs.	LSLT, MCBP, UME, WC	Ongoing. Specific program scheduled outreach.	$ Within partner resources.	Sponsor or participate in at least three events per year. Number of participants in the Master Gardener, Watershed Protection and Restoration and Maryland Woodland and Watershed Stewards programs. Better stewardship of these small acreage lands.
DPEP 2.12	Promote responsibly sourced local seafood and shellfish to inform consumers and support commercial fisheries.	MCBP, MDA	Ongoing. Educational literature and integrated outreach. Meetings of the Seafood Marketing Advisory Council three times annually.	$ Within partner resources.	Number of specific outreach and marketing activities. Increased support and sales of locally sourced seafood and shellfish.
DPEP 2.13	Sponsor Beach District Planting and Bayscape Planting programs to provide water quality and habitat benefits.	OC	Ongoing. Periodic program application opportunities. Cost-share to landowners.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Mitigation funds.	Habitat improvement. Engagement of volunteers. Numbers of BMPs and grants implemented at the small scale level.
DPEP 2.14	Coordinate local educational and volunteer efforts to assist with stranded and injured animals throughout the watershed.	DNR, MCBP, National Aquarium	Ongoing. Annual volunteer trainings. Annual response and rehabilitation reports to NOAA and USFWS.	$$$ Within partner resources.	Injured and stranded animal protection and rehabilitation. Number of responses. Number of volunteers and volunteer hours.
DPEP 2.15	Enhance public awareness and information resources for public recreational facilities, and increase opportunities to access land and water based activities.	Berlin, DNR, MCBP, OC, OPA WC	Ongoing. Periodic updates to existing information. Creation of new print and digital information resources.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Increased awareness and use of public access points.
DPEP 2.16	Conduct public outreach regarding hazardous materials spill and disposal contact information.	MCBP, WC	Ongoing. Periodic updates and notices to residents.	$ Within partner resources.	Update contact information annually. Hold at least one hazardous waste collection event annually. Reduce improper disposal incidences.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
DPEP 2.17	Encourage community members and businesses to implement bay friendly lawn care practices to reduce chemical run-off from residential and developed areas through education and outreach.	LSLT, MCBP, UME	Ongoing. Special workshops. Integrated outreach.	$ Within partner resources.	Hold at least three informational meetings/workshops. Number of participants. More responsible application of lawn care chemicals to improve water quality.
Goal 3	**Coordinate with MCBP partners to develop and deliver academic programming.**				
DPEP 3.1	Support the WC public and private schools and homeschool groups with resources and curricula development for environmental literacy, and the facilitation of meaningful outdoor experiences for K-12 students.	MCBP, WCPS and Partners	Ongoing. Hiring of Environmental Literacy Specialist. Development and delivery of programs and outdoor experiences. Completion of WCPS District Environmental Literacy Plan.	$ Within partner resources for three years. Future grant funding needed.	Number of students and schools reached with literacy programs and outdoor experiences. Number of lessons and programs delivered to students. Improved student environmental literacy and stewardship.
DPEP 3.2	Provide education and career expanding opportunities to higher education undergraduate and graduate students, with a specific target of the Lower Shore area and institutions such as University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Salisbury University and Wor-Wic Community College.	MCBP, SU, UMES and Wor-Wic	Ongoing. Field trips. In-class lectures. Graduate research support. Higher education environmental literacy support. Accreditation of UMES Green Infrastructure Certification Program.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Increased watershed stewardship and environmental literacy. Partnership development. Number of programs provided. Number of student participants.
DPEP 3.3	Provide and facilitate professional development opportunities for both K-12 formal and informal educators with an emphasis on the Coastal Bays watershed.	MAEOE, MCBP, WCPS	Ongoing. Annual summer professional development. Special workshops. Annual MAEOE Conferences and Program Evaluations.	$ Within partner resources.	Enhanced teaching skills and strategies among educators. Improved access to educator resources and materials. Increased knowledge and awareness of local issues. Number of teacher workshops delivered. Number of educators receiving training.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
DPEP 3.4	Support the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) and other specialized education organizations.	MAEOE, MCBP	Ongoing. MCBP remains a current certified Green Center. Annual MAEOE Conferences and Program Evaluations.	$ Within partner resources.	Maintain Green Center certification. Number of Green Schools supported. MCBP involvement in annual conference. 400 attendees at MAEOE Conference.
Goal 4	**Cultivate volunteer participation in all aspects of community science, education and outreach activities.**				
DPEP 4.1	Provide volunteer opportunities to individuals and community service organizations via events, festivals, property management and land stewardship.	MCBP and Partners	Ongoing. Hold special events. Disseminate event schedule.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Special event funding.	Number of events held. Numbers of volunteers engaged.
DPEP 4.2	Provide training for community scientists to monitor and survey natural resources, fish, and wildlife populations.	DNR, MCBP	Ongoing. Hold community scientist training events and programs.	$–$$ Within partner resources.	Number of events held. Number of community citizen scientists trained and engaged. Improved data collection and species management.
DPEP 4.3	Recognize the contributions at many levels, of citizens, volunteers and organizations devoted to conservation in the Coastal Bays watershed.	MCBP and Partners	Ongoing. Multiple recognition events and opportunities.	$ Within partner resources.	Number of events held. Number of volunteers and organizations recognized. Continued support of volunteers and organizations in the watershed. Widespread recognition of the contribution of others in MCBP activities.
DPEP 4.4	Continue Horseshoe Crab and Terrapin counts and promote the use of cull rings and Turtle Exclusion Devices on all recreational pots.	DNR, MCBP	Ongoing. Outreach at specific events. Hold annual Horseshoe Crab and Terrapin surveys. Release reports on survey results.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Number of volunteer participants. Number of stranded horseshoe crabs rescued. Numbers of Turtle Exclusion Devices utilized in crab pots. Bycatch reduction.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
Goal 5	**Develop and support partnerships that advance mutual interests and are aligned with CCMP goals.**				
DPEP 5.1	Provide scholarships, internships and other workforce development opportunities for high school and college students and graduates in the Coastal Bays watershed.	MCBP and Partners	Ongoing. Specific employment recruitment opportunities. Award scholarships to WCPS graduates. Hold annual WETLANDS retreat. Annual Youth Conservation Corps recruitment. Development of UMES Sarbanes Laboratory collaborative program.	$$ Within partner resources. Grant funding.	Number of career development workshops, scholarships, internships and employment opportunities provided. Number of special projects completed. Promote environmental education, work experience and stewardship.
DPEP 5.2	Implement Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) resulting from a violation settlement, preferably in the same subwatershed.	MDE, MCBP, WC	Periodic as SEP opportunities arise.	$$-–$$$ SEP funding through violation enforcement and mitigation funds.	Number of SEPs accomplished in the Coastal Bays watershed.
DPEP 5.3	Respond and refer community concerns related to possible violations of environmental protections to the appropriate agency.	Berlin, MCBP, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing as necessary. Distribute annually updated agency contacts directory. Use of online OC Citizen Reporter tool.	$ Within partner resources.	Improved communication between agencies, regulators and watershed community. Reduced number of violations of environmental regulations.
DPEP 5.4	Participate in local and regional teams and networks to communicate and collaborate on conservation and restoration activities in the watershed.	MCBP and Partners, including Delmarva Conservation and Restoration Network, and Maryland Coastal Restoration Alliance	Periodic meetings and collaborative workshops.	$ Within partner resources.	Number of meetings. Number of participants. Meeting activities and accomplishments. Better coordination of restoration actions among partner organizations. Team capacity building for funding and implementation of projects. Leveraging of resources.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
DPEP 5.5	Participate in and share information at conferences, meetings, workshops, and technology transfer opportunities to receive and provide professional development.	MCBP	Ongoing. Periodic opportunities to sponsor and attend conferences, meetings and workshops.	$ Within MCBP resources. Grant funding.	Sponsor or participate in at least 10 events per year. Professional staff development. Transfer of information and technology related to natural resource management. Recognition of MCBP research.
DPEP 5.6	Seek partnerships that support activities generating revenue for MCBP and others, while advancing programmatic and organizational community interests.	ASIS, Assateague State Park, MCBP, Partners	Ongoing. Sponsor and participate in events for development opportunities. Hold annual appeal campaign.	$ Within partner resources.	Revenue and program development from Assateague Outfitters. Number of funding opportunities with watershed partners. Funds generated outside of Section 320 funds. $100,000 annually from non-EPA and other grant sources.
DPEP 5.7	Support agencies and organizations working toward mutual CCMP goals through financial partnerships including mini-grants, research grants, subawards and sponsoring memberships.	MCBP	Ongoing. Develop and implement periodic opportunities for MCBP to provide support to other organizations, including pass-through funding opportunities.	$$–$$$ Within MCBP resources. Supplemental funding, Grants.	Number and amount of small grants and funding opportunities for projects and research in the MCBP watershed. Strengthening partnerships with organizations and academic partners.
DPEP 5.8	Provide expertise and a voice for the watershed by participating on boards, advisory councils, planning committees and attending relevant meetings.	MCBP	Ongoing. Periodic attendance and participation at non-MCBP meetings.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Number of meetings attended where technical or policy information was shared. Improved relationships among relevant organizations and local agencies.
DPEP 5.9	Support organizations and programs working towards the preservation of the history and culture of the watershed and its communities.	Beach to Bay Heritage Area, MCBP	Ongoing. Public opportunities to support and advocate for historic and cultural preservation.	$ Within partner resources.	Protection of cultural and historic resources in the watershed. Collaborative partnerships formed to preserve and conserve these resources.

Theme 4: Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships	Action	Responsible Partners	Timeframe and Key Milestones	Cost Range and Funding Source	Performance Measures
DPEP 5.10	Collaborate with partners and stakeholders to develop plans, projects and maintenance guidelines that improve access and recreational opportunities on publicly owned lands.	Berlin, DNR, MCBP, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing. Specific plans developed for improving public access to recreational opportunities on public lands.	$–$$ Within partner resources. Grant funding.	Improved management of publicly owned lands. Number of plans and projects completed on public lands. Improved access and use of public lands.
Goal 6	**Conduct outreach efforts to the public and policymakers to gain support and promote the Maryland Coastal Bays Program.**				
DPEP 6.1	Inform federal, state and local agencies along with NGOs about the purpose and benefits of the National Estuary Program and establish dialogue among them.	MCBP	Ongoing. Annual Policy Committee meeting. Meetings with agency leadership and personnel.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Number of meetings held. Number of social media posts, newsletters, event participation in National Estuary Week. Increased communication and advocacy related to the NEP and MCBP as a member.
DPEP 6.2	Identify resource management issues and engage elected and appointed officials as to the challenges, possible solutions and funding needs.	Berlin, MCBP, OC, OPA, WC	Ongoing. Policy Committee Meeting. Legislative visits. Meetings with public officials.	$ Within partner resources.	Number of meetings with public officials. Informed decision makers. Improved opportunities for funding.
DPEP 6.3	Attend and participate in outreach events and meetings in the community to spread knowledge of watershed stewardship and best management practices.	MCBP	Ongoing. Event based opportunities for outreach.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Number of meetings and events MCBP staff attends as an invited presenter. Improved Coastal Bays information for watershed area attendees.
DPEP 6.4	Develop, implement and respond to opportunities to develop funding through public and private grants, to supplement core EPA funding in support of CCMP programs and activities.	MCBP	Ongoing. Periodic grant proposal submissions. Periodic update of Finance Strategy.	$ Within MCBP resources.	Number of grant proposals submitted and amount of awards received.

Supplemental Plans and Strategies

CCMPs are living documents as described by EPA and are a critical component of the NEP model of adaptive management. As such, the CCMP will contain the main body of program Goals and Actions for implementation in a successful annual workplan. In addition, there are accompanying Plans and Strategies that are more strategic in nature and identify specific elements of program application being performed by partners.

EPA has allowed for the development of these Plans and Strategies in an ancillary manner, and to be completed within three years of the final revised CCMP. MCBP has completed several of these items, with the remainder currently planned or under development. They are further described below and incorporated by reference if completed.

Monitoring Plan

EPA requires that a monitoring plan be developed to track and detect changes and/or improvements within the study area, and effectiveness of CCMP Actions. MCBP has begun the Monitoring Plan and intends to use the STAC as the coordinating group to review and identify the following required elements: a) objectives, b) what data the NEP and partners are collecting for which parameters; c) the party/parties responsible for collecting the data; d) frequency of collecting and reporting the monitoring data; e) how the data are shared, reported, and used; f) data gaps; and g) additional funding needed for monitoring activities and filling data gaps.

The monitoring plan will also explain how monitoring has/will change because of new/modified actions and priorities, and any new environmental indicators. Monitoring should be tied to the State of the Bays report which has similar components.

Finance Strategy

A finance strategy will be developed to establish long-term financial sustainability to implement the CCMP through diverse resources and partners. The strategy will be a separate document in support of the CCMP. The strategy will include: a) priorities for funding; b) current funding and other support such as staff assignments, or in-kind partnering; c) short- and long-term resource needs; and d) proposed actions or strategies to maintain or garner new resources for CCMP implementation. The Finance strategy will also provide other funding sources in addition to federal, state, and local grant funds and appropriations.

Habitat Protection/Restoration Strategy

This strategy will be developed to link habitat or ecosystem issues addressed in the CCMP, including those habitats and species prioritized for protection and or restoration efforts. Components of this strategy include relevant habitat types and key species in the study area, and goals and measurable objectives to address them. Metrics of habitat protection and restoration efforts by MCBP and partners are currently reported to EPA annually.

Communication/Outreach Strategy

The MCBP will be developing a strategy to ensure community involvement and ownership in CCMP implementation that will be a stand-alone document linked to the CCMP. This strategy will include: a) guiding principles, or goals and objectives; b) target audience(s); c) a narrative description of activities, including any tools to be used such as branding and messaging, behavior change campaigns, or social media; d) implementers for those activities; e) any key deliverables, and f) a budget and timeframe for implementing the activities.

MCBP has begun drafting a Communication, Education and Outreach Plan (CEOP) to be implemented and supported through the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The CEOP will, when finalized, contain all the requirements of the communication/outreach strategy envisioned by EPA.

Acronyms

BMP – Best Management Practice

BRF – Bay Restoration Fund

CAC – Citizens Advisory Committee

CCMP – Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan

CRCE – Create Resilient Communities and Ecosystems

DAG – Dredging Advisory Group

DPEP – Develop Public Engagement and Partnerships

FSP – Forest Stewardship Plan

HAB – Harmful Algae Bloom

IC – Implementation Committee

MAEOE – Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education

TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load

NEP – National Estuary Program

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

NMP – Nutrient Management Plan

OCWRS – Ocean City Water Resources Study

PC – Policy Committee

PDA – Public Ditch Association

PFAS – Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PFWH – Protect Fish, Wildlife and Their Habitat

PHW – Provide Healthy Waters

SAV – Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

SEPs – Supplemental Environmental Projects

SETs – Surface Elevation Tables

SLR – Sea Level Rise

SMP – Sediment Management Plan

STAC – Science and Technical Advisory Committee

TIPP – TMDL Implementation, Planning and Progress Tool

USDA – US Department of Agriculture

WETLANDS – Worcester Environmental Training, Leadership, and Stewardship Retreat

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

Worcester County Recreation & Parks
6030 Public Landing Road | Snow Hill MD 21863 | (410) 632-2144 | www.PlayMarylandsCoast.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Weston S. Young, Chief Administrative Officer
Candace Savage, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Kelly Rados, Director of Recreation & Parks
DATE: May 27, 2025
SUBJECT: FY2026 Program Open Space (POS) Allocation Recommendation

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The Maryland POS Director, Hilary D. Bell, has notified our department that Worcester County has been awarded $359,744 for FY2026.

Upon your approval to accept the Program Open Space allocation for FY26, our Department will prepare/complete the Annual Program for FY2026. This plan will come before the Commissioners for approval at the next Commissioners' meeting so that it can be submitted to the state by the June 30, 2025, deadline.

The Worcester County Recreation & Parks Advisory Board met on May 8, 2025, and recommended with a majority vote, to approve the proposed FY26 projects.

The FY26 proposed projects include the following:

- Showell Park Parking Area - $150,000
  - Engineering and construction for additional parking at Showell Park due to increased tournament usage. Engineering Estimate- $25,000, Construction- $125,000
- Northern Worcester Athletic Complex, Bathroom/Concession Upgrades - $150,000
  - This project will include a replacement roof for the concession stand and pavilion, bathroom renovations, and concession renovations. The building was built in 2004.
- Stockton Pavillion Replacement - $50,000
  - Replacement of pavilion at Stockton Park. The original pavilion is at the end of its useful life and needs significant repairs.
- JWS and Newtown Park Concession Stand Roof Replacement - $100,000
  - Metal roofing on each concession stand needs to be replaced. The current roofing is starting to rust through and leak in certain areas.
- Berlin Parking Lot Lighting Project - $75,000
  - The new parking lot at NWAC needs lighting due to the number of practices, games and tournaments that commence in the evening hours. The parking lot has conduit stubbed into strategic locations for light placement.
- John Walter Smith Park Dugout Replacement - $125,000
  - Dugouts on field 5,6,7 at JWS park need replacement as they are original to the park. New dugouts will provide better aesthetics and functionality for use.

Program Open Space Update

Our Department currently has $1,523,613.22 in available POS funding. This includes the FY26 allocation and our unencumbered balance. We have a project pending approval in the amount of $189,000. There are several projects scheduled to be closed and completed in which remaining funds, estimated to be $99,000 will be diverted back, bringing the available funding to $1,443,613.22. FY26 Proposed projects total $650,000 which would leave $783,613.20 in remaining funds.

cc: Jacob Stephens, Deputy Director of Recreation & Parks

MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

May 1, 2025

Kelly Rados, Director
Department of Recreation and Parks
6030 Public Landing Road
Snow Hill, MD 21863

RE: FY 2026 Program Open Space Local Share Apportionments

Dear Ms. Rados:

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources would like to share with you the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Program Open Space (POS) Local funding amounts.

A total of **$25,472,393** was appropriated in POS Local funds for use by Maryland's counties and Baltimore City for FY 2026. Pursuant to Natural Resources Article §5-905(a)(1), we are notifying you that Worcester County received a total of **$359,744** that will be applied to the county's available funds as of July 1, 2025.

The chart below shows the county's unencumbered balance as of the May 7, 2025, Board of Public Works meeting and the FY 2026 apportionment, which will become available July 1, 2025. Since Worcester County has met its local land acquisition goal in the current, approved Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan (LPPRP), 25% of the FY 2026 apportionment may only be used for acquisition projects according to statute. The remaining 75% may be used for acquisition or park development projects.

	Total Balance	Amount of Balance Eligible for Park Development
Unencumbered Balance as of May 7, 2025*	**$1,163,869.22**	**$1,163,869.22**
FY 2026 Apportionment Available July 1, 2025	**$359,744.00**	**$269,808.00**
Total	**$1,523,613.22**	**$1,433,677.22**

* State law provides up to seven (7) years to encumber appropriations, after which, the appropriations may be cancelled. The unencumbered balance shown here may include funds that may be subject to cancellation at the end of the fiscal year if they are over the seven-year timeframe.

Please note that all requests for reimbursement for POS Local projects should be submitted to the Department no later than five (5) years after the Board of Public Works approval date of that project. This will help us to assist your management of vital program funding. Program staff will continue to contact local jurisdictions regarding project status and request your continued cooperation in completing and closing out projects in a timely manner.

Additionally, please note that House Bill 717 was passed during the 2025 Legislative Session and will become effective on October 1, 2025. HB 717 did include changes to provisions of law regarding the use of POS Local funding which are outlined in the attached memo. Please review and contact your POS Local Administrator if you have any questions regarding its implementation.

Thank you for your continued support of POS. If you have any questions, please contact me at 410-260-8450.

Sincerely,

Hilary D. Bell
Director, Land Acquisition and Planning

cc: Michael McQuarrie, POS Local Administrator

TEL: 410-632-5623
FAX: 410-632-1753
WEB: co.worcester.md.us

Worcester County
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
6113 TIMMONS ROAD
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

DALLAS BAKER JR., P.E.
DIRECTOR

CHRISTOPHER CLASING, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Weston S. Young, P.E. Chief Administrative Officer
Candace Savage, CGFM Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Dallas Baker, Jr., P.E., Director Dallas Baker Jr
DATE: May 22, 2025
SUBJECT: Mason Road Speed Study
Department of Public Works – Roads Division

Public Works is requesting Commissioner approval to reduce the speed on Mason Road from 40 mph to 30 mph. A concerned citizen reached out regarding speeding concerns on Mason Road, in response Roads Division conducted a speed study which yielded the following results:

- Number of Vehicles: 1,060
- Average Speed: 25.1 mph
- 85th Percentile: 33 mph
- Vehicles 40 mph and greater: 14 or 1.3%

The study was conducted on May 15, 2025 through May 22, 2025. A copy of the study is attached.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Attachment

cc: Chris Clasing
Kevin Lynch

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway

Snow Hill, MD 21863

410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/15/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
1:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
2:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
3:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
4:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
5:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
6:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
7:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
8:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
9:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
10:00	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
11:00	0	1	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
12:00 PM	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
1:00	0	0	4	8	8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
2:00	0	0	3	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
3:00	1	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
4:00	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
5:00	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
6:00	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
7:00	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
8:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	3	15	20	20	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	69

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway

Snow Hill, MD 21863

410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/16/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2:00	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
3:00	1	0	2	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
4:00	0	0	2	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
5:00	0	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
6:00	4	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
7:00	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
8:00	1	1	0	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
9:00	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
10:00	1	1	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
11:00	0	3	3	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
12:00 PM	2	0	5	2	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
1:00	1	1	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
2:00	0	0	1	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
3:00	1	1	1	3	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	11
4:00	40	13	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58
5:00	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
6:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7:00	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
8:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
9:00	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
10:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	51	24	27	45	30	13	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	194

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway

Snow Hill, MD 21863

410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/17/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4:00	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
5:00	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
6:00	0	0	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
7:00	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
8:00	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
9:00	0	0	3	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
10:00	0	0	2	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
11:00	2	0	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
12:00 PM	0	0	1	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
1:00	1	0	3	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
2:00	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
3:00	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
4:00	0	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
5:00	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
6:00	0	2	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
7:00	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
8:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10:00	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
11:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7	6	23	27	40	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	114

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway

Snow Hill, MD 21863

410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/18/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4:00	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
5:00	1	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
6:00	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
7:00	0	0	2	5	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	17
8:00	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
9:00	0	0	0	5	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
10:00	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
11:00	0	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
12:00 PM	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
1:00	0	0	5	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
2:00	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
3:00	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
4:00	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
5:00	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
6:00	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
7:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11:00	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	7	1	17	29	29	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	94

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway

Snow Hill, MD 21863

410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/19/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3:00	0	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
4:00	1	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	14
5:00	5	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
6:00	1	2	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
7:00	6	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
8:00	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
9:00	0	0	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
10:00	0	1	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
11:00	0	1	2	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
12:00 PM	0	0	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
1:00	0	3	3	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
2:00	0	0	4	7	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
3:00	5	2	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
4:00	2	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
5:00	1	0	3	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
6:00	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
7:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	22	14	35	55	36	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	169

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway

Snow Hill, MD 21863

410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/20/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
3:00	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
4:00	4	0	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
5:00	0	0	1	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
6:00	0	0	2	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
7:00	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
8:00	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
9:00	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
10:00	0	0	0	2	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
11:00	0	0	2	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
12:00 PM	0	0	4	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
1:00	2	0	5	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
2:00	0	0	6	8	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
3:00	0	1	0	3	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	11
4:00	1	0	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
5:00	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
6:00	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
7:00	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
8:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	3	30	48	41	13	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	147

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway

Snow Hill, MD 21863

410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/21/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4:00	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
5:00	0	0	2	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
6:00	1	1	2	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
7:00	7	2	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
8:00	0	4	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
9:00	17	6	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
10:00	6	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
11:00	25	9	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42
12:00 PM	1	2	1	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
1:00	1	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
2:00	0	0	1	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
3:00	1	1	1	2	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	14
4:00	2	1	5	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
5:00	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
6:00	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
7:00	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
8:00	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
9:00	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
10:00	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
11:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	64	37	28	40	33	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	212

Worcester County DPW - Roads Division

5764 Worcester Highway
Snow Hill, MD 21863
410-632-2244

Location 1: Mason Road (East/West)

Start Date: 5/15/2025
End Date: 5/22/2025
Mason Road (East/West)
Mason Road (East/West)
0.000000

Direction: Combined

5/22/2025 Time	0 - 15 MPH	> 15 - 20 MPH	> 20 - 25 MPH	> 25 - 30 MPH	> 30 - 35 MPH	> 35 - 40 MPH	> 40 - 45 MPH	> 45 - 50 MPH	> 50 - 55 MPH	> 55 - 60 MPH	> 60 - 65 MPH	> 65 - 70 MPH	> 70 MPH	Total
12:00 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5:00	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
6:00	0	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
7:00	0	0	2	3	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	10
8:00	1	0	2	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
9:00	0	0	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
10:00	0	0	3	3	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
11:00	0	0	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
12:00 PM	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
1:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
2:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
3:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
4:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
5:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
6:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
7:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
8:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
9:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
10:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
11:00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
Total	1	0	9	17	21	10	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	61
Grand Total	163	88	184	281	250	80	6	4	3	0	1	0	0	1060

Stats		Percentile	15th	50th	85th	95th
		Speed	14	26	33	36
	Mean Speed (Average)		25.1			
	10 MPH Pace Speed		25-34			
	Number in Pace		554			
	Percent in Pace		52.0%			
	Number > 40 MPH		14			
	Percent > 40 MPH		1.3%			

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW AND PERMITTING
Worcester County

ZONING DIVISION
BUILDING DIVISION
DATA RESEARCH DIVISION

GOVERNMENT CENTER
ONE WEST MARKET STREET, ROOM 1201
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND 21863
TEL:410.632.1200 / FAX: 410.632.3008
http://www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/drp

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
CUSTOMER SERVICE DIVISION
TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Weston S. Young, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Jennifer K. Keener, AICP, Director
DATE: May 21, 2025
RE: Utility-Scale Solar consultation request – Woodside Lane

****

The Woodside Solar project was reviewed on May 20, 2025, however the County Commissioners postponed consideration of the findings until the following meeting. That afternoon, the Governor signed the Renewable Energy Certainty Act (SB 931/ HB 1036). This bill will apply to any project that applies to the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) after the effective date of the legislation, July 1, 2025. As I mentioned at the last meeting, the siting standards are more restrictive than the existing zoning code, so even if the law was repealed, the project as designed is above and beyond our local code requirements.

I developed the solar policy that was adopted on May 20, 2025, because the state law requires that a developer must either obtain local zoning approvals or perform a pre-application consultation with the local jurisdiction 90 days prior to filing of the CPCN application. Based on this timing, projects such as Woodside Solar will be subject to the law. However, it is unclear whether local jurisdictions would be provided another opportunity to comment on the consistency of the siting standards. Therefore, I have reviewed the project for compliance with those standards so that we can ensure that we retain our local authority in this matter.

As a reminder of the findings that the Commissioners need to make, under COMAR 20.79.01.05, the county shall provide a report addressing the following considerations:

1. A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current comprehensive plan;
2. A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current zoning ordinance; and
3. Suggestions for improving or modifying the application prior to submission of the application with the Commission.

Overall, should a local jurisdiction decline to comment, the developer is required to document the efforts made to contact the local jurisdiction and provide information on the project's consistency with local zoning to the PSC.

Project Name: Woodside Solar 1, LLC

Location: Tax Map 71, Parcel 35; Woodside Ln. and US Route 113 (Worcester Hwy), Snow Hill

Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District

Project Type: 5 MW AC community solar project

A community solar project is a program where customers (individuals, businesses, etc.) subscribe to a portion of the energy generated by the project. Additional information on community solar can be found at: https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/community-solar-basics.

Applicability of the Renewable Energy Certainty Act: Senate Bill 931/ House Bill 1036 (2025) has been signed by the Governor and will become effective on July 1, 2025. The siting standards contained therein will apply to any project that submits a CPCN application to the Public Service Commission after that date. Therefore, this staff report includes a review of the siting standards that solar developers must adhere to under these provisions. The law does allow the local jurisdictions to provide for less stringent siting provisions than those cited. For a utility scale solar project, the Worcester County Commissioners would be the approval authority for any siting modifications.

Local considerations under COMAR 20.79.01.05:

1. **A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current comprehensive plan.**

   The 2006 Worcester County Comprehensive Plan ("Plan") does not specifically address solar energy systems. However, throughout the Plan, the importance of agriculture as the bedrock to our way of life is highlighted, with a priority focus on "resource conservation and protecting [the county's] rural and coastal character" (page 1).

   The property is in the Agricultural Land Use category. This category includes "farming, forestry and related industries with minimal residential and other incompatible uses permitted" (page 18).

   Chapter Two, Land Use includes the objectives on pages 12 and 13 as follows:

   2. Continue the dominance of agriculture and forestry uses throughout the county's less developed regions.
   19. Limit rural development to uses compatible with agriculture and forestry.

   Chapter Three, Natural Resources includes the objectives on pages 33 and 34 as follows:

   3. Identify and protect environmentally sensitive areas.
   8. Conserve resources by reducing unnecessary consumption.
   9. Channel development within a particular site to any existing disturbed areas.

The project area will be located on existing tilled agricultural lands, with no impacts proposed to the existing forested areas on the site.

Chapter Six, Public Infrastructure includes objectives on pages 73 and 74 as follows:

1. Work with the private sector to ensure a dependable and adequate supply of electric power and propane.
5. Encourage alternative sources of power.

Priority Preservation Area: This property is located within a Priority Preservation Area (PPA). The Comprehensive Plan has a Priority Preservation Area Element, with the objective of preserving large contiguous farming areas of prime farmland in a state certified agricultural preservation program. The Plan states that 195,332 acres are in the PPA. Under the Renewable Energy Certainty Act, the total number of combined solar energy generating stations that may be approved for construction in a PPA is limited to 5% of the total acreage of the PPA. **A viewshed analysis will be required as stipulated in Md. Public Utility Companies Code Ann. § 7-218(f)(2)(vi).**

Evaluation of consistency: Overall, I find that this project as presented is generally consistent with the 2006 Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Map, provided a viewshed analysis is provided and any visual impacts are mitigated pursuant to Md. Public Utility Companies Code Ann. § 7-218(f)(2)(vi).

4. A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current zoning ordinance.

Following the Land Use Designations in the Comprehensive Plan, the zoning for the parcels is A-1 Agricultural District. Under § ZS 1-344, Alternative energy facilities, utility-scale solar projects are permitted by right in this zoning district. This project has also been reviewed under the Renewable Energy Certainty Act siting standards, which are generally more restrictive than the local zoning regulations for utility scale solar systems.

Lot Area: Utility scale solar systems in this district require a minimum lot area of 50 acres, and the subject property is approximately 54.3 acres. The project will be situated on approximately 23 acres. The project is compliant with the lot area requirement.

Setbacks: There are no specific setbacks in the Zoning Code. In the ERD (page 22), the applicant references compliance with a 100' boundary from property lines as specified in the Renewable Energy Certainty Act, however the concept plan illustrates a 50' setback. **The applicant has advised via email that they will be revising the concept plan to comply with the 100' setback.**

Separation Distances: The Renewable Energy Certainty Act requires a 150' boundary between the generating station and the nearest wall of a residential dwelling. The project is compliant with this provision.

Fencing: The applicants are proposing a minimum 7' tall woven wire mesh fencing or equivalent fence along the perimeter of the entire project. No barbed wire is proposed. The Renewable Energy Certainty Act requires fencing to be located on the interior of a landscape buffer or immediately adjacent to the generating station, and not less than 50' from any public road right-of-way. **The applicant has advised via email that they will be revising the concept plan to comply with the 50' setback for the fencing.**

Panel height: Maximum height to the top edge of the modules will be 12', which is consistent with the new law (maximum 15').

Landscaping: The existing forested areas to the north and east will serve as landscape screening to adjoining properties. The proposed plantings shall be required to meet or exceed the local requirements for types and sizes, including the requirement for a minimum of 75% native species. Within the project, low cover grass vegetation will be provided, to include a mixture of pollinator plantings, that will be mowed a minimum of once per year. The vegetation management plan provided states that an irrigation system will be installed for passive vegetation management.

The landscape details on sheet C-3.1 of the concept plan reference the possibility of the use of a berm. Staff notes that it is not a county requirement, rather a decision of the applicant, as the Renewable Energy Certainty Act states that a local jurisdiction cannot require a berm.

While the ERD states that additional landscape screening will be provided around portions of the solar array, ingress and egress areas, and all adjacent roadways and residential properties without natural tree lines or existing screening vegetation, **a landscape plan has not been provided, therefore staff cannot determine whether this portion of the project is in compliance with the Worcester County Zoning Code § ZS 1-322 and the Renewable Energy Certainty Act**.

The county will require an installation and maintenance agreement to be recorded, and a landscape bond to be held to guarantee the planting material's continued viability. The local bonding requirements will be modified to be consistent with the new state law, which is generally more restrictive than the county's current requirements.

Noise Limits: Page 54 of the ERD references the applicable COMAR noise level provisions. These standards are consistent with § ZS 1-346, Noise level limits in the Worcester County Zoning Code, in that there are no maximum decibel levels in the A Districts. Limitations will be self-imposed to prevent any temporary construction nuisance impacts per the ERD (page 55 and Appendix K).

Evaluation of consistency: I find that the project is generally consistent with the current zoning ordinance, subject to the following corrections:

- Compliance with the 100' setback for the solar energy generating station to the property lines pursuant to § 7–218(f)(2)(ii).

- Compliance with the 50' setback for fencing from the edge of the public right-of-way pursuant to § 7–218(f)(2)(iii)1.D.
- Provide a landscape plan that is consistent with the Worcester County Zoning Code § ZS 1-322 and Md. Public Utility Companies Code Ann. § 7–218(f)(2)(iv) and § 7–218(f)(4).

5. Suggestions for improving or modifying the application prior to submission of the application with the Commission.

- Amend Appendix A/ Concept Plan to reflect the most current panel layout and setbacks for the panels and fencing.

- This property is located within a Priority Preservation Area. Therefore, a viewshed analysis is required as stipulated in Md. Public Utility Companies Code Ann. § 7-218(f)(2)(vi), and any visual impacts shall be mitigated.

- Provide a landscape plan that meets or exceeds the landscape requirements for Worcester County pursuant to § ZS 1-322 and the Renewable Energy Certainty Act.

SITE USE PERMIT SET

0 WOODSIDE LANE, SNOW HILL, MD 21863
STC RATED SOLAR ELECTRIC SYSTEM

GENERAL NOTES

1. AS CONTAINED HEREIN, "CONTRACTOR" IS ASSUMED TO BE THE EPC PROVIDER HIRED BY THE SYSTEM/PROJECT OWNER.
2. WHEN THERE IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN THESE GENERAL NOTES AND THE DRAWINGS, THE DRAWINGS SHALL GOVERN.
3. ALL WORK SHALL CONFORM TO THE MINIMUM STANDARDS OF THE FOLLOWING: LOCAL BUILDING CODE, LOCAL ELECTRICAL CODE, ANY OTHER REGULATING AGENCIES WHICH HAVE AUTHORITY OVER ANY PORTION OF THE WORK AND THOSE CODES AND STANDARDS LISTED IN THESE DRAWINGS.
4. THESE DRAWINGS SHALL NOT BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING A CONSTRUCTION LEVEL DESIGN AND ASSOCIATED DRAWINGS AND DETAILS.
5. COORDINATE THESE DRAWINGS WITH SPECIFICATIONS AND MANUFACTURER INSTALLATION AND OPERATION MANUALS.
6. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, THE DESIGN REPRESENTED ON THESE PLANS IS BASED ON THE INFORMATION AND CRITERIA LISTED IN THE "BASIS OF DESIGN" SECTION. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY SUCH INFORMATION IN PREPARATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION DESIGN.
7. THE EXISTING CONDITIONS REPRESENTED ON THESE PLANS ARE BASED ON PUBLICLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION AND THE SITE DISCOVERY SUMMARIZED IN THESE DRAWINGS. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY THE ACCURACY OF SUCH INFORMATION AND SUPPLEMENT WITH ANY ADDITIONAL REQUIRED INFORMATION.
8. UNLESS INDICATED AS EXISTING (E), ALL PROPOSED MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE NEW.
9. ALL EQUIPMENT AND COMPONENTS SHALL BE MOUNTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE MANUFACTURER'S REQUIREMENTS, CONSTRUCTION DETAILS, AND/OR PRUDENT INDUSTRY STANDARDS.
10. TO THE EXTENT THAT TREES AND OTHER FEATURES AFFECT THE SYSTEM'S PRODUCTION, SUCH PRODUCTION MODELING IS BASED ON THE EXISTING APPROXIMATE HEIGHTS AND LOCATIONS RELATIVE TO THE SYSTEM AND MAY BE IMPACTED AS TREES GROW AND OTHER FEATURES CHANGE.

PROJECT SCOPE

THIS PROJECT CONSISTS OF THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR MODULES PER THE SYSTEM DESCRIPTION, BELOW. THE MODULES WILL BE INSTALLED ON A SAT MOUNTED RACKING SYSTEM. THE MODULES WILL BE WIRED IN SERIES STRINGS AND CONNECTED IN PARALLEL TO THE INVERTER(S), WHICH CONVERT THE PHOTOVOLTAIC OUTPUT POWER FROM DC TO AC. THE SOLAR ELECTRIC SYSTEM WILL BE INTERCONNECTED WITH THE EXISTING SITE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE ELECTRICAL CODE AND DELMARVA POWER REQUIREMENTS.

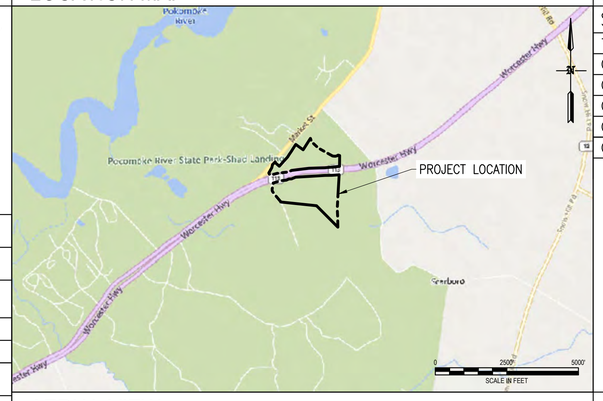
SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

SYSTEM SIZE (KWDC)	7301.28 KWDC	SYSTEM SIZE (KWAC)	5,000 KWAC
STC RATING (W)	615 WDC	INVERTER(S)	(20) SOLECTRIA XGI-1500-250W
RACKING	ATI DURATRACK HZ V3	CEC EFFICIENCY	98.5 %
AZIMUTH	0	TILT ANGLE	+/- 52

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	CODE/SECTION
1. FIRE RESISTANT PENETRATIONS AND JOINTS	BC 1704.27
2. ENERGY CODE COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS	BC 110.3.5
FINAL	

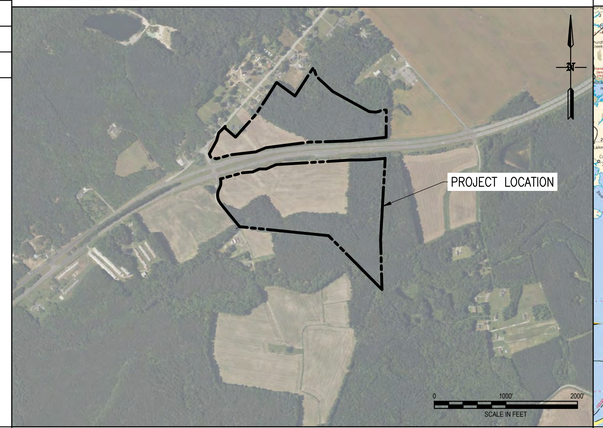
LOCATION MAP



DRAWING LIST

SHEET NUMBER	SHEET TITLE
T-1	TITLE PAGE
CIVIL	
C-1.0	EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN
C-2.0	PROPOSED SITE CONDITIONS
C-3.0	SITE DETAILS
C-3.1	SITE DETAILS

AERIAL VIEW



VICINITY MAP

APPLICABLE CODES AND STANDARDS

2020 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE WITH MARYLAND AMMENDMENTS
2021 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE WITH MARYLAND AMMENDMENTS
UL-1703 – SOLAR MODULES
UL-1741 – INVERTERS, COMBINER BOXES
UL-2703 – RACKING MOUNTING SYSTEMS AND CLAMPING DEVICES FOR PV MODULES
UL-3703 – STANDARD FOR SOLAR TRACKERS

PROJECT DIRECTORY

SYSTEM / PROJECT OWNER
WOODSIDE 1 SOLAR, LLC
55 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE, SUITE 102
LOWELL, MA 01801

LAND OWNER / HOST
JOHN L. SHOCKLEY
0 WOODSIDE LANE
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION
WORCHESTER COUNTY
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

UTILITY
DELMARVA POWER

CIVIL ENGINEER
FIRM: NEW LEAF ENERGY, INC
CONTACT: PATRICK FITZGERALD, PE
PHONE: (949) 774-2482

DESIGN ENGINEER
FIRM: NEW LEAF ENERGY, INC.
CONTACT: CARLY NEELD
PHONE: (800) 818-5249

GENERAL ABBREVIATIONS

(E)	EXISTING
AHJ	AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION
AL	ALUMINUM
APPROX	APPROXIMATE
ARY	ARRAY
BLDG	BUILDING
NLE	NEW LEAF ENERGY
CL	CENTERLINE
DAS	DATA ACQUISITION SYSTEM
DIA	DIAMETER
DO	DITTO
EW	EAST-WEST
ESS	ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM
ESU	ENERGY STORAGE UNIT
FBO	FURNISHED BY OTHERS
FF	FORWARD FACING
GALV	GALVANIZED
HDG	HOT DIP GALVANIZED
HVAC	HEATING VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING
ID	INSIDE DIAMETER
MFR	MANUFACTURER
MOD	SOLAR MODULE
NS	NORTH-SOUTH
NTS	NOT TO SCALE
OAE	OR APPROVED EQUAL
OC	ON CENTER
OD	OUTSIDE DIAMETER
OFCI	OWNER FURNISHED CONTRACTOR INSTALLED
PCS	POWER CONVERSION SYSTEM
PV	PHOTOVOLTAIC
PVC	POLY VINYL CHLORIDE
SCH	SCHEDULE
SS	STAINLESS STEEL
SSS	SOLAR SUPPORT STRUCTURE
STC	STANDARD TEST CONDITIONS
TBD	TO BE DETERMINED
TP	TAMPER PROOF
TYP	TYPICAL
UON	UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
VIF	VERIFY IN FIELD
WP	WEATHER PROOF

REV 1.0

BASIS OF DESIGN

BOUNDARY & TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY:
BOWMAN CONSULTING
MARCH 14, 2025

WETLAND STREAM AND DELINEATION REPORT:
ARM GROUP INC.
NOVEMBER 23, 2023

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0 WOODSIDE LN
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

PROJECT NUMBER: 23011299

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0	04/11/25	TER		SITE USE PERMIT SET

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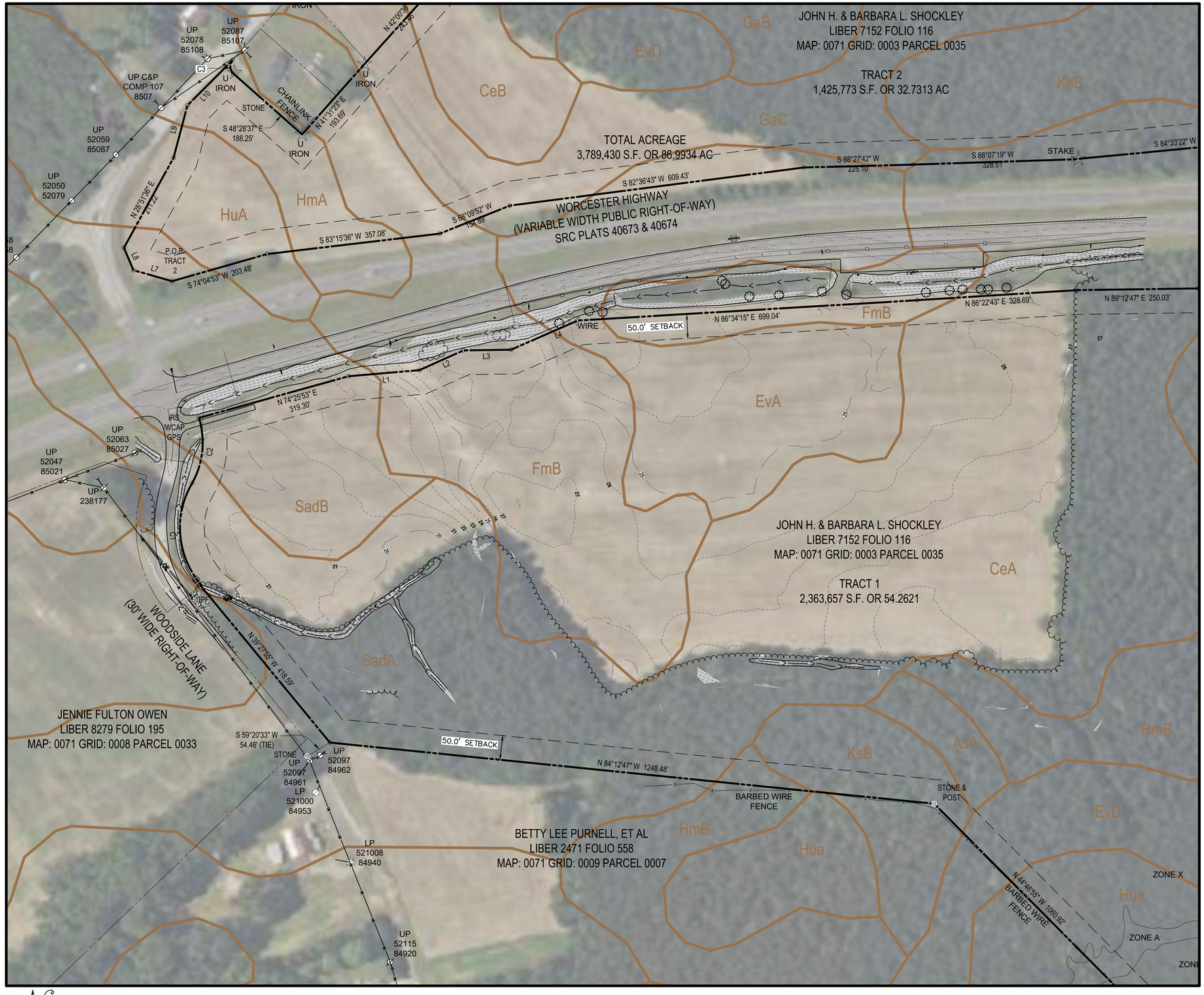
T-1.0
TITLE PAGE



EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 100'

0 100' 200'

LEGEND

NOTE: LEGEND IS TYPICAL, NOT ALL OBJECTS IN LEGEND APPEAR IN PLAN.

- EXISTING CONTOURS
- DELINEATED WETLANDS (NON-TIDAL)
- NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY (NWI) FEATURE
- PROPERTY LINE
- ADJOINING PROPERTY LINE
- PROPERTY LINE SETBACK / NATURAL RESOURCE BUFFER
- EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
- EXISTING OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINE W/ UTILITY POLE
- EXISTING UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINE
- EXISTING UNDERGROUND COMMUNICATION LINE
- EXISTING STREAM/ POND
- EXISTING VERIFIED STREAM
- EXISTING DITCH
- EXISTING 100-YR FEMA FLOODPLAIN
- EXISTING DRAINAGE DITCH
- EXISTING SOIL BOUNDARY AND DESCRIPTOR
- EXISTING SPECIMEN TREE
- EXISTING TREELINE
- EXISTING FENCE
- EXISTING CULVERT
- EXISTING EDGE OF PAVED ROAD
- EXISTING EDGE OF UNPAVED ROAD
- EXISTING GUIDERAIL
- EXISTING SLOPES >15%

GENERAL NOTES:

1. THE BASE MAP SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN CREATED USING AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY. EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY, AND PROPERTY LINES OBTAINED FROM ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY PREPARED BY BOWMAN CONSULTING LTD, DATED SEPTEMBER 2024.
2. WETLANDS AND OTHER SURFACE WATERS WERE DELINEATED BY COLLIER ENGINEERING AND DESIGN IN NOVEMBER 2023.
3. THIS PLAN IS IN THE MARYLAND STATE PLAN, NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1983 (NAD 83) COORDINATE SYSTEM.
4. SOIL BOUNDARIES OBTAINED FROM THE NRCS WEB SOIL SURVEY.
5. ALL LOCATIONS ARE CONCEPTUAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN FUTURE ITERATIONS OF THE SITE LAYOUT. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE INDICATIVE ONLY AND IN FEET, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, AND ARE TO BE CONFIRMED ONSITE PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

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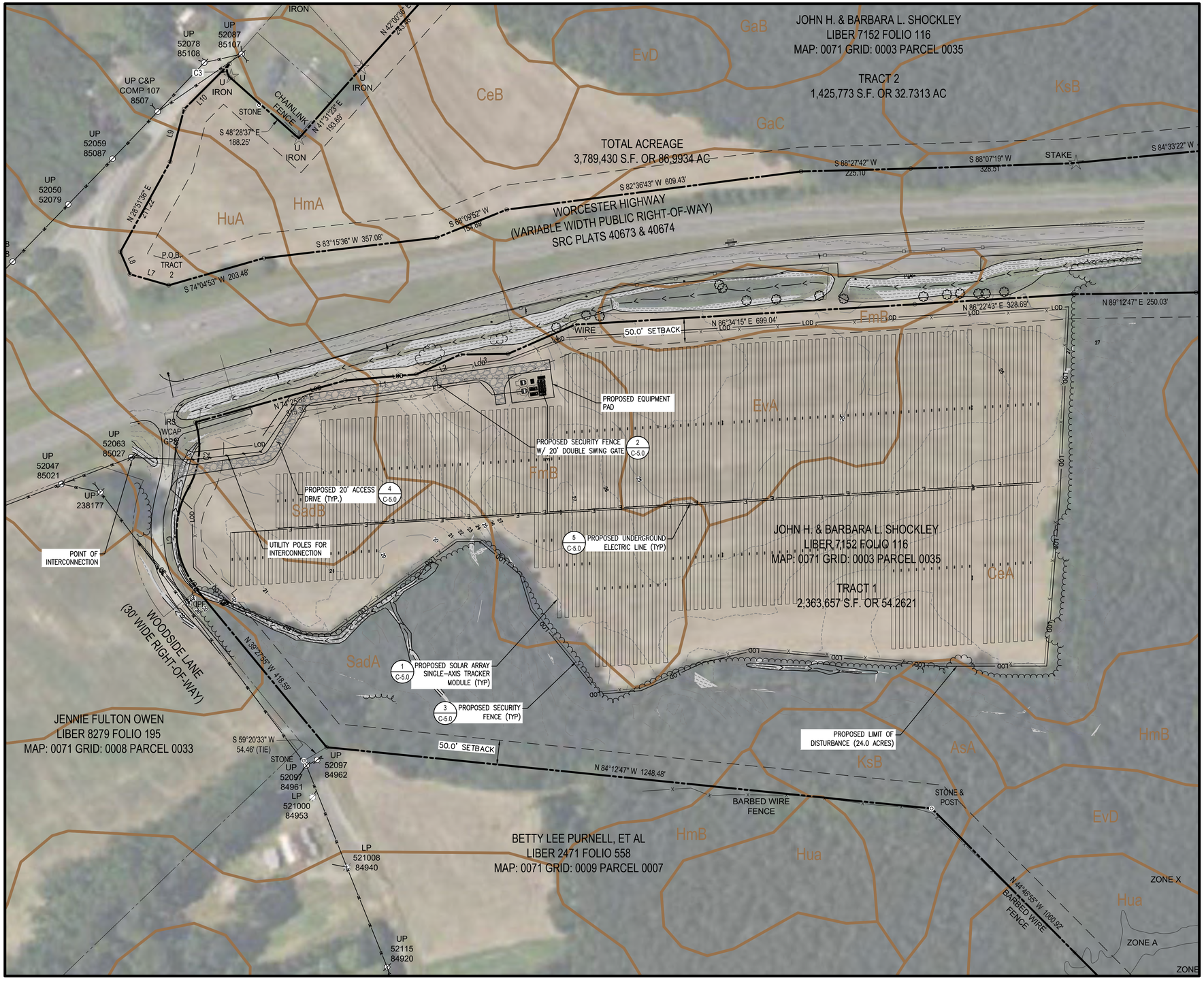
C-1.0
EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN



PROPOSED SITE CONDITIONS

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0 100' 200'

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- EXISTING CULVERT
- EXISTING EDGE OF PAVED ROAD
- EXISTING EDGE OF UNPAVED ROAD
- EXISTING GUIDERAIL
- EXISTING SLOPES >15%
- PROPOSED LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE
- PROPOSED ACCESS DRIVE
- PROPOSED SOLAR MODULES
- PROPOSED FENCE
- PROPOSED OVERHEAD ELECTRIC
- PROPOSED LOW VOLTAGE CONDUIT
- PROPOSED MEDIUM VOLTAGE CONDUIT

SOILS LEGEND

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	HSG	K FACTOR	ACRES IN AOI (AC)	% OF AOI	AREA OF PF WITHIN LOD (AC)	% OF LOD
AsA	Askecksy loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	A/D	0.12	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
CeA	Cedartown-Rosedale complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	A	0.12	30.5	29.4	9.2	38.3
CeB	Cedartown-Rosedale complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	A	0.12	6.2	5.9	0.0	0.0
EvA	Evesboro loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	A	0.12	8.6	8.3	4.2	17.5
EvD	Evesboro loamy sand, 5 to 15 percent slopes	A	0.12	4.0	3.8	0.0	0.0
FadA	Fallsington sandy loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Northern Tidewater Area	B/D	0.10	11.0	10.6	0.0	0.0
FmB	Fort Mott loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	A	0.12	11.7	11.3	6.1	25.4
GaB	Galestown loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	A	0.10	9.3	9.0	0.0	0.0
GaC	Galestown loamy sand, 5 to 10 percent slopes	A	0.05	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HmA	Hammonton loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	B	0.05	1.0	1.8	0.0	0.0
HmB	Hammonton loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	B	0.05	3.6	3.4	0.0	0.0
HuA	Hurlock loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	A/D	0.12	5.5	5.3	0.0	0.0
KsB	Klej loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	A/D	0.12	5.6	5.4	0.0	0.0
NnA	Nassawango fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	C	0.35	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SadA	Sassafras sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Northern Tidewater Area	B	0.05	0.1	0.1	2.2	9.2
SadB	Sassafras sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, Northern Tidewater Area	B	0.05	5.0	4.8	2.3	9.6
			TOTAL:	102.8	99.8	24.0	100.0

SOIL NOTES:

1. SOILS HAVING A K FACTOR OF 0.35 OR GREATER ON SLOPES FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) OR GREATER ARE CONSIDERED ERODIBLE SOILS. MINIMAL AREAS WITH ERODIBLE SOILS OCCUR WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA.
2. NO CLASS 1 SOILS ON SUBJECT PROPERTY.

GENERAL NOTES:

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SNOW HILL, MD 21863

PROJECT NUMBER: 23011299

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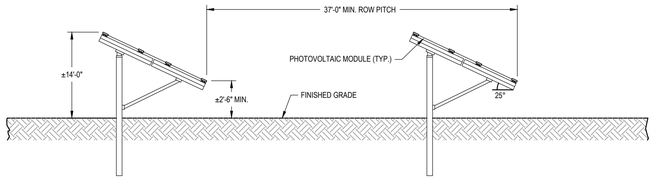
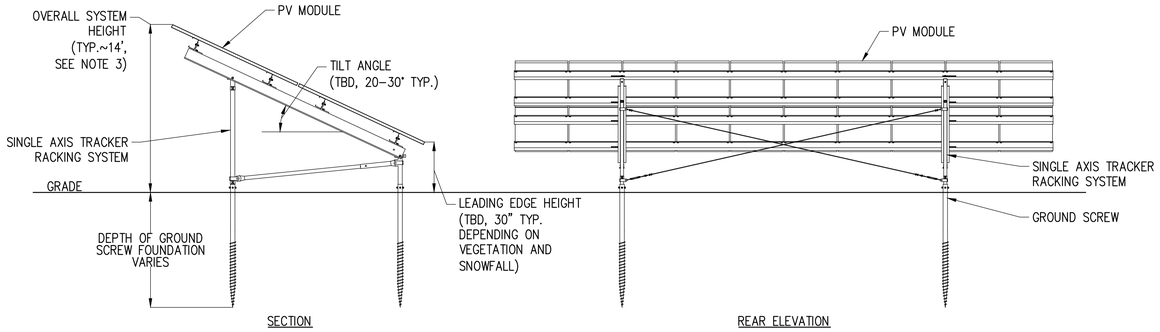
C-2.0
PROPOSED SITE CONDITIONS



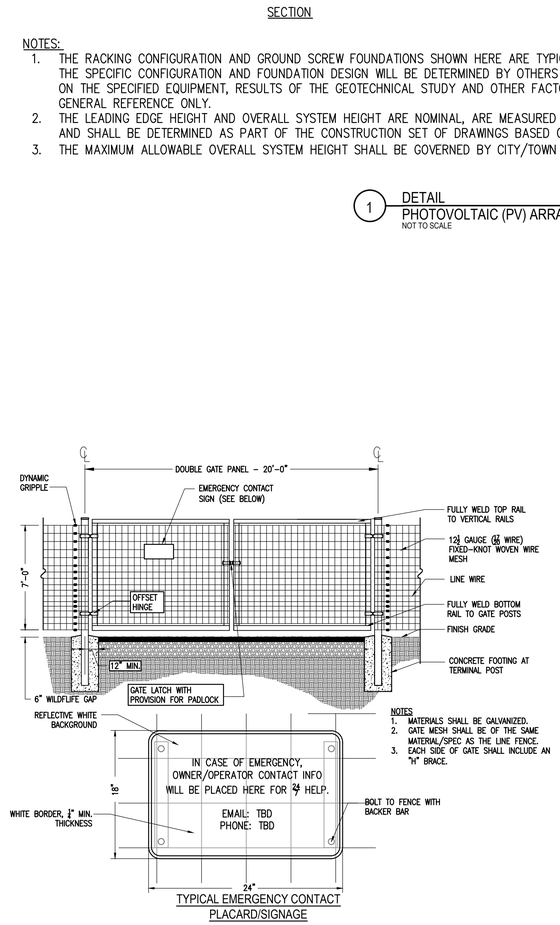
TYPICAL SIDE ELEVATION



SECTION REAR ELEVATION

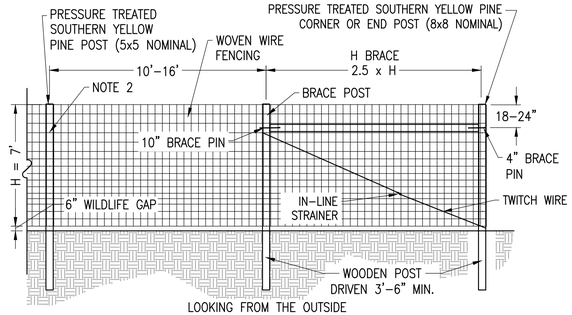
NOTES:
1. THE RACKING CONFIGURATION AND GROUND SCREW FOUNDATIONS SHOWN HERE ARE TYPICAL FOR A GROUND MOUNTED PV SYSTEM IN THIS REGION. THE SPECIFIC CONFIGURATION AND FOUNDATION DESIGN WILL BE DETERMINED BY OTHERS AS PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION SET OF DRAWINGS BASED ON THE SPECIFIED EQUIPMENT, RESULTS OF THE GEOTECHNICAL STUDY AND OTHER FACTORS. THE 2X10 TABLE SHOWN IN THIS DETAIL IS FOR GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY.
2. THE LEADING EDGE HEIGHT AND OVERALL SYSTEM HEIGHT ARE NOMINAL, ARE MEASURED FROM GRADE, VARY WITH CHANGES IN LOCAL TOPOGRAPHY, AND SHALL BE DETERMINED AS PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION SET OF DRAWINGS BASED ON FINAL MODULE AND RACKING SPECIFICATIONS.
3. THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE OVERALL SYSTEM HEIGHT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY CITY/TOWN BYLAWS AND/OR ZONING CODES.

1 DETAIL
PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ARRAY (TYP.)
NOT TO SCALE



TYPICAL EMERGENCY CONTACT PLACARD/SIGNAGE

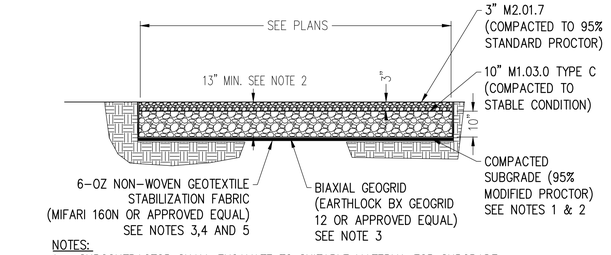
2 DETAIL
7' WOVEN WIRE VEHICLE GATE & PLACARD (TYP.)
NOT TO SCALE



LOOKING FROM THE OUTSIDE

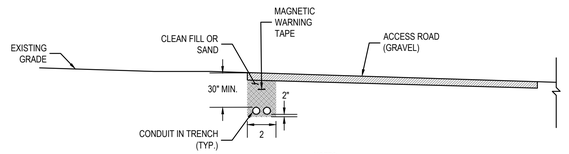
NOTES:
1. CORNER BRACING SHALL BE INSTALLED FIRST.
2. FENCE FABRIC SHALL BE BEKAERT SOLIDLOCK PRO, 12 ½ GAUGE HIGH–TENSILE FIXED KNOT WOVEN WIRE FENCE OR APPROVED EQUAL.
3. FENCE SHALL BE ATTACHED TO WOOD POSTS USING CLASS 3 BARB STAPLES AND ATTACHMENT LOCATIONS (SPACING) SHALL BE PER MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATIONS.
4. THIS DETAIL NOT APPLICABLE FOR PRIVACY FENCE OR FENCE WITH SLATS.
5. MINIMUM # OF HORIZONTAL WIRES SHALL BE 17 WITH 6" MAX. SPACING BETWEEN WIRES.
6. BRACE PINS SHALL BE ⅜" GALVANIZED PINS.

3 DETAIL
FIXED-KNOT WOVEN WIRE SECURITY FENCE (TYP.)
NOT TO SCALE



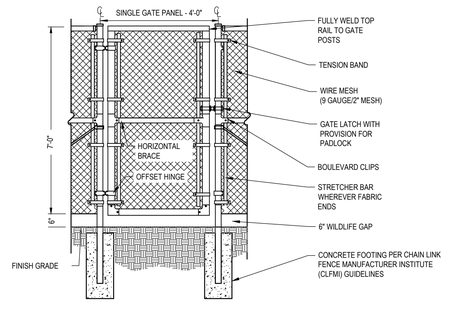
NOTES:
1. SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL EXCAVATE TO SUITABLE MATERIAL FOR SUBGRADE.
2. SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL COMPACT SUBGRADE TO PROVIDE SUITABLE SURFACE TO PLACE ROAD. REFER TO GEOTECHNICAL REPORT FOR SUBGRADE PREPERATION CRITERIA.
3. SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL FOLLOW MANUFACTURER INSTALLATION PROCEDURES.
4. WHERE OVERLAPPING OF GEOTEXTILE FABRIC IS REQUIRED, SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL OVERLAP A MINIMUM OF 24".
5. SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL REMOVE TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION ACCESS ROADS, AND RESTORE TO PRE–CONSTRUCTION CONDITIONS TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE CEOR AND THE GOVERNING AGENCIES.
6. SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL INSTALL CONDUITS FOR ALL ELECTRICAL CONDUIT CROSSINGS PRIOR TO INSTALLATION OF THE GEOGRID MATERIAL. THE GEOGRID SHALL NOT BE HORIZONTALLY CUT ONCE INSTALLED.

4 DETAIL
GRAVEL ACCESS ROAD
NOT TO SCALE



NOTES:
1. CONDUIT LAYOUTS TO BE DETERMINED.

5 DETAIL
CONDUIT TRENCH (TYP.)
NOT TO SCALE



NOTES:
1. FABRIC SHALL BE GALVANIZED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. REFER TO PLANS.

6 DETAIL
PERSONNEL ACCESS GATE (4') (TYP.)
NOT TO SCALE

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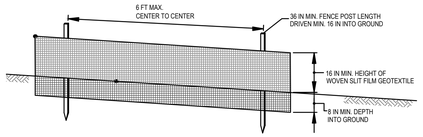
0 WOODSIDE LN
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

PROJECT NUMBER: 23011299

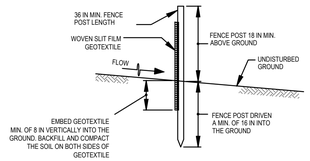
REV	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	RELEASE LEVEL
0	04/11/25	TER		SITE USE PERMIT SET

SCALES STATED ON DRAWINGS ARE VALID ONLY WHEN PLOTTED ARCH D 24" X 36"

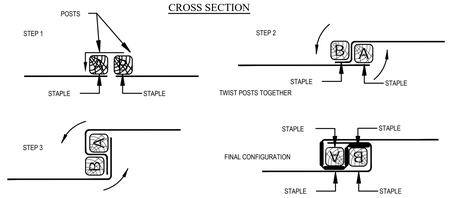
C-3.0
SITE DETAILS



ELEVATION



CROSS SECTION

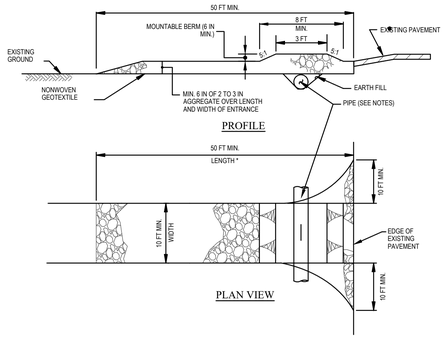


JOINING TWO ADJACENT SILT FENCE SECTIONS (TOP VIEW)

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS:

1. USE WOOD POSTS 1 3/4 X 1 3/4 +1/16 INCH (MINIMUM) SQUARE CUT OF SOUND QUALITY HARDWOOD. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO WOODEN POST USE STANDARD "T" OR "U" SECTION STEEL POSTS WEIGHING NOT LESS THAN 1 POUND PER LINEAR FOOT.
2. USE 36 INCH MINIMUM POSTS DRIVEN 16 INCH MINIMUM INTO GROUND NO MORE THAN 6 FEET APART.
3. USE WOVEN SLIT FILM GEOTEXTILE AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION H-1 MATERIALS AND FASTEN GEOTEXTILE SECURELY TO UPSLOPE SIDE OF FENCE POSTS WITH WIRE TIES OR STAPLES AT TOP AND MID-SECTION.
4. PROVIDE MANUFACTURER CERTIFICATION TO THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INSPECTION/ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY SHOWING THAT THE GEOTEXTILE USED MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION H-1 MATERIALS.
5. EMBED GEOTEXTILE A MINIMUM OF 8 INCHES VERTICALLY INTO THE GROUND. BACKFILL AND COMPACT THE SOIL ON BOTH SIDES OF FABRIC.
6. WHERE TWO SECTIONS OF GEOTEXTILE ADJOIN: OVERLAP, TWIST, AND STAPLE TO POST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS DETAIL.
7. EXTEND BOTH ENDS OF THE SILT FENCE A MINIMUM OF FIVE HORIZONTAL FEET UPSLOPE AT 45 DEGREES TO THE MAIN FENCE ALIGNMENT TO PREVENT RUNOFF FROM GOING AROUND THE ENDS OF THE SILT FENCE.
8. REMOVE ACCUMULATED SEDIMENT AND DEBRIS WHEN BULGES DEVELOP IN SILT FENCE OR WHEN SEDIMENT REACHES 25% OF FENCE HEIGHT. REPLACE GEOTEXTILE IF TORN. IF UNDERMINING OCCURS, REINSTALL FENCE.

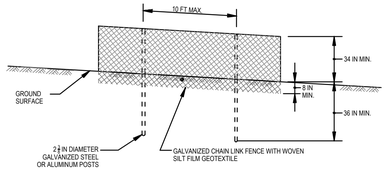
1 DETAIL
SILT FENCE
NOT TO SCALE



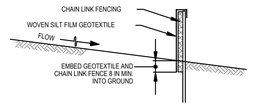
NOTES:

1. STABILIZED CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE DESIGN AS PER MARYLAND STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL (DETAIL B-1).
2. PLACE STABILIZED CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED PLAN. VEHICLES MUST TRAVEL OVER THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE SCE. USE MINIMUM LENGTH OF 50 FEET (*30 FEET FOR SINGLE RESIDENCE LOT). USE MINIMUM WIDTH OF 10 FEET. FLARE SCE 10 FEET MINIMUM AT THE EXISTING ROAD TO PROVIDE A TURNING RADIUS.
3. PIPE ALL SURFACE WATER FLOWING TO OR DIVERTED TOWARD THE SCE UNDER THE ENTRANCE, MAINTAINING POSITIVE DRAINAGE. PROTECT PIPE INSTALLED THROUGH THE SCE WITH A MOUNTABLE BERM WITH 5:1 SLOPES AND A MINIMUM OF 12 INCHES OF STONE OVER THE PIPE. PROVIDE PIPE AS SPECIFIED ON APPROVED PLAN. WHEN THE SCE IS LOCATED AT A HIGH SPOT AND HAS NO DRAINAGE TO CONVEY, A PIPE IS NOT NECESSARY. A MOUNTABLE BERM IS REQUIRED WHEN SCE IS NOT LOCATED AT A HIGH SPOT.
4. PREPARE SUBGRADE AND PLACE NONWOVEN GEOTEXTILE, AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION H-1 MATERIALS.
5. PLACE CRUSHED AGGREGATE (2 TO 3 INCHES IN SIZE) OR EQUIVALENT RECYCLED CONCRETE (WITHOUT REBAR) AT LEAST 6 INCHES DEEP OVER THE LENGTH AND WIDTH OF THE SCE.
6. MAINTAIN ENTRANCE IN A CONDITION THAT MINIMIZES TRACKING OF SEDIMENT. ADD STONE OR MAKE OTHER REPAIRS AS CONDITIONS DEMAND TO MAINTAIN CLEAN SURFACE, MOUNTABLE BERM, AND SPECIFIED DIMENSIONS. IMMEDIATELY REMOVE STONE AND/OR SEDIMENT SPILLED, DROPPED, OR TRACKED ONTO ADJACENT ROADWAY BY VACUUMING, SCRAPING, AND/OR SWEEPING. WASHING ROADWAY TO REMOVE MUD TRACKED ONTO PAVEMENT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE UNLESS WASH WATER IS DIRECTED TO AN APPROVED SEDIMENT CONTROL PRACTICE.

3 DETAIL
ROCK CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE (TYP.)
NOT TO SCALE



ELEVATION

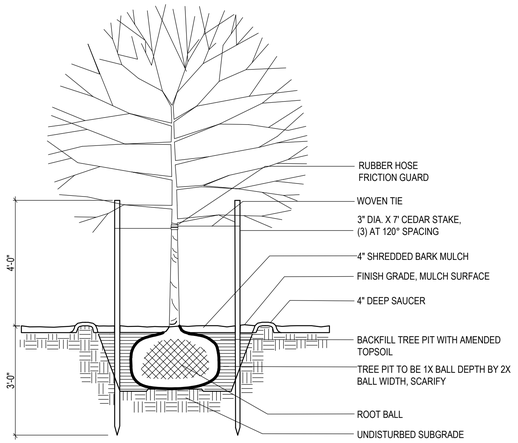


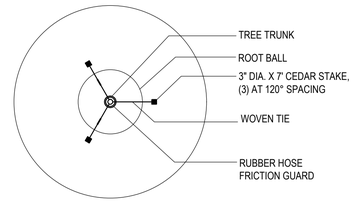
CROSS SECTION

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS:

1. INSTALL 2 3/8 INCH DIAMETER GALVANIZED STEEL POSTS OF 0.095 INCH WALL THICKNESS AND SIX FOOT LENGTH SPACED NO FURTHER THAN 10 FEET APART. DRIVE THE POSTS A MINIMUM OF 36 INCHES INTO THE GROUND.
2. FASTEN 9 GAUGE OR HEAVIER GALVANIZED CHAIN LINK FENCE (2 3/8 INCH MAXIMUM OPENING) 42 INCHES IN HEIGHT SECURELY TO THE FENCE POSTS WITH WIRE TIES OR HUG RINGS.
3. FASTEN WOVEN SLIT FILM GEOTEXTILE AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION H-1 MATERIALS, SECURELY TO THE UPSLOPE SIDE OF CHAIN LINK FENCE WITH TIES SPACED EVERY 24 INCHES AT THE TOP AND MID SECTION. EMBED GEOTEXTILE AND CHAIN LINK FENCE A MINIMUM OF 8 INCHES INTO THE GROUND.
4. WHERE ENDS OF THE GEOTEXTILE COME TOGETHER, THE ENDS SHALL BE OVERLAPPED BY 6 INCHES, FOLDED, AND STAPLED TO PREVENT SEDIMENT BY PASS.
5. EXTEND BOTH ENDS OF THE SUPER SILT FENCE A MINIMUM OF FIVE HORIZONTAL FEET UPSLOPE AT 45 DEGREES TO THE MAIN FENCE ALIGNMENT TO PREVENT RUNOFF FROM GOING AROUND THE ENDS OF THE SUPER SILT FENCE.
6. PROVIDE MANUFACTURER CERTIFICATION TO THE INSPECTION/ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY SHOWING THAT GEOTEXTILE USED MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION H-1 MATERIALS.
7. REMOVE ACCUMULATED SEDIMENT AND DEBRIS WHEN BULGES DEVELOP IN FENCE OR WHEN SEDIMENT REACHES 25% OF FENCE HEIGHT. REPLACE GEOTEXTILE IF TORN. IF UNDERMINING OCCURS, REINSTALL CHAIN LINK FENCING AND GEOTEXTILE.

2 DETAIL
SUPER SILT FENCE
NOT TO SCALE





TREE GUYING

NOTES:

1. THE LOCATIONS FOR PLANT MATERIAL ARE APPROXIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO FIELD ADJUSTMENT DUE TO SLOPE, VEGETATION, AND SITE FACTORS SUCH AS THE LOCATION OF ROCK OUTCROPS. PRIOR TO PLANTING, THE LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR SHALL ACCURATELY STAKE OUT THE LOCATIONS FOR ALL PLANTS. NO PLANT SHALL BE PLACED IN THE GROUND BEFORE ROUGH GRADING HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND FIELD LOCATIONS OR ADJUSTMENTS OF THE TREES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE OWNER.
2. ALL SCREENING TREES SHALL BE ARRANGES IN A WAY THAT DIAMETER OF TREE SHALL OVERLAP WHEN VIEWED AT THE PERPENDICULAR ANGLE TO EFFECTIVELY ACHIEVE AN OPAQUE VISUAL BARRIER.
3. COORDINATE PLANTING LOCATIONS WITH SITE UTILITIES. THE LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE DUE TO NEGLIGENCE AND SHALL REPLACE OR REPAIR ANY DAMAGE AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.
4. FOR CONTAINER–GROWN TREES, USE FINGERS OR SMALL HAND TOOLS TO PULL THE ROOTS OUT OF THE OUTER LAYER OF POTTING SOIL; THEN CUT OR PULL APART ANY ROOTS CIRCLING THE PERIMETER OF THE CONTAINER.
5. THOROUGHLY SOAK THE TREE ROOT BALL AND ADJACENT PREPARED SOIL SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE FIRST MONTH AFTER PLANTING AND REGULARLY THROUGHOUT THE FOLLOWING TWO SUMMERS.
6. SOIL AMENDMENTS:
   6.1. MODIFY HEAVY CLAY OR SILT SOILS (MORE THAN 40% CLAY OR SILT) BY ADDING COMPOSED PINE BARK (UP TO 30% BY VOLUME) OR GYPSUM.
   6.2. MODIFY EXTREMELY SANDY SOILS (MORE THAN 85% SAND) BY ADDING ORGANIC MATTER AND/OR DRY, SHREDDED CLAY LOAM UP TO 30% OF THE TOTAL MIX.
7. INVASIVE SPECIES AND OTHER WEEDS WILL BE REMOVED AND CONTROLLED THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT AREA DURING OPERATION OF THE PROJECT. EMPHASIS WILL BE PLACED ON REMOVAL OF INVASIVE AND NOXIOUS WEEK SPECIES FROM BUTTER AREAS TO MAINTAIN BUFFER HEALTH AND SCREEN PROJECTS.
8. THE USE OF CHEMICALS WILL BE LIMITED TO THAT NECESSARY TO AVOIDED TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE. ALL CHEMICAL CONTROL TREATMENTS WILL BE PERFORMED BY, OR PERFORMED UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF, A MARYLAND CERTIFIED PESTICIDE APPLICATOR OR TECHNICIAN.
9. ALL SCREENING TREES SHALL BE FIELD SPACED AT THE TIME OF PLANTING TO ENSURE THAT TRES WILL BE OF SUFFICIENT HEIGHT, DENSITY, AND MATURITY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A VEGETATED BUFFER AND YEAR–ROUND SCREENING OF THE SOLAR FACILITY FROM THE TIME OF INSTALLATION.
   9.1. SINGLE ROW SPACING: PLANT 25' ON CENTER MAXIMUM SPACES BETWEEN TREES.
   9.2. DOUBLE ROW SPACING: PLANT 25' ON CENTER MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN THREES, ROWS SHALL BE STAGGERED AND SPACED APART 15' ON CENTER MAXIMUM.
10. ALL PLANTING MATERIALS SHALL BE MAINTAINED FOR THE DURATION OF THE PROJECT LIFE IN ORDER TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE SCREENING AND SHALL BE REPLACED WHEN NECESSARY.
11. ANY TREE WRAP OR ROPE WILL BE REMOVED AND PROPERLY DISPOSED OF FOLLOWING INSTALLATION.
12. THE FOLLOWING SCREENING TREE SPECIES SHALL BE USED, OR APPROVED EQUIVALENT SPECIES TO EMULATE THE MIX OF NATIVE VEGETATION ALREADY IN EXISTENCE WITHIN THE LANDSCAPE:
   12.1. EVERGREEN TREE: ARBORVITAE OR APPROVED EQUIVALENT.
   12.2. DECIDUOUS TREE (POLLENATOR FRIENDLY SPECIES): DOGWOOD, REDBUD, OR APPROVED EQUIVALENT.

4 DETAIL
SCREENING TREE PLANTING (TYP.)
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0 WOODSIDE LN
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

PROJECT NUMBER:
23011299

REV	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	RELEASE LEVEL
0	04/11/25	TER		SITE USE PERMIT SET

SCALES STATED ON DRAWINGS ARE VALID ONLY WHEN PLOTTED ARCH D 24" X 36"

C-3.1

SITE DETAILS

Environmental Review Document

0 Woodside Lane Project
0 Worcester Hwy
Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

Applicant/Prepared for:

Woodside Solar 1, LLC
c/o New Leaf Energy, Inc.
55 Technology Drive, Suite 102
Lowell, Massachusetts 01851

Prepared by:

ARM Group LLC
1129 West Governor Road
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033

ARM Project No. 023011299

April 2025

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1.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Woodside Solar 1, LLC (the "Applicant") proposes to develop a five (5) megawatt alternating current ("MWac") photovoltaic ("PV") solar project located approximately 2 miles south of Snow Hill, Worcester County (the "County"), Maryland ("MD"). The Applicant is applying to the Maryland Public Service Commission (the "Commission") for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for the 0 Woodside Lane Solar Project (the "Project"). A Conceptual Site Plan for the Project is included as **Appendix A**.

Based on site limitations and environmental constraints, the Project is anticipated to occupy approximately 23 acres of a 54.3-acre property (the "Property") located at 0 Worcester Hwy Snow Hill, Maryland 21863. The Property (Tax Map 0071, Grid 0003, Parcel 0035) is owned by John & Barbara Shockley, and the Project area will be leased to the Applicant for the development of the proposed ground-mounted, solar facility. The land that the Project will occupy constitutes the site (the "Site"). The Site primarily consists of agricultural lands. The Property location and land features near the Property are more clearly illustrated in **Appendix A**.

The Project site provides a suitable buildable area to accommodate a five (5) MWac solar energy system that will support approximately 1,125 households at 10,000 kWh/year and displace 8,750 tons of carbon dioxide ("CO2") emissions per year or 175,000 tons over the lifetime of the Project. By increasing the share of renewable energy in Maryland's energy mix, the project aligns with the State's goal of reaching fifty percent (50%) renewable energy by the year 2030.

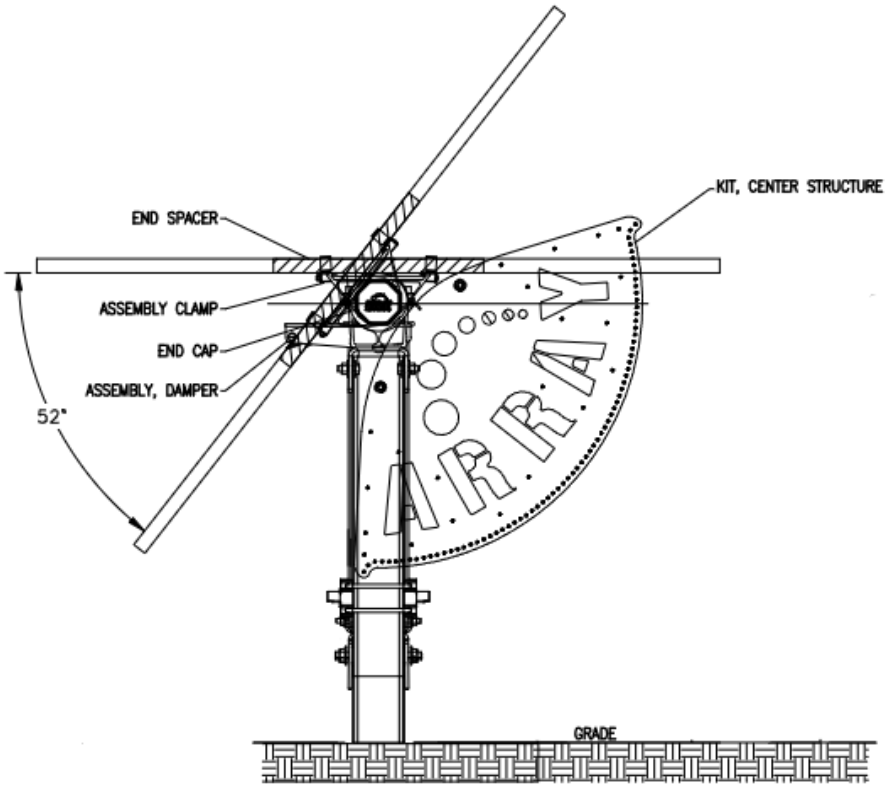
The total generating capacity for the Project is anticipated to be 5,000 kilowatts alternating current ("kWac") (5 MWac). Interconnection to the electric distribution grid will occur through an existing feeder back to the utility substation with a 24.9 kV circuit.

As currently designed, the PV arrays will be ground-mounted on single axis tracker racking systems consisting of galvanized steel posts and galvanized steel or aluminum structures at a resting angle of fifty-two (52) degrees. The Applicant currently estimates approximately 11,872 PV panel modules will be used, each rated at 615 watts pending ("Wp") available supply or technological advancements closer to construction. The panels will have a typical height of

approximately twelve (12) feet, although this height will be reached during a limited number of hours each day. A solar panel design is shown as **Figure 1**. The space between rows will be determined during final design but at minimum will be equal to or greater than the panels horizontal width in order to meet Maryland Department of the Environment ("MDE") Stormwater Guidelines. The solar panels will be designed to withstand snow and wind loads in accordance with the International Building Code ("IBC") 2018.

The Project does not anticipate impacts to other applicable state, regional, and local plans or programs. Further, references to each appropriate agency with authority to review, evaluate, or comment on behalf of the plan or program are shown in **Table 1** below. There are no other known review agencies anticipated for the Project.

Figure 1 – Solar Array Schematic



In addition to the CPCN, the Project will require National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") stormwater permit coverage and other State Regulatory Approvals, including conformance with stormwater management, sediment and erosion control, and local grading, building, and electrical permits. In addition to satisfying local site plan review and approval requirements, the Site Plan will be subject to review as part of the CPCN process.

2.0 STATEMENT OF NEED AND PURPOSE

The State of Maryland has enacted aggressive legal and policy standards in pursuit of expanded renewable energy generation such as solar. Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard ("RPS") mandates that fifty percent (50%) of Maryland's electricity be generated from renewable energy sources by 2030, which must include at least fourteen and one-half percent (14.5%) solar energy by 2028. The Project will generate five (5) MWac of solar energy to help bring the State closer to meeting its goals.

There will be significant economic benefits resulting from the Project to include a capital cost of approximately up to eleven million ($11M) and approximately thirty (30) design, management, and construction personnel working remotely or on the Site at the height of construction. Additionally, there will be continued direct and indirect employment for at least five (5) years following completion of construction. The construction schedule is estimated to be six (6) months and is expected to be completed as early as possible following all necessary approvals. Significant local resources are being employed as part of the design, entitlement, construction, and startup process. The tax revenue yield for a project of this size and type will also support critical County and State tax-funded programs that are often in desperate need of additional resources.

Since 2017, it has been reported that approximately seventy-five percent (75%) of the renewable energy consumed in Maryland is imported.[1] This Project will help reduce this reliance upon power generated from out of State. Given the nature of solar power generation, it will also lead to reduced and more certain costs of electricity produced. Furthermore, this Project is consistent with the findings of the General Assembly in the Maryland Public Utilities Article § 7-306.2. The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System and will deliver all of its output to subscribers via the Delmarva Power & Light ("DPL") electric distribution grid, creating access to the benefits of distributed energy to residents and business alike, regardless of income or property ownership status.

Maryland has active efforts underway to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change impacts, such as the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative which both set goals for reducing emissions by 2030. The Project will

[1] "Maryland At a Glance", Maryland Manual On-Line, May 23, 2022. (https://msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/01glance/html/energy.html#renewable)

be 100% emissions free and will offset the need for sources of power derived from fossil fuels. In 2017, Maryland established legislation promoting pollinator-friendly habitat solar projects. Pollinators are a crucial component of all agricultural ecosystems, yet suitable habitat for these species is declining. The Project will be designed to exceed the State Standard for pollinator-friendly solar projects. The establishment of additional pollinator habitat will benefit the local and state economy by improving agricultural ecosystems, as well as air, soil, and water quality.

3.0 APPLICANT INFORMATION

A. Name and Address of Applicant

Woodside Solar 1, LLC
c/o New Leaf Energy, Inc.
55 Technology Drive, Suite 102
Lowell, MA 01851

B. Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications

Applicant	**Counsel**
Mr. Drew Funk Project Developer New Leaf Energy 55 Technology Drive, Suite 102 Lowell, MA 01851 dfunk@newleafenergy.com (814) 574-0502	Mr. David W. Beugelmans Mr. Maxwell T. Cooke Ms. Colleen O. Collins Gordon Feinblatt LLC 1001 Fleet St., Suite 700 Baltimore, MD 21202 dbeugelmans@gfrlaw.com mcooke@gfrlaw.com ccollins@gfrlaw.com

C. Community Liaison Officer

This Application is for a proposed community solar project that will have a capacity of approximately five (5) MWac. Projects of this size are not "qualified generation stations" under COMAR 20.79.01.02(37) and do not require the appointment of a Community Liaison Officer. However, the Applicant has an internal community engagement team led by:

D. Public Access to a Copy of the Application

A copy of this application is available to members of the public at the following location:

Worcester County
Planning & Zoning Department
1 West Market Street, Suite 1201
Snow Hill, MD 21863
(410) 632-1200

4.0 STATE AND LOCAL PERMITS

A. Maryland Public Service Commission

1. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

   A CPCN is required for the creation of new power generation facilities in Maryland. The submission of this document to the Commission, along with the accompanying application, will initiate the CPCN process.

B. Delmarva Power and Light Company

DPL is an investor-owned utility. As a utility, it is not a local or State agency, but it is regulated by this Commission.

1. Interconnection Agreement

   The Project is in the DPL service territory and will connect to the electric distribution grid through an existing 24.9 kV feeder back to the utility substation. Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant will be required to execute an Interconnection Agreement with DPL. The Applicant submitted an interconnection application on February 22, 2024 and anticipates study completion on September 11, 2025. DPL has provided guidance on the interconnection process and on the potential use of a nearby substation for this purpose.

C. Maryland Department of the Environment

1. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Construction Activity

   A NPDES General Permit is required for planned construction activities with a total disturbance of one (1) acre or greater. Coverage under the General Permit is obtained by filing a completed Notice of Intent ("NOI") form with the MDE, Water Management Administration ("WMA"). The permit application requires fourteen (14) day notice prior to approval of the NOI application. The completed NOI form is considered a formal application for coverage and intent to comply

with the terms of the General Permit. An NOI will be submitted to MDE during the Construction Drawing Plan review phase.

D. Worcester County Plan Review and Permitting

1. Zoning and Site Plan Approval

The Applicant has contacted Worcester County and is working on scheduling a CPCN pre-application consultation with the County to inform of the proposed development in the early June 2025 timeframe. The County will be provided with the Environmental Review Document ("ERD") and Concept Site Plan for the Project in early May 2025. COMAR 20.79.03.01(A) requires a CPCN application to include a statement from the County and, under COMAR 20.79.01.05 and .06, whether the project is consistent with the applicable local comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance. The Applicant will be in routine communication with the County once the County is provided the Project documentation and will request a written statement, or at a minimum, a written statement indicating the status of the review. The County has not provided the Applicant feedback during the pre-application consultation meeting, which is summarized in **Appendix M**. However, the County has not provided a statement regarding the Project's consistency with the local comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance.

The County may participate in the CPCN process and provide input regarding, including but not limited to, the site plan, stormwater management and environmental site design, erosion and sediment control plan, and landscape plan.

2. Forest Conservation Act

The Project anticipates compliance with the Worcester County Forest Conservation Ordinance, which was adopted in 1994, to meet the Maryland Forest Conservation Act. The ordinance requires submission of a Forest Stand Delineation ("FSD") and Forest Conservation Plan ("FCP") for review and approval by Worcester County Development Review, which is included in **Appendix P**. On May 8, 2023, Governor Wes Moore approved Senate Bill 526, which exempts solar photovoltaic facilities from afforestation requirements if a FCP has not been approved by July 1, 2024.

3. Grading, Building, Electrical, Entrance Permits

   To the extent required and feasible, the Applicant will apply for grading, building, electrical, and entrance permits while this application is pending before the Commission.

E. Summary of Permits/Approvals

The Applicant received its Subscriber Organization identification number (23A3057570006538) on February 13, 2024, and submitted an interconnection application to DPL on February 22, 2024; see **Appendix H** for applicable interconnection documentation.

1. Matrix of State/Local Permit and Approvals

   The Applicant will secure applicable approvals from State, regional, and local agencies following issuance of the CPCN as shown in **Table 1** below, and as required by COMAR 20.79.03.02.04(B)(8).

Table 1 – Matrix of State/Local Permits and Approvals										
Agency/Authority	**Permits/Approvals**	**Regulatory Citation(s)** *(as applicable)*	**Required For**		**Status**			**Condition or Exemption**		**Comments**
			Construction	**Operation**	**Application Contained Herein**	**Application to be Filed/ Obtained**	**Permit/ Approval Obtained**	**Yes**	**No**	
Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC)	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN)	COMAR 20.79	X		X				X	This document partially satisfies the CPCN Application.
Delmarva Power	Interconnection Agreement	Condition for Issuance of CPCN		X		X			X	Applicant has submitted an Interconnection Application and expects to receive and execute an Interconnection Agreement within 18-24 months thereof.
Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)	NPDES General Permit for Construction Activity (NOI)	COMAR 26.08, Clean Water Act Section 401, 40 CFR 122	X			X			X	Application/Notice of Intent to be submitted following approval of Site Plan. Normally received within 2-3 weeks.
Worcester County and/or MDE	Site Plan Review, Erosion & Sediment Control, Stormwater Management, Landscape Plan, Forest Conservation Act, Construction (Grading, Electrical and Building) Permits, Legal Documents (Bonds, Easements and Agreements)	Applicability varies according to Local and State requirements.	X			X			X	It is expected that the County will participate in the CPCN process and provide input regarding the site plan, stormwater management, and erosion and sediment control, and combined FSD and preliminary/ final FCP; approval is expected approximately 3-6 months from submittal. Grading, electrical, and building permits and legal documents will be applied for within 3 months following approval of the Site Plan.
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)	Glare Analysis	COMAR 11.03.05	X				X		X	FAA Notice Criteria confirmation included in **Appendix I**.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Species Review	Section 7(c) Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C 1531 *et seq.*)	X				X		X	USFWS project review and response included in **Appendix D**.
Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife and Heritage Service	Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Review	Natural Resources Article, COMAR 08.02.12	X				X		X	Project review and DNR response included in **Appendix E**.
Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)	Cultural Resources Review	COMAR 34.04.02	X			X			X	Project review and MHT response included in **Appendix F**.
Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA)	Entrance/Driveway Permit	COMAR 11.04.05	X			X			X	Application to be submitted at the time Construction Documents have been completed.

5.0 COMAR 20.79.03.01 DESCRIPTION OF GENERATING STATION

A. Location

The Project is located within Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland as part of Tax Map 0071, Grid 0003, Parcel 0035. The approximate center of the Site is located at Latitude 38.142515°N, Longitude -75.411209°W (NAD 83). The Site location is more clearly illustrated in **Appendix A** and **Section 1.0**.

B. Design Features

The Project is anticipated to occupy approximately 23 acres of the Property. The proposed Project consists of a ground-mounted, single axis tracker, solar PV array installation, interconnection, and construction of all associated site access, stormwater management infrastructure, a minimum seven (7) foot tall fence around the perimeter to provide security and safety, landscape screening, mechanical and electrical equipment, and equipment pad to suit the solar facility. Interconnection to the electric distribution grid will occur through an existing 24.9 kV feeder back to the utility substation.

In compliance with the applicable provisions of the Worcester County Zoning Ordinance, the vegetative screening will be achieved through the installation of single or double row(s) of diverse plantings, consisting of a mix of deciduous trees and evergreen trees. In compliance with the applicable provisions of the Worcester County Zoning Ordinance (Sections 1-322 and 1-344(d)), a newly proposed six (6) foot wide buffering and screening area, in conjunction with existing forestry screening on the eastern side of the property, will be implemented between the Project and all adjoining residentially zoned property, as well as along all adjacent roadways. The buffering and screening area may consist of a combination of berms, possible evergreen or deciduous species, or fencing. The determination of the buffering and screening elements will be made by the County Council, taking into consideration the characteristics of both the Project location and the surrounding neighborhood. Additionally, the buffering and screening area may be located within the setback areas as defined by the ordinance. The Project is designed to have over 350 feet of distance from the closest, adjacent neighbors' residences on the northeast and northwest sides, providing a considerable buffer zone. Furthermore, the existing trees neighboring the parcel provide additional privacy, effectively obscuring the view from neighbors to the east. This ensures that neighboring properties are minimally

impacted by the Project's construction and operation and preserves the aesthetic and environmental quality of the area.

The Project will consist of approximately 11,872 PV modules. The array will be installed using a post-supported racking system utilizing steel posts with steel or aluminum structures for mounting the modules. Each pile will be driven by a pile driving or auger machine to a depth of approximately six (6) to ten (10) feet below grade per final engineering design. Exact equipment specifications will be determined shortly before construction, based on equipment availability and the final racking design.

A typical Solar Array Schematic and racking detail, as shown in **Figure 1**, depicts the array with portrait racking with one(1) rows of modules positioned vertically on each stack. The space between rows will be determined during final design but at minimum will be equal or greater than the panels horizontal width in order to meet MDE Stormwater Guidelines. In this configuration, the solar modules are set at a resting angle of fifty-two (52) degrees and the minimum leading-edge height (bottom edge of the modules) will be approximately 18 inches above finished grade, and typical (top-edge height of the modules) will be approximately twelve (12) feet above finished grade. The solar arrays will be designed to withstand snow and wind loads per latest adopted IBC standards.

In addition to the PV modules, the facility components will also include a racking system, direct current ("DC") to alternating current ("AC") power inverters, medium-voltage transformers, control and distribution cabinets, a medium-voltage collection system, power switchgear, and other equipment necessary to interconnect to the distribution system. The panel and inverter manufacturer will be chosen based on availability at the time of procurement but will have the typical dimensions shown in **Table 2**.

The DC collection system will collect electrical power from the panels and transmit it to a power center. Panels will be grouped into a series of circuits (strings). These strings are wired in parallel through electrical harnesses that travel through the cable to trays to combiner boxes which are sized to accommodate the electrical design and layout. The DC power from the combiner boxes will then be routed to DC to AC inverters located in the power centers. Inverters convert DC power from the panels into three-phase AC

power for distribution to the point of interconnection ("POI"). Current conceptual design configurations call for two separate power centers, each containing a central inverter station and a medium voltage transformer, subject to final design. Each power center and its associated electrical components will be mounted on a concrete pad. Cables will be buried in compliance with the applicable National Electrical Code ("NEC") and National Electric Safety Code ("NESC") standards.

The overall slope of the Site is fifteen percent (15%) or less and primarily consists of agricultural lands. Due to the proposed stormwater management, which includes utilization of grass swales, infiltration basins, disconnection of non-rooftop runoff where applicable, and land cover restoration with native meadow, as well as the minimization of site grading and lack of alteration to existing drainage patterns, the required MDE stormwater requirements will be achieved. Additionally, the peak rate and volume of runoff leaving the site in the post development condition do not exceed pre-development peak rates and volumes, and provides greatly reduced rate and significant volume reduction.

The Project's limit of construction ("LOC"), and/or limit of disturbance ("LOD") is anticipated to be approximately 23 acres, which includes, but not limited to, the extent of tree clearing, SES development area, temporary staging areas, temporary and permanent site access, and solar array security fencing. These improvements, the individual racking systems that will support the solar modules, and the areas of the overhead electric distribution lines constitute the total area of construction for the Project. The Project will be in accordance with Maryland Stormwater Management and Erosion & Sediment Control Guidelines. In accordance with COMAR 26.17.02.01-1B(1), stormwater quality and quantity controls must be implemented for the Project to ensure prevention of water quality impacts.

There will be no water or sewer requirements for the Project since there will be no on-site operations and/or maintenance facilities. A temporary construction trailer may be utilized during construction, but no additional building structures will be added to the Site as the Project requires no full-time personnel. No water or sewer lines will be required for the temporary construction trailer as portable toilets will be utilized.

B. Municipal Confirmation of Consistency with Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance

Zoning

The proposed solar array is located within the Agricultural Zoning District (A - 1) of the Worcester County zoning ordinance. The proposed solar facility is permitted in the agricultural zone as an established utility scale solar energy system when in compliance with applicable zoning ordinance requirements for solar energy power systems.

The Worcester County Zoning and Subdivision Control Article defines utility scale solar generating system as "a ground-mounted solar energy system with a rated capacity in excess of two and one-half megawatts, the principal purpose of which is to provide electrical power for sale to the general power grid" [§ ZS 1-344(b)]. Section ZS 1-344(d)(3) allows utility scale solar energy systems to be located in the A-1, A-2, E-1, V-1, C-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 Districts with a minimum lot area of 50 acres.

Minimum setbacks for utility scale solar generating systems are not outlined in the Zoning and Subdivision Control Article. However, the Applicant will maintain 350 feet of distance from the closest, adjacent neighbors' residences and the Project will be further buffered by existing, undisturbed vegetation and screening plantings.

Public Utilities Article § 7-207 grants the PSC sole authority to site generating stations in Maryland, preempting local zoning ordinances related to the location, construction, and operation of such facilities. In *Bd. of Cnty. Comm'rs v. Perennial Solar, LLC*, the Supreme Court of Maryland held that:

> PUA § 7-207 preempts by implication local zoning authority approval for the siting and location of generating stations which require a CPCN. The statute is comprehensive and grants the PSC broad authority to determine whether and where SEGS may be constructed. Local land use interests are specifically designated by statute as requiring "due consideration" by the PSC. This includes the recommendation of the governing body of each county or municipal corporation in which any portion of the construction of the generating station is proposed to be located, as well as due consideration by the PSC of the consistency of the application with the comprehensive plan and zoning for the respective local jurisdiction.

Under the plain language of the statute, local government is a significant participant in the process, and local planning and zoning concerns are important in the PSC approval process. However, the ultimate decision-maker is the PSC, not the local government or local zoning board.[2]

The Project is consistent with Worcester County's Comprehensive Plan, dated March 14, 2006 ("Comprehensive Plan") because it supports the County's policy goals related to renewable energy and sustainable development, making use of the land while preserving its natural resources with minimal impact. The Comprehensive Plan "focuses on maintaining and improving the county's natural resource base while providing for sustainable use."

A key land use objective of the Comprehensive Plan is the preservation and enhancement of green infrastructure, which includes features such as wetlands, floodplains, stream corridors, forests, sensitive species habitats, and cultural resource areas. In alignment with the Comprehensive Plan's natural resource goals and objectives, the Project has been designed to avoid any disruption to the existing green infrastructure on the site and to return the property to a substantially similar condition as before the Project installation after its useful life.

While the Comprehensive Plan does not address the need for green energy or utility scale solar energy systems, the Plan does state that one objective to meet the need for public infrastructure improvements is to "work with the private sector to ensure a dependable and adequate supply of electric power and propane." For these reasons, the Project is compatible with the County's Comprehensive Plan.

[2] *Bd. of Cnty. Comm'rs v. Perennial Solar, LLC,* 464 Md. 610, 644-45 (2019).

Compliance with Design Requirements of PUA § 7-218(f)

On April 7, 2025, House Bill 1036/Senate Bill 931 passed in Maryland's General Assembly. This legislation includes a new Public Utilities Article (PUA) § 7–218, which among other things, implements new design requirements for solar projects larger than 1MWac. Accordingly, all projects filing CPCN applications after July 1, 2025, must adhere to these state design requirements, which are the controlling standards in Maryland and preempt all conflicting local requirements.

Further, as a result of this legislation, PUA § 7–207(e)(5) now requires a solar energy generating station under § 7–218 to document how the project complies with the design requirements under § 7–218(f). The section below demonstrates the Project's compliance with these standards:

A Project Shall:

- § 7–218(F)(2)(I): Provide a boundary of 150 feet between the solar energy generating station and the nearest wall of a residential dwelling.
    - The Project will adhere to this requirement. The plans include a 150 feet buffer between the nearest residential building and the solar array.
- § 7–218(F)(2)(II): Provide a boundary of 100 feet between the solar energy generating station and all property lines, not included property lines that bisect the interior of a project area.
    - The Project will adhere to this requirement. The plans include a 100 feet buffer between the nearest property line and the solar array.
- § 7–218(F)(III)1-2: Provide nonbarbed wire fencing: only on the interior of a landscape buffer or immediately adjacent to a solar energy generating station; that is not more than 20 feet in height that is only black or green vinyl wire mesh if the owner proposes to use chain link fencing; and that is not less than 50 feet away from the edge of any public right of way; and may use barbed wire fencing around the substations or other critical infrastructure for protection of that infrastructure.
    - The Project will adhere to this requirement. The site construction details will reflect adherence to this requirement.
- § 7–218(F)(2)(IV): Provide for a landscape buffer or vegetative screening in accordance with the "vegetation" bullet below.

    - The Project will adhere to this requirement, as described in greater detail on the vegetation management operation and maintenance plan included in Appendix O.
- § 7–218(F)(2)(V): Except for Equipment required for interconnection with electric system infrastructure, may not locate any solar array, ancillary equipment, or accessory buildings or facilities within a public road right-of-way.
    - The Project will adhere to this requirement. No solar array, ancillary equipment, or accessory buildings or facilities are located within the public road right-of-way as depicted on the concept site plans.
- § 7–218(F)(2)(VI)1-2: Shall mitigate the visual impact of the solar energy generating station on a preservation area, rural legacy area, priority preservation area, public park, scenic river or byway, designated heritage area, or historic structure or site listed on or eligible for the national register of historic places or relevant county register of historic places; and for a solar energy generating station that has the capacity to produce more than 2 megawatts of electricity as measured by the alternating current of the station's inverter, shall include in the application submitted a viewshed analysis for any area, structure, or site specified in the above.
- § 7–218(F)(2)(VII): Shall provide notice of each proposed solar energy generating station to the emergency response services of each County in which any portion of the generating station is to be constructed, including a map of the proposed generating station and the proposed location of any solar collector or isolator switch.
    - The Project will adhere to this requirement. A notice will be provided to Worcester County Emergency Response services to include a map of the proposed generating station as noted above.
- § 7–218(F)(3)-(4) - Vegetation:
    - A local jurisdiction may not require the use of a berm for a solar energy generating station approved under this section.
    - The buffer or vegetative screening required shall be provided along all property lines; locations of the exterior boundary for the solar energy generating station where existing wooded vegetation of 50 feet or more in width does not exist; or an alternative location within the boundary for the solar energy generating station if the owner demonstrates that the alternative location would maximize the visual screening.

- The project shall provide for four-season visual screening of the solar energy generating station.
- The buffering or screening shall be placed between any fencing and the public view.
- The buffering or screening shall include multilayered, staggered rows of overstory and understory trees and shrubs that: Are a mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation; are predominantly native to the region; are more than 4 feet in height at planting; are designed to provide screening or buffering within 5 years of planting; may not be trimmed to stunt upward or outward growth or to otherwise limit the effectiveness of the visual screen; conform to the plan size specifications established by the american standard for nursery stock (ANSI Z60.1); and a re specified in a landscaping plan prepared by a qualified professional landscape architect.
- The buffering or screening shall be installed as early in the construction process as practicable and before the activation of the proposed solar energy generating station.
- The buffering or screening shall reserve to the maximum extent practicable and supplemented with new plantings where necessary, any forest or hedgerow that exists at a location where visual screening or landscape buffering is required.
- The buffering or screening shall be maintained with a 90% survival threshold for the life of the solar energy generating station through a maintenance agreement that includes a watering plan.
    - The Project will comply with all of these vegetative requirements.

- § 7–218(F)(5)(I)-(VI): With respect to the site on which a solar energy generating station is proposed for construction, the owner of the solar energy generating station shall minimize grading to the maximum extent possible; may not remove topsoil from the parcel, but may move or temporarily stockpile topsoil for grading; to maintain soil integrity, shall plant native or noninvasive naturalized vegetation and other appropriate vegetative protections that have a 90% survival threshold for the life of the solar energy generating station; shall limit mowing and other unnecessary landscaping; may not use herbicides except to control invasive species in compliance with the Department of Agriculture's weed control program; and shall post for the first 5 years of the life of the solar energy

generating station a landscaping bond equal to 100% of the total landscaping cost with the county in which the solar energy generating station is located.

- The Project will adhere to this requirement. Proposed site grading will be kept to a minimum as the project site has very mild topography and will require very little grading.

- § 7–218(F)(6)(I)-(III):Subject to the below, a local jurisdiction shall hold any landscaping bond required (described above) for 5 years. A local jurisdiction shall release 50% of the landscaping bond if, on inspection, the vegetative protections meet a 90% survival threshold. Following the release of a landscaping bond, the remaining landscaping bond shall be held for an additional 2 years and, on further inspection and confirmation that the vegetative protections continue to meet a 90% survival threshold, shall be released.
  - The Project will adhere to this requirement.
- § 7–218(F)(7): Except as required by law, or for safety or emergency, the solar energy generating station may not emit visible light during dusk to dawn operations.
  - The Project will adhere to this requirement and will not emit visible light during the hours noted.
- § 7–218(F)(8): A proposed solar energy generating station and any accessory structures associated with the station must have an average height of not more than 15 feet. This does not apply to equipment necessary for interconnection with the electric system or solar energy generating stations located on land that is also used for agricultural purposes.
  - The Project does not propose any solar energy structures greater than 15 feet in height and will adhere to this requirement. The concept plan site details outline the specific dimensions of the proposed racking and modules, which are not to exceed approximately 12 feet in overall height.
- § 7–218(F)(9): Setbacks for solar energy generating stations shall be measured from the property boundary to the nearest solar array or accessory equipment, buildings, or facilities that generate, maintain, operate, distribute, and transmit electricity; and may not apply to any interconnection tie line or facility that connects a solar energy generating station to the electric system.
  - The Project has been designed based on the setback requirement noted above. Setbacks are noted on the proposed conditions plan within the overall project concept site plans as part of the County submission.

Accordingly, the Project is consistent with all siting standards prescribed in Public Utilities Article (PUA) § 7–218 and is a permitted use.

C. High Resolution Concept Plan

A Conceptual Site Plan for the Project, included as **Appendix A**, is in accordance with COMAR 20.79.03.01(B)(3,5) by including, but not limited to, applicable setbacks from adjacent properties and rights of way, all existing and proposed structures, existing and proposed parking areas with setbacks and buffers, and areas of impervious surfaces or lot coverage. The base mapping has been created using aerial photography, existing topography and site features, and property lines obtained from a topographic and boundary survey and ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey prepared by Bowman Consulting Group Ltd., dated March 19, 2025.

D. Operational Features

The operational features will be controlled through a Project Operations & Maintenance Agreement to track performance and monitor the health and safety of the solar field. Typical duties and features of this plan are:

- Local and remote control over key features of the Solar Field's Electrical System to assure compliance with the Interconnection Agreement and safety of the Project.
- Scheduling, control, and reporting of all onsite maintenance activities.
- Operations Center with remote monitoring of performance data and physical systems 365 days a year.
- Immediate dispatch of fire, police, or contractors in the event of emergency or forced outage.

The system is designed to maximize the production of clean energy to the grid. Operations will be monitored via the internet and an onsite controls software. Maintenance personnel will be dispatched for regularly scheduled preventive maintenance in accordance with industry standard practices and manufacturer recommendations. Reactive maintenance will also be completed as required. Generation

of clean energy to the grid will be coordinated with the utility, DPL, in accordance with the Interconnection Agreement established for the facility.

E. Schedule for Engineering, Construction, and Operation

Engineering documents are being prepared and programmed for submission as part of the CPCN joint review process with County representatives. The engineering and construction documents will include pertinent information regarding the solar modules, construction methods, electrical requirements, ingress and egress, stormwater management, sediment and erosion control, electrical connection to the grid/substation, fencing within the setback, and grading. Preliminary engineering for the Project has been initiated and final engineering will be completed in Q1 2026. Construction is anticipated to begin in Q1 2027 and commercial operation is anticipated to begin in Q3 2027, following all necessary approvals.

F. Life Expectancy of the Generating Station

The Project's life expectancy is approximately thirty to forty (30-40) years. The primary equipment components of the solar energy system to be installed are expected to meet capacity requirements effectively and efficiently throughout the Project's useful life cycle by employing industry standard operation and maintenance procedures. Routine maintenance and inspections will ensure the optimal performance and longevity of the solar generating station.

G. Site Selection and Design

1. Site Selection

The Applicant chose the Site for the Project because the location has key attributes that make it ideal for a community solar facility. The LOC at the site has exceptional potential for renewable energy production given its solar insolation, its favorable environmental characteristics and its proximity to the utility substation that can support the proposed generation with minimal upgrades.

a. Proximity to Distribution System

The Site is located approximately 3.49 miles from the Delmarva's Kenney Substation and will interconnect to the electric distribution grid through an existing 24.9 kV feeder.

b. Environmental Suitability

The Site does not contain significant environmental or cultural resources impacts. The Site is of adequate size to accommodate construction of the Project and there is sufficient buildable acreage with limited residential development on or near the proposed LOC. Additionally, the Project requires minimal post-construction stormwater management features by maintaining and enhancing the native meadow cover, minimization of site grading, and lack of alteration to existing drainage patterns.

c. Adequate Buildable Acreage

The site provides a suitable buildable area to accommodate a five (5) MWac solar facility. The Project will support approximately 1,125 households at 10,000 kWh/year and displace 8,750 tons of carbon dioxide ("CO2") emissions per year. In contrast, a two (2) MWac solar project would only support 450 households and displace 3,500 tons of CO2 emissions. By increasing the share of renewable energy in Maryland's energy mix, the Project aligns with the State's goal of reaching fifty percent (50%) renewable energy by the year 2030.

The Project array area is designed to have approximately 350 feet of distance from the closest, adjacent neighbors' residence, providing a considerable buffer zone. Furthermore, the existing trees on and neighboring the subject parcel provide additional privacy, effectively screening the Project from neighbors to the north and west. This ensures that neighboring properties are minimally impacted by the Project's construction and operation and preserves the aesthetic and environmental quality of the area.

d. High Insolation

The Project Site has optimal sun exposure creating the estimated annual production results as listed in **Table 3**.

2. Project Design

See **Section 5.0.B.** for a description of Project Design. This section of the ERD describes the system modeling and assumptions made by the Applicant during the Project design phase. The conceptual design and associated energy output at the Project Site were modeled and created based on, including but not limited to, meteorological data, models of the system equipment such as inverter and the solar modules, and project design specifications such as the number of solar modules in series (string sizing), system DC size, rack orientation (azimuth and tilt), DC and AC wiring length, and transformer losses.

Table 2 – Summary of System Components and Design of Model	
Nominal DC Rating (STC):	7,301.28 kW
Nominal AC Rating:	5,000 kW
DC/AC Ratio:	1.46
Array Azimuth/Tilt:	180°/52°
Inverters:	SOLECTRIA XGI 1500-250W, or equivalent. (Quantity: 20)
Modules:	VIKRAM 6155 (615 W), or equivalent. (Quantity: 11,872)

3. Solar Resource Data

A key factor in simulating the power output from the Project is the local solar resource data or insolation.

4. Modeling

Modeling involved defining a detailed system design by using manufacturer's equipment file models, specifying array orientation, string sizing and equipment quantities, system voltage, wire lengths, transformers, and shading. Loss assumptions are also made at this stage. Major loss categories incorporated into the energy modeling include snow and soiling (dust) losses, shading from nearby obstructions (e.g., trees), "far shading" obstructions (e.g., ridgelines), and system losses incurred such as transformer losses.

5. Production Estimate Results

The above model inputs are taken into consideration for estimating total production from the system during the first year of operations, which is presented in **Table 3** below. Note that the production estimate results are preliminary and subject to change based on the final system design, equipment selections, etc.

Table 3 – Production Estimate Results

Parameter	Preliminary Estimate
Annual Generation (MWh/year)	11,481.67
Annual Specific Yield (kWh/kWp/year)	1572.56
Performance Ratio	80.67%
Capacity Factor (AC)	26.2%

H. Impacts on the Economics of the State

There will be significant economic benefits resulting from the Project to include a capital cost of approximately up to eleven million ($11M).The Applicant anticipates that approximately thirty (30) direct temporary construction jobs are created and approximately one (1) general site maintenance jobs are created. Eight (8) induced jobs are estimated to result from this Project. The construction schedule is estimated to be six

(6) months and is expected to be completed as early as possible following all necessary approvals. Significant local resources are being employed as part of the design, entitlement, construction, and startup process. The tax revenue yield for a project of this size and type will also support critical County and State tax-funded programs that are often in desperate need of additional resources; County programs which may include the Human Resources Development Commission, Public Schools and Emergency Services. Subscriber savings are ten percent (10%) for non-LMI customers. The Applicant anticipates that tax benefits will be around $78,000 in annual taxes and $2,623,785 in cumulative taxes over the lifetime of the Project.

As a community solar project, the Project anticipates receiving capacity in Maryland's Permanent Community Solar Program. Accordingly, the Applicant anticipates that Public Utilities Article § 7-306.2(n) will apply to the Project, meaning that the contractors bidding on the Project will be instructed to provide labor rates based upon prevailing wage in accordance with the prevailing wage rate determined under Maryland law. Further, to the Applicant's knowledge, there are no existing community solar energy generating stations located on adjacent parcels of land as the proposed Project, and there are no proposed community solar energy generating stations planned for adjacent parcels.

PPRP reports that Maryland imports approximately forty-one percent (41%) of its required energy generation. This Project will help reduce this reliance upon out-of-state power generation. Given the nature of solar power generation, it will also lead to reduced and more certain costs of electricity produced. Furthermore, this Project will contribute to the stated goals and objectives of Maryland Public Utilities Article § 7-702.

Maryland is a national leader in shifting to renewable energy and combating climate change by setting some of the most aggressive goals in the nation. The Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 (SB0528) set a target of a sixty percent (60%) reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2031. As part of the Transition Report, Governor Moore has expressed support for Maryland to generate one hundred (100%) clean energy by 2035. Furthermore, Maryland has repeatedly shown support for solar energy by increasing the Net Metering Cap to three (3) gigawatts ("GW") in 2021 with Legislation HB0569, and most recently, in 2023, by passing landmark legislation that made the Maryland Community Solar Program permanent (HB0908). Community solar will enable Maryland to reach its impressive goals faster and more equitably than past options.

Community Solar provides a unique opportunity for Maryland residents to receive the tangible benefits of solar energy without requiring solar on their roofs. The Project will be able to serve local residents and small businesses, and ultimately deliver subscriber savings to DPL customers over the life of the project. Further, over the life of the Project, the Project will contribute to property taxes to the County, without requiring any services or costs to the County and resulting in tangible financial benefits.

The Applicant anticipates local economic benefits stemming from the construction of the Project and the lead contractor and its subcontractors will comply with prevailing wage standards and provide apprenticeship opportunities. These opportunities will encompass various roles such as electricians, safety professionals, solar installers, and general laborers. These practices will align with the requirements set forth in the Inflation Reduction Act, thereby maximizing the value of the Investment Tax Credit.

I. Impacts on the Stability and Reliability of the Electric System

As noted herein, the Applicant has obtained conditional interconnection approval for the Project; all currently available interconnection information, consisting of an analysis performed by DPL to evaluate the impact of additional energy on the local distribution network, for the Project is included in **Appendix H**.

According to the Applicant's initial consultations with DPL, the Applicant expects that it will be necessary to extend and/or install a distribution line linking the Project to a nearby substation. No significant impacts to the electric distribution system are expected.

The impact to the electrical system will be evaluated in more detail through the utility interconnection study process. This detailed analysis is performed over an average timeline of twelve (12) months and will evaluate the detailed impact of additional generation on the local distribution network. The Applicant will bear the cost of any required upgrades identified by DPL, potentially making the local infrastructure more reliable.

J. Interconnection Location and Major Design Features of Electric System Update

The Project will interconnect to the electric distribution grid through a direct feeder back to the utility substation with a 24.9 kV circuit. The anticipated POI, which is subject to

final interconnection approval, is located across from the site entrance, immediately off Woodside Lane and will not impact any adjacent aquatic resources. The interconnection pole will connect to five (5) other utility poles and be connected to the system through underground wires placed in a trench running parallel to the access road. The Applicant will be responsible for costs associated with any work performed by the utility to accommodate the interconnection. The Applicant will not construct any high voltage transmission lines.

K. Implementation Schedule for the Project

The Project schedule includes the following approximate implementation dates:

- Q1 2026: Design, permitting, obtaining all necessary approvals, utility coordination, and procurement of equipment.
- Q1 2027: Construction of the solar facility.
- Q3 2027: Commercial operation of the solar facility.
- Decommissioning of the Project is projected to be thirty to forty (30-40) years following commencement of operations and will be determined depending on the actual performance of the solar system at that time.

L. Decommissioning and Deconstruction

The Applicant will provide PPRP and the Commission with a facility Decommissioning Plan, outlining the timeframes for responsible parties, and estimated costs for decommissioning and dismantling, and proper removal of all Project facilities at the end of the useful life of the Project, or when the Project is otherwise abandoned. The Decommissioning Plan will be secured via a decommissioning bond payable to Worcester County to ensure that decommissioning costs are not borne by the County and/or State of Maryland at the end of the useful life of the Project. The performance and financial assurance guarantees will be submitted for approval by the Commission pursuant to PPRP's standard decommissioning licensing condition.

The Decommissioning Plan will include provisions for the safe removal and proper disposal of all components of the Project, including any components with rare/valuable materials, or if any hazardous/toxic materials. The Decommissioning Plan shall maximize the extent of component recycling and reuse, where possible, and ensure all

components are handled in accordance with applicable federal, State, County, and local requirements.

6.0 COMAR 20.79.03.02 ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

A. General Information

1. General Description of the Site and Adjacent Areas

The Property is in a low population density setting and mainly consists of farmland and undeveloped forested land. The Property is primarily surrounded by forest cover and agricultural fields. The existing trees and vegetation onsite will provide adequate screening of the solar facility development.

The Site is accessible via a proposed access driveway off Woodside Lane; the proposed driveway starts at the western side of the site and runs due east into the Property, parallel with State Route 113.

The Property contains one mapped stream, Hardship Branch was identified within the AOI based upon review of historical USGS mapping. The AOI drains south to Hardship Branch, which flows west to Pocomoke River and into the Pocomoke Sound on the Chesapeake Bay. The project is within the Pocomoke-Western Lower Delmarva watershed (Hydrologic, Unit Code, HUC 02080111, United States Environmental Protection Agency).

According to Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.08.02.08, Hardship Branch has a Use of Class I – Water Contact Recreation, and Protection of Nontidal Warmwater Aquatic Life. Hardship Branch is not a Tier II water or within a Tier II Catchment. Protective measures for high quality waters have been incorporated into the stormwater management for the Project, by promoting the use of nonstructural best management practices (“BMPs”) to the maximum extent possible, minimizing site grading and utilizing existing drainage patterns, in order to pursue an environmentally sensitive design, maintain natural hydrology and minimize the risk of sedimentation. Therefore, stormwater runoff from the Project will not impact any Tier II streams. There is no activity proposed on the Site which would contribute to the impairment of these waterways and receiving streams.

B. Air Quality

1. Compliance with Federal or State Air Quality Standards

As a solar generation facility, the Project will not emit air pollutants, and the following standards, provisions, and requirements will not be applicable.

- State or Federal ambient air quality standards.
- State or Federal emission standards.
- Federal new source performance standards.
- Federal emission standards for hazardous air pollutants.
- Prevention of significant deterioration and new source review provisions.
- Any requirements to obtain emission offsets, allowances, and reduction credits.

a. Air Quality During Construction

The primary air-quality issue during construction will be dust from non-point sources such as earthwork and construction traffic on unpaved roads. This type of dust is described as fugitive dust. Fugitive dust is expected to be less than a normal construction project since this Project will not require excessive earthwork activities. Other potential sources of pollutants during construction are mobile internal combustion engines from earthwork equipment and an increase in vehicle traffic by workers. Emissions from these sources should have little impact.

b. Air Quality During Operation

The Project, like all solar generation facilities, will generate no air pollution emissions during its operation.

2. Impact on Deterioration Areas and Nonattainment Areas

The Project will have no impact on any attainment or nonattainment areas of the State.

3. Requirements Under COMAR 26.11

Generally, the provisions of COMAR 26.11 will not be applicable to the Project as the facility will not emit pollutants. COMAR 26.11.01.05-1 states that emissions statements are required for Worcester County from installations and sources that produce twenty-five (25) tons or more of VOCs or NOx annually. Based on the EPA's Avoided Emissions and geneRation Tool ("AVERT"), as shown in **Figure 2**, the Project will not emit pollutants; NOx is anticipated to be reduced by thirteen pounds (13-lbs) and VOCs reduced by fifteen point sixty-five

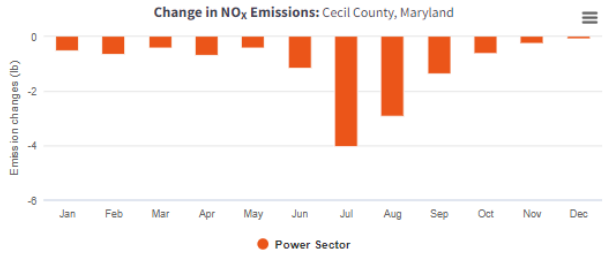
pounds (15.65-lbs). Based on the calculations produced using AVERT, the Project will not exceed the emissions values and therefore, COMAR 26.11 will not be applicable.

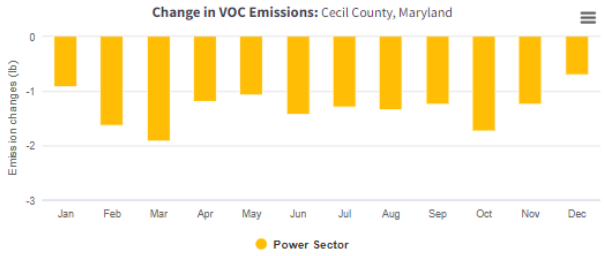
Figure 2 - AVERT Emissions Reduction

Annual Emissions Changes • Power Sector Only
Mid-Atlantic Region (due to changes in Maryland)

	Original	Post Change	Change
Generation (MWh)	467,528,680	467,520,870	-7,810
Total Emissions from Fossil Generation Fleet			
SO_2 (lb)	208,740,160	208,735,760	-4,400
NO_X (lb)	180,544,490	180,540,630	-3,860
Ozone season NO_X (lb)	73,733,760	73,731,740	-2,020
CO_2 (tons)	282,355,380	282,350,280	-5,100
$PM_{2.5}$ (lb)	35,603,560	35,602,900	-660
VOCs (lb)	7,180,440	7,180,280	-160
NH_3 (lb)	9,602,760	9,602,550	-210
AVERT-derived Emission Rates:	Average Fossil		Marginal Fossil
SO_2 (lb/MWh)	0.446		0.564
NO_X (lb/MWh)	0.386		0.494
Ozone season NO_X (lb/MWh)	0.341		0.530
CO_2 (tons/MWh)	0.604		0.653
$PM_{2.5}$ (lb/MWh)	0.076		0.085
VOCs (lb/MWh)	0.015		0.020
NH_3 (lb/MWh)	0.021		0.027

- Negative numbers indicate displaced generation and emissions.
- All results are rounded to the nearest 10. A dash (" — ") indicates non-zero results, but within +/- 10 units.
- When users evaluate a portfolio scenario including EVs and EE or RE, marginal fossil values are not reported and a null sign (" Ø ") is shown.
- Data does not include changes to ICE vehicle emissions (e.g., emissions from tailpipes).
- Estimated marginal CO_2 emission rates for future years are available in the current AVERT Main Module.





C. Water Quality and Appropriation

1. Stormwater Management/Environmental Site Design

a. Land Use and Cover:

The Property is in a low population density setting and was historically used as agricultural land and consisting of wooded and undeveloped forest land. The Property is primarily surrounded by forest cover and agricultural land. There are some residences nearby, but most are beyond view due to topography and/or natural vegetation.

The geotechnical report, included in **Appendix C**, demonstrates that the soils are suitable to support the proposed structures and infrastructures.

Similar to other solar projects, impervious areas will be limited to the associated access driveway and equipment pad for mechanical and electrical equipment. A Stormwater NPDES Permit will be obtained, and an NOI will be filed prior to construction.

There will be grading in areas for the access road, equipment pad, and improvements for stormwater management. The internal solar array aisle ways and the perimeter drive aisle, for maintenance and emergency vehicles, will be meadow cover.

The majority of slopes and grades within the proposed LOC fall within the range of one percent (1%) to five percent (5%). The array area is predominantly five percent (5%) or less. This eliminated the need for

additional grading and land disturbance in order to accommodate the solar array installation.

The Site will be planted and maintained in low cover grass vegetation in accordance with site plans and designs to be approved by the County during the local site plan process. In addition to the mixture of grass seed and PPRP's recommendations regarding pollinator plantings, the Applicant is also proposing to incorporate wildflower seed mixes with the selected grasses in order to promote the health of honeybees and other pollinators. The purpose of this project design feature would be to improve the quality and quantity of overall acreage for pollinators. Solar energy generation facilities are ideal opportunities to increase healthy habitats for pollinators.

A phasing plan and/or sequence of construction will be prepared as part of the sediment and erosion control plan set submitted to the County for review and approval during the local site plan process. These plan sheets will identify proposed work areas, acreage that can be open at one time, and stabilization requirements.

b. Impacts on Stormwater During Construction

COMAR 26.17.02.01-1B(1) requires that stormwater quality and quantity controls be implemented for the Project. Guidelines for Water Quality and Quantity through Environmental Sensitive Design ("ESD") techniques and BMPs are included in the 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual, Volumes I and II (2000) with Supplement No. 1 and Technical Memo #8 dated March 30, 2018.

The Project will be subject to a sediment and erosion control plan and will acquire coverage under the NPDES state-wide general permit via an NOI. The use of standard BMPs, such as silt fence and super silt fence, will accommodate most of the control requirements. If additional controls are required, they will be incorporated into the plan as needed to maintain the water quality of the Site during construction. The NPDES permit requires the contractor to maintain site controls during

construction and keep a record of daily inspections of the controls for the MDE inspector to review upon site visits.

The stormwater management report, design computations, and supporting ESD techniques and BMPs will be submitted to the County for review and approval as part of the local site plan process.

c. Impacts on Stormwater During Operation

The Project design will reduce stormwater runoff and encourage groundwater recharge by allowing disconnected impervious surfaces to drain through meadow grasses. For slopes between zero (0) to five (5) percent, non-rooftop disconnection credits will be applied. Additionally, the proposed design will allow vegetation to grow under the panel and throughout the Site, with the exception of aggregate access roads and equipment pad. The Site will mimic a meadow site in good condition under the post-development scenario. This will ensure pre and post conditions remain the same for water quality leaving the Site.

2. Availability of Surface Water and Groundwater

The Project will be monitored remotely and as such, there will be limited water and no sewer requirements for the Project. The Project will not require surface or groundwater for construction or operation. Typically, normal precipitation will act as a cleaning system for the panels, minimizing or eliminating the need for manual cleaning. If necessary, for dust control during construction or limited cleaning during operation, bulk water services can be used.

3. Maryland Wild and Scenic Rivers

According to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources ("DNR"), Land Acquisition and Planning, the Pocomoke River in Worcester County and its tributaries have been listed as one of Maryland's Wild and Scenic Rivers since 1971. However, protective measures for aquatic habitats have been incorporated into the stormwater management for the Project, by promoting the use of nonstructural BMPs to the maximum extent possible. This will minimize site grading and utilize existing drainage patterns in order to pursue an environmentally sensitive design, maintain natural hydrology, and minimize the risk of sedimentation or impact to Maryland Wild and Scenic Rivers.

4. Affected Streams and Aquifers

The Property contains the Hardship Branch of the Pocomoke River. This stream is located in the southeastern corner of the Project area and streams are buffered from Project development by a minimum of one hundred ten (110) feet.

5. Impact on Other Water Users

No impact on other water users is anticipated due to the Project. The Project will not utilize freshwater resources, meaning that a reduction in water supply demand is not anticipated.

a. Impacts on Other Water Users During Construction

No dewatering or water use activities are anticipated during construction of the solar facility development. Some water may be necessary for dust control during construction, in which case bulk water services can be utilized.

b. Impacts on Other Water Users During Operation

Stormwater facility approvals, sediment and erosion control permits, grading permits, and NOI coverage under the NPDES Program will all be obtained as controls on the water quality leaving the Site. As an unmanned facility, there will be no ongoing water consumption

requirement. Any other interim water consumption required (such as cleaning) will be intermittent and provided as identified above.

6. Mitigation and Minimization Techniques Evaluated

There are no significant water requirements and no impacts to streams, aquifers, or other water users are anticipated. As a result, mitigation and minimization techniques are not warranted and no impacts to water quality or appropriation are anticipated.

7. Requirements Under COMAR 26.17.06.07 and 26.17.07

Permits do not need to be issued under COMAR 26.17.06.07 and 26.17.07 as a Notice of Exemption to Appropriate and Use Waters of the State Application is not required for the Project. However, if required by unanticipated construction conditions, a Notice of Exemption Application will be obtained at least thirty (30) days prior to the beginning of the use in accordance with MDE Water Appropriation and Use Permit (3.15).

COMAR 27.17.06.03(B)(3) states that a permit is not required for temporary dewatering during construction if the appropriation does not exceed an average of 10,000 gallons per day and the duration of dewatering during construction is expected to exceed thirty (30) calendar days.

D. Stream Buffers and Floodplains

The Property contains the Hardship Branch which is an unnamed tributary to Pocomoke River. The Site is situated in the Pocomoke-Western Lower Delmarva Watershed (Maryland 8-Digit Watershed Code 02080111) which flows from the Pocomoke River, into the Pocomoke Sound on the Chesapeake Bay. According to COMAR 26.08.02.08, the Hardship Branch is designated as R4SB5 Use of Class I – Water Contact Recreation, and Protection of Nontidal Warmwater Aquatic Life. This class designation includes waters that are public water supply, agricultural water supply, industrial water supply, are suitable for water contact sports, play and leisure time activities, fishing, and growth and propagation of fish other than trout, aquatic life, and wildlife, and other additional uses as listed in COMAR Sections 26.08.02.02 and 26.08.02.02-1. The Pocomoke River and Chesapeake Bay are solely located within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province and contains soils with a wide array of drainage.

The Project is located on FEMA FIRM Map Number 24047C0245H, Panel 245 of 450, effective July 16, 2015. According to FEMA FIRM Map there is one floodplain associated with the Hardship Branch located in the southern portion of the Project AOI. The FEMA FIRM Map is included as **Appendix J**.

E. Description of Effect on State or Private Wetlands

On November 20, 2023, ARM Group LLC performed an aquatic resource investigation, which included preliminary wetlands identification and delineation of wetlands and other surface waters at the Property. The investigation was necessary as streams and wetlands are protected by regulations at the State and federal levels and unavoidable impacts upon these aquatic resources may require a permit. Three (3) wetland areas and one (1) stream were identified near the vicinity of the Project area of investigation. To summarize, the wetlands within the Project Site have been identified, the solar design has avoided these areas, and appropriate setbacks and buffers have been located. Based on the conceptual site plan and the proposed array layout, these features will be avoided and not disturbed, and delineated wetlands were buffered a minimum twenty-five (25) feet. The results of the aquatic resource investigation are included in **Appendix G**.

Additionally, the Applicant has obtained a letter of authorization, dated August 15, 2024, from the MDE Nontidal Wetlands Division ("NWD"), Eastern Region, concurring that the Project is avoiding all jurisdictional waterways and wetlands. Correspondence with MDE-NWD and letter of authorization is included in **Appendix G**.

1. Public Health and Welfare

The Project's operation will not produce, emit, or discharge any significant noise, air pollutants, or water pollutants, which may have an effect on public health and welfare. Additionally, the Project will not generate, transport, store, treat, and/or dispose of hazardous waste.

2. Marine Fisheries

The Project will not impact marine fisheries.

3. Shell Fisheries

The Project will not impact shell fisheries.

4. Wildlife

The Project is not anticipated to significantly affect any wildlife or wildlife habitat. The DNR's Natural Heritage program has reviewed the Site and their response is included in **Appendix E**.

5. Protection of Life and Property from Flood, Hurricane, or Other Natural Disaster

This Project is unique in that, during a natural disaster, there would only be destruction to the panel array itself. Total destruction of the panel array and the transformers would not release harmful gasses or liquids and would have no adverse effects on surrounding property or life. All components of the Project will be designed per the local and State building codes. There are no activities planned within FEMA floodplains and the design will make considerations for the existing drainage patterns.

6. Mitigation and Minimization or Replacement Land Acquisition

Mitigation and minimization or replacement land acquisition is not applicable to the Project.

7. License for Use of State Tidal or Nontidal Wetlands

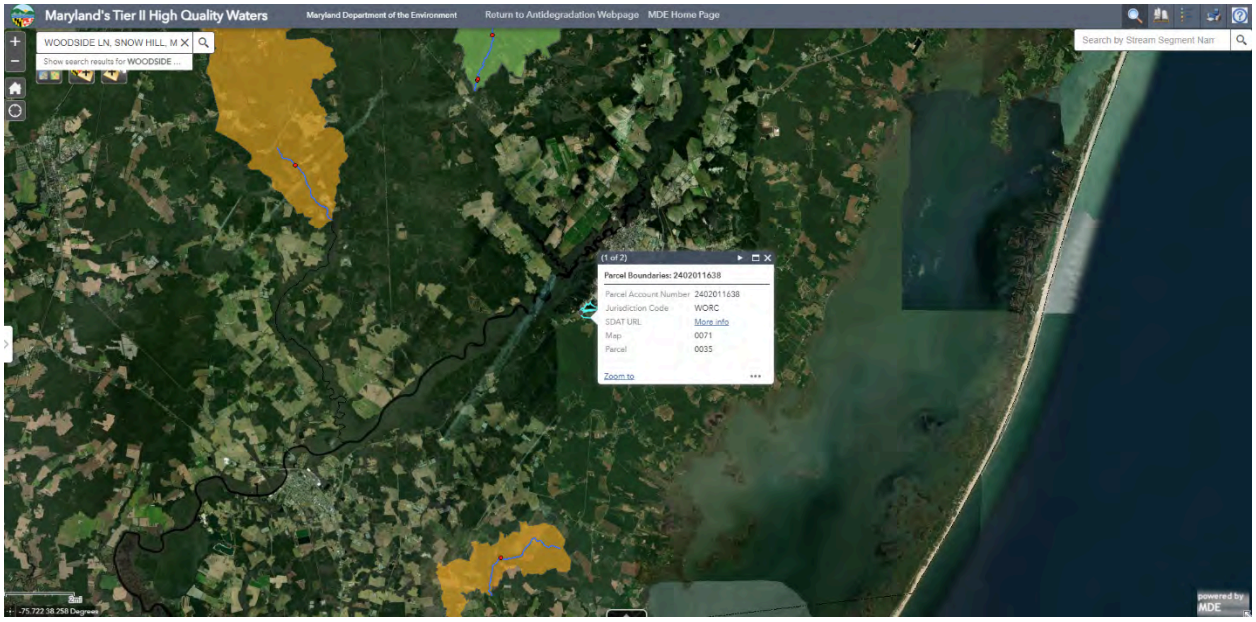
The information and forms required by the MDE regulations relating to a license for use of State tidal wetlands or nontidal wetlands under COMAR 26.23 and 26.24 are not required for this Project.

F. Analysis of Impacts to Water Quality of Tier II Streams

The Project is not located in the Critical Area and the Project is not within 1,000 feet of any Tier II streams; its closest point is more than one and quarter (1.25) miles away and is not downstream from the Project. See **Figure 3** below for proximity to the Site. The Project is not located in a Tier II Catchment Area. The protective measures for high quality waters have been incorporated into the stormwater management for the Project, by promoting the use of nonstructural BMPs to the maximum extent possible, minimizing site grading and utilizing existing drainage patterns, in order to pursue an environmentally sensitive design, maintain natural hydrology and minimize the risk of sedimentation. There is no activity proposed on the Site which would contribute to the impairment of these waterways and receiving streams. Additionally, the Applicant has

provided applicable Project documentation to the MDE Tier II Implementation Coordinator to determine if additional Tier II Antidegradation Review is required.

Figure 3 – Maryland's Tier II High Quality Waters Map



G. Disposal of Plant Generated Waste

1. Waste Handling During Construction

During construction, the contractor will collect any waste material and remove it from the Site to an approved waste handling facility. Large amounts of waste during construction are not anticipated. Waste material will mainly consist of packaging materials from the framing and electrical equipment that will be delivered to the Site.

2. Waste Handling During Operation

During operation, there will be little or no waste material generated at the Site. Any waste that is generated from maintenance and/or repair operations will be removed from the Site and disposed of at an approved waste handling facility. There will be no sanitary sewer waste generated at the Site.

3. Hazardous Materials

Solar panels and inverters used for this Project do not pose any significant hazards to the environment or public health. Solar panel materials are contained in a solid matrix that is insoluble and non-volatile at ambient conditions, and enclosed. In the rare instance where a solar panel might be subject to higher temperatures, any materials released would likely bind to the glass covering the PV cells and be retained there. Release of any toxic materials from inverters is unlikely provided appropriate electrical and installation requirements are followed. The system will be monitored remotely during operation, and any issues resulting from damaged PV modules will be identified and investigated. Regular visual inspections will occur to identify modules needing replacement due to damage. A study on health and safety impacts of solar photovoltaics from NCSU NC Clean Energy Technology Center confirms that the materials used in solar panels and inverters do not pose any significant hazards to the environment or public health.

4. Decommissioning and Deconstruction

Waste associated with decommissioning and deconstruction of the Project will be handled appropriately pursuant to a Decommissioning Plan approved by the Commission pursuant to the PPRP's standard decommissioning licensing condition. The Decommissioning Plan will outline the responsible parties, timeframes, and estimated costs for decommissioning, dismantling, and proper removal of all Project facilities at the end of the useful life of the Project, or when the Project is otherwise abandoned. The plan will also include provisions for safe removal and proper disposal of all components of the Project, including any components with rare/valuable minerals, as well as components containing hazardous/toxic materials. The Decommissioning Plan shall maximize the extent of component recycling and reuse, where possible, and ensure all components are handled in accordance with applicable federal, State, County, and local requirements.

7.0 COMAR 20.79.03.03 NATURAL RESOURCES INFORMATION

A. Environmental Studies

1. Wetlands Delineation Study

The results of the aquatic resource investigation, which included preliminary wetlands identification and delineation of wetlands and other surface waters at the Property, is summarized in **Section 6.0.E.** and included in **Appendix G**.

2. Natural Resources Inventory

According to Maryland's Environmental Resource and Land Information Network ("MERLIN"), there are no Protected Lands or Critical Areas, and the Site is not located within DNR Focal Areas. A review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS") Information for Planning and Consultation ("IPaC") resource list identified that the Northern Long-eared Bat, Bog Turtle, and Monarch Butterfly may be impacted by the Project. After consulting directly with the USFWS, based on the proposed project plan, USFWS indicated that there are no critical habitats within the Project area and therefore "no effect" from the USFWS. This response is included as **Appendix D**.

3. Project Review Request

A Project Review Request, dated January 10, 2024, was submitted to the Maryland DNR – Wildlife & Heritage Service, requesting information regarding any federal or State rare, threatened, and/or endangered species at the Site. The Applicant received a letter response, dated February 7, 2024, from the Maryland DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service, which included protection guidelines that could be incorporated, as applicable, into any plans for the project site. No further coordination is required with Maryland DNR regarding protective measures for State or federal records of rare, threatened, or endangered species at the Site. A copy of the Project Review Request and letter response from the DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service are included in **Appendix E**.

4. Critical Area

According to the Maryland DNR Critical Area Boundary map viewer, the Site is located outside of the Critical Area Program. Therefore, the Project does not impact Critical Areas.

5. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment

A Phase I ESA ("ESA") was conducted by ARM Group LLC on November 6, 2023. There were no current, historical or controlled Recognized Environmental Conditions ("RECs") determined onsite. The Phase I assessment report is included in **Appendix L**.

6. Geotechnical Exploration

A geotechnical investigation was conducted for the Project and the geotechnical engineering results are included in **Appendix C**. The geotechnical engineering assessment anticipates that these soils are suitable to support a fixed-tilt racking system, solar array modules, inverters, mechanical and electrical, grass covered aisle ways, access roads, and associated drainage and stormwater management infrastructure.

7. Forests

The Project may require compliance with the Worcester County Forest Conservation Manual (1992) and the Maryland Forest Conservation Act ("FCA"). The manual outlines the submission process of a Combined Simplified Forest Stand Delineation and Forest Conservation plan ("FCP") for review and approval by Worcester County, which is included in **Appendix P**. Additionally, on May 8, 2023, Governor Wes Moore approved Senate Bill 526, which exempts solar photovoltaic facilities from afforestation requirements if a FCP has not been approved by July 1, 2024.

B. Noise and Vibration

1. Impacts of Noise During Construction

COMAR 26.02.03.02 requires that noise levels not exceed those listed in **Table 4**, except for construction or demolition activities for which the minimum allowable noise level is ninety (90) decibels ("dB") during the daytime. Piledriving equipment used between 8 AM and 5 PM is exempted from the limitations of COMAR 26.02.03.02, pursuant to subpart I(2)(j).

Table 4 – Maximum Allowable Noise			
	Industrial	Commercial	Residential
Day	75	67	65
Night	75	62	55

Source: COMAR 26.02.03

Note: Day refers to the hours between 7 AM and 10 PM; Night refers to the hours between 10 PM and 7 AM.

Noise emissions generated from the proposed Project have been evaluated based on the proposed equipment expected to be utilized during construction of the solar facility. The highest potential for noise impacts during construction conditions may occur while equipment, specifically pile-driving, is in operation near to an adjacent landowner's property lines for solar array racking installations. Note that the distance from the solar array to adjacent, non-participating residence is greater than 360 feet at any given location. Using sound attenuation principles, the maximum allowable construction noise level of ninety (90) dB will be achieved at fifty (50) feet from the pile-driving equipment. The racking installation in this scenario will occur over a short duration and the distance to the property line will increase for subsequent pile installations; this will result in decreased sound levels as the installations move from exterior to interior locations to produce minimal sound impacts to adjacent residences. Additional construction equipment will be used, and noise emissions will be significantly less than pile-driving equipment.

To address any potential sound emissions during temporary construction conditions, heavy equipment operation and solar array and equipment installations will be mitigated by workday and work hour limitations as to not impose a nuisance to adjacent properties. Construction noise impacts will be minimized and mitigated by requiring that all equipment be maintained in good operating condition and that all motors and engines be muffled in compliance with the Annotated Code of Maryland Transportation Article, § 22-402 and according to manufacturer's specifications. Pursuant to COMAR 26.02.03.02, pile-driving equipment will only be used between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM. Sound levels from construction activities are not anticipated to be higher than usual in this

setting. Additional information pertaining to the noise management plan for the Project can be found in **Appendix K.**

2. Impacts of Noise During Operation

Noise emissions generated from the proposed solar development have been evaluated based on the proposed electrical equipment to be used during long-term solar facility operation. The proposed DC to AC inverters were determined to have the most potential for noise production during solar facility operation. In comparison to the inverters, the remaining PV electrical equipment and control systems are expected to have a lower sound emission and/or can be considered negligible, as measured at a distance to an adjacent residence, since they contribute significantly less or no additional sound emissions when relative to ambient noise conditions.

To achieve an inverter audible sound within the lowest allowance (65 dB), a buffer distance of at least forty (40) feet must be maintained to an adjacent residence; this distance was determined utilizing sound attenuation principles. The closest participating and non-participating residential reception areas to the equipment pad, which contains the inverters, is approximately 800 feet away. The equipment pad is centrally placed and located away as far as feasible from residences and adjacent property lines. The Applicant utilized a conservative approach for this evaluation as this does not account for land cover type, foliage, topography, or proposed landscape screening, and solar module shielding which would also contribute to noise emission reduction due to the physical characteristics of the Site.

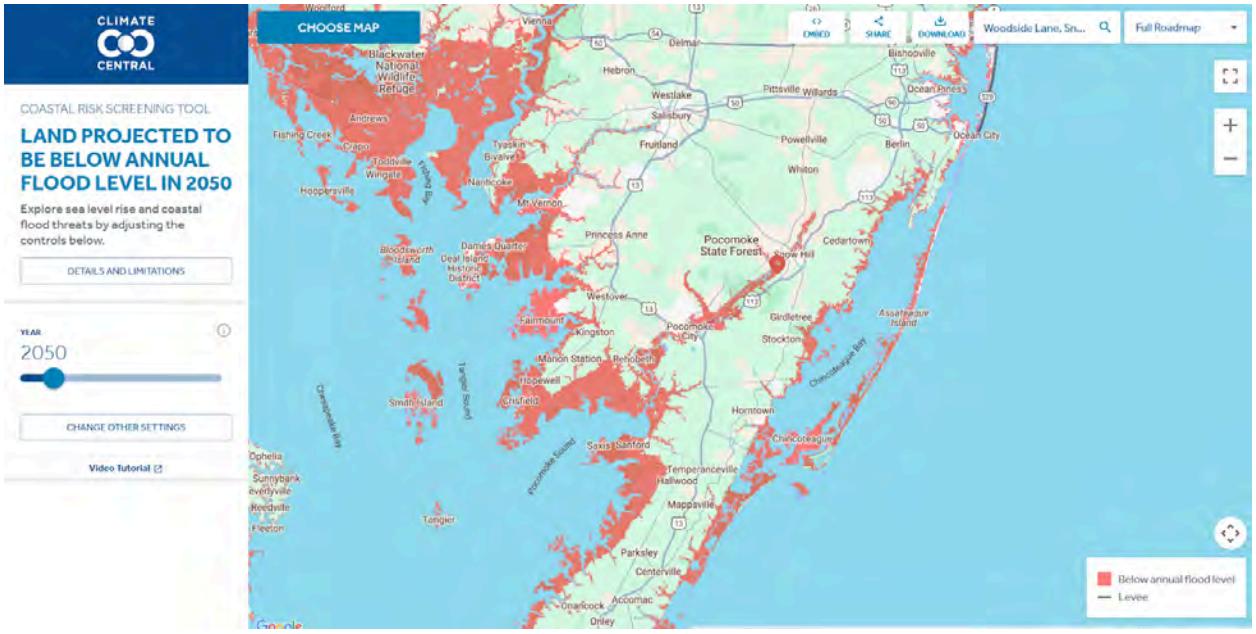
As the facility will be in a nonoperational status during nighttime hours and the ambient conditions are relatively quiet, the noise impacts from normal solar facility operations are considered negligible. Additional information pertaining to the noise management plan for the project can be found in **Appendix K.**

C. Sea Level Rise Projection

According to the Climate Control coastal risk screening tool, see **Figure 4** below, the Project area is not located on land projected to be below annual flood level in the year

2050. Therefore, sea level rise does not affect the Property, and no measures are indicated.

Figure 4 – Sea Level Rise Projection Map



D. Effects of Climate Change

Climate change may lead to higher average and extreme air temperature, more extreme temperature days annually, and an increase in both the frequency and intensity of severe storms, as a result, the Project has been designed accordingly. The proposed PV modules for the Project have temperature coefficients designed to be reduced only slightly as temperatures increase. Other proposed equipment present onsite is rated for much higher ambient temperature and are not anticipated to influence the overall system performance in extreme temperature scenarios. The system is designed to operate around dry bulb temperatures of seven (7) to ninety-seven (97) degrees Fahrenheit ("°F"), as defined by American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers ("ASHRAE") standards. With production adjustment factors, the inverters are designed to operate in a wider temperature range, tolerant of extreme temperatures. The Project will be designed to withstand snow and wind loads in accordance with the International Building Code ("IBC") 2018 in the event of extreme weather.

8.0 COMAR 20.79.03.04 SOCIOECONOMIC INFORMATION

A. General Information

1. Summary of Environmental and Socioeconomic Effects

The Applicant believes that neither construction nor operation of the Project will have an adverse environmental or socioeconomic impact.

a. Environmental Resources

The Project is not expected to impact any ecologically important aquatic or terrestrial natural resources. It is not located in the Critical Area, and not within 1,000 feet of any Tier II streams; no known impacts are anticipated by the Project.

The Applicant has communicated with the Maryland DNR and received a response indicating that there is no further coordination required regarding protective measures for State or federal records of rare, threatened, or endangered species at the Site. DNR's letter is included in **Appendix E**.

The Project is located on FEMA FIRM Map Number 24047C0245H, Panel 245 of 450, effective July 16, 2015, a According to FEMA FIRM Map there are no mapped flood plains in the area of the Project. The FEMA FIRM Map is included as **Appendix J**.

b. Cultural Resources

There are no Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties listings or National Register of Historic Places listings for the Site. A Project Review Request, dated November 28, 2023, was sent to the Maryland Historical Trust ("MHT") and a review response, dated December 11, 2023, from MHT was received and indicated that the Project will have no effect on historic properties. A copy of the Project Review Request and Project Review Form from the MHT are included in **Appendix F**.

2. Ability to Conform to Applicable Environmental Standards

The Project's design and construction will require review by State and local authorities through the CPCN process. The Project will also comply with various federal, State, and local environmental regulatory requirements as applicable. The Project will not impact any conservation easements.

3. General Description of the Site and Adjacent Areas

a. Geology/Soils

The project site lies within the Salisbury Plain District of the Atlantic Coastal Plain Physiographic Province. According to the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") National Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS") Custom Soil Resource Report for Worcester County, MD, the soils within the LOC are a mix of undifferentiated gray to buff sand and gravel, gray to brown lignitic silt and clay, occasional boulders, and rare shell beds.

Except for 0.6-acres of Hatboro-Codorus complex, which is poorly drained, the soil units at the Site are classified as well-drained or moderately well-drained. The Prime Farmland Report identifies approximately 74.9 percent (40.3 acres) of the Property as prime farmland soils, 20.4 percent (11.0 acres) as farmland of statewide importance, and 4.7 percent (2.53 acres) as not prime farmland. The full soils report can be found in **Appendix B**. The past and present land use is agricultural.

Erodible soils are classified by the USDA utilizing a soil erodibility coefficient, or K factor, which indicates the susceptibility of a soil type to erode by sheet and/or rill erosion by water. Soils that have a K factor of 0.35 or greater on slopes fifteen percent (15%) or greater are considered erodible soils. According to the USDA NRCS Soil Resource Report, six (6) soils (Hatboro-Codorus complex, Mattapex silt loam, Montalto silt loam, Montalto silty clay loam, Mount Lucas silt loam, and Neshaminy silt loam) within the LOC are listed as having a K factor of

0.35 or greater, however, the proposed Project area does not contain slopes greater than fifteen percent (15%).

The geotechnical engineering assessment, included in **Appendix C**, anticipates that these soils are suitable to support a fixed-tilt racking system, solar array modules, inverters, mechanical and electrical, grass covered aisle ways, access roads, and associated drainage and stormwater management infrastructure.

b. Steep Slopes

Slopes and grades within the proposed LOC fall within the range of one percent (1%) to five percent (5 %). The array area is predominantly fifteen percent (15%) or less. The only grading proposed for the Project is associated with the access road, equipment pad, and improvements for stormwater management.

For slopes within the LOC that are less than ten percent (10%), non-rooftop disconnection credits are the preferred practice. Furthermore, proposed stormwater management improvements for the Project include, but not limited to, grass swales and infiltration basins. A sediment and erosion control plan will be prepared and submitted as part of the local County review and approval process. This plan will identify proposed work areas, acreage that can be open at one time, and stabilization requirements.

c. Flora Resources

The Project will not impact flora resources.

d. Fauna Resources

The Project will not impact fauna resources.

e. Implementation Schedule for the Project

The Project schedule includes the approximate implementation dates as shown in **Section 5.0.L**.

B. Lighting

Although there will be no lighting for the Project, the Applicant may require maintenance lights around the transformer and electrical equipment, as needed. These lights would only be operational when minimal maintenance is required.

C. Glare Analysis

PV panels by design absorb ninety-eight percent (98%) of light, reflecting as little as two percent (2%) of sunlight, the same amount of reflection observed off still water, and are covered in an anti-reflective coating to prevent any potential for glare. The Applicant utilized the ForgeSolar PV Planning and Glare Analysis tool and the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") 2013 Policy Adherence component (FAA Notice Criteria Tool), to conduct a desktop glint and glare analysis of the proposed solar generation facility. The FAA Notice Criteria Tool determined that the Project location does not exceed notice criteria and no further coordination with the FAA is required. Similarly, the Maryland Aviation Administration ("MAA") Project Locator[3] was utilized to determine that the Project location is not within an Airport Zoning District and no further action is required. The Project is not located near any major airports. Glare analysis results are included in **Appendix I**.

D. Fencing and Buffering

The Project will be enclosed and protected by a minimum seven (7') foot tall security fence. In addition to the fencing surrounding the whole system, additional screening buffers, as required, will be implemented around portions of the solar array, ingress and egress areas, and all adjacent roadways and residential properties that do not have natural tree lines or vegetation screening from the subject parcel.

E. Vegetating Stabilization

[3] Maryland Aviation Administration, Project Locator (https://marylandaviation.com/permits-forms/airport-zoning-districts-and-airport-obstruction-zones/)

The Applicant will stabilize disturbed areas in accordance with the approved sediment and erosion control plan during construction. Following construction, the Site will generally be uniformly planted and maintained in an approved low cover grass vegetation and/or pollinator friendly vegetation mix, except for the access road and equipment pad. The proposed vegetative cover will be devoid of neonicotinoid-treated seeds and contain at least eight (8) different pollinator-friendly species. By including pollinator species, the Applicant will be eligible and intends to apply for the pollinator-friendly designation upon Project completion. The vegetative cover will be geographically appropriate, low maintenance, low-sun grass or pollinator species suitable to control erosion and promote stormwater infiltration. The final vegetative cover species mix will be subject to approval by the County and determined during the local review process.

The Applicant's vegetation management plan, included in **Appendix O** and as required by COMAR 20.79.03.04(B)(6), includes, but is not limited to, watering, mowing operation and maintenance practices, and weed control to be utilized during solar facility operation. Currently, the Project does not plan to utilize agrivoltaics. If the Applicant elects to include livestock grazing, as a form of agrivoltaics, the plan may be modified to complement the grazing practices. The proposed seed mix for the Project includes varying proportions of the species eligible for pollinator friendly designation. Site preparation and planting procedures will be provided on the final landscape plan for the Project.

Mowing will be limited but may need to occur in the spring and fall seasons to maintain the vegetation height below the bottom edge of the panels and to prevent vegetation from obscuring any site features that require view and access by first responders. Mowing will also be performed as necessary to stress noxious weeds and invasive species and favor growth of desired plants to minimize pesticide use. The use of bee-harming pesticides will be banned. The Applicant's goal is to create a self-sustaining, low-growing community of native grass and pollinator species that requires little or no mowing or maintenance.

F. Public Safety and Transportation Impacts

1. Transportation During Construction

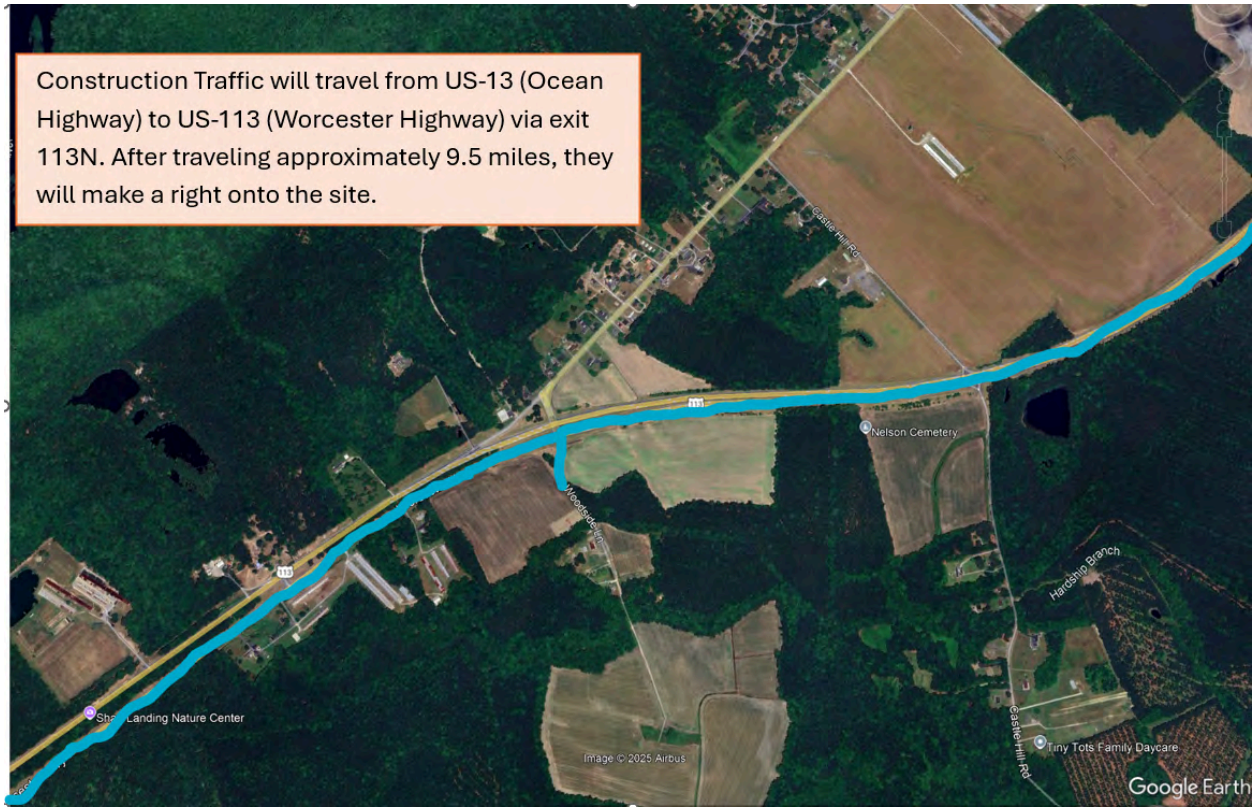
The Project will include an access road for emergency vehicle access or other access lanes as approved by the State and/or County Fire Marshal. Major material and equipment will be delivered by tractor-trailers and offloaded by construction vehicles (lulls, tracked vehicles, and front-loading equipment). The Project will utilize staging areas for unloading equipment and materials. Daily construction traffic will include cars, pickup trucks, and other personnel vehicles. The Project will also utilize excavation and other equipment during the construction of the Project, which may include dump trucks, crane trucks, concrete trucks, and small earth moving equipment (tracked skid steer, tracked mini-dozer, and tracked mini-excavator with various attachments, tracked post installation equipment, and other equipment). The Project design will include laydown areas with enough space for a construction trailer, employee parking, and storage for equipment and supplies.

Proposed construction traffic will utilize the proposed access driveway from Woodside Lane for ingress and egress, see **Figure 5** below. No road permits are anticipated to be required for the construction of the Project, specifically regarding overweight and oversized loads, as the existing access driveway off Woodside Lane is an improved access designed for truck traffic. To the extent possible, construction traffic will minimize land disturbance within the LOC, and existing roadway damage and disturbance will be avoided by adherence to normal road weight and size limitations. Any damage to local roadways will be monitored by the Applicant and restored in accordance with County requirements and standards.

2. Transportation During Operation

There will be limited traffic to and from the Project during operation. Traffic will mostly consist of maintenance crews for mowing and vegetation control. Quarterly to yearly maintenance of the solar array components will be necessary, along with visits for any operational issues that may arise during normal operation.

Figure 5 – Construction Traffic Pattern



3. Dust Control

During construction, dust may be produced from non-point sources such as earthwork and construction traffic on unpaved roads. This type of dust is described as fugitive dust. Fugitive dust is expected to be less than normal construction since this Project will not require excessive earthwork activities. Some water may be necessary for dust control during construction. If water is needed to control dust, bulk water services can be used.

4. Radiofrequency and Thermal Impacts

There will be no radiofrequency or thermal impacts to communications systems or military operations.

G. Effects on Local Economy

See **Section 2.0** for a statement of the Project's need and purpose. This section of the ERD describes the significant economic benefits to the local economy during the design, construction, and operation phases of the Project.

9.0 COMAR 20.79.03.05 EJSCREEN REPORTS

Under COMAR 20.79.01.06M and COMAR 20.79.03.06, this requirement only applies to "qualifying generating stations," which are fossil fuel generating stations having a capacity over 70 MW. The proposed solar Project is not a "qualifying generating station" and the requirement under COMAR 20.79.03.06 does not apply. Additionally, this is not applicable per COMAR 20.79.01.06 L.

However, the Applicant used the Harvard University DataVerse EPA EJScreen Tool as the MDE EJScreen tool is currently disabled and under long-term construction. The EPA EJ Screen identified the following (for this census tract) Percentile (distribution across Maryland) as 17, 6, 2, 3, 67, 0, 0, and 7 respectively for all of the pertinent EJ variables.

The main difference in the MDE EJScreening tool and the Harvard EPA EJ Screening tool is that the Harvard EPA tool does not calculate an overall EJ percentile score, but does break down the percentiles of each variable (same variables as MDE EJScreen) such as Particulate Matter (17%), Ozone EJ Index (6%), Diesel Particulate Matter (2%), Traffic Proximity (3%), Lead Paint Index (67%), Risk Management Plan Proximity (0%), Hazardous Waste Proximity (0%), Wastewater Discharge EJ Index (7%) as compared to the Maryland State averages.

The Harvard EPA EJ Screening Report is included as **Appendix R**.

CPCN PROCESS

Sections 7-207 and 7-208

Public Utilities Article

WHEN IS A CPCN REQUIRED?

In Maryland, a person may not begin construction of a generating station, a qualified lead line, an overhead transmission line designed to carry more than 69 kV, or a qualified submerged renewable energy line, or exercise a right of condemnation associated with the construction of a generating station or transmission line without approval of the MD PSC.

A generating station exempt from the CPCN requirement still requires MD PSC approval to begin construction.

EXEMPT FROM CONSTRUCTION APPROVAL AND CPCN REQUIREMENT

- Generation capacity less than or equal to 2 MW

CPCN EXEMPTION WITH APPROVAL

- On-site generation capacity of more than 2 MW (up to 25 MW) and at least 10% of generated electricity is consumed on site
- On-site generation capacity (not exceeding 70 MW) and at least 80% is consumed on site
- Land-based wind generation capacity (not exceeding 70 MW)

CPCN Procedure

- Applicant files application
  - The Commission does not have a form for a CPCN application
  - The regulations governing CPCN applications and the details of the filing requirement are set forth in COMAR 20.79
  - The filing fee for a CPCN application is $10,000. Check is made payable to the "Maryland Public Service Commission"
- Applicant is required to provide notice of the filing of the application (and in certain instances a copy of the application) to:
  - certain State and federal agencies;
  - governing bodies of county or municipal corporation
    - (a) in which the project will be constructed or
    - (b) within 1 mile of the project location; and
  - General Assembly members representing any part of a county
    - (a) in which the project will be constructed or
    - (b) within 1 mile of the project location
  - each owner of land and each owner of adjacent land when the application requests a CPCN for an overhead transmission line
- The Commission posts notice of an application on its website and on its Facebook and Twitter accounts

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Commission initiates a proceeding to consider the application
  - The Commission may conduct the proceedings en banc or by a panel (3 Commissioners or 2 Commissioners and a Public Utility Law Judge)
  - The Commission may delegate to a Public Utility Law Judge to conduct the proceedings

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- A Notice of Pre-hearing Conference is issued that has the date, time, and location of the conference as well as the date Petitions to Intervene are due
- Applicant is required to publish the Notice in a newpaper(s) of general circulation in the county and/or municipal corporation in which the facility is to be located
- The Notice is published on the Commission's website on date of issuance

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Statutory Parties to Proceeding
  - Power Plant Research Program (Dept. of Natural Resources) – coordinates the testimony and positions of all affected state agencies; considered expert witness for environmental, economic, and esthetic analysis
  - Maryland Office of People's Counsel, the residential ratepayer advocate
  - Technical Staff of MD PSC – primarily addresses reliability and stability of electric grid

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Pre-hearing conference
  - PPRP will indicate if application is complete
  - A procedural schedule is agreed upon, including setting the dates when pre-filed testimony is due from each party and a date(s) for an evidentiary hearing, and the number and timing of public comment hearing(s) is discussed
  - Notice of Procedural Schedule is issued

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Public Hearing for Comment
  - At least one hearing for public comment is held **at a location in close proximity to the proposed location (if available).**
  - Written comments also may be filed with the Commission.
  - The governing body of the county or municipal corporation in which the project is proposed to be located is invited to join the Commission or Public Utility Law Judge in conducting the public hearing.

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- NOTIFICATIONS OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING
  - Notice of Public Hearing with the dates, times, and locations is issued by the Commission.
  - Applicant must publish the Notice in a newspaper(s) of general circulation and post on two types of social media in each of four successive weeks immediately before the hearing date
  - The Notice also is posted on the MD PSC website as well as on the MD PSC Facebook and Twitter accounts
  - MD PSC website has a list of all public hearings being held in each active CPCN matter with link to the electronic docket which has pleadings filed by the parties (www.psc.state.md.us/public-comment-hearings/)
  - MD PSC coordinates with the governing body of the county or municipal corporation for an efficient and cost-effective means to provide notice to the public hearing through other types of media familiar to the residents in the county or municipal corporation
  - On day of the hearing, the Applicant must post an informational sign about the hearing at or near each public entrance of the building in which the hearing will be held

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Conduct of a Public Hearing
  - Either the Commission or a Public Utility Law Judge presides at the hearing
  - A court reporter is present and a transcript of the hearing is prepared
  - Representatives of Applicant, OPC, and Staff are present in the event any member of the public has a substantive question about the project
  - The Commission or Public Utility Law Judge is present to listen to the comments. The Commission or Public Utility Law Judge do not respond to substantive questions about the project or proceeding because they must render an impartial decision after considering all the written or oral evidence presented at the evidentiary hearing
  - The Applicant may be given a limited amount of time to describe the project prior to public comments being taken
  - Each member of the public who wishes to make a comment will come to the microphone when called and present an oral statement. A time limitation may be placed on the length of the comment based on the number of persons wishing to comment
  - After all members of the public have had an opportunity to comment, the hearing is adjourned

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Evidentiary Hearing
  - Typically held at the Commission's Baltimore offices
  - Only parties of record participate, but public may attend and watch the proceedings
  - Witnesses are called and each party and the presiding officer are able to cross-examine the witnesses

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- After the evidentiary hearing, a briefing schedule may be directed.
- If before a Public Utility Law Judge, the Judge issues a proposed order, which may be appealed to the Commission by a party for a review of an issue(s) – generally a 30-day appeal period. The Commission may, on its own motion, initiate a further proceeding or modify the proposed order.
  - If an appeal is taken of the proposed order, the Commission issues the final Order.
  - If no appeal is taken of a proposed order, it becomes a final Order of the Commission.
- If the matter is before the Commission, it issues a final Order
- Any party, other than the MD PSC Staff, or person in interest that is dissatisfied with the final Order may seek judicial review of the Order in the Circuit Court of Baltimore City or any county in which the applicant operates.

www.psc.state.md.us

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW AND PERMITTING
Worcester County

ZONING DIVISION
BUILDING DIVISION
DATA RESEARCH DIVISION

GOVERNMENT CENTER
ONE WEST MARKET STREET, ROOM 1201
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND 21863
TEL:410.632.1200 / FAX: 410.632.3008
http://www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/drp

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
CUSTOMER SERVICE DIVISION
TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Weston S. Young, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Jennifer K. Keener, AICP, Director
DATE: May 21, 2025
RE: Utility-Scale Solar consultation request – Queponco Road

****

New Leaf Energy, Inc., operating under Queponco Road Solar 1, LLC is proposing a utility-scale solar energy system (5 MW AC) under the Community Solar Program. The property is located on Queponco Road in Newark, at Tax Map 39, Parcel 29, and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. Prior to applying to the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) for the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), a developer must either obtain local zoning approvals or perform a pre-application consultation with the local jurisdiction 90 days prior to filing of the application. The applicant has requested to proceed with the consultation first.

The PSC is the approving authority for solar generating projects over 2 MW (AC). However, the PSC shall give due consideration to certain criteria presented by a local jurisdiction, which will include the siting standards in the Renewable Energy Certainty Act (SB 931/ HB 1036), for applications submitted after the effective date of July 1, 2025. Based on the timing of this project, Queponco Solar will be subject to this law.

The applicants have provided a draft Environmental Review Document and conceptual site plan for the project, as well as a summary of the CPCN process as required by law, which are attached for your reference. The referenced appendices are not included in the Commissioner's packet but are available for review upon request.

Under COMAR 20.79.01.05, the county shall provide a report addressing the following considerations:

1. A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current comprehensive plan;
2. A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current zoning ordinance; and
3. Suggestions for improving or modifying the application prior to submission of the application with the Commission.

Should a local jurisdiction decline to comment, the developer is required to document the efforts made to contact the local jurisdiction and provide information on the project's consistency with local zoning to the PSC.

Project Name: Queponco Road Solar 1, LLC

Location: Tax Map 39, Parcel 29; Queponco Road, Newark

Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District

Project Type: 5 MW AC community solar project

A community solar project is a program where customers (individuals, businesses, etc.) subscribe to a portion of the energy generated by the project. In Maryland, companies are required to provide at least 40% of the output to low- and moderate-income (LMI) customers. Additional information on community solar can be found at: https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/community-solar-basics.

Applicability of the Renewable Energy Certainty Act: Senate Bill 931/ House Bill 1036 (2025) has been signed by the Governor and will become effective on July 1, 2025. The siting standards contained therein will apply to any project that submits a CPCN application to the Public Service Commission after that date. Therefore, this staff report includes a review of the siting standards that solar developers must adhere to under these provisions. The law does allow the local jurisdictions to provide for less stringent siting provisions than those cited. For a utility scale solar project, the Worcester County Commissioners would be the approval authority for any siting modifications.

Local considerations under COMAR 20.79.01.05:

1. **A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current comprehensive plan.**

   The Comprehensive Plan that is currently in effect is the 2006 plan with amendments. The applicants have included working draft chapters for the future updated plan within their Environmental Review Document (ERD), however they have not been finalized nor adopted by the Planning Commission or County Commissioners and are therefore not applicable to this review (pages 14-15 and Appendix N of the ERD).

   The 2006 Worcester County Comprehensive Plan ("Plan") does not specifically address solar energy systems. However, throughout the Plan, the importance of agriculture as the bedrock to our way of life is highlighted, with a priority focus on "resource conservation and protecting [the county's] rural and coastal character" (page 1).

   The property is in the Agricultural Land Use category. This category includes "farming, forestry and related industries with minimal residential and other incompatible uses permitted" (page 18).

   Chapter Two, Land Use includes the objectives on pages 12 and 13 as follows:

2. Continue the dominance of agriculture and forestry uses throughout the county's less developed regions.
19. Limit rural development to uses compatible with agriculture and forestry.

Chapter Three, Natural Resources includes the objectives on pages 33 and 34 as follows:

3. Identify and protect environmentally sensitive areas.
8. Conserve resources by reducing unnecessary consumption.
9. Channel development within a particular site to any existing disturbed areas.

The project area will be located on existing tilled agricultural lands, with no impacts proposed to the existing forested areas on the site. It is in the Pocomoke River Public Drainage Association (PDA). Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has designated several of the farm ditches as regulated, non-tidal wetlands. Approval will be required for the wetland buffers that will be impacted by the construction of the access road improvements.

Chapter Six, Public Infrastructure includes objectives on pages 73 and 74 as follows:

1. Work with the private sector to ensure a dependable and adequate supply of electric power and propane.
5. Encourage alternative sources of power.

Priority Preservation Area: This property is located within a Priority Preservation Area (PPA). The Comprehensive Plan has a Priority Preservation Area Element, with the objective of preserving large contiguous farming areas of prime farmland in a state certified agricultural preservation program. The Plan states that 195,332 acres are in the PPA. Under the Renewable Energy Certainty Act, the total number of combined solar energy generating stations that may be approved for construction in a PPA is limited to 5% of the total acreage of the PPA. **A viewshed analysis will be required as stipulated in Public Utilities Article § 7-218(f)(2)(vi).**

Evaluation of consistency: Overall, I find that this project as presented is generally consistent with the 2006 Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Map, provided a viewshed analysis is provided, and any visual impacts are mitigated pursuant to Md. Public Utility Companies Code Ann. § 7-218(f)(2)(vi).

4. A statement or finding whether the proposed project is consistent with the current zoning ordinance.

Following the Land Use Designations in the Comprehensive Plan, the zoning for the parcels is A-1 Agricultural District. Under § ZS 1-344, Alternative energy facilities, utility-scale solar projects are permitted by right in this zoning district. This project has also been reviewed under the Renewable Energy Certainty Act siting standards, which are generally more restrictive than the local zoning regulations for utility scale solar systems.

Lot Area: Utility scale solar systems in this district require a minimum lot area of 50 acres, and the subject property is approximately 185.25 acres. The project will be situated on approximately 29 acres.

Setbacks: There are no specific setbacks in the Zoning Code. The Renewable Energy Certainty Act requires a 100' boundary from property lines. The project is well over 600 feet away from any adjoining property line.

Separation Distances: The Renewable Energy Certainty Act requires a 150' boundary between the generating station and the nearest wall of a residential dwelling. There is a dwelling on the same parcel as the solar arrays, and the project is compliant with this provision.

Fencing: The applicants are proposing a 6' tall chainlink fence along the perimeter of the entire project. No barbed wire is proposed. The Renewable Energy Certainty Act requires fencing to be located on the interior of a landscape buffer or immediately adjacent to the generating station, and not less than 50' from any public road right-of-way. When chainlink is proposed, black or green vinyl wire mesh shall be used. The applicants shall clarify the color as part of their application.

Panel height: Maximum height to the top edge of the modules will be 8.5' and shall not exceed 25' in height when oriented at maximum tilt. Under the Renewable Energy Certainty Act, there are no height limitations when the stations are located on land that is also used for agricultural purposes.

Landscaping: The existing forested areas to the north and west will serve as landscape screening to adjoining properties. The proposed plantings shall meet or exceed the local requirements for types and sizes, including the requirement for a minimum of 75% native species. Within the project, flowering ground cover for pollinators will be provided. There is no watering source to be provided. **A landscape plan has not been provided; therefore, staff cannot determine whether this portion of the project is in compliance with the Worcester County Zoning Code § ZS 1-322 and the Renewable Energy Certainty Act.**

The county will require an installation and maintenance agreement to be recorded, and a landscape bond to be held to guarantee the planting material's continued viability. The local bonding requirements will be modified to be consistent with the new state law, which is generally more restrictive than the county's current requirements.

Noise Limits: Section 7.0 B of the ERD references the applicable COMAR noise level provisions. These standards are generally consistent with § ZS 1-346, Noise level limits in the Worcester County Zoning Code, in that there are no maximum decibel levels in the A Districts. Limitations will be self-imposed to prevent any temporary construction nuisance impacts per the ERD (pages 36-37).

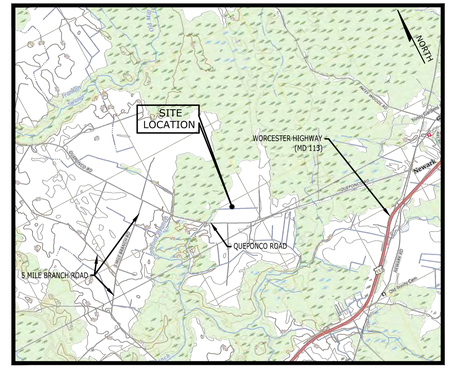
Evaluation of consistency: I find that the project is generally consistent with the current zoning ordinance, subject to the following corrections:

- Clarify whether black or green vinyl wire mesh shall be used for the chainlink fence.
- Provide a landscape plan that is consistent with the Worcester County Zoning Code § ZS 1-322 and Md. Public Utility Companies Code Ann. § 7–218(f)(2)(iv) and § 7–218(f)(4).

5. Suggestions for improving or modifying the application prior to submission of the application with the Commission.

- This property is located within a Priority Preservation Area. Therefore, a viewshed analysis is required as stipulated in Md. Public Utility Companies Code Ann. § 7-218(f)(2)(vi), and any visual impacts shall be mitigated.

- Provide a landscape plan that meets or exceeds the landscape requirements for Worcester County pursuant to § ZS 1-322 and the Renewable Energy Certainty Act.



LOCATION MAP

SCALE: 1" = 2000'

ZONING INFORMATION

LOCATION: WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND				
ZONE: A1 (AGRICULTURE)				
USE: SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, UTILITY SCALE (PERMITTED USE)				
ITEM #	ITEM	REQUIREMENTS	PROPOSED	VARIANCE
1	MINIMUM LOT AREA	50 AC.	185.25 AC.	NO

SITE PLAN LEGEND

- PROPERTY LINE
- WETLAND BUFFER LINE
- EXISTING TREELINE
- SOIL BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED FENCE
- PROPOSED GRAVEL ACCESS ROAD
- EXISTING WETLANDS
- PROPOSED SOLAR PANELS

MAPPED SOIL TYPES

MAP UNIT SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	HYDRIC SOIL?	HYDROLOGIC SOIL GROUP
EkA	ELKTON SANDY LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES	YES	C/D
EmA	ELKTON SILT LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES	YES	C/D
KeA	KENTUCK SILT LOAM	YES	C/D
MpA	MATTAPEX FINE SANDY LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES	NO	C
NsA	NASSAWANGO SILT LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES	NO	C
OtA	OTHELLO SILT LOAMS, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES, NORTHERN TIDEWATER AREA	YES	C/D
WddA	WOODSTOWN SANDY LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES, NORTHERN TIDEWATER AREA	NO	C

NOTES

1. PER ZS 1-344(d)(3), WORCESTER COUNTY ZONING AND SUBDIVISION CONTROL ARTICLE IS SILENT ON SETBACK AND BUFFER REQUIREMENTS FOR UTILITY SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS. FURTHER COORDINATION IS REQUIRED WITH WORCESTER COUNTY TO ENSURE SITE MEETS THE REQUIRED BUFFERS AND SETBACKS FROM ADJACENT PROPERTIES.
2. SITE IS LOCATED IN ELECTION DISTRICT 4.
3. NO STEEP SLOPES ARE PRESENT ON THE SITE.
4. THERE ARE NO FEMA FLOODPLAINS PRESENT ON-SITE. THE SITE IS WITHIN AN AREA OF MINIMAL FLOODING (ZONE X). PANEL 24047C0150H EFFECTIVE DATE 7/16/2015.
5. THE PROJECT IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN OR WITHIN 100 FEET OF A CRITICAL HABITAT AREA.
6. ANY WETLAND AND STREAM BOUNDARIES IDENTIFIED TO BE PRESENT ON THE REMAINDER OF THE PARCEL WERE NOT FIELD DELINEATED, THEIR BOUNDARIES AND ASSOCIATED BUFFERS ARE DERIVED FROM USFWS NWI AND THE STATE OF MARYLAND WETLAND OF SPECIAL STATE PROTECTION GIS DATASETS.

GRAPHIC SCALE
150 75 0 150
SCALE IN FEET

Architecture
Engineering
Environmental
Land Surveying

BL Companies

555 Croton Road
Suite 310
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(610) 337-3630

PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAY
0 QUEPONCO ROAD
NEWARK, WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

REVISIONS
No. Date Desc.

Designed	S.J.S.
Drawn	S.J.S.
Reviewed	J.P.K.
Scale	1"=150'
Project No.	2402990
Date	04/10/2025
CAD File	SK2402990-01

Title
SKETCH PLAN

Sheet No.
SK-1

May 01, 2025 3:55pm steve.G:\JOBS\2024\2402990\WORKING\SK2402990-01.dwg
Layout: SK-1 24x36 ZERSC

Xref (s) : Photobase : DesignBase : ExistingBase : SurfaceBase

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ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW DOCUMENT

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

QUEPONCO ROAD SOLAR PROJECT

BL Project No. 2302483

8077 Queponco Road, Worcester County, Maryland

Submitted to:

Maryland Public Service Commission
6 St Paul Street #1600
Baltimore, MD 21202

Prepared for:

Queponco Road Solar 1, LLC c/o
New Leaf Energy, Inc.
55 Technology Drive, Suite 102
Lowell, Massachusetts 01851

Prepared by:

2601 Market Place • Suite 350 • Harrisburg, PA 17110

Environmental Review Document

Queponco Road Solar Project

8077 Queponco Road, Worcester,
Maryland 21841

Applicant/Prepared for:

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55 Technology Drive, Suite 102
Lowell, Massachusetts 01851

Prepared by:

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2601 Market Place, Suite 350
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BL Companies Project No. 2302483

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1.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Queponco Road Solar 1, LLC (the "Applicant") proposes to develop a 5 megawatt alternating current ("MWac") photovoltaic ("PV") solar project in Worcester County (the "County"), Maryland ("MD"). The Applicant is applying to the Maryland Public Service Commission (the "Commission") for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for the Queponco Road Solar Project (the "Project"). A Conceptual Site Plan for the Project is included as **Appendix A**.

Based on site limitations and environmental constraints, the Project is anticipated to occupy approximately 29-acres of an approximately 185-acre tract of land (the "Property") located at 8077 Queponco Road, Worcester, MD. The Property (Tax Map 39, Parcel #29, Grid 23 in Worcester County) is owned by Orlando J. Harrison Real Estate/Martha D. Harrison Real Estate and the Project area will be leased to the Applicant for the development of the proposed ground-mounted, solar facility. The land that the Project will occupy constitutes the site (the "Site"). The Site is agricultural land use and has functioned as agricultural land since at least 1952. The Property location and land features near the Property are more clearly illustrated in **Appendix A**.

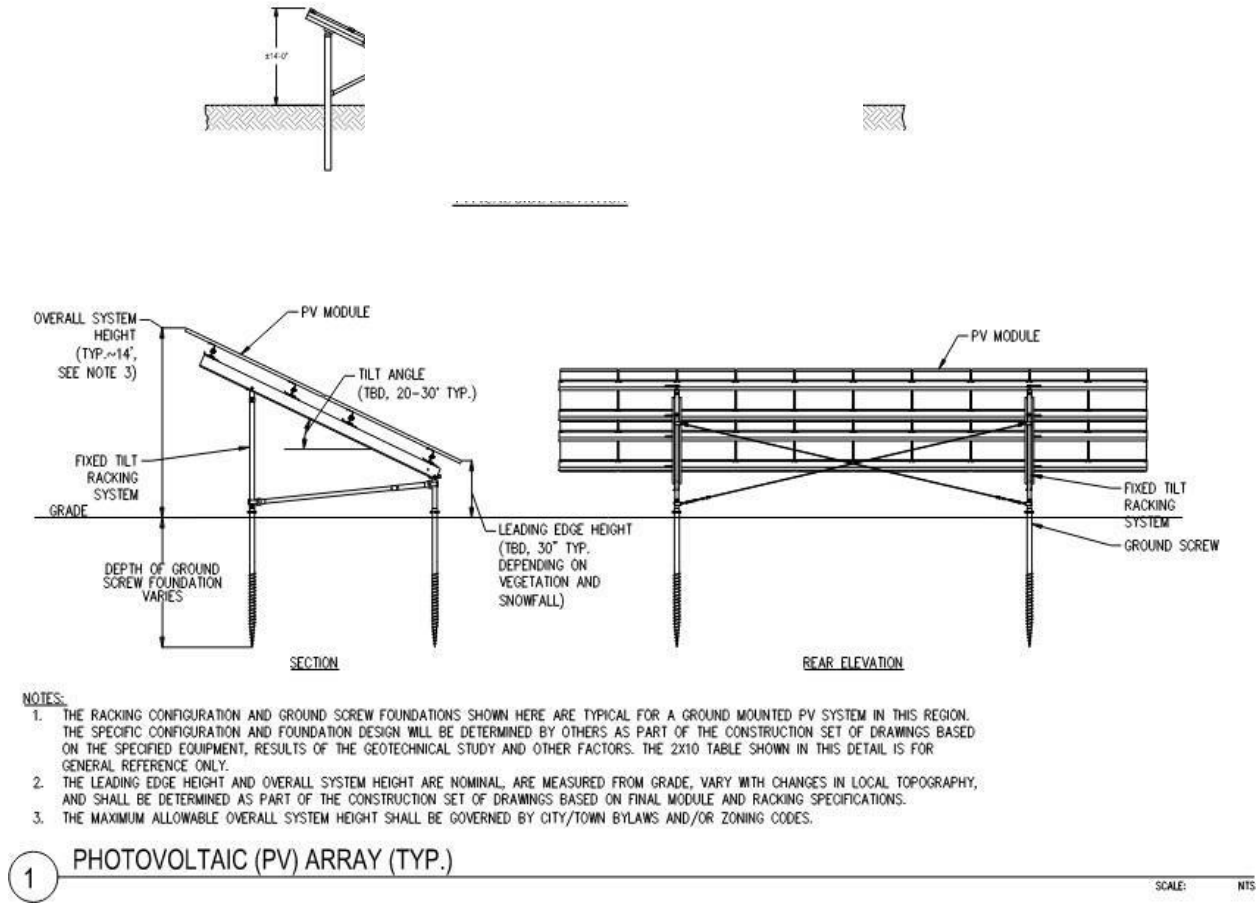
The Project site provides a suitable buildable area to accommodate a 5 MW ac solar energy system that will support approximately 1,125 households at 10,000 kWh/year and displace 8,750 tons of carbon dioxide ("CO2") emissions per year. Over the twenty (20) year lifespan of this Project, approximately 350,000 tons of CO2 emissions should be displaced by the Project. By increasing the share of renewable energy in Maryland's energy mix, the Project aligns with the State's goal of reaching fifty percent (50%) renewable energy by the year 2030.

The total generating capacity for the Project is anticipated to be 5,000 kilowatts alternating current ("kWac") (5 MWac). Interconnection to the electric distribution grid will occur through an existing feeder back to the utility substation with a 24.9kV circuit.

As currently designed, the PV arrays will be ground-mounted on single axis tracker systems consisting of galvanized steel posts and galvanized steel or aluminum structures at a resting angle of zero (0) degrees. The Applicant currently estimates approximately 13,026 PV panel modules will be used, each rated at 615 watts pending ("Wp") available supply or technological advancements closer to construction. The panels will have a typical height of approximately eight and a half (8.5) feet, although this height will be reached during a limited number of hours each day. A solar panel design is shown as **Figure 1**. The space between rows will be determined during final design but at minimum will be equal to or greater than the panels horizontal width in order to meet Maryland Department of the Environment ("MDE") Stormwater Guidelines. The solar panels will be designed to withstand snow, and wind loads in accordance with the International Building Code ("IBC") 2021.

The Project does not anticipate impacts to other applicable state, regional, and local plans or programs with the exception of a Maryland Department of the Environment ("MDE") Joint Permit Application ("JPA") for impacts to the regulated 25-foot buffer associated with non-tidal wetlands. Further, references to each appropriate agency with authority to review, evaluate, or comment on behalf of the plan or program are shown in **Table 1** below. There are no other known review agencies anticipated for the Project.

Figure 1 – Solar Array Schematic



In addition to the CPCN and MDE JPA, the Project will require National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") stormwater permit coverage and other State Regulatory Approvals, including conformance with stormwater management, sediment and erosion control, and local grading, building, and electrical permits. In addition to satisfying local site plan review and approval requirements, the Site Plan will be subject to review as part of the CPCN process.

2.0 STATEMENT OF NEED AND PURPOSE

The State of Maryland has enacted aggressive legal and policy standards in pursuit of expanded renewable energy generation such as solar. Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard ("RPS") mandates that fifty percent (50%) of Maryland's electricity be generated from renewable energy sources by 2030, which must include at least fourteen and one-half percent (14.5%) solar energy by 2028. The Project will generate 5 MWac of solar energy to help bring the State closer to meeting its goals.

There will be significant economic benefits resulting from the Project, including a capital cost of approximately up to twelve million dollars ($12M). The Applicant estimates thirty-four (34) direct jobs and twelve (12) indirect jobs will be created during construction of the Project. The Applicant estimates one (1) direct job created over the first five years following the completion of construction. These estimates were produced by using the Jobs and Economic Development Impact (JEDI) model, which is included as **Appendix Q**.

The construction schedule is estimated to be six (6) months and is expected to be completed as early as possible following all necessary approvals. Significant local resources are being employed as part of the design, entitlement, construction, and startup process. The tax revenue yield for a project of this size and type will also support critical County and State tax-funded programs that are often in desperate need of additional resources.

Since 2017, it has been reported that approximately seventy-five percent (75%) of the renewable energy consumed in Maryland is imported.[1] This Project will help reduce this reliance upon power generated from out of State. Given the nature of solar power generation, it will also lead to reduced and more certain costs of electricity produced. Furthermore, this Project is consistent with the findings of the General Assembly in the Maryland Public Utilities Article § 7-306.2. The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System and will deliver all of its output to subscribers via the Delmarva Power & Light ("DPL") electric distribution grid, creating access to the benefits of distributed energy to residents and businesses alike, regardless of income or property ownership status.

Maryland has active efforts underway to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change impacts, such as the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative which both set goals for reducing emissions by 2030. The Project will be 100% emissions free and will offset the need for sources of power derived from fossil fuels. In 2017, Maryland established legislation promoting pollinator-friendly habitat solar projects.

[1] "Maryland At a Glance", Maryland Manual On-Line, May 23, 2022.
(https://msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/01glance/html/energy.html#renewable)

Pollinators are a crucial component of all agricultural ecosystems, yet suitable habitat for these species is declining. The Project will be designed to exceed the State Standard for pollinator-friendly solar projects. The establishment of additional pollinator habitat will benefit the local and state economy by improving agricultural ecosystems, as well as air, soil, and water quality.

3.0 APPLICANT INFORMATION

A. Name and Address of Applicant

Queponco Road Solar 1, LLC
c/o New Leaf Energy, Inc.
55 Technology Drive, Suite 102
Lowell, MA 01851

B. Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications

Applicant	Counsel
Mr. Drew Funk Project Developer New Leaf Energy 55 Technology Drive, Suite 102 Lowell, MA 01851 dfunk@newleafenergy.com (814) 574-0502	Mr. David W. Beugelmans Mr. Maxwell T. Cooke Ms. Colleen O. Collins Gordon Feinblatt LLC 1001 Fleet St., Suite 700 Baltimore, MD 21202 dbeugelmans@gfrlaw.com mcooke@gfrlaw.com ccollins@gfrlaw.com

C. Community Liaison Officer

This Application is for a proposed community solar project that will have a capacity of approximately 5 MWac. Projects of this size are not "qualified generation stations" under COMAR 20.79.01.02(37) and do not require the appointment of a Community Liaison Officer. However, the Applicant has an internal community engagement team led by:

Mr. Drew Funk
Project Developer
New Leaf Energy
55 Technology Drive, Suite 102
Lowell, MA 01851
dfunk@newleafenergy.com
(814) 574-0502

D. Public Access to a Copy of the Application

A copy of this application is available to members of the public at the following location:

Worcester County Planning & Zoning Department
1 West Market Street, Room 1201
Snow Hill, MD 21863
(410) 632-1200

4.0 STATE AND LOCAL PERMITS

A. Maryland Public Service Commission

1. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

A CPCN is required for the creation of new power generation facilities in Maryland. The submission of this document to the Commission, along with the accompanying application, will initiate the CPCN process.

B. Delmarva Power & Light

DPL is an investor-owned utility. As a utility, it is not a local or State agency, but it is regulated by this Commission.

1. Interconnection Agreement

The Project is in the DPL service territory and will connect to the electric distribution grid through an existing 24.9 kV feeder back to the utility substation. Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant will be required to execute an Interconnection Agreement with DPL. The Applicant received its Subscriber Organization identification number (23A3068110006753) from the Public Service Commission on March 22, 2024. The Applicant submitted an interconnection application to DPL on February 20, 2025 The Applicant anticipates an interconnection agreement in November 2026.

C. Maryland Department of the Environment

1. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Construction Activity

A NPDES General Permit is required for planned construction activities with a total disturbance of one (1) acre or greater. Coverage under the General Permit is obtained by filing a completed Notice of Intent ("NOI") form with the MDE, Water Management Administration ("WMA"). The permit application requires fourteen (14) day notice prior to approval of the NOI application. The completed NOI form is considered a formal application for coverage and intent to comply with the terms of the General Permit. An NOI will be submitted to MDE during the Construction Drawing Plan review phase.

2. Joint Permit Application

A JPA is required for planned impacts to the regulated 25-foot associated with several farm ditches that MDE has designated as regulated, non-tidal linear wetlands. An application package will be submitted in the spring of 2025.

D. Worcester County Plan Review and Permitting

1. Zoning and Site Plan Approval

Worcester County will participate in the CPCN process and provide input regarding, but not limited to, the site plan, stormwater management and environmental site design, erosion and sediment control plan, and landscape plan. COMAR 20.79.03.01(A) requires that a CPCN application include a statement from the County and, under COMAR 20.79.01.05 and .06, whether the project is consistent with the applicable local comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance. The Applicant will be in routine communication with the County once the County is provided the Project documentation and will request a written statement, or at a minimum, a written statement indicating the status of the review.

Coordination has been initiated with Worcester County regarding setback and buffer requirements for utility scale solar energy systems as the County Zoning and Subdivision Control Article is silent. Per an email dated March 18, 2025, for utility scale projects, requirements deviated from adopted code provisions. Additional coordination will be required with the County, including but not limited to a pre application meeting and discussion of site location, to ensure that the development meets setbacks and buffering adjacent to the solar array.

2. Forest Conservation Act

Pursuant to Natural Resources Article § 5-1602(b)(10), the Forest Conservation Act ("FCA") any public or private subdivision plan or application for a grading or sediment control permit by any person, including a unit of State or local government on areas 40,000 square feet or greater. However, in 2023, Maryland enacted House Bill 723 (Chapter 541) and Senate Bill 526 (Chapter 542), which, among other provisions, exempt solar photovoltaic facilities from afforestation requirements under the Forest Conservation Act (FCA). This means that such facilities are not required to establish new forested areas on sites lacking sufficient tree cover.

Subsequently, in 2024, House Bill 1511 was passed, delaying the implementation of many provisions from the 2023 laws until July 1, 2026. However, the exemption for solar photovoltaic facilities from afforestation requirements was not postponed and took effect as initially planned on July 1, 2024. Therefore, as of July 1, 2024, solar photovoltaic facilities in Maryland are exempt from afforestation requirements under the FCA.

BL Companies has completed the necessary Forest Stand Delineation ("FSD") which supports these preliminary determinations. As part of the FSD field work, BL Companies identified one forest stand of mature coniferous forest dominated by Pinus species. However, there will be no impacts to the forest stand observed on-site (**Appendix O**).

Based on information provided by Worcester County, activities conducted on a single lot where less than 20,000 square feet of forest is disturbed are exempt from the Forest Conservation Law. Therefore, this Project is exempt from completing a forest conservation plan.

3. Grading, Building, Electrical, Entrance Permits

   To the extent required and feasible, the Applicant will apply for grading, building, electrical, and entrance permits while this application is pending before the Commission.

E. Summary of Permits/Approvals

The Applicant received its Subscriber Organization identification number (23A3068110006753) from the Public Service Commission on March 22, 2024. The Applicant submitted an interconnection application to DPL on February 20, 2025. The Applicant anticipates an interconnection agreement in November 2026.

1. Matrix of State/Local Permit and Approvals

   The Applicant will secure applicable approvals from State, regional, and local agencies following issuance of the CPCN as shown in **Table 1** below, and as required by COMAR 20.79.03.02.04(B)(8).

Table 1 - Matrix of State/Local Permits and Approvals Required

Agency	Permit/Approval	Regulatory Citation(s)	Required For		Status			Waiver, Variance, or Exemption		Comments
			Construction	Operation	Application Contained Herein	Application to be Filed	Permit Approval/ Obtained	Yes	No	
State of Maryland Public Service Commission	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN)	COMAR 20.79	✓		✓				✓	To be prepared at a later date.
Delmarva Power & Light (DPL)	Interconnection	Condition for Issuance of CPCN		✓					✓	Applicant submitted IX agreement on February 20, 2025
Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Construction Activity and Joint Permit Application (JPA)	COMAR 26.08, Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401, 40 CFR 122	✓			✓			✓	Applications to be submitted at the time Construction Documents have been completed.
Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service	Forest Conservation Act (FCA)	Natural Resources Article 5-1602(b)(5)							✓	Exempt
Worcester County	Stormwater Management Design Erosion Sediment Control Construction Drawing Plan	Applicability varies according to Local and State Requirements	✓			✓			✓	It is expected that the County will participate in the CPCN process and provide input regarding the site plan, stormwater management, and sediment and erosion control. Grading, Electrical, and Building Permits will be obtained after construction drawings are approved.

5.0 COMAR 20.79.03.01 DESCRIPTION OF GENERATING STATION

A. Location

The Project will consist of an approximately twenty-nine (29) acre solar array on an approximately 185-acre tract of land to be leased from Orlando J. Harrison Real Estate/Martha D. Harrison Real Estate located at 8077 Queponco Road, Worcester, MD. The Site location is more clearly illustrated in the Concept Plan (**Appendix A**).

In accordance with §ZS-1-344.d.(3) of the Worcester County Code, the proposed array layout will be located on a minimum lot area of 50 acres. Additionally, in accordance with the Worcester County Code, appropriate buffering/landscape screening, fencing, and emergency drive aisle will be located. Landscape plans, drainage plans, and stormwater management plans will be prepared for review and approval by Worcester County. These plans will clearly define how the Project will be stabilized and controls put in place. In compliance with the applicable provisions of the Worcester County Zoning Ordinance (Sections 1-322 and 1-344(d)), a new perimeter fence is proposed to be a six foot (6') high chain-link fence (no barbed wire is proposed). The electricity produced by the Project's solar panels and inverters will be delivered to DPL and available for community solar subscribers within DPL's service territory.

The Site (Tax Map 39, Parcel 29, Grid 23 in Worcester County) (38.256057, -75.320565) is located within the Pocomoke River watershed. The Pocomoke River is a non-tidal waterway in this region, and drains an area encompassing portions of Worcester County, including the Site. Notable water bodies in the vicinity include the Pocomoke River itself, Nassawango Creek, and Dividing Creek. This basin lies within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province, characterized by its flat terrain and sandy soils.

The surrounding areas and neighboring properties can generally be characterized as a combination of rural development, agricultural, and forested lands.

B. Design Features

Total generating capacity for the Project is anticipated to be 5 MW ac output. The Project will consist of approximately 13,000 Hyperion 615W (bifacial panel). The array will be installed using single axis trackers; pile-driven post-supported racking system (galvanized steel post with galvanized steel or aluminum structure for mounting the panels). The space between rows will be approximately twelve feet (12'). The minimum leading-edge height (bottom edge of modules) will be approximately two and a half feet (2.5') from grade, and the maximum height of the top edge of the modules will be approximately eight and a half feet (8.5') from grade. A

typical Solar Panel Racking Detail depicts the array with portrait racking with one (1) row of modules positioned vertically (1V) on each rack. The total height of the solar energy system, including any mounts, shall not exceed twenty- five (25) feet above the ground when oriented at maximum tilt. The solar arrays will be designed to withstand snow load of twenty (20) pounds per square foot (psf) and wind of one-hundred fifteen (115) miles per hour (mph) (per IBC 2021 for Worcester County).

Depending on final racking vendor selection and design, the number of racks could vary. Subject to final design, the typical three (3) string rows will consist of twelve (12) pile driven posts each serving as the foundation. Each post will be driven to an estimated depth of five feet (5') to seven feet (7') below grade.

There will be approximately twenty (20) separate inverters which are on a racking system. There is one step up transformer that includes a pad. Each inverter will make up 1/20 of the array AC capacity, or approximately 250 kilowatt inverters, to convert the direct current (DC) energy to AC energy. Each power station will have a transformer to step up the AC voltage from 600V to 24.9kV for interconnection to the Delmarva Power & Light distribution line.

A six-foot (6') high chain link perimeter fence will be installed around the Project with a service entrance accessible from Queponco Road. There is no need for water and sewer at the Project site since there will be no operations and/or maintenance facilities as part of this Project and no full-time personnel located at this Site. The only water use associated with the operation of this solar generation facility will be semi-annual cleansing of the panels, which may take place one (1) or two (2) times a year.

Municipal Confirmation of Consistency with Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance

Zoning

The proposed Project is located within the Agricultural (A - 1) Zoning District of Worcester County. The County adopted a revised Zoning Ordinance on November 18, 2014. Per Worcester County Zoning and Subdivision Control Article §ZS 1-334(d)(3), the proposed solar facility is permitted in the agricultural zone as an established utility scale solar energy system when in compliance with applicable zoning ordinance requirements for solar energy power systems.

The Worcester County Zoning and Subdivision Control Article defines utility scale solar generating system as "a ground-mounted solar energy system with a rated capacity in excess of two and one-half megawatts, the principal purpose of which is to provide electrical power for sale to the general power grid" [§ ZS 1-344(b)]. Section ZS 1-344(d)(3) allows utility scale solar energy systems to be located in the A-1, A-2, E-1, V-1, C-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 Districts with a minimum lot area of 50 acres.

Minimum setbacks for utility scale solar generating systems are not outlined in the Zoning and Subdivision Control Article. Further coordination is required with Worcester County to ensure adequate buffering from the solar arrays. The Applicant will maintain 50 feet of distance from the closest, adjacent neighbors' residences and the Project will be further buffered by existing, undisturbed vegetation and screening plantings. All approvals of utility scale solar energy systems shall be in accordance with a two-step approval process consisting of Concept Plan Approval and Master Plan Approval [§ ZS 1-344(d)(3)(A,B)].

The Project is consistent with Worcester County's Comprehensive Plan, dated March 14, 2006.

Comprehensive Plan

The Project is consistent with Worcester County's Comprehensive Plan, dated March 14, 2006 ("Comprehensive Plan") because it supports the County's policy goals related to renewable energy and sustainable development, making use of the land while preserving its natural resources with minimal impact. The Comprehensive Plan "focuses on maintaining and improving the county's natural resource base while providing for sustainable use."

A key land use objective of the Comprehensive Plan is the preservation and enhancement of green infrastructure, which includes features such as wetlands, floodplains, stream corridors, forests, sensitive species habitats, and cultural resource areas. In alignment with the Comprehensive Plan's natural resource goals and objectives, the Project has been designed to avoid any disruption to the existing green infrastructure on the site and to return the property to a substantially similar condition as before the Project installation after its useful life.

While the Comprehensive Plan does not address the need for green energy or utility scale solar energy systems, the Plan does state that one objective to meet the need for public infrastructure improvements is to "work with the private sector to ensure a dependable and adequate supply of electric power and propane." For these reasons, the Project is compatible with the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Additionally, the Project is consistent with the Draft 2024 Worcester County Comprehensive Plan, as it supports the County's description of its vision for the future. Currently, the updated plan is under review by the County Planning Commission with an anticipated adoption in the summer of 2025[2]. A copy of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan is included in **Appendix N**.

[2] "Worcester County Comprehensive Plan Updates", Worcester County, Maryland, April 2025. (https://www.co.worcester.md.us/comprehensive-plan#:~:text=The%20Plan%20provides%20a%20framework,and%20other%20public%20infrastructure%20needs

Chapter 3 – Community Facilities

- Page 11, Goal 4. **"**Provide adequate public services, including health, safety, social, recreational, and waste disposal services to facilitate the County's desired amount and pattern of growth."

  Description: Community-based solar facilities support Goal 4 by providing reliable, sustainable energy that can reduce strain on public infrastructure and lower long-term utility costs, freeing resources for other essential services. These facilities also enhance energy resilience and environmental quality, contributing to healthier, safer communities aligned with the County's planned growth. This goal highlights the need for infrastructure that supports growth and community well-being, including the integration of sustainable energy solutions.

Chapter 6 – Economic Development and Tourism

- Page 47, Goals and Objectives Introductory Paragraph. "...foster a resilient and inclusive economy by driving sustainable growth in tourism, small business, technology, agriculture, and light industry."

  Description: Community-based solar facilities foster a resilient and inclusive economy by lowering energy costs and increasing energy independence for small businesses, farms, and light industry. They also attract green investment and create local jobs in installation and maintenance, supporting sustainable economic growth across multiple sectors.

Chapter 7 – Natural Resources & Sensitive Areas

- Page 67, Item 1: Implement resource protection, conservation, preservation strategies that promote high water quality and protect aquatic life and ecological function throughout Worcester County.

  Description: Community-based solar sites on existing farm fields directly support this goal by helping farmers diversify their income through land leasing while continuing agricultural operations on part of their land (agrivoltaics). This dual use lowers energy costs for farms and nearby businesses, enhances local energy resilience, and supports a just transition to a green economy through job creation and sustainable land use.

- Page 67, Item 2: "Undertake land preservation and other efforts to preserve and expand open space, forests and other "greenways" to protect habitat diversity, create biodiversity corridors, and provide contiguous areas for safe movement of people and animals throughout the County."

Description: Community-based solar sites on existing farm fields can support this goal when thoughtfully designed to incorporate native vegetation, pollinator habitats, and vegetative buffers, enhancing habitat diversity and ecological connectivity. By reducing development pressure on farmland and preserving the land for long-term open-space use, these projects can function as part of a broader green infrastructure network, supporting both biodiversity and the movement of wildlife across the County.

C. High Resolution Concept Plan

A Conceptual Site Plan for the Project, included as **Appendix A**, is in accordance with COMAR 20.79.03.01(B)(3,5) by including, but not limited to, applicable setbacks from adjacent properties and rights of way, all existing and proposed structures, existing and proposed parking areas with setbacks and buffers, and areas of impervious surfaces or lot coverage. The base mapping has been created using aerial photography, existing topography and site features, and property lines obtained from a topographic and boundary survey and ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey prepared by American Engineers Group, LLC, dated February 28, 2025.

D. Operational Features

The operational features will be controlled through a Project Operations & Maintenance Agreement to track performance and monitor the health and safety of the solar field. Typical duties and features of this plan are:

- Local and remote control over key features of the Solar Field's Electrical System to assure compliance with the Interconnection Agreement and safety of the Project.
- Scheduling, control, and reporting of all onsite maintenance activities.
- Operations Center with remote monitoring of performance data and physical systems 365 days a year.
- Immediate dispatch of fire, police, or contractors in the event of an emergency or forced outage.

The system is designed to maximize the production of clean energy to the grid. Operations will be monitored via the internet and an onsite controls software. Maintenance personnel will be dispatched for regularly scheduled preventive maintenance in accordance with industry standard practices and manufacturer recommendations. Reactive maintenance will also be completed as required. Generation of clean energy to the grid will be coordinated with the utility, DPL, in accordance with the Interconnection Agreement established for the facility.

E. Schedule for Engineering, Construction, and Operation

Engineering documents are being prepared and programmed for submission as part of the CPCN joint review process with County representatives. The engineering and construction documents will include pertinent information regarding the solar modules, construction methods, electrical requirements, ingress and egress, stormwater management, sediment and erosion control, electrical connection to the grid/substation, fencing within the setback, and grading. Preliminary engineering for the Project has been initiated and final engineering will be completed in 2025. Construction is anticipated to begin in Q1 2027 and commercial operation is anticipated to begin in Q3 2027, following all necessary approvals.

F. Life Expectancy of the Generating Station

The Project's life expectancy is approximately twenty (30-40) years. The primary equipment components of the solar energy system to be installed are expected to meet capacity requirements effectively and efficiently throughout the Project's useful life cycle by employing industry standard operation and maintenance procedures. Routine maintenance and inspections will ensure the optimal performance and longevity of the solar generating station.

G. Site Selection and Design

1. Site Selection

The Applicant chose the Site for the Project because the location has key attributes that make it ideal for a community solar facility. The limit of construction (LOC), which is approximately 29-acres, has exceptional potential for renewable energy production given its solar insolation, its favorable environmental characteristics and its proximity to the utility substation that can support the proposed generation with minimal upgrades.

a. Proximity to Distribution System

The Site is located approximately 7.4 miles from the Worcester substation and will interconnect to the electric distribution grid through an existing 24.9 kV feeder.

b. Environmental Suitability

The Site does not contain significant environmental or cultural resources impacts. The Site is of adequate size to accommodate construction of the Project and there is sufficient buildable acreage with limited residential development on or near the proposed LOC. Additionally, the Project requires minimal post-construction stormwater management features by maintaining and enhancing the native meadow cover, minimization of site grading, and lack of alteration to existing drainage patterns.

c. Adequate Buildable Acreage

The site provides a suitable buildable area to accommodate a five (5) MWac solar facility. The Project will support approximately 1,125 households at 10,000 kWh/year and displace 8,750 tons of CO2 emissions per year. In contrast, a two (2) MWac solar project would only support 450 households and displace 3,500 tons of CO2 emissions. By increasing the share of renewable energy in Maryland's energy mix, the Project aligns with the State's goal of reaching fifty percent (50%) renewable energy by the year 2030.

The Project array area is designed to have approximately 410 feet of distance from the closest, adjacent neighbors' residence, providing a considerable buffer zone. Furthermore, the existing trees to the north, east, and west will provide additional privacy, effectively screening the Project from neighbors to the north, east, and west. This ensures that neighboring properties are minimally impacted by the Project's construction and operation and preserves the aesthetic and environmental quality of the area.

d. High Insolation

The Project Site has optimal sun exposure creating the estimated annual production results as listed in **Table 3**.

2. Project Design

See **Section 5.0.B.** for a description of Project Design. This section of the ERD describes the system modeling and assumptions made by the Applicant during the Project design phase. The conceptual design and associated energy output at the

Project Site were modeled and created based on, including but not limited to, meteorological data, models of the system equipment such as inverter and the solar modules, and project design specifications such as the number of solar modules in series (string sizing), system DC size, rack orientation (azimuth and tilt), DC and AC wiring length, and transformer losses.

Table 2 – Summary of System Components and Design of Model	
Nominal DC Rating (STC):	7,489.95kW
Nominal AC Rating:	5,000 kW
DC/AC Ratio:	1.50
Array Azimuth/Tilt:	Az: 0°/ Tilt: +/-52°
Inverters:	SOLECTRIA XGI 1500-250W, or equivalent. (Quantity: 20)
Modules:	Hyperion (615 W), or equivalent. (Quantity: 13,026)

3. Solar Resource Data

   A key factor in simulating the power output from the Project is the local solar resource data or insolation.

4. Modeling

   Modeling involved defining a detailed system design by using manufacturer's equipment file models, specifying array orientation, string sizing and equipment quantities, system voltage, wire lengths, transformers, and shading. Loss assumptions are also made at this stage. Major loss categories incorporated into the energy modeling include snow and soiling (dust) losses, shading from nearby obstructions (e.g., trees), "far shading" obstructions (e.g., ridgelines), and system losses incurred such as transformer losses.

5. Production Estimate Results

   The above model inputs are taken into consideration for estimating total production from the system during the first year of operations, which is presented in **Table 3** below. Note that the production estimate results are preliminary and subject to change based on the final system design, equipment selections, etc.

Table 3 – Production Estimate Results	
Parameter	Preliminary Estimate
Annual Generation (MWh/year)	12175.62
Annual Specific Yield (kWh/kWp/year)	1625.62
Performance Ratio	79.9%
Capacity Factor (AC)	22.05%

H. Impacts on the Economics of the State

There will be significant economic benefits resulting from the Project to include a capital cost of approximately twelve million ($12M). The Applicant estimates thirty-two (33) direct jobs and forty (20) indirect jobs will be created during construction of the Project. The Applicant estimates one (1) direct job will be created over the first five years following the completion of construction. The construction schedule is estimated to be six (6) months and is expected to be completed as early as possible following all necessary approvals. Significant local resources are being employed as part of the design, entitlement, construction, and startup process. The tax revenue yield for a project of this size and type will also support critical County and State tax-funded programs that are often in desperate need of additional resources; County programs which may include the Human Resources Development Commission, Public Schools and Emergency Services. Subscriber savings are anticipated to be between ten percent and twenty percent (10%-20%) for non-LMI customers. The Applicant anticipates an average annual tax benefit of one hundred thousand ($100,000) to Worcester County and nine thousand six hundred dollars ($9,600) to the State with a total tax benefit of approximately four million ($4M) to Worcester County and three hundred eighty five thousand dollars ($385,000) to the State over the operation term of the Project.

As a community solar project, the Project anticipates receiving capacity in Maryland's Permanent Community Solar Program. Accordingly, the Applicant anticipates that Public Utilities Article § 7-306.2(n) will apply to the Project, meaning that the contractors bidding on the Project will be instructed to provide labor rates based upon prevailing wage in accordance with the prevailing wage rate determined under Maryland law. Further, to the Applicant's knowledge, there are no existing community solar energy generating stations located on adjacent parcels of land as the proposed Project, and there are no proposed community solar energy generating stations planned for adjacent parcels.

PPRP reports that Maryland imports approximately forty-one percent (41%) of its required energy generation. This Project will help reduce this reliance upon out-of-state power generation. Given the nature of solar power generation, it will also lead to reduced and more certain costs of electricity produced. Furthermore, this Project will contribute to the stated goals and objectives of Maryland Public Utilities Article § 7-702.

Maryland is a national leader in shifting to renewable energy and combating climate change by setting some of the most aggressive goals in the nation. The Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 (SB0528) set a target of a sixty percent (60%) reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2031. As part of the Transition Report, Governor Moore has expressed support for Maryland to generate one hundred (100%) clean energy by 2035. Furthermore, Maryland has repeatedly shown support for solar energy by increasing the Net Metering Cap to three (3) gigawatts ("GW") in 2021 with Legislation HB0569, and most recently, in 2023, by passing landmark legislation that made the Maryland Community Solar Program permanent (HB0908). Community solar will enable Maryland to reach its impressive goals faster and more equitably than past options.

Community Solar provides a unique opportunity for Maryland residents to receive the tangible benefits of solar energy without requiring solar on their roofs. The Project will be able to serve local residents and small businesses and ultimately deliver subscriber savings to DPL customers over the life of the Project. Further, over the life of the Project, the Project will contribute to property taxes to the County, without requiring any services or costs to the County and resulting in tangible financial benefits.

The Applicant anticipates local economic benefits stemming from the construction of the Project and the lead contractor and its subcontractors will comply with prevailing wage standards and provide apprenticeship opportunities. These opportunities will encompass various roles such as electricians, safety professionals, solar installers, and general laborers.These practices will align with the requirements set forth in the Inflation Reduction Act, thereby maximizing the value of the Investment Tax Credit.

I. Impacts on the Stability and Reliability of the Electric System

The Applicant received its Subscriber Organization identification number (23A3068110006753) March 22, 2024. The Applicant submitted an interconnection application to DPL on February 20, 2025. The Applicant anticipates an interconnection agreement in November 2026; see **Appendix H** for applicable interconnection documentation.

According to the Applicant's initial consultations with DPL, the Applicant expects there to be sufficient capacity on both the circuit and the substation. No significant impacts to the electric distribution system are expected.

The impact to the electrical system will be evaluated in more detail through the utility interconnection study process. This detailed analysis is performed over an average timeline of six (6) months and will evaluate the detailed impact of additional generation on the local distribution network. The Applicant will bear the cost of any required upgrades identified by DPL, potentially making the local infrastructure more reliable.

J. Interconnection Location and Major Design Features of Electric System Update

The Project will interconnect to the electric distribution grid through an existing feeder back to the utility substation with a 24.9 kV circuit. The anticipated POI, which is subject to final interconnection approval, is located onsite, and will not impact any adjacent aquatic resources. The interconnection pole will connect to five (5) other utility poles and be connected to the system through underground wires placed in a trench running parallel to the access road. The Applicant will be responsible for costs associated with any work performed by the utility to accommodate the interconnection. The Applicant will not construct any high voltage transmission lines.

K. Implementation Schedule for the Project

The Project schedule includes the following approximate implementation dates:

- Q4 2026: Design, permitting, obtaining all necessary approvals, utility coordination, and procurement of equipment.
- Q1 2027: Construction of the solar facility.
- Q3 2027: Commercial operation of the solar facility.
- Decommissioning of the Project is projected to be 30-40 following commencement of operations and will be determined depending on the actual performance of the solar system at that time.

L. Decommissioning and Deconstruction

The Applicant will provide PPRP and the Commission with a facility Decommissioning Plan, outlining the timeframes for responsible parties, and estimated costs for decommissioning and dismantling, and proper removal of all Project facilities at the end of the useful life of the Project, or when the Project is otherwise abandoned. The Decommissioning Plan will be secured via a surety bond to ensure that decommissioning costs are not borne by the County and/or State of Maryland at the end of the useful life of

the Project. The performance and financial assurance guarantees will be submitted for approval by the Commission pursuant to PPRP's standard decommissioning licensing condition.

The Decommissioning Plan will include provisions for the safe removal and proper disposal of all components of the Project, including any components with rare/valuable materials, or if any hazardous/toxic materials. The Decommissioning Plan shall maximize the extent of component recycling and reuse, where possible, and ensure all components are handled in accordance with applicable federal, State, County, and local requirements.

6.0 COMAR 20.79.03.02 ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

A. General Information

1. General Description of the Site and Adjacent Areas

The Site is located at 8077 Queponco Road, Worcester, MD. The Property (Tax Map 39, Parcel #29 in Worcester County) is owned by Orlando J. Harrison Real Estate/Martha D. Harrison Real Estate and the Project area will be leased to the Applicant for the development of the proposed ground-mounted, solar facility. The land that the Project will occupy constitutes the site (the "Site"). The Site is agricultural land use and has functioned as agricultural land since at least 1952.

The portion of the property to be used for the solar project generally slopes down to the southwest. The entire property contains slopes ranging from flat (0%) to two percent (2%). No tree cutting or clearing will be needed. There are no FEMA flood plains located within the solar array site, no wetlands will be impacted, the Project is outside the Critical Area, and there are no other environmental issues associated with the Site or project development.

Site information contained in this report has been discussed and reviewed with various regulatory agencies including the Maryland Department of the Environment, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Historic Trust, Worcester County Planning and Zoning, Worcester County Soil Conservation District Office, and representatives from the Critical Areas Commission. Through this review process, it was determined that there are no FEMA or wetlands impacts. MHT has reviewed the Area of Potential Effect and will not require further studies. In addition, the Project is not in a Critical Area, and there are no rare, threatened or endangered species.

Previous disturbances to the site include row crop agricultural activities, two-track farm roads, and a drainage ditch system. The Project is likely to benefit the site by adding significant stabilization by adding suitable ground cover species, adding pollinators, landscape buffer, and a property maintenance plan that will more than likely improve water quality leaving the site following rain events.

The Project received a letter from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources which indicates there is no State record for listed plant or animal

species documented on this site. In addition, utilizing the United State Fish and Wildlife ("USFWS") Information for Planning and Consultation ("IPaC"), there are no federal species that may be affected by the proposed Project.

In summary, the property is not located within a Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, or within any riparian buffer, special planning area, protected watersheds, reservoirs, or other impoundment drainage areas. The Project is also not anticipated to compromise any esthetic or cultural resources. It should be noted that impacts to non-tidal wetland buffers will occur for access road improvements. However no direct impacts to the non-tidal wetlands will occur. As stated previously, an MDE JPA will be obtained for these buffer impacts prior to the commencement of construction.

B. Air Quality

1. Compliance with Federal or State Air Quality Standards

As a solar generation facility, the Project will not emit air pollutants, and the following standards, provisions, and requirements will not be applicable:
• State or Federal ambient air quality standards.
• State or Federal emission standards.
• Federal new source performance standards.
• Federal emission standards for hazardous air pollutants.
• Prevention of significant deterioration and new source review provisions.
• Any requirements to obtain emission offsets, allowances, and reduction credits.

a. Air Quality During Construction

The primary air-quality issue during construction will be dust from non-point sources such as earthwork and construction traffic on unpaved roads. This type of dust is described as fugitive dust. Fugitive dust is expected to be less than a normal construction project since this Project will not require excessive earthwork activities. Other potential sources of pollutants during construction are mobile internal combustion engines from earthwork equipment and an increase in vehicle traffic by workers. Emissions from these sources should have little impact.

b. Air Quality During Operation

The Project, like all solar generation facilities, will generate no air pollution emissions during its operation.

2. Impact on Deterioration Areas and Nonattainment Areas

The Project will have no impact on any attainment or nonattainment areas of the State.

3. Requirements Under COMAR 26.11

Generally, the provisions of COMAR 26.11 will not be applicable to the Project as the facility will not emit pollutants. COMAR 26.11.01.05-1 states that emissions statements are required for Worcester County from installations and sources that produce twenty-five (25) tons or more of VOCs or NOx annually. An EPA's Avoided Emissions and geneRation Tool ("AVERT") will be completed. It is estimated the Project will not emit pollutants.

C. Water Quality and Appropriation

1. Stormwater Management/Environmental Site Design

a. Land Use and Cover:

The Property is in a rural, low population density setting, has been in a Maryland forestry program for approximately 40 years, and has been used for hunting purposes. The Property is primarily surrounded by forests and residential and agricultural land uses.

The geotechnical report, included in **Appendix C**, demonstrates that the soils are suitable for reuse as structural fill.

Similar to other solar projects, impervious areas will be limited to the associated access driveway and equipment pad for mechanical and electrical equipment. A Stormwater NPDES Permit will be obtained, and an NOI will be filed prior to construction.

There will be grading in areas for the access road, equipment pad, and within the solar array field to accommodate required slopes for non-

rooftop disconnection credit. The internal solar array aisle ways and the perimeter drive aisle, for maintenance and emergency vehicles, will be meadow cover.

As stated previously, the entire Site consists of slopes ranging from flat (0%) to two percent (2%) slopes. There are no steep slopes impacted by the Project.

The Site will be planted and maintained in low cover grass vegetation in accordance with site plans and designs to be approved by the County during the local site plan process. In addition to the mixture of grass seed and PPRP's recommendations regarding pollinator plantings, the Applicant is also proposing to incorporate wildflower seed mixes with the selected grasses in order to promote the health of honeybees and other pollinators. The purpose of this project design feature would be to improve the quality and quantity of overall acreage for pollinators. Solar energy generation facilities are ideal opportunities to increase healthy habitats for pollinators.

A phasing plan and/or sequence of construction will be prepared as part of the sediment and erosion control plan set submitted to the County for review and approval during the local site plan process. These plan sheets will identify proposed work areas, acreage that can be open at one time, and stabilization requirements.

b. Impacts on Stormwater During Construction

COMAR 26.17.02.01-1B(1) requires that stormwater quality and quantity controls be implemented. Guidelines for Water Quality and Quantity through Environmental Sensitive Design ("ESD") techniques and Best Management Practices ("BMP") are included in the 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual, Volumes I and II (2000) with Supplement No. 1. The specific ESD techniques to be employed on the Site as referenced above in more detail will consist primarily of non-rooftop disconnection BMPs.

The stormwater management report, design computations, and supporting ESD techniques and BMPs will be submitted to the County for review and approval as part of the local site plan process.

c. Impacts on Stormwater During Operation

COMAR 26.17.02.01-1B(1) requires that stormwater quality and quantity controls be implemented. Guidelines for Water Quality and Quantity through ESD techniques and BMPs are included in the 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual, Volumes I and II (2000) with Supplement No. 1. The specific ESD techniques to be employed on the Site as referenced above in more detail will consist primarily of non- rooftop disconnection BMPs.

In summary, the disconnection credit will be the primary practice used to demonstrate compliance with treatment and ESD requirements.

For the ESD Storm Event, the Site will mimic a forested site in good conditions under the post-development scenario. The installation of the solar array will incorporate the use of piles with platforms erected above the ground surface thereby minimizing any need to treat or capture stormwater that is resulting from the construction operations. As a result of the proposed design and elevated panel system, vegetation will grow under the panels and essentially the entire field will remain in a pervious vegetative cover. Consistent with the approved SCD Sediment and Erosion Control for the project, grasses will be selected which grow to a minimum height and can be easily maintained.

2. Availability of Surface Water and Groundwater

As a standalone unmanned facility, there will be limited water and no sewer requirements for the Project. The Project will not require surface or groundwater for construction or operation. Normal rain events will keep manual cleanings of the solar panels to a minimum. Occasional water for quarterly/semi-annual cleanings may be required. Water tanker trucks may be used to manage dust during construction if required.

3. Maryland Wild and Scenic Rivers

According to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources ("DNR"), Land Acquisition and Planning, there are no Maryland Wild and Scenic Rivers on the Site (**Appendix E**).

4. Affected Streams and Aquifers

   As mentioned above, MDE has determined there are regulated ditches within the Project boundary. These ditches are regulated as linear wetlands and have an associated 25-foot buffer. No non-ditch wetlands were observed to be present on-site. The majority of the Project will be located twenty-five feet (25') or more from the edge of these regulated ditches. Minor impacts to several regulated 25-foot buffers will be impacted as part of the access road improvements. These impacts are the minimal impacts required to achieve the Project. Authorization to impact the regulated buffers will be obtained via an MDE JPA. There are no streams located on the site and no discharges are anticipated to any nearby streams. No impacts to streams or aquifers are anticipated as a result of the Project.

5. Impact on Other Water Users

   No impact on other water users is anticipated due to the Project. The Project will not utilize freshwater resources, meaning that a reduction in water supply demand is not anticipated.

   a. Impacts on Other Water Users During Construction

      The Applicant does not believe that there will be a need to use water during construction. If water is needed to control dust, a tanker truck will be provided.

   b. Impacts on Other Water Users During Operation

      Stormwater facility approvals, sediment and erosion control permits, grading permits, and NOI coverage under the NPDES Program will all be obtained as controls on the water quality leaving the Site. As an unmanned facility, there will be no ongoing water consumption requirement. Any other interim water consumption required will be fairly intermittent and provided as identified above.

6. Mitigation and Minimization Techniques Evaluated

   No impacts to water quality or appropriation are anticipated. As a result, mitigation and minimization techniques are not warranted.

7. Requirements Under COMAR 26.17.06.07 and 26.17.07

   It is assumed that there is no reason for permits to be issued under COMAR 26.17.06.07 and 26.17.07 since no water use or appropriation is required for the Project. However, if required by unanticipated construction conditions, a Notice of Exemption Application will be obtained at least thirty (30) days prior to the beginning of the use in accordance with MDE Water Appropriation and Use Permit (3.15).

D. Stream Buffers and Floodplains

The Site (Tax Map 39, Parcel #29 in Worcester County) is located at approximately (38.256057, -75.320565) in the Pocomoke River watershed (02130203). The Pocomoke River is a non-tidal waterway in this region, and drains an area encompassing portions of Worcester County, including the Site. Notable water bodies in the vicinity include the Pocomoke River itself, Nassawango Creek, and Dividing Creek. This basin lies within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province, characterized by its flat terrain and sandy soils.

The majority of the Site to be used for panel installation has low grades which are determined to be adequate to support the single axis tracking design being proposed for the Project.

According to FEMA FIRM Map Number 24047C0150H effective July 16, 2015, there are no mapped floodplains in the area of the proposed Project **(Appendix K).**

Specifically, the proposed project area is within the Coonfoot Branch-Pocomoke River Watershed which flows into Pocomoke River, then into the Pocomoke Sound and ultimately discharges into the Chesapeake Bay. The Pocomoke River flows through Protected Federal Lands, DNR Owned Lands and Conservation Easements, and DNR Targeted Ecological Areas. Although impairments identified in Maryland's 305(b) Report include nutrients and sedimentation, among others, solar generation facilities typically stabilize the properties on which they are located. Solar generation facilities are considered environmentally friendly and would be more protective of water quality in this watershed than a residential subdivision, industrial development, or farming practices; all of which would be permitted within the A zone.

All Maryland stream segments are categorized by sub-basin and are given a "designated use" in the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.08.02.08. The Pocomoke River and Coonfoot Branch are protected as a Class I Use.

The Site is outside the Critical Area and designated flood plains. While the Site contains poorly drained soils various ESD stormwater management practices will be implemented to ensure proper stormwater management of the Site.

Jurisdictional waters identified onsite are not within the areas where solar panels will be located and the Applicant has agreed to keep the limit of disturbance at least twenty-five feet (25') away from these jurisdictional waters, with the exception of the minor access road improvements along the existing gravel access road. MDE concurrence with the wetland and/or regulated ditch locations were based on the report prepared by BL Companies which indicates the site configuration avoids any wetlands/jurisdictional waters. MDE confirmed these determinations/findings following a site visit on November 10, 2025. An MDE JPA authorization will be obtained for these buffer impacts.

E. Description of Effect on State or Private Wetlands

1. Public Health and Welfare

The Project's operation will not produce, emit, or discharge any significant noise, air pollutants, or water pollutants, which may have an effect on public health or welfare. Additionally, the Project will not generate, transport, store, treat, and/or dispose of hazardous waste as a result of the Project's operation.

2. Marine Fisheries

The Project will not impact marine fisheries.

3. Shell Fisheries

The Project will not impact shell fisheries.

4. Wildlife

There are no known federal or state listed rare, threatened, or endangered species at the Project Site. The Project is not anticipated to impact critical habitats.

5. Protection of Life and Property from Flood, Hurricane, or Other Natural Disaster

   This Project is unique in the aspect that during a natural disaster there would only be destruction to the panel array itself. Total destruction of the panel array and the transformers would not release harmful gases or liquids and would have no adverse effects on surrounding property or life. All components of the Project will be designed per the local and state building codes. Also, there are no floodplains located onsite, and the design will make considerations for the existing drainage patterns.

6. Mitigation and Minimization or Replacement Land Acquisition

   Mitigation and minimization or replacement land acquisition is not applicable to the Project.

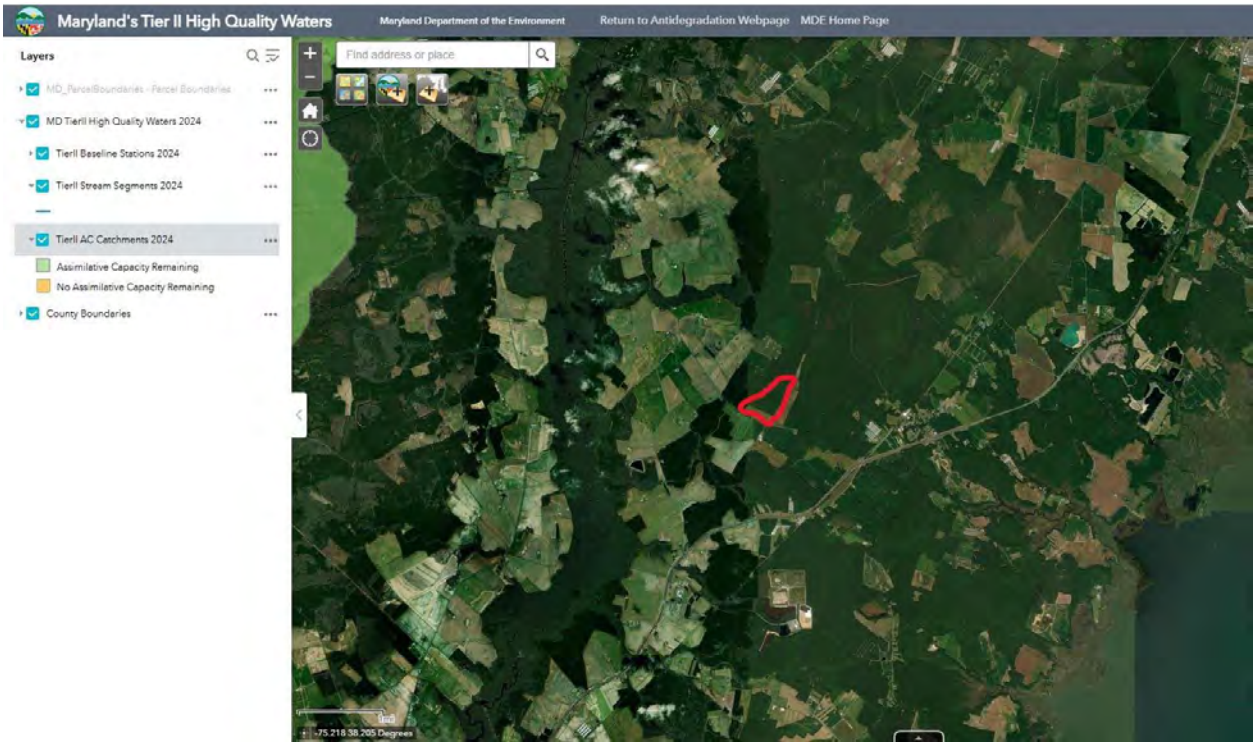
7. License for Use of State Tidal or Nontidal Wetlands

   The information and forms required by the MDE regulations relating to a license for use of State tidal wetlands or nontidal wetlands under COMAR 26.23 and 26.24 are underway and awaiting approval from the MDE for impacts to the regulated 25-foot buffer associated with non-tidal wetlands and/or regulated agricultural ditches. No direct impacts to non-tidal wetlands will occur as part of this Project.

F. Analysis of Impacts to Water Quality of Tier II Streams

The Project is not located in the Critical Area and the Project is not within 1,000 feet of any Tier II streams. See **Figure 2** below for proximity to the Site. The Project is not located in a Tier II Catchment Area. The protective measures for high quality waters have been incorporated into the stormwater management for the Project, by promoting the use of nonstructural BMPs to the maximum extent possible, minimizing site grading and utilizing existing drainage patterns, in order to pursue an environmentally sensitive design, maintain natural hydrology and minimize the risk of sedimentation. There is no activity proposed on the Site which would contribute to the impairment of these waterways and receiving streams.

Figure 2 – Maryland's Tier II High Quality Waters Map



G. Disposal of Plant Generated Waste

1. Waste Handling During Construction

During construction, the contractor will collect any waste material and remove it from the Site to an approved waste handling facility. Large amounts of waste during construction are not anticipated. Waste material will mainly consist of packaging materials from the framing and electrical equipment that will be delivered to the Site.

2. Waste Handling During Operation

During operation, there will be little, or no waste material generated at the Site. Any waste that is generated from maintenance and/or repair operations will be removed from the Site and disposed of at an approved waste handling facility. There will be no sanitary sewer waste generated at the Site.

3. Hazardous Materials

   Solar panels and inverters used for this Project do not pose any significant hazards to the environment or public health. Solar panel materials are contained in a solid matrix that is insoluble and non-volatile at ambient conditions, and enclosed. In the rare instance where a solar panel might be subject to higher temperatures, any materials released would likely bind to the glass covering the PV cells and be retained there. Release of any toxic materials from inverters is unlikely provided appropriate electrical and installation requirements are followed. The system will be monitored remotely during operation, and any issues resulting from damaged PV modules will be identified and investigated. Regular visual inspections will occur to identify modules needing replacement due to damage.

4. Decommissioning and Deconstruction

   Waste associated with decommissioning and deconstruction of the Project will be handled appropriately pursuant to an approved Decommissioning Plan provided to the Commission and Power Plant Research Program.

7.0 COMAR 20.79.03.03 NATURAL RESOURCES INFORMATION

A. Environmental Studies

1. Wetlands Delineation Study

Mr. Tyler O'Neal of MDE's Nontidal Wetlands Program, along with other representatives from BL Companies, conducted a joint site visit to review areas immediate and adjacent to the site which would be avoided during design and construction. MDE's response to BL Company's findings as well as observations during the site visit on November 10, 2024 are included as **Appendix G**. To summarize, MDE confirmed that no wetlands are present on-site; however, the majority of ditches on-site will be regulated as linear wetlands, each with an associated 25-foot regulated buffer.

2. Natural Resources Inventory

According to Maryland's Environmental Resource and Land Information Network ("MERLIN"), there are no Protected Lands or Critical Areas on the Site. A review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS") Information for Planning and Consultation ("IPaC") resource list identified that the Tri-Colored Bat and Monarch Butterfly may be impacted by the Project. After consulting directly with the USFWS, via the IPaC website, the project will have no effect on the tri-colored bat. Since the Monarch Butterfly is only a proposed species, Section 7 protections do not apply. However, an informal biological assessment of the Site suggests the lack of appropriate habitat for this species and it is highly unlikely there will be an adverse impact on the species from the Project (**Appendix D**).

3. Project Review Request

A Project Review Request was submitted to the Maryland DNR – Wildlife & Heritage Service, requesting information regarding any federal or State rare, threatened, and/or endangered species at the Site. The Applicant received a letter response, dated January 11, 2024, from the Maryland DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service, which included protection guidelines that could be incorporated, as applicable, into any plans for the project site. No further coordination is required with Maryland DNR regarding protective measures for State or federal records of rare, threatened, or endangered species at the Site. A copy of the Project Review Request and letter response from the DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service are included in **Appendix E**.

4. Critical Area

   According to the Maryland DNR Critical Area Boundary map viewer, the Site is located outside of the Critical Area Program. Therefore, the Project does not impact Critical Areas.

5. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment

   A Phase I ESA ("ESA") was conducted by BL Companies. on December 12, 2023. A historical Recognized Environmental Conditions ("RECs") was identified as a result of the Property being used for agricultural land usage and the application of herbicides and/or pesticides.

   Due to the above REC, a Phase II Limited Site Investigation (LSI) was conducted by BL Companies and provided to the applicant on January 24, 2024. Results of LSI indicated lead was detected in all three soil samples at concentrations below the Non-Residential Cleanup Standard. Arsenic was detected in all three samples, with a concentration above the Non-Residential Cleanup Standard of 3 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) in one soil sample (SS-1) at 5.2 mg/kg. No other analytes were detected. Based on the proposed use of the Site, a solar generation facility, no additional investigation or remediation was recommended.

   The Phase I ESA and Phase II LSI are included in **Appendix M**.

6. Geotechnical Exploration

   The Applicant engaged ECS Mid-Atlantic to perform necessary geotechnical and seismic analysis to demonstrate the site is suitable to support the proposed solar generation facility. The Preliminary Geotechnical Assessment is included in **Appendix C**. The seismic analysis will be performed once the one hundred percent (100%) construction documents are complete.

7. Forests

   Pursuant to Natural Resources Article § 5-1602(b)(10), the Forest Conservation Act ("FCA") any public or private subdivision plan or application for a grading or sediment control permit by any person, including a unit of State or local

government on areas 40,000 square feet or greater. However, in 2023, Maryland enacted House Bill 723 (Chapter 541) and Senate Bill 526 (Chapter 542), which, among other provisions, exempt solar photovoltaic facilities from afforestation requirements under the FCA. This means that such facilities are not required to establish new forested areas on sites lacking sufficient tree cover.

Subsequently, in 2024, House Bill 1511 was passed, delaying the implementation of many provisions from the 2023 laws until July 1, 2026. However, the exemption for solar photovoltaic facilities from afforestation requirements was not postponed and took effect as initially planned on July 1, 2024. Therefore, as of July 1, 2024, solar photovoltaic facilities in Maryland are exempt from afforestation requirements under the FCA.

BL Companies has completed the necessary FSD which support these preliminary determinations. As part of the FSD field work, BL Companies identified one forest stand of mature coniferous forest dominated by Pinus species. However, there will be no impacts to the forest stand observed on-site.

Based on information provided by Worcester County, activities conducted on a single lot where less than 20,000 square feet of forest is disturbed are exempt from the Forest Conservation Law. Therefore, this Project is exempt from completing a forest conservation plan.

B. Noise and Vibration

1. Impacts of Noise During Construction

COMAR 26.02.03.02 requires that noise levels not exceed those listed in **Table 4**, except for construction or demolition activities for which the minimum allowable noise level is ninety (90) decibels ("dB") during the daytime. Piledriving equipment used between 8 AM and 5 PM is exempted from the limitations of COMAR 26.02.03.02, pursuant to subpart I(2)(j).

Table 4 – Maximum Allowable Noise

	Industrial	Commercial	Residential
Day	75	67	65
Night	75	62	55

Source: COMAR 26.02.03

Note: Day refers to the hours between 7 AM and 10 PM; Night refers to the hours between 10 PM and 7 AM.

Noise emissions generated from the proposed Project have been evaluated based on the proposed equipment expected to be utilized during construction of the solar facility. The highest potential for noise impacts during construction conditions may occur while equipment, specifically pile-driving, is in operation near to an adjacent landowner's property lines for solar array racking installations. Note that the distance from the solar array to adjacent, non-participating residence is greater than 220 feet at any given location. Using sound attenuation principles, the maximum allowable construction noise level of ninety (90) dB will be achieved at fifty (50) feet from the pile-driving equipment. The racking installation in this scenario will occur over a short duration and the distance to the Property line will increase for subsequent pile installations; this will result in decreased sound levels as the installations move from exterior to interior locations to produce minimal sound impacts to adjacent residences. Additional construction equipment will be used, and noise emissions will be significantly less than pile-driving equipment.

To address any potential sound emissions during temporary construction conditions, heavy equipment operation and solar array and equipment installations will be mitigated by workday and work hour limitations as to not impose a nuisance on adjacent properties. Construction noise impacts will be minimized and mitigated by requiring that all equipment be maintained in good operating condition and that all motors and engines be muffled in compliance with the Annotated Code of Maryland Transportation Article, § 22-402 and according to manufacturer's specifications. Pursuant to COMAR 26.02.03.02, pile-driving equipment will only be used between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM. Sound levels from construction activities are not anticipated to be higher than usual in this setting. Additional information pertaining to the noise management plan for the Project can be found in **Appendix L.**

2. Impacts of Noise During Operation

Noise emissions generated from the proposed solar development have been evaluated based on the proposed electrical equipment to be used during long-term solar facility operation. The proposed DC to AC inverters were determined to have the most potential for noise production during solar facility operation. In comparison to the inverters, the remaining PV electrical equipment and control systems are expected to have a lower sound emission and/or can be considered negligible, as measured at a distance to an adjacent residence, since they contribute significantly less or no additional sound emissions when relative to ambient noise conditions.

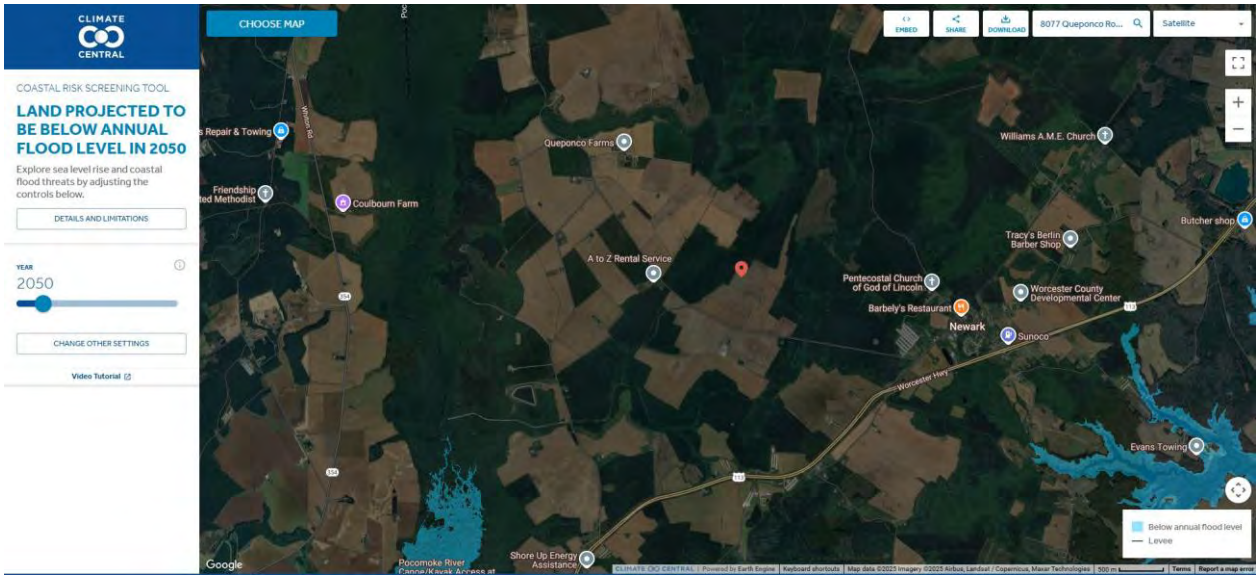
To achieve an inverter audible sound within the lowest allowance (65 dB), a buffer distance of at least forty (40) feet must be maintained to an adjacent residence; this distance was determined utilizing sound attenuation principles. The closest participating and non-participating residential reception areas to the equipment pad, which contains the inverters, is well over 500 feet away The equipment pad is centrally located and located as far away as feasible from residences and adjacent property lines. The Applicant utilized a conservative approach for this evaluation as this does not account for landcover type, foliage, topography, or proposed landscape screening, and solar module shielding which would also contribute to noise emission reduction due to the physical characteristics of the Site.

As the facility will be in a nonoperational status during nighttime hours and the ambient conditions are relatively quiet, the noise impacts from normal solar facility operations are considered negligible. Additional information pertaining to the noise management plan for the project can be found in **Appendix L.**

C. Sea Level Rise Projection

According to the Climate Control coastal risk screening tool, see **Figure 3** below, the Project area is not located on land projected to be below annual flood level in the year 2050. Therefore, sea level rise does not affect the Property, and no measures are indicated.

Figure 3 – Sea Level Rise Projection Map



D. Effects of Climate Change

Climate change may lead to higher average and extreme air temperature, more extreme temperature days annually, and an increase in both the frequency and intensity of severe storms, as a result, the Project has been designed accordingly. The proposed PV modules for the Project have temperature coefficients designed to be reduced only slightly as temperatures increase. Other proposed equipment present onsite is rated for much higher ambient temperature and is not anticipated to influence the overall system performance in extreme temperature scenarios. The system is designed to operate around dry bulb temperatures of seven (7) to ninety-seven (97) degrees Fahrenheit ("°F"), as defined by American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers ("ASHRAE") standards. With production adjustment factors, the inverters are designed to operate in a wider temperature range, tolerant of extreme temperatures. The Project will be designed to withstand snow and wind loads in accordance with the International Building Code ("IBC") 2021 in the event of extreme weather.

8.0 COMAR 20.79.03.04 SOCIOECONOMIC INFORMATION

A. General Information

1. Summary of Environmental and Socioeconomic Effects

The Applicant believes that neither construction nor operation of the Project will have an adverse environmental or socioeconomic impact.

a. Environmental Resources

The Project is extremely environmentally friendly. It is not located in the Critical Area and will not directly impact wetlands. The Project has been reviewed by MDE, who determined that wetlands will not be impacted as panels can avoid these areas. Accordingly, the Project design incorporates a twenty-five-foot (25') setback from wetland areas, with the exception of upgrading an existing access road that is situated within the regulated buffer. According to the Department of Natural Resources there are no rare, threatened, or endangered species onsite. In addition, there are no mapped floodplains in the area of the proposed Project **(Appendix K).** The Project's construction activities which would lead to additional impervious area will be minimal since the structures are built on pilings and there are very few paved areas to be created with the exception of the pads for inverters and switchgear.

b. Cultural Resources

The Applicant has communicated with MHT and received a response indicating "the undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties provided that the conditions outlined below or in the attached document are met" (see **Appendix F**).

CONDITIONS: As the parent properties contain a 20th farmstead, the following conditions shall be followed to avoid an adverse effect on historic properties - 1) No buildings or structures are removed, razed, demolished, altered, or impacted as part of this proposed work to construct this solar facility. 2) If the footprint, size, and/or MW output of this solar facility changes from that provided to MHT via

e106 on March 12, 2025, a new submission with the revised plans shall be provided to MHT for our review.

The Applicant confirms these conditions will be met.

2. Ability to Conform to Applicable Environmental Standards

The Project's design and construction will require review by state and local authorities through the CPCN process. The Project will also comply with various federal and state environmental regulatory requirements as applicable.

3. General Description of the Site and Adjacent Areas

a. Geology/Soils

The Site is outside the Critical Area and contains soils which have a slow infiltration rate when thoroughly wet. The principal soil components on this Site consists of Othello silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, which accounts for approximately sixty-six percent (66%) of the total property and Kentuck silt loam which accounts for approximately twenty-six percent (26%) of the total property

The presence of these silt loam soils is suitable for achieving drainage requirements, meeting State Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) requirements for stormwater management, and for the needed compaction relating to other improvements associated with roads, inverter pads, switchgear, etc. The full geotechnical report can be found in **Appendix C**.

b. Steep Slopes

There will be grading in areas for the access road, equipment pad, and within the solar array field to accommodate required slopes for non-rooftop disconnection credit. The internal solar array aisle ways and the perimeter drive aisle, for maintenance and emergency vehicles, will be meadow cover.

Slopes and grades within the proposed LOC fall within the range of flat (0%) to two percent (2%), which complies with the non-rooftop disconnection credit. Areas with slopes in excess of twenty-five percent (25%) have been avoided as part of this development.

A sediment and erosion control plan will be prepared and submitted as part of the local County review and approval process. This plan will identify proposed work areas, acreage that can be open at one time, and stabilization requirements.

c. Flora Resources

The Project will not impact flora resources.

d. Fauna Resources

The Project will not impact fauna resources.

e. Implementation Schedule for the Project

The Project schedule includes the approximate implementation dates as shown in **Section 5.0.K**.

B. Lighting

Although there are no lighting requirements for the Project, the Applicant may consider minimal lighting for security considerations, or as required through the CPCN review process.

C. Glare Analysis

PV panels by design absorb ninety-eight percent (98%) of light, reflecting as little as two percent (2%) of sunlight, the same amount of reflection observed off still water, and are covered in an anti-reflective coating to prevent any potential for glare. The Applicant utilized the ForgeSolar PV Planning and Glare Analysis tool and the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") 2013 Policy Adherence component (FAA Notice Criteria Tool), to conduct a desktop glint and glare analysis of the proposed solar generation facility. Based on the ForgeSolar report results, there will be no glint or glare produced by the proposed solar facility. The Applicant consulted the FAA and MAA for its review of potential glare impacts associated with the Project. Based on review of both resources, no further coordination was required. The Project is not located near any major airports. The FAA and MAA assessments are included in **Appendix I** and the Glare analysis results are included in **Appendix J**.

D. Fencing and Buffering

The Project will be enclosed and protected by a minimum six (6') foot tall security fence. In addition to the fencing surrounding the whole system, additional screening buffers, as required, will be implemented around portions of the solar array, ingress and egress areas, and all adjacent roadways and residential properties that do not have natural tree lines or vegetation screening from the subject parcel.

E. Vegetating Stabilization

Turf style grasses that are conducive to growing in partial shade, so that vegetation can be maintained beneath and around the arrays, will be indigenous to the area and those typically recommended for use by Worcester County SCD. This will also include a type and seed mix that provides low growth and low maintenance.

F. Public Safety and Transportation Impacts

1. Transportation During Construction

Major material and equipment will be delivered by tractor-trailers and offloaded by construction vehicles (lulls, tracked vehicles, and front-loading equipment). A staging area will be utilized for unloading equipment and materials. Daily construction traffic will include cars, pickup trucks, and other personnel vehicles. Excavation and other equipment will be utilized during construction of the Project, which may include dump trucks, trenching equipment, concrete trucks, front loaders, backhoes, post installation equipment, excavators, and other equipment. Staging and stockpile areas will be designated on the site plan.

In addition, the Applicant will take photographs of the affected roads prior to the start of construction and repair any unexpected damage as a result. Proposed construction traffic will utilize the proposed 20' gravel access road.

2. Transportation During Operation

There will be limited traffic to and from the solar array during operation. Traffic will mostly be limited to maintenance crews for mowing and vegetation maintenance. During vegetative growing season, monthly vegetative maintenance would be performed. Quarterly to yearly maintenance of the solar array

components will be necessary, along with site visits for any operational issues that may arise during normal operation.

3. Dust Control

During construction, dust may be produced from non-point sources such as earthwork and construction traffic on unpaved roads. This type of dust is described as fugitive dust. Fugitive dust is expected to be less than normal construction since this Project will not require excessive earthwork activities. Some water may be necessary for dust control during construction. If water is needed to control dust, bulk water services can be used.

4. Radiofrequency and Thermal Impacts

There are no anticipated radiofrequency or thermal impacts to communications systems or military operations.

G. Effects on Local Economy

See **Section 2.0** for a statement of the Project's need and purpose. This section of the ERD describes the significant economic benefits to the local economy during the design, construction, and operation phases of the Project.

9.0 COMAR 20.79.03.05 EJSCREEN REPORTS

Under COMAR 20.79.01.06M and COMAR 20.79.03.06, this requirement only applies to "qualifying generating stations," which are fossil fuel generating stations having a capacity over 70 MW. The proposed solar Project is not a "qualifying generating station" and the requirement under COMAR 20.79.03.06 does not apply. Additionally, this is not applicable per COMAR 20.79.01.06 L.

CPCN PROCESS

Sections 7-207 and 7-208

Public Utilities Article

WHEN IS A CPCN REQUIRED?

In Maryland, a person may not begin construction of a generating station, a qualified lead line, an overhead transmission line designed to carry more than 69 kV, or a qualified submerged renewable energy line, or exercise a right of condemnation associated with the construction of a generating station or transmission line without approval of the MD PSC.

A generating station exempt from the CPCN requirement still requires MD PSC approval to begin construction.

EXEMPT FROM CONSTRUCTION APPROVAL AND CPCN REQUIREMENT

- Generation capacity less than or equal to 2 MW

CPCN EXEMPTION WITH APPROVAL

- On-site generation capacity of more than 2 MW (up to 25 MW) and at least 10% of generated electricity is consumed on site
- On-site generation capacity (not exceeding 70 MW) and at least 80% is consumed on site
- Land-based wind generation capacity (not exceeding 70 MW)

CPCN Procedure

- Applicant files application
  - The Commission does not have a form for a CPCN application
  - The regulations governing CPCN applications and the details of the filing requirement are set forth in COMAR 20.79
  - The filing fee for a CPCN application is $10,000. Check is made payable to the "Maryland Public Service Commission"
- Applicant is required to provide notice of the filing of the application (and in certain instances a copy of the application) to:
  - certain State and federal agencies;
  - governing bodies of county or municipal corporation
    - (a) in which the project will be constructed or
    - (b) within 1 mile of the project location; and
  - General Assembly members representing any part of a county
    - (a) in which the project will be constructed or
    - (b) within 1 mile of the project location
  - each owner of land and each owner of adjacent land when the application requests a CPCN for an overhead transmission line
- The Commission posts notice of an application on its website and on its Facebook and Twitter accounts

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Commission initiates a proceeding to consider the application
  - The Commission may conduct the proceedings en banc or by a panel (3 Commissioners or 2 Commissioners and a Public Utility Law Judge)
  - The Commission may delegate to a Public Utility Law Judge to conduct the proceedings

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- A Notice of Pre-hearing Conference is issued that has the date, time, and location of the conference as well as the date Petitions to Intervene are due
- Applicant is required to publish the Notice in a newpaper(s) of general circulation in the county and/or municipal corporation in which the facility is to be located
- The Notice is published on the Commission's website on date of issuance

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Statutory Parties to Proceeding
  - Power Plant Research Program (Dept. of Natural Resources) – coordinates the testimony and positions of all affected state agencies; considered expert witness for environmental, economic, and esthetic analysis
  - Maryland Office of People's Counsel, the residential ratepayer advocate
  - Technical Staff of MD PSC – primarily addresses reliability and stability of electric grid

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Pre-hearing conference
  - PPRP will indicate if application is complete
  - A procedural schedule is agreed upon, including setting the dates when pre-filed testimony is due from each party and a date(s) for an evidentiary hearing, and the number and timing of public comment hearing(s) is discussed
  - Notice of Procedural Schedule is issued

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Public Hearing for Comment
  - At least one hearing for public comment is held **at a location in close proximity to the proposed location (if available).**
  - Written comments also may be filed with the Commission.
  - The governing body of the county or municipal corporation in which the project is proposed to be located is invited to join the Commission or Public Utility Law Judge in conducting the public hearing.

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- NOTIFICATIONS OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING
  - Notice of Public Hearing with the dates, times, and locations is issued by the Commission.
  - Applicant must publish the Notice in a newspaper(s) of general circulation and post on two types of social media in each of four successive weeks immediately before the hearing date
  - The Notice also is posted on the MD PSC website as well as on the MD PSC Facebook and Twitter accounts
  - MD PSC website has a list of all public hearings being held in each active CPCN matter with link to the electronic docket which has pleadings filed by the parties (www.psc.state.md.us/public-comment-hearings/)
  - MD PSC coordinates with the governing body of the county or municipal corporation for an efficient and cost-effective means to provide notice to the public hearing through other types of media familiar to the residents in the county or municipal corporation
  - On day of the hearing, the Applicant must post an informational sign about the hearing at or near each public entrance of the building in which the hearing will be held

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Conduct of a Public Hearing
  - Either the Commission or a Public Utility Law Judge presides at the hearing
  - A court reporter is present and a transcript of the hearing is prepared
  - Representatives of Applicant, OPC, and Staff are present in the event any member of the public has a substantive question about the project
  - The Commission or Public Utility Law Judge is present to listen to the comments. The Commission or Public Utility Law Judge do not respond to substantive questions about the project or proceeding because they must render an impartial decision after considering all the written or oral evidence presented at the evidentiary hearing
  - The Applicant may be given a limited amount of time to describe the project prior to public comments being taken
  - Each member of the public who wishes to make a comment will come to the microphone when called and present an oral statement. A time limitation may be placed on the length of the comment based on the number of persons wishing to comment
  - After all members of the public have had an opportunity to comment, the hearing is adjourned

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- Evidentiary Hearing
  - Typically held at the Commission's Baltimore offices
  - Only parties of record participate, but public may attend and watch the proceedings
  - Witnesses are called and each party and the presiding officer are able to cross-examine the witnesses

CPCN Procedure, cont'd

- After the evidentiary hearing, a briefing schedule may be directed.
- If before a Public Utility Law Judge, the Judge issues a proposed order, which may be appealed to the Commission by a party for a review of an issue(s) – generally a 30-day appeal period. The Commission may, on its own motion, initiate a further proceeding or modify the proposed order.
  - If an appeal is taken of the proposed order, the Commission issues the final Order.
  - If no appeal is taken of a proposed order, it becomes a final Order of the Commission.
- If the matter is before the Commission, it issues a final Order
- Any party, other than the MD PSC Staff, or person in interest that is dissatisfied with the final Order may seek judicial review of the Order in the Circuit Court of Baltimore City or any county in which the applicant operates.

www.psc.state.md.us

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DALLAS BAKER JR., P.E.
DIRECTOR

Worcester County
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
6113 TIMMONS ROAD
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

CHRISTOPHER CLASING, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: **Weston Young P.E., Chief Administrative Officer**
Candace Savage, CGFM, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: **Dallas Baker Jr., P.E., Director**
DATE: **May 28, 2025**
SUBJECT: **Additional Funding for Lewis Road Sewer Project**

Public Works is requesting Commissioner review and approval of USDA's attached additional funding offer for the Lewis Road Sewer Project. The additional funding from USDA includes $1,855,000 in grant and $618,000 in loan. The terms of the loan are 40 years at 2.5% interest. With the acceptance of additional funding, sufficient money will be available to cover the construction of the sewer, construction administration and inspection services for a total project cost of $4,498,000.00. Below is a breakdown of the previously approved and current proposed funding:

$1,518,000.00 – Approved USDA Grant (2021)
$507,000.00 – Approved ARPA Grant (County match to 2021 USDA grant)
$1,855,000.00 – Proposed USDA Grant (2025)
$618,000.00 – Proposed USDA Loan (2025)
$4,498,000.00 – Total Available Funding

Project expenses are as follows:

$117,501.57 – Design, Bidding, and Construction Administration Services
$176,800.00 – Construction Inspection Services
$150,000.00 – Extension of 3-Phase Power to Pump Station Site
$3,860,000.00 – Construction Costs
$193,698.43 – Contingency
$4,498,000.00 – Project Cost

Lewis Road has 60 EDUs allocated to the area, splitting the loan repayments between each EDU will result in a Debt Service Charge of approximately $105 per EDU per quarter, for 40 years. If the Commissioners choose this option, the Public Works Article requires that a public hearing be held in order to levy this charge against the residents in this service area. When this project was initially proposed and estimated to cost significantly less, residents were advised that they would not be responsible for any construction costs.

The Commissioners could waive the repayment of the loan and cover it through a County provided grant, similar to the ARPA grant which was used as the County match to the 2021 USDA grant. To be clear, USDA requires the County accept the additional funding as a loan and grant package. The County can choose who makes the repayment to USDA for the loan portion.

Environmental Programs advises that federal funding for this project was counted as a match for the Whole Watershed grant that Maryland Coastal Bays recently received along with their local partners, including Worcester County. If the Lewis Road project is cancelled, it jeopardizes over $3.5 million in funding opportunities for flood resiliency, stormwater, and shoreline restoration projects within the entire Newport Bay watershed.

If the Commissioners choose to move forward with accepting the additional USDA funding, the attached paperwork must be completed and returned as soon as possible to enable USDA to begin preparing the necessary paperwork on their end. Additional paperwork will be sent from USDA as part of the closing process. USDA will need confirmation of a bond counsel selection, a bond counsel services engagement letter, and draft bond documents. The draft bond documents will need to include a copy of the draft bond, draft bond ordinance, and draft bond counsel opinion. USDA will also need confirmation from the County that $618,000 is set aside and available for the County to self-fund that amount of the construction cost. This amount must be expended after the County's ARPA funding is expended. Once the USDA loan closes, the County will be reimbursed by the USDA loan proceeds.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Attachments

CC: Roscoe Leslie
Quinn Dittrich
Chris Clasing
Tony Fascelli
Robert Mitchell

United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Development

Delaware – Maryland State Office

1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200 Dover, DE 19904

Voice 302.857.3628

May 27, 2025

Mr. Roscoe R. Leslie
County Attorney
County Commissions of Worcester County
County Government Center, Room 1103
Snow Hill, MD. 21863

SUBJECT: Amended Letter of Conditions
County Commissioners of Worcester County
Lewis Road Sewer Extension
CFDA NUMBER – 10.760 – Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities

Applicant Contribution: $ 507,000
Agency Grant (previous): $ 1,518,000
Agency Loan (new): $ 618,000
Agency Grant (new): $ 1,855,000

Dear Mr. Leslie:

This letter supplements and supersedes, to the extent of conflicting requirements, the Letter of Conditions issued to you on July 12, 2021. The Conditions of this letter must be understood and agreed to by you before further consideration may be given to the application for the above project. This letter is being revised to include subsequent funding for cost overruns.

The loan and grants will be administered on behalf of the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) by the State and Area staff of USDA Rural Development (RD), both of which are referred to throughout this letter as the Agency.

Any changes in project cost, source of funds, scope of project, or any other significant changes in the project or applicant must be reported to and concurred with by the Agency by written amendment to this letter. This includes any significant changes in the Applicant's financial condition, operation, organizational structure or executive leadership. Any changes made without Agency concurrence shall be cause for discontinuing processing of the application.

This letter does not constitute loan and grant approval, nor does it ensure that funds are or will be available for the project. The new funding is being processed on the basis of a loan not to exceed $618,000 and grant not to exceed $1,855,000.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

The new loan and grant will be considered approved on the date Form RD 1940-1, "Request for Obligation of Funds" is signed by the Agency approval official.

The applicant will ensure projects are completed in a timely, efficient, and economical manner. You must meet all conditions set forth under Section III – Requirements Prior to Advertising for Bids within 1 year of this letter.

If you do not meet the conditions of this letter, the Agency reserves the right to withdraw Agency funding.

If you agree to meet the conditions set forth in this letter and desire further consideration be given to your application, please execute and return the following forms within 2 days:

Form RD 1942-46, "Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions"
Form RD 1940-1, "Request for Obligation of Funds"

All parties may access information and regulations referenced in this letter at our website located at: Water and Environmental Programs | Rural Development (usda.gov)

The conditions are as follows:

SECTION I - PROJECT SCOPE

1. Project Description – Funds will be used to fund the Lewis Road Sewer Extension project.

Facilities will be designed and constructed in accordance with sound engineering practices and must meet the requirements of Federal, State, and local agencies. The proposed facility design must be based on the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), prepared by Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc. dated November 2020, and the December 2024 plans and specifications prepared by EA Engineering, Inc., as concurred with by the Agency.

2. Project Funding – The Agency is offering the following funding for your project:

New Agency Loan -	$ 618,000
New Agency Grant -	$ 1,855,000

This offer is based upon the following additional funding being obtained.

Applicant Contribution: $ 507,000
USDA Grant (previous): $1,518,000

TOTAL PROJECT COST : $ 4,498,000

Any changes in funding sources following obligation of Agency funds must be reported to the processing official. Prior to loan closing, any increase in non-Agency funding will be applied first as a reduction to Agency grant funds, up to the total amount of the grant, and then as a reduction to Agency loan funds.

The applicant must certify that they have exhausted all other funding avenues and have no pending funding considerations from any other sources. Further, the applicant must certify that they do not intend to apply anywhere else for funding for this project. If, after obligation of Agency funds, other funding becomes available, the Agency reserves the right to deobligate any, and all funding for this project and to re-underwrite. This may result in the offering of a different funding package to for this project.

Prior to advertisement for construction bids, you must provide evidence of applicant contributions and other funding sources. This evidence should include a copy of the commitment letter. Agency funds will not be used to pre-finance funds committed to the project from other sources.

3. Project Budget – Funding from all sources has been budgeted for the estimated expenditures as follows:

Project Costs:	**Total Budgeted:**
Development	$3,860,000
Contingency	$193,698
Engineering Fees	
Includes:	
Design	$93,914
Construction Administration	$23,588
Resident Project Representation (Inspection)	$176,800
Delmarva Power	$150,000
TOTAL	$4,498,000

Project feasibility and funding will be reassessed if there is a significant change in project costs after bids are received. **Obligated loan and/or grant funds not needed to complete the proposed project defined in the Project Scope will be deobligated. Any reduction will be applied to Agency grant funds first. Project Costs also include Contingency funds, which are to only be used to cover unexpected costs within the scope of the approved project and not expand the scope of the project if funds remain at completion.** If actual project costs exceed the project cost estimates, an additional contribution by the Owner may be necessary. An "Amended Letter of Conditions" will be issued for any significant changes to the total project budget.

4. Project Timeline – To ensure that the project proceeds in a timely manner, key processing milestones have been established in accordance with the PER or other Agency approved documentation. **Project should be completed and all Agency funds fully disbursed within three years of obligation.**

By accepting the terms outlined herein, you agree to adhere to the milestones specified below. If one or more of the milestones cannot be met, you must submit a written extension request to the Agency 30 days in advance, or no less than 10 calendar days before the referenced date.

Should your final payment date extend beyond three years from the obligation date, a written request must be submitted following the procedures outlined in Section VI of this letter, with a minimum of 90 days' notice before the benchmark date. The request must provide valid justification for the delay and include a revised project completion schedule. If the Agency concurs with the modification, written confirmation will be provided. The Agency reserves the right to de-obligate loan and/or grant funds, or take other appropriate action, if the established or amended deadlines are not met.

Milestone	**Date**
Award Contract(s)/Initiate Construction	June 2025
Substantial Completion	February 2026
Final Completion	April 2027

SECTION II – RATES & TERMS

5. Interest Rates and Loan Terms – The interest rate will be the lower of the rate in effect at the time of loan approval or the time of loan closing, unless you request otherwise. Should the interest rate be reduced, the payment will be recalculated to the lower amount. The payment due date will be established as the day that the loan closes.

Your loan will be scheduled for repayment over a period of 40 years. Payments will be equal quarterly amortized installments, beginning three months after closing. For planning purposes, use a 2.500% interest rate which provides for a quarterly payment of $6,125. The precise payment amount will be based on the interest rate at which the loan is closed and may be different than the one above.

6. Security – The loan will be secured by a General Obligation bond with first lien position in the amount of $618,000. The bond will be fully registered as to both principal and interest in the name of the "United States of America, Acting through the United States Department of Agriculture." Bond Counsel will be utilized in preparation of these documents.

The bond and any ordinance or resolution relating thereto must not contain any provision in conflict with the Agency Loan Resolution, applicable regulations, or associated laws. There

must be no defeasance or refinancing clause in conflict with the graduation requirements of 7 U.S.C. 1983. Additional security requirements are contained in RUS Bulletin 1780-27, "Loan Resolution (Public Bodies) and/or RUS Bulletin 1780-12, "Water and Waste System Grant Agreement". A draft of all security instruments, including draft bond resolution, must be reviewed and concurred by the Agency prior to advertising for bids. Bond/loan resolutions must be duly adopted and executed prior to loan closing. The recipient may not transfer, sell or encumber the facility without Agency approval.

The Grant Agreement will be executed prior to the first disbursement of grant funds. The grantee understands that any property acquired or improved with Federal grant funds may have use and disposition conditions which apply to the property as provided by 2 CFR part 200 in effect at this time and as may be subsequently modified. The grantee understands that any sale or transfer of property is subject to the interest of the United States Government in the market value in proportion to its participation in the project.

The Agency must review and concur in a draft of all security instruments prior to advertising for bids. The Loan Resolution must be duly adopted and executed prior to loan closing or the start of construction, whichever occurs first.

7. Reserves – Reserves must be properly budgeted and set aside to maintain the financial viability and sustainability of any operation. Reserves are important to fund unanticipated emergency repairs, to assist with debt service should the need arise, and for the replacement of assets which have a useful life less than the repayment period of the loan. The following reserves are required to be established as a condition of this loan:

a. **Short-Lived Asset Reserve** – You must establish a short-lived asset reserve fund for assets expected to require replacement within 15 years. You must deposit funds into the short-lived asset reserve fund annually for the life of the loan to pay for repairs and/or replacement of major system assets. It is your responsibility to regularly assess your facility's short-lived asset needs, adjust amounts deposited accordingly, and notify the agency of any changes.
b. **O&M Reserve** –Current assets can also be used to establish and maintain reserves for expected expenses, including but not limited to operation and maintenance, deferred interest during the construction period, and an asset management program. We recommend that the County establish a rate structure which provides revenue in excess of operational cost to allow the buildup of a 25% set aside for cash flow. This should be based on annual operating expense.

SECTION III –REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO ADVERTISING FOR BIDS

8. Organization – The Bond Counsel transcripts of proceedings must show that your organization is a duly incorporated public body and has continued legal existence. Your

organization must have the authority to own, construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facility, as well as for borrowing money, pledging security and raising revenues.

9. Suspension and Debarment Screening – You will be asked to provide information on the principals of your organization. Agency staff must conduct screening for suspension and debarment of the entity, as well as its principals through the Do Not Pay Portal.

Principal –

i. An officer, director, owner, partner, principal investigator, or other person within a participant with management or supervisory responsibilities related to a covered transaction; or
ii. A consultant or other person, whether or not employed by the participant or paid with federal funds, who –
    1. Is in a position to handle federal funds;
    2. Is in a position to influence or control the use of those funds; or,
    3. Occupies a technical or professional position capable of substantially influencing the development or outcome of an activity required to perform the covered transaction. (2 CFR §180.995)

If the Agency staff is unable to confirm if any of the matches belong to the principal, the staff will request the Social Security Number (SSN), or at a minimum the last four digits of the SSN, to determine if the principal is suspended or debarred.

10. Uniform Guidance Procurement Standards Requirements - In accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, you must adopt and follow a procurement policy that follows the Uniform Guidance and implement internal control processes and procedures to ensure compliance with the adopted policy. (2 CFR §200.318)

11. Environmental Requirements –At the conclusion of the proposal's environmental review process, specific action(s) were determined necessary to avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts. The following actions are required for successful completion of the project and must be adhered to during and after construction:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) regulation 50 CFR § 402.12(e) and guidance indicate that the official species list provided through IPaC is only valid for 90 days. When the date of the species list surpasses 90 days, new IPaC reports are required to be generated prior to obligation, and again within 90 days of the start of construction. The individual who initially generated this report should be able to update their initial IPaC request using their IPaC account. Guidance for how to update the IPaC is located on the FWS FAQ webpage under "How do I update an official species list using IPaC?" If this individual is unable to access their original submission, they will need to create a new IPaC request. Please forward the updated IPaC reports to the Agency for further evaluation ahead of these two project milestones. If new threatened or endangered species, or proposed threatened or endangered species, are listed in IPaC, the Agency will

determine if additional consultation or additional environmental requirements are required.

Formally Classified Land: The MD Critical Area Commission Consistency Report dated 12/15/2022, for the new pumping station site, requires mitigation for land clearing of a .1289 ac lot. This is to minimize the impact to forest interior dwelling bird habitat. The mitigation will consist of planting adjacent to the existing habitat.

The project, as proposed, has been evaluated to be consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act. Other Federal, State, tribal, and local laws, regulations and/or permits may apply or be required. If the project or any project element deviates from or is modified from the originally approved project, additional environmental review may be required.

12. Engineering Services – You have been required to complete an Agreement for Engineering Services, which should consist of the Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee (EJCDC) documents as indicated in RUS Bulletin 1780-26, "Guidance for the Use of EJCDC Documents on Water and Waste Projects with RUS Financial Assistance," or other approved form of agreement. The Agency will provide concurrence prior to advertising for bids and must approve any modifications to this agreement.

13. Contract Documents, Final Plans, and Specifications- All development will be completed by contract in accordance with applicable provisions of RUS Instruction 1780, Subpart C – Planning, Designing, Bidding, Contracting, Constructing and Inspections, (copy available upon request), and in compliance with all statutory requirements. You are responsible to share this with your engineer before pre-design.

a. The plans and specifications and all proposals required by law must be approved by the Maryland Department of the Environment.

b. In preparing final design and providing service to the planned project area, you and your engineer will comply with all zoning and planning requirements of the appropriate governing bodies where service is to be provided.

c. The Agency will need to concur in the plans and specifications prior to advertising for bids. The Agency may require an updated cost estimate if a significant amount of time has elapsed between the original project cost estimate and advertising for bids.

d. The use of any procurement method other than competitive sealed bids must be requested in writing and approved by the Agency.

e. The contract documents must consist of the EJCDC construction contract documents as indicated in RUS Bulletin 1780-26 or other Agency-approved forms of agreement.

14. <u>Build America, Buy America (BABA) Requirements</u>- Recipients of an award of Federal financial assistance from a program for infrastructure are hereby notified that none of the funds provided under this award may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

a. all iron and steel permanently installed in the project are produced in the United States--this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;

b. all manufactured products permanently installed in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation; and

c. all construction materials permanently installed are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States.

The BABA requirement applies to the entirety of an infrastructure project even if only a portion of the project is funded by Federal funds.

The Buy America preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

Waivers
When necessary, recipients may apply for, and the agency may grant, a waiver from these requirements. The agency should notify the recipient for information on the process for requesting a waiver from these requirements.

When the Federal agency has made a determination that one of the following exceptions applies, the awarding official may waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference in any case in which the agency determines that:

a. applying the domestic content procurement preference would be inconsistent with the public interest;

b. the types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or

c. the inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

A request to waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference must be in writing. The agency will provide instructions on the format, contents, and supporting materials required for any waiver request. Waiver requests are subject to public comment periods of no less than 15 days and must be reviewed by the Made in America Office.

Definitions
"Construction materials" includes an article, material, or supply—other than an item of primarily iron or steel; a manufactured product; cement and cementitious materials; aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel; or aggregate binding agents or additives—that is or consists primarily of:

- non-ferrous metals;
- plastic and polymer-based products (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables);
- glass (including optic glass);
- lumber; or
- drywall.

"Domestic content procurement preference'' means all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States; the manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States; or the construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States.

"Infrastructure" includes, at a minimum, the structures, facilities, and equipment for, in the United States, roads, highways, and bridges; public transportation; dams, ports, harbors, and other maritime facilities; intercity passenger and freight railroads; freight and intermodal facilities; airports; water systems, including drinking water and wastewater systems; electrical transmission facilities and systems; utilities; broadband infrastructure; and buildings and real property. Infrastructure includes facilities that generate, transport, and distribute energy.

''Project'' means the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States.

Owners are ultimately responsible for compliance with the evidence standards as outlined in the Build America Buy America (BABA) Appendix to this Letter. Owners are required to maintain records as specified in their loan or grant agreement, but in all cases, they should maintain records for a minimum of three years after the final expenditure report. Minimum records include certifications from manufacturers, the architect/engineer, and the prime contractor. Supporting documentation includes purchasing records and notes and photos taken by the

Resident Project Representative (RPR). Further guidance regarding certifications will be provided by the Agency.

15. Legal Services –A legal services agreement is required with your attorney and bond counsel, if applicable, for any legal work needed in connection with this project. The agreement should stipulate an hourly rate for the work, with a "not to exceed" amount for the services, including reimbursable expenses. RUS Bulletin 1780-7, "Legal Services Agreement," or similar format may be used. The Agency will provide concurrence prior to advertising for bids. Any changes to the fees or services spelled out in the original agreement must be reflected in an amendment to the agreement and have prior Agency concurrence.

16. Property Rights - Prior to advertising for bids, you and your legal counsel must furnish satisfactory evidence that you have adequate continuous and valid control over the lands and rights-of-way needed for the project. Acquisitions of necessary land and rights must be accomplished in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act. Such control over the lands and rights will be evidenced by the following:

a. **Right-of-Way Map** – Your engineer will provide a map clearly showing the location of all lands and rights-of-way needed for the project. The map must designate public and private lands and rights and the appropriate legal ownership thereof.

b. **Form RD 442-20, "Right-of-Way Easement"** – This form, or similar format, may be used to obtain any necessary easements for the proposed project.

c. **Form RD 442-21, "Right-of-Way Certificate"** – You will provide a certification on this form that all right-of-way requirements have been obtained for the proposed project.

d. **Form RD 442-22, "Opinion of Counsel Relative to Rights-of-Way"** – Your attorney will provide a certification and legal opinion on this form addressing rights-of-way, easements, and title.

e. Preliminary Title Work (Title Opinion) – When applicable, your attorney or title company will provide a preliminary title opinion for any property related to the facility, currently owned and to be acquired, along with copies of deeds, contracts or options for purchasing said property. Form RD 1927-9, "Preliminary Title Opinion," may be used.

The approving official may waive title defects or restrictions, such as utility easements, that do not adversely affect the suitability, successful operation, security value, or transferability of the facility. Any such waivers must be provided by the approving official in writing prior to closing or the start of construction, whichever occurs first.

You are responsible for the acquisition of all property rights necessary for the project and for determining that prices paid are reasonable and fair. The Agency may require an appraisal by an independent appraiser or Agency employee in order to validate the price to be paid.

17. System Policies, Procedures, Contracts, and Agreements – The facility must be operated on a sound business plan which involves adopting policies, procedures, and/or ordinances outlining the conditions of service and use of the proposed system. Mandatory connection policies should be used where enforceable. The policies, procedures, and/or ordinances must contain an effective collection policy for accounts not paid in full within a specified number of days after the date of billing. They should include appropriate late fees, specified timeframes for disconnection of service, and reconnection fees. A draft of these policies, procedures, and/or ordinances must be submitted for Agency review and concurrence, along with the documents below, before closing instructions may be issued unless otherwise stated.

a. **Conflict of Interest Policy** – Prior to obligation of funds, you must certify in writing that your organization has in place up-to-date written standards of conduct covering conflict of interest. The standards of conduct must include disciplinary actions in the event of a violation by officers, employees, or agents of the borrower. The standards identified herein apply to any parent, affiliate or subsidiary organization of the borrower that is not a state or local government, or Indian Tribe. Policies and accompanying documents shall be furnished to Rural Development upon request.

   You must also submit a disclosure of planned or potential transactions related to the use of Federal funds that may constitute or present the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest. Disclosure must be in the form of a written letter signed and dated by the applicant's official. A negative disclosure in the same format is required if no conflicts are anticipated.

   Sample conflict of interest policies may be found at the National Council of Nonprofits website, https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools-resources/conflict-of-interest, or in Internal Revenue Service Form 1023, Appendix A, "Sample Conflict of Interest Policy," at http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1023.pdf. Though these examples reference non-profit corporations, the requirement applies to all types of Agency borrowers.

   Assistance in developing a conflict of interest policy is available through Agency-contracted technical assistance providers if desired.

Fully executed copies of any policies, procedures, ordinances, contracts, or agreements above must be submitted prior to loan closing, with the exception of the conflict of interest policy, which must be in place prior to obligation of funds.

18. Closing Instructions – The Agency will prepare closing instructions as soon as the requirements of the previous paragraphs are complete, as well as a draft of the security

instrument(s). Both your bond and legal counsel must comply with these instructions when closing the Agency loan/grant.

19. System Users – This letter of conditions is based upon your indication at application that there will be at least 46 residential users and 3 non-residential users added from Lewis Road to the Landings facility when construction is completed. The Landings service area currently has 264 connections, one being the clubhouse.

Before the Agency can agree to the project being advertised for construction bids, you must certify that the number of users indicated at application are currently using the system or signed up to use the system once it is operational.

If the actual number of existing and/or proposed users that have signed up for service is less than the number indicated at the time of application, you must provide the Agency with a written plan on how you will obtain the necessary revenue to adequately cash flow the expected operation, maintenance, debt service, and reserve requirements of the proposed project (e.g., increase user rates, sign up an adequate number of other users, reduce project scope, etc.). Similar action is required if there is cause to modify the anticipated flows or volumes presented following approval.

If you are relying on mandatory connection requirements, you must provide evidence of the authorizing ordinance or statute along with your user certification.

20. Construction Account – A separate construction account is not required for project funds. However, the recipient must be able to separately identify, report and account for all Federal funds, including the receipt, obligation and expenditure of funds, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.305. These funds must be deposited in a bank with Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance coverage. **If the balances at the financial institution where federal funds will be deposited exceeds the FDIC insurance coverage, the excess amount must be collaterally secured up to 100 percent of the highest amount of funds expected to be deposited in the account at any one time, per the Department of Treasury regulations and requirements.**

21. Interim Financing – The Agency's policy is to utilize interim financing for all loans exceeding $500,000. Prepayment penalties on interim financing are not allowed. Borrowers are required to seek interim financing initially from private or cooperative lenders if funds can be borrowed at reasonable interest rates on an interim basis from those sources for the construction period. The fact that a commercial lender's rates are higher than current Agency interest rates does not necessarily mean that the commercial rate is not reasonable. In most cases, the borrower is issuing payment to the interim lender, and therefore, the borrower is responsible for the debarment and suspension screening of the interim lender.

22. Proposed Operating Budget – You must establish and/or maintain a rate schedule that provides adequate income to meet the minimum requirements for operation and maintenance (O

& M), debt service, and reserves. Prior to advertising for bids, you must submit a proposed annual operating budget to the Agency, as well as your proposed rate schedule. The operating budget should be based on a typical year cash flow after completion of the construction phase and should be signed by the appropriate official of your organization. Form RD 442-7, "Operating Budget," or similar format may be utilized for this purpose. It is expected that O & M expenses will change over each successive year and user rates will need to be adjusted on a regular basis.

Technical assistance is available at no cost to help you evaluate and complete a rate analysis on your system. This assistance is available free to your organization. If you are interested, please contact our office for information.

23. Permits –The owner or responsible party will be required to obtain all applicable permits for the project, prior to advertising for bids. The consulting engineer must submit written evidence that all applicable permits required prior to construction have been obtained with submission to the Agency of the final plans, specifications, and bid documents.

24. Risk and Resilience Assessment/Emergency Response Plan (RRA/ERP) –The Agency requires all financed water and wastewater systems to have a RRA/ERP in place. New water or wastewater systems must provide a certification that an ERP is complete prior to the start of operation, and a certification that a RRA is completed within one year of the start of operation (substantial completion) and ERP certification is due six months from the date of the RRA certification. Technical assistance is available in preparing these documents at no cost to you.

Before funds are drawn, you should have in place a cybersecurity plan, a supply chain plan, and a plan to comply with cybersecurity requirements of the National Institute of Science and Technology and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Administration. These items should be addressed in the RRA/ERP.

The RRA/ERP documents themselves are not submitted to the Agency. The RRA/ERP must address potential impacts from natural disasters and other emergency events. It should include plans to address impacts of flash flooding in areas where severe drought or wildfires occur. The documents should be reviewed and updated every three years at a minimum.

25. Bid Authorization - Once all the conditions outlined in Section III of this letter have been met, the Agency will authorize you to advertise the project for construction bids. Such advertisement must be in accordance with applicable State statutes.

SECTION IV - REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION

26. Disbursement of Agency Funds - Agency funds will be disbursed electronically into the construction account as they are needed. SF 3881, "ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form," must be completed and submitted to the Agency prior to commencement of construction.

The order of disbursement is as follows: 1) Applicant contribution, 2) other funding sources, 3) interim financing or Agency loan funds, and 4) Agency grant funds. Interim financing or Agency loan funds will be expended after all other funding sources unless a written agreement is reached with all other funding sources on how funds are to be disbursed prior the first disbursement. Interim financing funds or Agency loan funds must be used prior to the use of Agency grant funds. Agency Grant funds must not be disbursed prior to loan funds except as authorized in 7 CFR 1780.45(d).

Grant funds are to be deposited in an interest-bearing account (exception provided below) in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200 and interest in excess of $500 per year remitted to the Agency. The funds should be disbursed by the recipient immediately upon receipt, and there should be little interest accrual on the Federal funds. Instructions from the Agency can be requested on how to remit interest earned in excess of $500 per year. Recipients shall maintain advances of Federal funds in interest-bearing accounts, unless:

- The recipient receives less than $250,000 in Federal awards per year.
- The best reasonably available interest-bearing account would not be expected to earn interest in excess of $500 per year on Federal cash balances.
- The depository would require an average or minimum balance so high that it would not be feasible within the expected Federal and non-Federal cash resources.
- A foreign government or banking system prohibits or precludes interest-bearing accounts, or
- An interest-bearing account is not readily accessible (for example, due to public or political unrest in a foreign country).

27. <u>Bid Tabulation</u> – Immediately after bid opening, you must provide the Agency with the bid tabulation and your engineer's evaluation of bids and recommendations for contract awards. If the Agency agrees that the construction bids received are acceptable, adequate funds are available to cover the total project costs, and all the requirements of Section III of this letter have been satisfied, the Agency will authorize you to issue the Notice of Award.

a. **Cost Overruns –** If bids are higher than expected, or if unexpected construction problems are encountered, you must utilize all options to reduce cost overruns. Negotiations, redesign, use of bidding alternatives, rebidding or other means will be considered prior to commitment of subsequent funding by the Agency. Any requests for subsequent funding to cover cost overruns will be contingent on the availability of funds. Cost overruns exceeding 20 percent of the development cost at time of loan or grant approval or where the scope of the original purpose has changed will compete for funds with all other applications on hand as of that date.

b. **Excess Funds** - If bids are lower than anticipated at time of obligation, excess funds must be deobligated prior to start of construction except in the cases addressed in this paragraph. In cases where the original PER for the project included items that were not

bid, or were bid as an alternate, the State Office official may modify the project to fully utilize obligated funds for those items. Amendments to the PER, ER, and Letter of Conditions may be needed for any work not included in the original project scope. In all cases, prior to start of construction, excess funds will be deobligated, with grant funds being deobligated first. Excess funds do not include contingency funds as described in this letter.

28. Suspension and Debarment Screening – In accordance with 2 CFR Part 180, Subpart C, as a condition of the transaction and the responsibilities to persons at the next lower tier with whom you enter into transactions, you must conduct screening for suspension and debarment of lower tier recipients (e.g., engineer, attorneys, vendors, contractors, interim lender, etc.).

29. Contract Review – Your attorney will certify that the executed contract documents, including performance and payment bonds, if required, are adequate and that the persons executing these documents have been properly authorized to do so in accordance with 7 CFR 1780.61(b).

Once your attorney has certified that they are acceptable, the contract documents will be submitted to the Agency for concurrence. Construction cannot commence until the Agency has concurred in the construction contracts.

30. Final Rights of Way – Your attorney or title company must furnish a separate final title opinion or Title Insurance Policy on all real property related to the facility, now owned and to be acquired for this project, as of the day of loan closing or start of construction, whichever occurs first. Form RD 1927-10, "Final Title Opinion" may be used.

If any of the right-of-way forms listed previously in this letter contain exceptions that do not adversely affect the suitability, successful operation, security value, or transferability of the facility, the approving official must provide a written waiver prior to the issuance of the Notice to Proceed.

31. Insurance and Bonding Requirements - Prior to the start of construction or loan closing, whichever occurs first, you must acquire and submit to the Agency proof of the types of insurance and bond coverage for the borrower shown below. The use of deductibles may be allowed, providing you have the financial resources to cover potential claims requiring payment of the deductible. The Agency strongly recommends that you have your engineer, attorney, and insurance provider(s) review proposed types and amounts of coverage, including any exclusions and deductible provisions. It is your responsibility and not that of the Agency to assure that adequate insurance and fidelity bond coverage is maintained.

a. **General Liability Insurance** – Include vehicular coverage.

b. **Workers' Compensation** – In accordance with appropriate State laws.

c. **Guaranty or Fidelity Insurance**–Coverage for all persons who have access to funds, including persons working under a contract or management agreement. Coverage may be provided either for all individual positions or persons, or through "blanket" coverage providing protection for all appropriate employees. Each position is to be insured in an amount equal to the maximum amount of funds expected to be under the control of that position at any one time. The minimum coverage allowed will be an amount equal to the total annual debt service payment on the Agency loans. The coverage may be increased during construction based on the anticipated monthly advances.

d. **National Flood Insurance** - If the project involves acquisition or construction in a designated special flood area, the community in which the acquisition or construction is situated must be currently participating in the national flood insurance program. Additionally, if the project involves acquisition or constriction in designated special flood or mudslide prone areas, a flood insurance policy must be in place at the time of loan closing.

e. **Real Property Insurance** – Fire and extended coverage will normally be maintained on all structures except reservoirs, pipelines and other structures if such structures are not normally insured, and subsurface lift stations except for the value of electrical and pumping equipment. The Agency will be listed as mortgagee on the policy when the Agency has a lien on the property. Prior to the acceptance of the facility from the contractor(s), you must obtain real property insurance (fire and extended coverage) on all facilities identified above.

The Agency is to be listed as "Other Insured" so as to receive notifications on all insurance, regardless of security. Insurance types described above are required to be continued throughout the life of the loan. See Section VII.

32. Initial Civil Rights Compliance Review – The Agency will conduct an initial civil rights compliance review of the borrower prior to loan closing or start of construction, whichever occurs first, in accordance with 7 CFR 1901, Subpart E. You are expected to comply with the completion of the review, including the furnishing of any documents, records, or other applicable material.

33. **Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan** - The self-evaluation and transition plan are to be completed prior to loan closing or the start of construction, whichever occurs first. Provide a copy of the self-evaluation plan and if necessary, transition plan.

A self-evaluation is a review of the services, programs, activities or facilities to be financed by our Agency to identify any physical barriers or policies, practices or procedural barriers that may limit or exclude participation by people with disabilities. A review of the facility to be financed by our agency and of your organization's policies and practices that relate to the facility's activities and services should be conducted with the assistance of persons knowledgeable of the applicable laws.

Any barriers identified in your self-evaluation should then be addressed in the transition plan. Structural changes or providing services or activities in an alternative manner or location may accomplish the elimination of barriers.

SECTION V – REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO CLOSING

34. Interim Financing. Interim financing is being used. Generally, loan closing will occur near the end of construction when interim funds are fully disbursed. Documents detailed above from Sections II and III regarding security, electronic payments (Form 3550-28), and system policies, procedures, contracts, and agreements must be adopted and/or executed and submitted to the Agency prior to loan closing.

35.Electronic Payments – Payments will be made through an electronic preauthorized debit system. You will be required to complete Form RD 3550-28, "Authorization Agreement for Preauthorized Payments," for all new and existing indebtedness to the Agency prior to loan closing.

36. Other Requirements – All requirements contained in the Agency's closing instructions, as well as any requirements of your bond counsel and/or attorney, must be met prior to loan closing.

a. **System for Award Management**. You will be required to maintain a Unique Entity ID (UEI) and maintain an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) database. Renewal can be completed online at: http://sam.gov. This registration must be renewed and revalidated every 12 months for as long as there is an active loan, grant, or guaranteed loan with the Agency.

To ensure the information is current, accurate and complete, and to prevent the SAM account expiration, the review and updates must be performed within 365 days of the activation date, commonly referred to as the expiration date. The registration process may take up to 10 business days. (See 2 CFR Part 25 and the "Help" section at http://sam.gov).

b. **Litigation.** You are required to notify the Agency within 30 days of receiving notification of being involved in any type of litigation prior to loan closing or start of construction, whichever occurs first. Additional documentation regarding the situation and litigation may be requested by the Agency.

c. **Certified Operator**. Evidence must be provided that your system has or will have a certified operator, as defined by applicable State or Federal requirements, available prior to the system becoming operational, or that a suitable supervisory agreement with a certified operator is in effect.

SECTION VI – REQUIREMENTS DURING CONSTRUCTION AND POST CONSTRUCTION

37. Construction Completion Timeframe – Following the benchmarks established in Section I, Item 4, Project Timeline, all projects should be completed and Agency funds fully disbursed within three years of the date of obligation. If funds are not disbursed within three years of obligation and you have not already done so per Section I, Item 4, you must submit a written request for extension of time to the Agency with adequate justification of the circumstances, including any beyond your control. The request must be submitted at least 90 days prior to the end of the three-year timeframe and include a revised estimated date of completion. The Agency will typically only allow one extension. Subsequent requests for waivers beyond the initial extension or requests that exceed five years from the initial date of obligation will be submitted to the RUS, Water and Environmental Programs for consideration. The Agency retains the right to de-obligate any loan and/or grant monies, or take other appropriate action, related to unliquidated funds that exceed the timeframes above and are not under an active extension.

38.Resident Inspector(s) – Full-time inspection is required unless you request an exception. Such requests must be made in writing, and the Agency must provide written concurrence. Inspection services are to be provided by the consulting engineer unless other arrangements are requested in writing and concurred with by the Agency. A resume of qualifications of any resident inspector(s) will be submitted to the owner and Agency for review and concurrence prior to the pre-construction conference. The resident inspector(s) must attend the preconstruction conference.

39. Preconstruction Conference – A preconstruction conference will be held prior to the issuance of the Notice to Proceed. The consulting engineer will review the planned development with the Agency, owner, resident inspector, attorney, contractor, other funders, and other interested parties, and will provide minutes of this meeting to the owner and Agency.

40. Inspections - The Agency requires a preconstruction conference, pre-final, final, and warranty inspections. Your engineer will schedule a warranty inspection with the contractor and the Agency before the end of the one-year warranty period to address and/or resolve any outstanding warranty issues. The Agency will conduct an inspection with you of your records management system at the same time and will continue to inspect the facility and your records system every three years for the life of the loan. See Section VII of this letter.

41. Change Orders – A Change Order must be submitted for all modifications to the approved scope of work, including existing contracts. This includes non-physical modifications such as any time extension requests. Prior written Agency concurrence is required for all Change Orders.

42. Payments – Prior Agency concurrence is required for all invoices and requests for payment before Agency funds will be released. Requests for payment related to a contract or service agreement will be signed by the owner, project engineer, and contractor or service provider prior

to Agency concurrence. Invoices not related to a construction contract or service agreement will include the owner's written concurrence.

43. Use of Remaining Funds – As stated above, applicant contribution and connection or tap fees will be the first funds expended in the project. Funds remaining after all costs incident to the basic project have been paid or provided will be handled as follows:

a. Funds remaining after the applicant contribution and connection fees may be considered in direct proportion to the amounts of funding obtained from each source. The use of Agency funding will be limited to eligible loan and grant purposes, provided the use will not result in major changes to the original scope of work and the purpose of the loan and grant remains the same.

b. Any reductions in Agency funding will be first applied to the grant funds.

c. Grant funds not expended for authorized purposes will be cancelled (de-obligated) within 90 days of final completion of project. Prior to actual cancellation, you, your attorney and engineer will be notified of the Agency's intent to cancel the remaining funds and given appropriate appeal rights.

d. Under no circumstances is it appropriate to use remaining funds as contributions to a new project outside the scope of the funded project.

e. Loan funds that are not needed will be cancelled (de-obligated) prior to loan closing.

44. Technical, Managerial and Financial Capacity - It is required that members of the Board of Directors, City Council members, trustees, commissioners and other governing members possess the necessary technical, managerial, and financial capacity skills to consistently comply with pertinent Federal and State laws and requirements. It is recommended members receive training within one year of appointment or election to the governing board, and a refresher training for all governing members on a routine basis. The content and amount of training should be tailored to the needs of the individual and the utility system. Technical assistance providers are available to provide this training for your organization, often at no cost. Contact the Agency for additional information.

45. Reporting Requirements Related to Expenditure of Funds - An annual audit under 2 CFR 200 Subpart F is required if you expend more than the current Single Audit threshold, currently $1,000,000, in Federal financial assistance per fiscal year. The total Federal funds expended from all sources shall be used to determine Federal financial assistance expended. You are responsible to submit the required data collection form and related information required when a Single Audit is performed and should work with the auditor to submit to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) www.fac.gov. Expenditures of interim financing are considered Federal expenditures.

All audits are to be performed in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, as adopted by USDA through 2 CFR Part 400. Annual organization-wide financial statements must be prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Further guidance on preparing an acceptable audit can be obtained from the Agency. The audit must be prepared by an independent licensed Certified Public Accountant, or a State or Federal auditor if allowed by State law and must be submitted within 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's report or 9 months after the end of your fiscal year end, whichever is earlier. Both the audit and accompanying management report must be submitted for review.

If an audit is required, you must enter into a written agreement with the auditor and submit a copy of that agreement to the Agency prior to the advertisement of construction bids. The audit agreement may include terms and conditions that the borrower and auditor deem appropriate; however, the agreement should include the type of audit to be completed, the time frame in which the audit will be completed, and how irregularities will be reported.

SECTION VII – SERVICING REQUIREMENTS DURING THE TERM OF THE LOAN

46. Prepayment and Extra Payments - Prepayments of scheduled installments, or any portion thereof, may be made at any time at the option of borrower, with no penalty.

Security instruments, including bonding documents, must contain the following language regarding extra payments, unless prohibited by State statute:

> *Prepayments of scheduled installments, or any portion thereof, may be made at any time at the option of borrower. Refunds, extra payments and loan proceeds obtained from outside sources for the purpose of paying down the Agency debt, shall, after payment of interest, be applied to the installments last to become due under this note and shall not affect the obligation of borrower to pay the remaining installments as scheduled in your security instruments.*

47. Annual Financial Reporting/Audit Requirements – You are required to submit an annual financial report at the end of each fiscal year. The annual report will be certified by the appropriate organization official, and will consist of financial information, a current rate schedule, and listing of board members with their terms. Financial statements must be prepared on an accrual basis of accounting in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The annual report will include separate reporting for each water and waste disposal facility, and itemized cash accounts by type (debt service, short-lived assets, etc.) under each facility. The accounting system will be reviewed by the Agency to determine that an acceptable system is in place. All records, books and supporting material are to be retained for three years after the issuance of the annual report. Technical assistance is available, at no cost, with preparing financial reports.

Your financial statements must report each water and sewer facility separately. If your financial statements are combined, you will agree to implement separate reporting of these accounts by

adopting a resolution and providing a timeframe in accordance with applicable municipal practices to have this accomplished. Your quarterly reports will reflect separate water and sewer accounts until such time that the audit or financial statements are in place showing separate water and sewer accounts. A copy of the resolution must be provided prior to loan closing or start of construction, whichever occurs first.

The type of financial information that must be submitted is specified below:

a. **Audits** – An audit under the Single Audit Act is required if you expend $1,000,000 or more in Federal financial assistance per fiscal year. The total Federal funds expended from all sources shall be used to determine Federal financial assistance expended. Expenditures of interim financing are considered Federal expenditures.

   See Section VI for additional information regarding audits.

b. **Financial Statements** – If you expend less than $1,000,000 in Federal financial assistance per fiscal year, you may submit financial statements in lieu of an audit which include, at a minimum, a balance sheet and an income and expense statement. You may use Form RD 442-2, "Statement of Budget, Income and Equity," and 442-3, "Balance Sheet," or similar format to provide the financial information. The financial statements must be signed by the appropriate borrower official and submitted within 60 days of your fiscal year end.

48. Annual Budget and Projected Cash Flow - Thirty days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, you will be required to submit an annual budget and projected cash flow to this office. The budget must be signed by the appropriate borrower official. Form RD 442-2, "Statement of Budget, Income and Equity," or similar format may be used.

Technical assistance is available at no cost to help you evaluate and complete a rate analysis on your system, as well as completing the annual budget.

49. Graduation - By accepting this loan, you are also agreeing to refinance (graduate) the unpaid loan balance in whole, or in part, upon request of the Government. If at any time the Agency determines you can obtain a loan for such purposes from responsible cooperative or private sources at reasonable rates and terms, you will be requested to refinance. Your ability to refinance will be assessed every other year for loans that are five years old or older.

50. Non-Agency Debt – The loan resolution requires any additional debt or liabilities from another lender related to the facility to be approved by the Agency prior to incurring the new debt or liability. The Agency staff will reassess the Agency's financial standing and security position. The additional debt or liability must be in the Government's best interest to be approved. You must submit to the Agency the required documentation for review in a sufficient amount of time, typically 30-90 days depending on the complexity of the transaction, for Agency approval.

51. Security/Operational Inspections – The Agency will inspect the facility and conduct a review of your operations and records management system and conflict of interest policy every three years for the life of the loan. You must participate in these inspections and provide the required information.

52. System for Award Management. You will be required to maintain a Unique Entity ID (UEI) and maintain an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) database. Further information can be found at paragraph 33 of this letter.

53. Risk and Resiliency Assessment/Emergency Response Plan (RRA/ERP) – The RRA/ERP is further outlined under Section III of this letter. You will be required to submit a certification to the servicing office every three years that the RRA/ERP is current and covers all sites related to the facility. The RRA/ERP documents themselves are not submitted to the Agency. The RRA/ERP must address potential impacts from natural disasters, cybersecurity, supply chain and other emergency events. It should include plans to address impacts of flash flooding in areas where severe drought or wildfires occur. Technical assistance is available in preparing these documents at no cost to you.

54. Insurance. – Insurance requirements are further outlined in Section IV of this letter. You will be required to maintain insurance on the facility and employees as previously described in this letter for the life of the loan.

55. Statutory and National Policy Requirements – As a recipient of Federal funding, you are required to comply with U.S. statutory and public policy requirements, including but not limited to:

a. **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973** – Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), no handicapped individual in the United States shall, solely by reason of their handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Agency financial assistance.

b. **Civil Rights Act of 1964** – All borrowers are subject to, and facilities must be operated in accordance with, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.) and 7 CFR 1901, Subpart E, particularly as it relates to conducting and reporting of compliance reviews. Instruments of conveyance for loans and/or grants subject to the Act must contain the covenant required by Paragraph 1901.202(e) of this Title.

c. **The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990** – This Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, State and local government services, public transportation, public accommodations, facilities, and telecommunications.

d. **Age Discrimination Act of 1975** – This Act (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.) provides that no person in the United States shall on the basis of age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

e. **Controlled Substances Act** - Even though state law may allow some activities, as a recipient of Federal funding, you are subject to the Controlled Substances Act. Specific questions about the Controlled Substances Act should be directed to the Servicing Official who will contact the Office of General Counsel, as appropriate.

56. Compliance Reviews and Data Collection – Agency financial programs must be extended without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, age, or physical or mental handicap. You must display posters (provided by the Agency) informing users of these requirements, and the Agency will monitor your compliance with these requirements during regular compliance reviews.

As a recipient of Rural Development funding, you are required to post and use the Non-Discrimination Statement as directed by the Agency in your office and on all materials produced for public information, public education, and public distribution both print and non-print.

Currently at a minimum use the following Non-Discrimination Statement:

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

The Agency will conduct regular compliance reviews of the borrower and its operation in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1901, Subpart E, and 36 CFR 1191, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities; Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) Accessibility Guidelines. Compliance reviews will typically be conducted in conjunction with the security inspections described in this letter.

If beneficiaries (users) are required to complete an application or screening for the use of the facility or service that you provide, you must request and collect data by race (American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, White); ethnicity (Hispanic or Latino, Not Hispanic or Latino); and by sex. The Agency will utilize this data as part of the required compliance review.

SECTION VIII – REMEDIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

Non-compliance with the conditions in this letter or requirements of your security documents will be addressed under the provisions of Agency regulations, statutes, and other applicable policies.

All other conditions in our letter dated July 12th, 2021 remain in effect. This letter is being provided to you via email and a copy should be forwarded to the County's bond counsel,

engineer, and auditing firm. We will be available to meet with you, your attorney, and engineer to discuss the items set forth above.

Please complete and return the attached Form RD 1942-46, "Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions" and Form RD 1940-1, "Request for Obligation of Funds" if you desire further consideration be given your application.

We look forward to working with you to complete this project. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Hudson at carrie.hudson@usda.gov, or at (302) 857-3627.

Sincerely,

Letitia Nichols
Acting State Director, DE/MD

Attachments

cc: Lisa Fitzgerald, USDA/RD Acting Community Program Director
Carrie Hudson, USDA/RD Loan Specialist
Dallas Baker, County Director of Public Works
Chris Clasing, County Deputy Director of Public Works
Phillip Thompson, County Finance Officer
Steven LeMasters, EA Engineering, Inc.

USDA
Form RD 1940-1
(Rev. 06-10)

REQUEST FOR OBLIGATION OF FUNDS

ITEM 11

FORM APPROVED
OMB No. 0570-0062

INSTRUCTIONS-TYPE IN CAPITALIZED ELITE TYPE IN SPACES MARKED ( )
Complete Items 1 through 29 and applicable Items 30 through 34. See FMI.

1. CASE NUMBER ST CO BORROWER ID 24-024-*****1064	LOAN NUMBER 14	FISCAL YEAR 2025
2. BORROWER NAME County Commissioners of Worcester County	3. NUMBER NAME FIELDS *(1, 2, or 3 from Item 2)*	
One West Market Street	4. STATE NAME Maryland	
Snow Hill, MD. 21863	5. COUNTY NAME Worcester	

GENERAL BORROWER/LOAN INFORMATION

6. RACE/ETHNIC CLASSIFICATION 1 - WHITE 4 - HISPANIC 2 - BLACK 5 - A/PI 3 - AI/AN	7. TYPE OF APPLICANT 1 - INDIVIDUAL 6 - ORG. OF FARMERS 2 - PARTNERSHIP 7 - NONPROFIT-SECULAR 3 - CORPORATION 8 - NONPROFIT-FAITH BASED 4 - PUBLIC BODY 9 - INDIAN TRIBE 4 5 - ASSOC. OF FARMERS 10-PUBLIC COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY 11-OTHER	8. COLLATERAL CODE 1- REAL ESTATE SECURED 4 - MACHINERY ONLY 2-REAL ESTATE AND CHATTEL 5 - LIVESTOCK ONLY 6 - CROPS ONLY 7 - SECURED BY BONDS 7 3 - NOTE ONLY OR CHATTEL ONLY 8 - RLF ACCT	9. EMPLOYEE RELATIONSHIP CODE 1 - EMPLOYEE 2 - MEMBER OF FAMILY 3 - CLOSE RELATIVE 4 - ASSOC.

10. SEX CODE 3 - FAMILY UNIT 4 - ORGAN. MALE OWNED 5 - ORGAN FEMALE OWNED 6 - PUBLIC BODY 6 1 - MALE 2 -FEMALE	11. MARITAL STATUS 1 - MARRIED 3 - UNMARRIED (INCLUDES WIDOWED/DIVORCED) 2 - SEPARATED	12. VETERAN CODE 1 -YES 2 -NO	13. CREDIT REPORT 2 1 -YES 2 -NO

14. DIRECT PAYMENT 3 *(See FMI)*	15. TYPE OF PAYMENT 4 1 - MONTHLY 3 - SEMI-ANNUALLY 2 - ANNUALLY 4 - QUARTERLY	16. FEE INSPECTION 2 1 -YES 2 - NO	
17. COMMUNITY SIZE 1 - 10 000 OR LESS (FOR SFH AND 2 - OVER 10,000 HPG ONLY)		18. USE OF FUNDS CODE (See FMI)	

COMPLETE FOR OBLIGATION OF FUNDS

19. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE 068 *(See FMI)*	20. PURPOSE CODE 1	21. SOURCE OF FUNDS	22. TYPE OF ACTION 1 -OBLIGATION ONLY 2 - OBLIGATION/CHECK REQUEST 3 - CORRECTION OF OBLIGATION

23. TYPE OF SUBMISSION 1 - INITIAL 2 -SUBSEQUENT 2	24. AMOUNT OF LOAN 618,000.00	25. AMOUNT OF GRANT 1,855,000

26. AMOUNT OF IMMEDIATE ADVANCE	27. DATE OF APPROVAL MO DAY YR	28. INTEREST RATE 2.5 %	29. REPAYMENT TERMS 40

COMPLETE FOR COMMUNITY PROGRAM AND CERTAIN MULTIPLE-FAMILY HOUSING LOANS

30. PROFIT TYPE 2 - LIMITED PROFIT 1 - FULL PROFIT 3 - NONPROFIT	
COMPLETE FOR EM LOANS ONLY	**COMPLETE FOR CREDIT SALE-ASSUMPTION**
31. DISASTER DESIGNATION NUMBER *(See FMI)*	32. TYPE OF SALE 2 - ASSUMPTION ONLY 4 -ASSUMPTION WITH SUBSEQUENT LOAN 1 -CREDIT SALE ONLY 3 -CREDIT SALE WITH SUBSEQUENT LOAN
FINANCE OFFICE USE ONLY	**COMPLETE FOR FP LOANS ONLY**
33. OBLIGATION DATE MO DA YR	34. BEGINNING FARMER/RANCHER *(See FMI)*

If the decision contained above in this form results in denial, reduction or cancellation of USDA assistance, you may appeal this decision and have a hearing or you may request a review in lieu of a hearing. Please use the form we have included for this purpose.

Position 2

ORIGINAL - Borrower's Case Folder **COPY 1 - Finance Office** **COPY 2 - Applicant/Lender** **COPY 3 - State Office**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0570-0062. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

ITEM 11

CERTIFICATION APPROVAL

For All Farmers Programs — EM, OL, FO, and SW Loans

This loan is approved subject to the availability of funds. If this loan does not close for any reason within 90 days from the date of approval on this document, the approval official will request updated eligibility information. The undersigned loan applicant agrees that the approval official will have 14 working days to review any updated information prior to submitting this document for obligation of funds. If there have been significant changes that may affect eligibility, a decision as to eligibility and feasibility will be made within 30 days from the time the applicant provides the necessary information.

If this is a loan approval for which a lien and/or title search is necessary, the undersigned applicant agrees that the 15-working-day loan closing requirement may be exceeded for the purposes of the applicant's legal representative completing title work and completing loan closing.

35. COMMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL

36. I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am unable to obtain sufficient credit elsewhere to finance my actual needs at reasonable rates and terms, taking into consideration prevailing private and cooperative rates and terms in or near my community for loans for similar purposes and periods of time. I agree to use the sum specified herein, subject to and in accordance with regulations applicable to the type of assistance indicated above, and request payment of such sum. I agree to report to USDA any material adverse changes, financial or otherwise, that occur prior to loan closing. I certify that no part of the sum specified herein has been received. I have reviewed the loan approval requirements and comments associated with this loan request and agree to comply with these provisions.

(For FP loans at eligible terms only) If this loan is approved, I elect the interest rate to be charged on my loan to be the lower of the interest rate in effect at the time of loan approval or loan closing. If I check "NO", the interest rate charged on my loan will be the rate specified in Item 28 of this form. ✓ YES _____ NO

WARNING: **Whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both."**

Date _____ , 20 ____ _____

Theodore Elder, Commissioner President

(Signature of Applicant)

Date _____ , 20 ____ _____

(Signature of Co-Applicant)

37. I HEREBY CERTIFY that all of the committee and administrative determinations and certifications required by regulations prerequisite to providing assistance of the type indicated above have been made and that evidence thereof is in the docket, and that all requirements of pertinent regulations have been complied with. I hereby approve the above-described assistance in the amount set forth above, and by this document, subject to the availability of funds, the Government agrees to advance such amount to the applicant for the purpose of and subject to the availability prescribed by regulations applicable to this type of assistance.

_____

(Signature of Approving Official)

Typed or Printed Name: Letitia Nichols

Date Approved: _____ Title: Deputy State Director

38. TO THE APPLICANT: As of this date _____ , this is notice that your application for financial assistance from the USDA has been approved, as indicated above, subject to the availability of funds and other conditions required by the USDA. If you have any questions contact the appropriate USDA Servicing Office.

Form RD 1942-46
(Rev. 6-10)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT

FORM APPROVED
OMB NO. 0575-0015
OMB NO. 0570-0062

LETTER OF INTENT TO MEET CONDITIONS

Date _____

TO: United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Development

(Name of USDA Agency)

1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200
Dover, DE. 19904

(USDA Agency Office Address)

We have reviewed and understand the conditions set forth in your letter dated 5/27/2025 . It is our intent to meet all of them not later than the start of construction or loan closing whichever occurs first. We are also requesting we be given the interest rate in effect at the time of loan approval or at the time of loan closing, whichever is lower. In other words, we want the lowest rate possible.

County Commissioners of Worcester County

(Name of Association)

BY _____

Theodore Elder

Commissioner President *(Title)*

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a persons is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0575-0015 and 0570-0062. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data. needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

USDA Rural Development regulations require screening for debarment and suspension of participants of individual and entity loans (insured and guaranteed), grants, and cooperative agreements in connection with any program administered by RD. It incorporates 2 CFR Parts 180 and 417 intended to deter fraud, waste, and abuse in Federal non-procurement transactions.

RD staff are responsible for screening prime recipients only. All recipients of Federal awards must verify the individual and/or entity they intend to do business with is not excluded or disqualified per 2 CFR §180.300 by,

(a) Checking SAM Exclusions (https://sam.gov); or
(b) Collecting a certification from that person; or
(c) Adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that person.

RD staff are responsible for notifying recipients of the requirements for debarment and suspension. As individuals or entities receive funds and use those funds to complete an RD project, it is their responsibility to abide by debarment and suspension requirements per 2 CFR, Part 180.

An entity must be screened as well as its principals. This is to include for-profit entities, nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, and Federally recognized tribes.

To support the screening required with the submission of an application, an applicant will need to provide the following information:

Entity Type	Minimum Principals to be Screened
Federal tribes	Tribal Chairman or equivalent, plus Treasurer or any person who will be accepting and distributing the Federal funds
Non-profits	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/Director/Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), and any person who will be accepting/distributing the Federal funds; plus, Chairman/President and Treasurer of the governing board
Public bodies such as towns, counties, or district	Mayor/Town Manager/Executive Director and Person accepting and distributing the Federal funds; plus, Chair of the city, town or county council and Treasurer

Complete the second page for the CF application. This is referenced as item P6 Debarment and Suspension Screening. The second page should also be completed with the submission of a WEP Application. This information is required to be submitted with the application, updated for an obligation and loan and/or grant closing.

Debarment and Suspension Screening
DE/MD

United States Department of Agriculture

- ☐ Application
- ☑ Obligation
- ☐ Closing
- ☐ Draw of Funds

5/27/25 Date

Organization Official Name	UEI
County Commissioners of Worcester County	KEA9KRV8GPG3

First, Middle and Last Name	Position Title	City, State	Last four digits of Social Security Number (optional)
Weston S. Young	Chief Admin. Office	Snow Hill, MD	
Phil Thompson	Finance Officer	Snow Hill, MD	
Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.	President, Commiss	Snow Hill, MD	

RUS BULLETIN 1780-27

ITEM 11

APPROVED
OMB. No. 0572-0121

LOAN RESOLUTION
(Public Bodies)

A RESOLUTION OF THE **board of Commissioners**

OF THE **County Commissioners of Worcester County**

AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE INCURRENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A PORTION OF THE COST OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, ENLARGING, IMPROVING, AND/OR EXTENDING ITS

Landings sewer service

FACILITY TO SERVE AN AREA LAWFULLY WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION TO SERVE.

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the **County Commissioners of Worcester County**
(Public Body)
(herein after called Association) to raise a portion of the cost of such undertaking by issuance of its bonds in the principal amount of

Six Hundred Eighteen Thousand & 00 100

pursuant to the provisions of **Annotated Code of the State of Maryland**; and

WHEREAS, the Association intends to obtain assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture, (herein called the Government) acting under the provisions of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) in the planning. financing, and supervision of such undertaking and the purchasing of bonds lawfully issued, in the event that no other acceptable purchaser for such bonds is found by the Association:

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises the Association hereby resolves:

1. To have prepared on its behalf and to adopt an ordinance or resolution for the issuance of its bonds containing such items and in such forms as are required by State statutes and as are agreeable and acceptable to the Government.
2. To refinance the unpaid balance, in whole or in part, of its bonds upon the request of the Government if at any time it shall appear to the Government that the Association is able to refinance its bonds by obtaining a loan for such purposes from responsible cooperative or private sources at reasonable rates and terms for loans for similar purposes and periods of time as required by section 333(c) of said Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1983(c)).
3. To provide for, execute, and comply with Form RD 400-4, "Assurance Agreement," and Form RD 400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement," including an "Equal Opportunity Clause," which clause is to be incorporated in, or attached as a rider to, each construction contract and subcontract involving in excess of $10,000.
4. To indemnify the Government for any payments made or losses suffered by the Government on behalf of the Association. Such indemnification shall be payable from the same source of funds pledged to pay the bonds or any other legal ly permissible source.
5. That upon default in the payments of any principal and accrued interest on the bonds or in the performance of any covenant or agreement contained herein or in the instruments incident to making or insuring the loan, the Government at its option may (a) declare the entire principal amount then outstanding and accrued interest immediately due and payable, (b) for the account of the Association (payable from the source of funds pledged to pay the bonds or any other legally permissible source), incur and pay reasonable expenses for repair, maintenance, and operation of the facility and such other reasonable expenses as may be necessary to cure the cause of default, and/or (c) take possession of the facility, repair, maintain, and operate or rent it. Default under the provisions of this resolution or any instrument incident to the making or insuring of the loan may be construed by the Government to constitute default under any other instrument held by the Government and executed or assumed by the Association, and default under any such instrument may be construed by the Government to constitute default hereunder.
6. Not to sell, transfer, lease, or otherwise encumber the facility or any portion thereof, or interest therein, or permit others to do so, without the prior written consent of the Government.
7. Not to defease the bonds, or to borrow money, enter into any contractor agreement, or otherwise incur any liabilities for any purpose in connection with the facility (exclusive of normal maintenance) without the prior written consent of the Government if such undertaking would involve the source of funds pledged to pay the bonds.
8. To place the proceeds of the bonds on deposit in an account and in a manner approved by the Government. Funds may be deposited in institutions insured by the State or Federal Government or invested in readily marketable securities backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Any income from these accounts will be considered as revenues of the system.
9. To comply with all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations and to continually operate and maintain the facility in good condition.
10. To provide for the receipt of adequate revenues to meet the requirements of debt service, operation and maintenance, and the establishment of adequate reserves. Revenue accumulated over and above that needed to pay operating and maintenance, debt service and reserves may only be retained or used to make prepayments on the loan. Revenue cannot be used to pay any expenses which are not directly incurred for the facility financed by USDA. No free service or use of the facility will be permitted.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0572-0121. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

11. To acquire and maintain such insurance and fidelity bond coverage as may be required by the Government.
12. To establish and maintain such books and records relating to the operation of the facility and its financial affairs and to provide for required audit thereof as required by the Government, to provide the Government a copy of each such audit without its request, and to forward to the Government such additional information and reports as it may from time to time require.
13. To provide the Government at all reasonable times access to all books and records relating to the facility and access to the property of the system so that the Government may ascertain that the Association is complying with the provisions hereof and of the instruments incident to the making or insuring of the loan.
14. That if the Government requires that a reserve account be established, disbursements from that account(s) may be used when necessary for payments due on the bond if sufficient funds are not otherwise available and prior approval of the Government is obtained. Also, with the prior written approval of the Government, funds may be withdrawn and used for such things as emergency maintenance, extensions to facilities and replacement of short lived assets.
15. To provide adequate service to all persons within the service area who can feasibly and legally be served and to obtain USDA's concurrence prior to refusing new or adequate services to such persons. Upon failure to provide services which are feasible and legal, such person shall have a direct right of action against the Association or public body.
16. To comply with the measures identified in the Government's environmental impact analysis for this facility for the purpose of avoiding or reducing the adverse environmental impacts of the facility's construction or operation.
17. To accept a grant in an amount not to exceed $ **1,855,000.00**

under the terms offered by the Government; that the **Commissioner President**

and Chief Financial Officer of the Association are hereby authorized and empowered to take all action necessary or appropriate in the execution of all written instruments as may be required in regard to or as evidence of such grant; and to operate the facility under the terms offered in said grant agreement(s).

The provisions hereof and the provisions of all instruments incident to the making or the insuring of the loan, unless otherwise specifically provided by the terms of such instrument, shall be binding upon the Association as long as the bonds are held or insured by the Government or assignee. The provisions of sections 6 through 17 hereof may be provided for in more specific detail in the bond resolution or ordinance; to the extent that the provisions contained in such bond resolution or ordinance should be found to be inconsistent with the provisions hereof, these provisions shall be construed as controlling between the Association and the Government or assignee.

The vote was: Yeas _____ Nays _____ Absent _____

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the **County Commissioners of Worcester County** of the **County Commissioners of Worcester County** has duly adopted this resolution and caused it to be executed by the officers below in duplicate on this _____ , _____ day of _____

(SEAL)

By Theodore Elder

Attest:

Title Commissioner President

Phillip Thompson

Title Chief Financial Officer

CERTIFICATION TO BE EXECUTED AT LOAN CLOSING

I, the undersigned, as Commissioner President of the **County Commissioners of Worcester County** hereby certify that the **board of Commissioners** of such Association is composed of _____ members, of whom , _____ constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting thereof duly called and held on the _____ day of _____ ; and that the foregoing resolution was adopted at such meeting by the vote shown above, I further certify that as of _____ , the date of closing of the loan from the United States Department of Agriculture, said resolution remains in effect and has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated, this _____ day of _____

_____

Title Commissioner President

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

Worcester County Administration
One West Market St. Room 1103 | Snow Hill MD 21863 | (410) 632-1194 | www.co.worcester.md.us

May 30, 2025

TO: Worcester County Commissioners

FROM: Weston S. Young, Chief Administrative Officer
Kim Reynolds, Budget Officer

SUBJECT: FY2026 Budget for Adoption

As you are aware, section 4-201 of the County Government Article of the Code of Public Local Laws of Worcester County requires that the Board of County Commissioners shall by resolution annually adopt an Expense Budget and tax rates on or before the first Tuesday in June.

The following adjustments have been made since May 28, 2025 budget work session. A $2,500 cost of living adjustment and a step increase were distributed across all departments. All other adjustments are shown in the table below to the proposed budget.

	FY26 Department Requested Totals	**FY26 Committee Review Totals**	**FY26 Proposed Budget Revenue & Expenditure Totals 5/20/25**	**FY26 Proposed Budget After Work Session Adjustments 5/28/2025**
Revenues:	$284,574,909	$288,730,807	$288,730,807	$286,812,695
* Income Tax			($1,918,112)	$1,918,112
Property Tax Decrease 2 cents				($4,889,860)
Expenditures:	$286,835,734	$287,562,251	$282,421,126	$279,027,455
Personnel Salaries & Benefits			($997,967)	$751,020
Board of Education				$728,444
Non-Profit Grants				
Grants to Towns			($2,074,878)	$250,000
Change in Reserve			($320,826)	$145,734
Water Wastewater Grant & Loan				$126,843
Surplus/(Deficit)	($2,260,825)	$1,168,556	$7,785,240	$2,811,451
* The proposed Income Tax decrease of .25% is not allowable per state law and was added back in on the column to the right.				
Minimum Income Tax Rate in the State of Maryland is 2.25%.				

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

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Following all decisions from your May 28, 2025, budget work session and after accounting for all revenues and expenditures by departments and agencies, there is a surplus of $2,811,451 for FY2026. Expenditures for FY2026 total $281,029,496 and Revenues for FY2026 total $283,840,947.

It has come to Administration's attention that per law in the State of Maryland, Income Tax Rates for counties must be at a 2.25% minimum. Therefore, the reduction in Income Tax has been added back into the budget.

If the commissioners wish to pursue additional tax reductions, the following options are available:

- A **½ cent** reduction in the property tax rate, which would decrease revenue by **$1,222,465**, leaving a remaining balance of **$1,588,986**.
- A **1 cent** reduction in the property tax rate, which would decrease revenue by **$2,444,930**, leaving a remaining balance of **$366,521**.

Attached, please find a draft copy of the FY2026 Revenue Summary, FY2026 Revenue Detail Report, Expense by classification summary, FY2026 Proposed Budget Detailed Report.

We are available for any questions you may have.

Attachments: FY2026 revenue summary, Pages 3
FY2026 revenue detail report, Pages 4-7
FY2026 expense budget by organization report, Pages 8-14 FY2026 proposed budget detailed report, Pages 15-81

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Worcester County

FY2026 Estimated Revenue Summary

	2026 Estimated Revenues as of 5/28/2025	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
PROP TAX - Property Taxes	$188,263,675	$174,036,523	$14,227,152	8%
INC TAX - Income Tax	$53,000,000	$47,000,000	$6,000,000	13%
OTHER TAX - Other Taxes	$18,310,000	$16,910,000	$1,400,000	8%
ST SHRD - State Shared	$3,525,791	$3,571,155	($45,364)	-1%
FRNCH - Franchise Fees	$23,000	$22,690	$310	1%
LOSS DSP ASTS - Gain/Loss on Disposal of Assets	$125,000	$125,000	$0	0%
LIC/PRMT - Licenses and Permits	$2,864,115	$2,768,190	$95,925	3%
CHG SVC - Charges for Services	$2,673,454	$1,927,478	$745,976	39%
INT/PEN - Interest & Penalties	$5,000,000	$6,000,000	($1,000,000)	-17%
FINES - Fines & Forfeitures	$31,000	$31,000	$0	0%
MISC - Miscellaneous	$610,557	$456,533	$154,024	34%
INTGOV FED - Intergovernmental - Federal Revenues	$374,013	$1,333,099	($959,086)	-72%
INTGOV ST - Intergovernmental - State Revenues	$4,747,382	$5,470,574	($723,192)	-13%
TRNS IN - Transfers In	$4,292,960	$2,265,375	$2,027,585	90%
TOTAL REVENUES	**$283,840,947**	**$261,917,617**	**$21,923,330**	**8%**

Worcester County FY2026 Proposed Revenue Budget Detailed Report

Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Fund: 100 - General Fund					
REVENUES					
PROP TAX - Property Taxes					
4000	Full Year Real Property Taxes	185,125,316	169,574,541	15,550,775	9%
4010	Personal Property Taxes	174,356	301,031	(126,675)	-42%
4020	Corporation Property Taxes	4,953,759	3,712,719	1,241,040	33%
4030	Railroad & Utility Property Tax	5,024,624	5,032,714	(8,090)	0%
4035	Railroad Real Property	2,527	2,256	271	12%
4040	Half Year Real Property Taxes	232,375	190,125	42,250	22%
4050	Tax Additions & Abatements	(208,200)	(208,200)	0	0%
4060	Interest on Delinquent Taxes	800,000	750,000	50,000	7%
4070	Discounts Allowed on Taxes	(550,000)	(500,000)	(50,000)	10%
4080	Tax Credits For Assessment I	(7,291,082)	(4,818,663)	(2,472,419)	51%
Account Classification Total: PROP TAX - Property Taxes		**$ 188,263,675**	**$ 174,036,523**	**$ 14,227,152**	**8%**
INC TAX - Income Tax					
4100	Income Tax	53,000,000	47,000,000	6,000,000	13%
Account Classification Total: INC TAX - Income Tax		**$ 53,000,000**	**$ 47,000,000**	**$ 6,000,000**	**13%**
OTHER TAX - Other Taxes					
4200	Admission & Amusement Taxes	750,000	700,000	50,000	7%
4210	Recordation Taxes	9,450,000	8,725,000	725,000	8%
4221	Cannabis Tax	125,000	100,000	25,000	25%
4240	Food Tax	110,000	110,000	0	0%
4250	Room Tax	275,000	275,000	0	0%
4250.040	Room Tax Due to Unincorporated Areas	1,600,000	1,500,000	100,000	7%
4340	Transfer Tax	6,000,000	5,500,000	500,000	9%
Account Classification Total: OTHER TAX - Other Taxes		**$ 18,310,000**	**$ 16,910,000**	**$ 1,400,000**	**8%**
ST SHRD - State Shared					
4300	Highway Users Taxes	2,031,609	1,783,847	247,762	14%
4310	911 Fees	1,494,182	1,787,308	(293,126)	-16%
Account Classification Total: ST SHRD - State Shared		**$ 3,525,791**	**$ 3,571,155**	**$ (45,364)**	**-1%**
FRNCH - Franchise Fees					
4400	Franchise Fees	23,000	22,690	310	1%
Account Classification Total: FRNCH - Franchise Fees		**$ 23,000**	**$ 22,690**	**$ 310**	**1%**
LOSS DSP ASTS - Gain/Loss on Disposal of Assets					
4600	Sale Of Fixed Assets	125,000	125,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: LOSS DSP ASTS - Gain/Loss on Disposal of Assets		**$ 125,000**	**$ 125,000**	**$ -**	**0%**
LIC/PRMT - Licenses and Permits					
4900	Liquor Licenses	950,000	950,000	0	0%
4905	Vending Machine Licenses	65,000	65,000	0	0%
4910	Traders Licenses	90,000	80,000	10,000	13%
4915	Occupational Licenses	34,000	7,000	27,000	386%
4920	Bingo Permits	15,000	13,000	2,000	15%
4927	Rental License Fee	195,000	210,000	(15,000)	-7%
4930	Building Permits	350,000	315,000	35,000	11%
4932	Electrical Permits	21,000	21,000	0	0%
4933	Commercial Plumbing Plan Review	2,500	2,500	0	0%
4935	Marriage Licenses	20,000	20,000	0	0%
4936	Civil Ceremony	1,800	1,200	600	50%
4941	Shoreline Construction Permit	20,000	20,000	0	0%
4942	Timber Harvest Permit	3,000	3,000	0	0%
4943	SEC/SWM Permit	45,000	39,000	6,000	15%
4945.010	Environmental Permits Burn Permit	600	600	0	0%
4945.020	Environmental Permits Campground Permit	4,000	3,325	675	20%
4945.030	Environmental Permits Septic Permit	29,000	29,000	0	0%
4945.040	Environmental Permits Waste Hauler Permit	3,000	3,000	0	0%
4945.050	Environmental Permits Well Permit	16,800	16,800	0	0%

Worcester County FY2026 Proposed Revenue Budget Detailed Report

Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
4945.060	Environmental Permits Other	300	300	0	0%
4945.070	Environmental Permits Review Fee	75,000	60,000	15,000	25%
4950	Health Permits	426,915	426,915	0	0%
4955	Raffle Permits	1,500	1,500	0	0%
4960	Plumbing Permits	90,000	75,000	15,000	20%
4965	Gas Permits	20,000	20,000	0	0%
4970	Forestry Conservation Review Fees	6,000	6,000	0	0%
4980	Landfill Permits-Household	320,000	320,000	0	0%
4982	PAYT Tags - Household	7,500	7,500	0	0%
5060.100	Licenses and Permits Board of Zoning Appeal Fee	25,000	25,000	0	0%
5060.300	Licenses and Permits Site Plan Review	11,000	11,000	0	0%
5060.400	Licenses and Permits Rezoning Fee	2,000	2,000	0	0%
5060.500	Licenses and Permits Subdivision Review Fee	12,000	12,000	0	0%
5060.600	Licenses and Permits Text Amendment Application Fee	1,200	1,200	0	0%
5060.700	Licenses and Permits Nat Resources Text Amendment App	0	350	(350)	-100%
Account Classification Total: LIC/PRMT - Licenses and Permits		**$ 2,864,115**	**$ 2,768,190**	**$ 95,925**	**3%**
CHG SVC - Charges for Services					
4850.010	Credit Card Fees Environmental Programs	6,000	6,000	0	0%
4850.020	Credit Card Fees DRP	0	2,000	(2,000)	-100%
4850.030	Credit Card Fees States Attorney	0	1,100	(1,100)	-100%
4850.050	Credit Card Fees Recreation	1,100	1,100	0	0%
4940	Shoreline Construction Application Fee	31,000	31,000	0	0%
5047	Stormwater Management Review Fee	110,000	95,000	15,000	16%
5065.100	Sheriff Fees Sheriff Fees - Paper Service	35,000	25,000	10,000	40%
5065.200	Sheriff Fees Sheriff Fees - Peddler's License	800	200	600	300%
5065.300	Sheriff Fees Sheriff Fees - Parking Fines	200	75	125	167%
5065.400	Sheriff Fees Animal Control Fees	90	1,500	(1,410)	-94%
5065.500	Sheriff Fees Animal Shelter Revenue	2,500	2,500	0	0%
5065.700	Sheriff Fees Contractual Services	115,000	94,500	20,500	22%
5065.800	Sheriff Fees Body Worn Camera	250	100	150	150%
5065.990	Sheriff Fees Other	1,500	1,500	0	0%
5070.100	Sale of Publications & Copies Commissioners	350	350	0	0%
5070.300	Sale of Publications & Copies Dev. Review & Permitting	50	50	0	0%
5070.600	Sale of Publications & Copies Elections	400	400	0	0%
5070.700	Sale of Publications & Copies Circuit Court	450	250	200	80%
5075	Library Use Charges	20,000	12,000	8,000	67%
5076	Library Erate Reimbursement	850	850	0	0%
5080	County Share Vehicle Tag Fee	0	1,000	(1,000)	-100%
5085	Liquor Advertising Fees	1,200	1,200	0	0%
5090	Firearms Training Center Fee	12,000	7,500	4,500	60%
5095.100	Payments For Jail Use Work Release	4,000	2,500	1,500	60%
5095.150	Payments For Jail Use Inmate Grievance Device	30,000	0	30,000	#DIV/0!
5095.250	Payments For Jail Use REIM US MARSHAL FEES	742,600	0	742,600	#DIV/0!
5095.400	Payments For Jail Use State Housing	48,775	81,630	(32,855)	-40%
5095.500	Payments For Jail Weekenders	0	2,000	(2,000)	-100%
5095.600	Payments For Jail Use Social Security	2,500	2,500	0	0%
5095.700	Payments For Jail Use State Mental Health Reimb.	22,000	20,000	2,000	10%
5095.800	Payments For Jail Use Pretrial Fees	8,250	5,000	3,250	65%
5100.100	Fire Inspection Fees Plan Review Fee	120,000	120,000	0	0%
5100.200	Fire Inspection Fees Fire Safety Fee	25,000	25,000	0	0%
5100.600	Fire Inspection Fees Fire Inspections QAP	25,000	25,000	0	0%
5105.100	Public Works Revenues Pipe Sales	50,000	50,000	0	0%
5107	Roads Department Fees	2,500	2,500	0	0%
5110	Recreation Fees	344,329	388,158	(43,829)	-11%
5111	Ice Vending Machine Fee	20,000	20,000	0	0%
5115	Mosquito Control Charges	45,000	45,000	0	0%
5120	Circuit Court Bar Library	5,000	5,000	0	0%
5127	Recreation Center Rental Fees	34,700	24,900	9,800	39%
5128	Recreation Sponsorships	2,900	13,900	(11,000)	-79%
5130	Tourism Programs and Events	0	1,500	(1,500)	-100%
5142	Election Filing Fee	350	125	225	180%

Worcester County FY2026 Proposed Revenue Budget Detailed Report

Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
5155	CommunityService Fees	70,000	70,000	0	0%
5160	Family Services Legal Fees Other	500	500	0	0%
5161	Casino Security	17,250	8,500	8,750	103%
5162	Seacrets Security	50,000	90,000	(40,000)	-44%
5165	Critical Area Review Fees	8,000	8,000	0	0%
5167	Water/Sewer Plan Amendment Fee	2,000	2,000	0	0%
5175.200	Donations Sponsorship Program Recreation	4,000	6,000	(2,000)	-33%
5175.205	Donations Sponsorship Program Youth Scholarship Donation	0	1,500	(1,500)	-100%
5181	First Offender Program Fees	0	5,000	(5,000)	-100%
5185	Recycling Revenue	180,500	180,500	0	0%
5186	Metal Recycling Revenue	35,000	35,000	0	0%
5195	Tire Revenue	35,000	35,000	0	0%
5215	Motor Coach Fees	15,000	15,000	0	0%
5220.010	Park Fees Field Rental	4,190	15,000	(10,810)	-72%
5220.020	Park Fees Pavilion Rental	6,525	5,700	825	14%
5220.030	Park Fees Tree of Life	2,400	2,400	0	0%
5220.035	Park Fees Tournament Rental	70,000	55,000	15,000	27%
5220.040	Park Fees User Fees	12,725	8,500	4,225	50%
5221	Parking Fees - Boat Landing	2,720	1,000	1,720	172%
5224	SPEC EVENTS - SPONSORSHIP	72,250	76,000	(3,750)	-5%
5225	Concession Stand Fees	156,500	100,000	56,500	57%
5226	Special Events Fees	23,750	33,090	(9,340)	-28%
5227	Tournament Fees	9,500	7,500	2,000	27%
5230.010	Environmental Fees Perk Test Fee	16,000	16,000	0	0%
5230.020	Environmental Fees Plat Review Fee	6,000	6,000	0	0%
5230.030	Environmental Fees Water Sample Fee	500	400	100	25%
5240	Shared Facility/Service Area Fee	500	500	0	0%
5245	Solar Renewable Energy Credits	1,000	1,000	0	0%
5435	BRF Admin Fee	0	22,500	(22,500)	-100%
Account Classification Total: CHG SVC - Charges for Services		**$ 2,673,454**	**$ 1,927,478**	**$ 745,976**	**39%**
INT/PEN - Interest & Penalties					
4700	Interest On Investments	5,000,000	6,000,000	(1,000,000)	-17%
Account Classification Total: INT/PEN - Interest & Penalties		**$ 5,000,000**	**$ 6,000,000**	**$ (1,000,000)**	**-17%**
FINES - Fines & Forfeitures					
5300	Court Fines	25,000	25,000	0	0%
5310	Civil Infraction Fines	6,000	6,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: FINES - Fines & Forfeitures		**$ 31,000**	**$ 31,000**	**$ -**	**0%**
MISC - Miscellaneous					
4260.010	Rents/State Revenue Boat Landings	79,972	79,972	0	0%
4260.020	Rents/State Revenue County Administration	71,856	61,332	10,524	17%
4260.030	Rents/State Revenue Elections	14,229	14,229	0	0%
4270	Rents-Tower Site/Contrib & Donat	27,000	27,500	(500)	-2%
4800	Other Miscellaneous Revenue	400,000	200,000	200,000	100%
4875	Tax Sale Revenue	17,500	13,500	4,000	30%
5420	Retiree Drug Subsidy	0	60,000	(60,000)	-100%
Account Classification Total: MISC - Miscellaneous		**$ 610,557**	**$ 456,533**	**$ 214,024**	**47%**

Worcester County FY2026 Proposed Revenue Budget Detailed Report

Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
INTGOV FED - Intergovernmental - Federal Revenues					
5541	Traffic Safety SHA	1,500	1,500	0	0%
5600	Federal Payments In Lieu of Taxe	24,000	22,000	2,000	9%
5625	CDBG Housing Rehab Grant	150,000	150,000	0	0%
5664.020	US Fish and Wildlife Service Other General Government	6,326	6,750	(424)	-6%
5675	Child Support Enforcement Grant	7,500	10,000	(2,500)	-25%
5745.300	Homeland Security Grant SHSGP	96,477	96,477	0	0%
5745.600	Homeland Security Grant EMPG	76,317	76,317	0	0%
5749	Local Assistance & Tribal Grant	0	50,000	(50,000)	-100%
5761	Jail - US Marshals Grant	0	415,000	(415,000)	-100%
5770	Bulletproof Vest Program	7,500	7,500	0	0%
5774	Grant Programs - St Atty Federal	0	494,294	(494,294)	-100%
5785	MDE Beach Monitoring Grant	4,393	3,261	1,132	35%
Account Classification Total: INTGOV FED - Intergovernmental - Federal Revenues		**$ 374,013**	**$ 1,333,099**	**$ (959,086)**	**-72%**
INTGOV ST - Intergovernmental - State Revenues					
5515	DHCD Housing Administration Fee	7,000	7,000	0	0.00
5525	Conservation Easement Administrative Fee	25,000	25,000	0	0.00
5530	Eastern Shore Library Grant	80,000	80,000	0	0.00
5543	Dental Program Reimbursement	16,721	16,721	0	0.00
5630	Water System Monitoring Grant	48,750	48,750	0	0.00
5635	Police Protection Grant	200,000	200,000	0	0.00
5640	State Library Aid	202,600	197,150	5,450	0.03
5645	Share of State Park Receipts	535,000	625,000	(90,000)	(0.14)
5650	State Aid for Fire Companies	369,004	370,000	(996)	(0.00)
5655	Program Open Space Grant - Parks	450,208	1,247,376	(797,168)	(0.64)
5660	Waterway Improvement Grants	255,000	12,776	242,224	18.96
5662	BRF Operations & Maintenance Grant	42,000	42,000	0	0.00
5663	Share of State Forest Land	70,000	73,000	(3,000)	(0.04)
5665	State Aid for Bridges	480,000	0	480,000	#DIV/0!
5680	State Grant for Critical Areas	9,000	9,000	0	0.00
5688	MD Dept of Aging Grant	5,635	46,000	(40,365)	(0.88)
5690	SSTAP Grant	131,000	126,975	4,025	0.03
5704	MD AOC Security Grant	10,134	110,716	(100,582)	(0.91)
5705	State Grant for Tourism	195,000	160,000	35,000	0.22
5712	GOCCP Grant	46,000	106,700	(60,700)	(0.57)
5713	GOCCP - Sheriff Grants	75,000	425,000	(350,000)	(0.82)
5725	Family Support Grant	418,334	418,334	0	0.00
5730	Septic System BRF Grant Program	300,000	260,000	40,000	0.15
5732	Conservation Easements Reimbursements	50,000	50,000	0	0.00
5735.02	Other Grants Tourism	0	104,160	(104,160)	(1.00)
5735.050	Other Grants Recreation	32,500	18,500	14,000	0.76
5735.055	Other Grants Environmental Programs	0	96,000	(96,000)	(1.00)
5757	Trial Jury Reimbursement	54,000	54,000	0	0.00
5760	Drug Court Grant	224,076	224,076	0	0.00
5762	Heroin Coordinator Grant	65,000	52,000	13,000	0.25
5767	Medication Opioid Disorder Grant	213,920	131,840	82,080	0.62
5905	Sheriff-Sex Offender Grant	9,000	8,000	1,000	0.13
5910	Sher-Health Tobacco Enforcement	7,500	7,500	0	0.00
5912	Sher-Health Underage Drinking	5,000	5,000	0	0.00
5925	MALPF Admin Fee	15,000	12,000	3,000	0.25
5940	Intern Program Grant	100,000	100,000	0	0.00
Account Classification Total: INTGOV ST - Intergovernmental - State Revenues		**$ 4,747,382**	**$ 5,470,574**	**$ (723,192)**	**-13%**
TRNS IN - Transfers In					
5510	Transfers From Other Funds	1,888,490	0	1,888,490	#DIV/0!
5511	Casino/Local Impact Grant Funds	2,404,470	2,265,375	139,095	6%
Account Classification Total: TRNS IN - Transfers In		**$ 4,292,960**	**$ 2,265,375**	**$ 2,027,585**	**90%**
	REVENUES Total	**$ 283,840,947**	**$ 261,917,617**	**$ 21,983,330**	**8%**

Worcester County
Expense Annual Budget by Organization Report

	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
Department: 1001 County Commissioners				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$1,884,314	$1,690,633	$193,681	11%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$56,870	$59,829	-$2,959	-5%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$41,992	$45,125	-$3,133	-7%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$68,851	$64,717	$4,134	6%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: County Commissioners	**$2,052,027**	**$1,860,304**	**$191,723**	**10%**
Department: 1002 Circuit Court				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$1,919,807	$1,784,336	$135,471	8%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$263,696	$364,278	-$100,582	-28%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$114,465	$110,465	$4,000	4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$8,900	$10,400	-$1,500	-14%
Department Total: Circuit Court	**$2,306,868**	**$2,269,479**	**$37,389**	**2%**
Department: 1003 Orphan's Court				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$72,658	$70,800	$1,858	3%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$2,800	$2,800	$0	0%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$6,800	$6,800	$0	0%
Department Total: Orphan's Court	**$82,258**	**$80,400**	**$1,858**	**2%**
Department: 1004 State's Attorney				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$4,420,613	$4,592,627	-$172,014	-4%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$114,964	$113,947	$1,017	1%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$24,250	$24,250	$0	0%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$26,755	$24,350	$2,405	10%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: State's Attorney	**$4,586,582**	**$4,755,174**	**-$168,592**	**-4%**
Department: 1005 Treasurer's Office				
Location: 010 Treasurer's Office				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$1,709,376	$1,677,387	$31,989	2%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$193,610	$184,155	$9,455	5%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$2,940	$2,900	$40	1%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$16,225	$17,550	-$1,325	-8%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Location Total: Treasurer's Office	**$1,922,151**	**$1,881,992**	**$40,159**	**2%**
Department: 1006 Elections Office				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$809,727	$660,851	$148,876	23%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$609,255	$670,011	-$60,756	-9%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$171,768	$152,887	$18,881	12%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$16,610	$15,231	$1,379	9%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Elections Office	**$1,607,360**	**$1,498,980**	**$108,380**	**7%**

Worcester County
Expense Annual Budget by Organization Report

	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
Department: 1007 Human Resources				
Location: 090 Human Resources				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$753,834	$714,935	$38,899	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$28,495	$27,940	$555	2%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$108,775	$37,100	$71,675	193%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$31,141	$5,200	$25,941	499%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Human Resources	**$922,245**	**$785,175**	**$137,070**	**17%**
Department: 1008 Development, Review & Permits				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$2,851,629	$2,681,106	$170,523	6%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$292,619	$303,075	-$10,456	-3%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$73,410	$104,961	-$31,551	-30%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$57,361	$52,996	$4,365	8%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Development, Review & Permits	**$3,275,019**	**$3,142,138**	**$132,881**	**4%**
Department: 1010 Environmental Programs				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$2,367,336	$2,205,102	$162,234	7%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$331,499	$396,393	-$64,894	-16%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$165,352	$121,705	$43,647	36%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$8,664	$6,164	$2,500	41%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$50,000	$50,000	$0	0%
Department Total: Environmental Programs	**$2,922,851**	**$2,779,364**	**$143,487**	**5%**
Department: 1011 Information Technology				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$1,677,341	$1,594,088	$83,253	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$24,880	$21,280	$3,600	17%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$3,720	$2,840	$880	31%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$9,200	$7,600	$1,600	21%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Information Technology	**$1,715,141**	**$1,625,808**	**$89,333**	**5%**
Department: 1090 Other General Government				
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$2,345,144	$1,405,979	$939,165	67%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$1,044,994	$993,754	$51,240	5%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$2,948,602	$2,143,366	$805,236	38%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Other General Government	**$6,338,740**	**$4,543,099**	**$1,795,641**	**40%**
Department: 1101 Sheriff's Office				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$16,353,706	$13,905,415	$2,448,291	18%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$1,442,990	$1,532,028	-$89,038	-6%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$815,410	$846,922	-$31,512	-4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$245,000	$206,500	$38,500	19%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$862,000	$790,000	$72,000	9%
Department Total: Sheriff's Office	**$19,719,106**	**$17,280,865**	**$2,438,241**	**14%**

Worcester County
Expense Annual Budget by Organization Report

	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
Department: 1102 Emergency Services				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$4,209,318	$3,316,340	$892,978	27%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$915,762	$879,109	$36,653	4%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$627,822	$226,572	$401,250	177%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$46,400	$23,800	$22,600	95%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$249,000	$95,000	$154,000	162%
Department Total: Emergency Services	**$6,048,302**	**$4,540,821**	**$1,507,481**	**33%**
Department: 1103 Jail				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$11,781,707	$10,827,666	$954,041	9%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$1,062,177	$969,139	$93,038	10%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$2,793,714	$2,419,813	$373,901	15%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$22,356	$10,056	$12,300	122%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$175,219	$13,895	$161,324	1160%
Department Total: Jail	**$15,835,173**	**$14,240,569**	**$1,594,604**	**11%**
Department: 1104 Fire Marshal				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$1,228,985	$1,166,229	$62,756	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$79,385	$68,755	$10,630	15%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$54,200	$49,110	$5,090	10%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$13,690	$11,565	$2,125	18%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$90,000	$176,000	-$86,000	-49%
Department Total: Fire Marshal	**$1,466,260**	**$1,471,659**	**-$5,399**	**0%**
Department: 1105 Volunteer Fire Departments				
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$263,000	$82,200	$180,800	220%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$25,900	$23,072	$2,828	12%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$13,442,565	$12,084,644	$1,357,921	11%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Volunteer Fire Departments	**$13,731,465**	**$12,189,916**	**$1,541,549**	**13%**
Department: 1201 Maintenance				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$2,540,231	$2,094,699	$445,532	21%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$104,139	$98,547	$5,592	6%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$137,051	$100,908	$36,143	36%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$20,036	$17,550	$2,486	14%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$218,950	$103,750	$115,200	111%
Department Total: Maintenance	**$3,020,407**	**$2,415,454**	**$604,953**	**25%**
Department: 1202 Roads				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$3,298,499	$2,964,716	$333,783	11%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$1,974,629	$1,439,398	$535,231	37%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$1,582,173	$851,868	$730,305	86%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$19,113	$10,113	$9,000	89%
INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges	$0	$0	$0	
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$736,692	$570,100	$166,592	29%
Department Total: Roads	**$7,611,106**	**$5,836,195**	**$1,774,911**	**30%**

Worcester County
Expense Annual Budget by Organization Report

	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
Department: 1203 Public Works				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$1,128,377	$965,386	$162,991	17%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$36,205	$29,340	$6,865	23%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$259,670	$225,546	$34,124	15%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$15,100	$13,750	$1,350	10%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$65,000	$76,000	-$11,000	-14%
Department Total: Public Works	**$1,504,352**	**$1,310,022**	**$194,330**	**15%**
Department: 1204 Boat Landings				
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$355,000	$5,000	$350,000	7000%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$51,513	$49,438	$2,075	4%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Boat Landings	**$406,513**	**$54,438**	**$352,075**	**647%**
Department: 1205 Homeowner Convenience				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$629,135	$583,842	$45,293	8%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$12,200	$12,200	$0	0%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$266,992	$315,560	-$48,568	-15%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$1,000	$1,000	$0	0%
INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges	$0	$70,461	-$70,461	-100%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$68,000	$0	$68,000	
Department Total: Homeowner Convenience	**$977,327**	**$983,063**	**-$5,736**	**-1%**
Department: 1206 Recycling				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$783,000	$729,002	$53,998	7%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$20,470	$19,590	$880	4%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$328,910	$271,410	$57,500	21%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$1,000	$1,000	$0	0%
INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges	$0	$154,530	-$154,530	-100%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$110,000	$50,000	$60,000	120%
Department Total: Recycling	**$1,243,380**	**$1,225,532**	**$17,848**	**1%**
Department: 1301 Health Department				
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$0	$0	$0	
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$468,328	$458,116	$10,212	2%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$11,471,209	$11,258,191	$213,018	2%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$56,048	$0	$56,048	
Department Total: Health Department	**$11,995,585**	**$11,716,307**	**$279,278**	**2%**
Department: 1302 Mosquito Control				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$108,942	$99,306	$9,636	10%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$3,505	$3,325	$180	5%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$31,335	$29,750	$1,585	5%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$151,540	$95,200	$56,340	59%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Mosquito Control	**$295,322**	**$227,581**	**$67,741**	**30%**
Department: 1401 Commission on Aging				
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$138,635	$174,975	-$36,340	-21%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$203,700	$195,600	$8,100	4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$1,549,387	$1,405,730	$143,657	10%

Worcester County Expense Annual Budget by Organization Report				
	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$104,600	$0	$104,600	
Department Total: Commission on Aging	**$1,996,322**	**$1,776,305**	**$220,017**	**12%**

Worcester County
Expense Annual Budget by Organization Report

	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
Department: 1402 Other Social Services				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$0	$0	$0	
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$0	$0	$0	
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$646,368	$636,627	$9,741	2%
Department Total: Other Social Services	**$646,368**	**$636,627**	**$9,741**	**2%**
Department: 1502 WOR-WIC Community College				
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$2,707,168	$2,618,000	$89,168	3%
Department Total: WOR-WIC Community College	**$2,707,168**	**$2,618,000**	**$89,168**	**3%**
Department: 1505 Board of Education				
Location: 200 Administration				
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$123,078,141	$115,054,401	$8,023,740	7%
Location Total: Administration	$123,078,141	$115,054,401	$8,023,740	7%
Department Total: Board of Education	**$123,078,141**	**$115,054,401**	**$8,023,740**	**7%**
Department: 1601 Recreation Department				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$2,325,563	$1,915,122	$410,441	21%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$646,335	$631,255	$15,080	2%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$271,993	$245,678	$26,315	11%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$51,220	$41,853	$9,367	22%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$31,000	$0	$31,000	
Department Total: Recreation Department	**$3,326,111**	**$2,833,908**	**$492,203**	**17%**
Department: 1602 Parks Department				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$873,597	$835,032	$38,565	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$565,264	$1,423,284	-$858,020	-60%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$165,730	$148,766	$16,964	11%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$8,685	$11,245	-$2,560	-23%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$132,745	$106,000	$26,745	25%
Department Total: Parks Department	**$1,746,021**	**$2,524,327**	**-$778,306**	**-31%**
Department: 1603 Libraries				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$3,882,927	$3,470,934	$411,993	12%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$509,750	$469,975	$39,775	8%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$381,312	$334,507	$46,805	14%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$11,800	$11,000	$800	7%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$32,000	$0	$32,000	
Department Total: Libraries	**$4,817,789**	**$4,286,416**	**$531,373**	**12%**
Department: 1604 Other Recreation & Culture				
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$95,000	$80,000	$15,000	19%
Department Total: Other Recreation & Culture	**$95,000**	**$80,000**	**$15,000**	**19%**
Department: 1701 Extension Service				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$0	$0	$0	
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$20,449	$19,799	$650	3%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$0	$195	-$195	-94%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$262,292	$247,500	$14,792	6%
Department Total: Extension Service	**$282,741**	**$267,494**	**$15,247**	**6%**

Worcester County
Expense Annual Budget by Organization Report

	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance	% Variance
Department: 1702 Other Natural Resources				
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$50,000	$73,935	-$23,935	-32%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$565,800	$552,000	$13,800	2%
Department Total: Other Natural Resources	**$615,800**	**$625,935**	**-$10,135**	**-2%**
Department: 1801 Economic Development				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$256,482	$239,915	$16,567	7%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$250,650	$218,840	$31,810	15%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$78,575	$48,575	$30,000	62%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$27,100	$20,620	$6,480	31%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$20,000	$64,500	-$44,500	-69%
Department Total: Economic Development	**$632,807**	**$592,450**	**$40,357**	**7%**
Department: 1803 Tourism				
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	$490,694	$463,954	$26,740	6%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$289,762	$320,700	-$30,938	-10%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	$911,558	$845,558	$66,000	8%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$21,800	$12,850	$8,950	70%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	$0	$0	$0	
Department Total: Tourism	**$1,713,814**	**$1,643,062**	**$70,752**	**4%**
Department: 1901 Taxes Shared with Towns				
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$4,068,096	$3,630,114	$437,982	12%
Department Total: Taxes Shared with Towns	**$4,068,096**	**$3,630,114**	**$437,982**	**12%**
Department: 1902 Grants to Towns				
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	$50,000	$0	$50,000	
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$6,752,170	$6,617,628	$134,542	2%
Department Total: Grants to Towns	**$6,802,170**	**$6,617,628**	**$184,542**	**3%**
Department: 1975 Debt Service				
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	$10,080,635	$10,077,454	$3,181	0%
Department Total: Debt Service	**$10,080,635**	**$10,077,454**	**$3,181**	**0%**
Department: 1985 Interfund				
INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges	$6,834,973	$9,939,161	-$3,104,188	-31%
Department Total: Interfund	**$6,834,973**	**$9,939,161**	**-$3,104,188**	**-31%**
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$281,029,496**	**$261,917,617**	**$19,111,879**	**7%**

Worcester County FY2026 Proposed Budget Detailed Report

	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Fund: 100 - General Fund						
EXPENSES						
Department: 1001 - County Commissioners						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,309,793	1,202,756	107,037	9%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	1,000	0	1,000	N/A
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	528	526	2	0%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	9,000	9,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	211,481	180,705	30,776	17%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	173,941	143,970	29,971	21%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	100,360	89,499	10,861	12%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	527	526	1	0%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	27,764	18,282	9,482	52%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	1,979	1,974	5	0%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	2,243	2,237	6	0%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	2,428	2,421	7	0%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	2,534	2,527	7	0%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	40,736	36,210	4,526	12%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			1,884,314	1,690,633	193,681	11%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	3,408	3,467	(59)	-2%
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	500	500	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	7,602	6,852	750	11%
	6100.165	Administrative Expense Meeting Expense	950	950	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	5,000	7,000	(2,000)	-29%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	2,500	3,000	(500)	-17%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	500	500	0	0%
	6110.080	Supplies & Equipment Computer Repairs & Supplies	500	500	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	4,200	3,100	1,100	35%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	14,508	14,508	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	4,050	6,400	(2,350)	-37%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	12,052	12,052	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	1,100	1,000	100	10%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			56,870	59,829	(2,959)	-5%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6510.020	Legal Services County Attorney Expenses	11,212	6,965	4,247	61%
	6510.035	Legal Services County Code Expenses	8,000	11,500	(3,500)	-30%
	6510.050	Legal Services Court Reporters	600	600	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,680	1,560	120	8%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6900.010	Advertising Budget Advertisements	4,500	4,500	0	0%
	6900.030	Advertising Legislative Advertisements	12,000	16,000	(4,000)	-25%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			41,992	45,125	(3,133)	-7%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	21,000	21,000	0	0%
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	3,850	3,850	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	42,801	38,667	4,134	11%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	1,200	1,200	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			68,851	64,717	4,134	6%
Department Total: 1001 - County Commissioners			2,052,027	1,860,304	191,723	10%
Department: 1002 - Circuit Court						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,308,877	1,229,597	79,280	6%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	527	538	(11)	-2%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	8,000	8,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	226,168	207,239	18,929	9%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	173,819	147,183	26,636	18%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	100,130	94,027	6,103	6%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	527	538	(11)	-2%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	27,744	18,690	9,054	48%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	1,978	2,018	(40)	-2%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	2,242	2,287	(45)	-2%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	2,426	2,475	(49)	-2%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	2,532	2,583	(51)	-2%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	64,837	69,161	(4,324)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			1,919,807	1,784,336	135,471	8%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6100.080	Administrative Expense Copier Supplies	180	180	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	4,734	4,734	0	0%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6100.150	Administrative Expense Incentives & Events	1,515	1,515	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	7,500	7,500	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6110.120	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Rental	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6110.170	Supplies & Equipment Jury Expenses	3,700	3,700	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	516	516	0	0%
	6110.270	Supplies & Equipment Office Equipment Repairs	300	300	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	5,590	5,590	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	810	810	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	8,080	8,080	0	0%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	17,626	17,626	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	500	500	0	0%
	6160.040	Grant Programs Court Security Grant	10,134	110,716	(100,582)	-91%
	6160.060	Grant Programs Drug Treatment Court	67,396	67,396	0	0%
	6160.070	Grant Programs Family Support Services	126,115	126,115	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			263,696	364,278	(100,582)	-28%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6510.030	Legal Services Court Appointed Attorneys	12,000	8,000	4,000	50%
	6510.040	Legal Services Court Library Levy	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6510.050	Legal Services Court Reporters	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6510.080	Legal Services Jury Per Diem	92,000	92,000	0	0%
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	265	265	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	3,200	3,200	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			114,465	110,465	4,000	4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	1,400	1,400	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	6,000	7,500	(1,500)	-20%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	1,500	1,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			8,900	10,400	(1,500)	-14%
Department Total: 1002 - Circuit Court			2,306,868	2,269,479	37,389	2%
Department: 1003 - Orphan's Court						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	28,501	28,501	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	11	12	(1)	-8%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	27,180	25,169	2,011	8%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	3,785	3,412	373	11%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	2,181	2,181	0	0%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	11	12	(1)	-8%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	604	433	171	39%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	43	47	(4)	-9%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	49	53	(4)	-8%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	53	57	(4)	-7%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	55	60	(5)	-8%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	10,185	10,863	(678)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			72,658	70,800	1,858	3%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	2,700	2,700	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	100	100	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			2,800	2,800	0	0%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	4,800	4,800	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	2,000	2,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			6,800	6,800	0	0%
Department Total: 1003 - Orphan's Court			82,258	80,400	1,858	2%
Department: 1004 - State's Attorney						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	3,128,701	3,367,777	(239,076)	-7%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	1,261	1,476	(215)	-15%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	20,000	20,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	404,869	334,089	70,780	21%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	415,491	403,123	12,368	3%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	238,567	228,425	10,142	4%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	1,259	1,476	(217)	-15%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	66,319	51,258	15,061	29%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	4,728	5,534	(806)	-15%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	5,359	6,272	(913)	-15%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	5,800	6,789	(989)	-15%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	6,052	7,084	(1,032)	-15%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	122,207	159,324	(37,117)	-23%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			4,420,613	4,592,627	(172,014)	-4%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	7,900	9,049	(1,149)	-13%
	6100.160	Administrative Expense Legal Books & Publications	1,485	3,065	(1,580)	-52%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	9,100	9,000	100	1%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	6,720	4,100	2,620	64%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	12,480	12,480	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6110.390	Supplies & Equipment Small Equipment	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	8,004	10,020	(2,016)	-20%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	58,471	54,471	4,000	7%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	804	1,762	(958)	-54%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			114,964	113,947	1,017	1%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6510.090	Legal Services Prosecution Expenses	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6510.105	Legal Services Appeal Expenses	2,700	2,700	0	0%
	6510.110	Legal Services Transcripts	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	8,000	8,000	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	1,550	1,550	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,500	1,500	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			24,250	24,250	0	0%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.080	Travel, Training & Expense Extradition Expense	14,000	14,000	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	12,755	10,350	2,405	23%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			26,755	24,350	2,405	10%
Department Total: 1004 - State's Attorney			4,586,582	4,755,174	(168,592)	-4%
Department: 1005 - Treasurer's Office						
Location: 010 - Treasurer's Office						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,185,966	1,178,673	7,293	1%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	478	516	(38)	-7%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	163,046	160,185	2,861	2%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	157,496	141,087	16,409	12%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	91,281	87,996	3,285	4%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	477	516	(39)	-8%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	25,139	17,916	7,223	40%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	1,792	1,934	(142)	-7%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	2,031	2,192	(161)	-7%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	2,199	2,373	(174)	-7%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	2,294	2,476	(182)	-7%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	65,177	69,523	(4,346)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			1,709,376	1,677,387	31,989	2%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	1,100	0	1,100	N/A
	6100.055	Administrative Expense Bond	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	4,400	3,925	475	12%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	3,500	3,500	0	0%
	6100.130	Administrative Expense Food Tax Bills & Envelopes	250	400	(150)	-38%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	9,350	9,400	(50)	-1%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6100.220	Administrative Expense Payroll Checks & Forms	2,000	3,500	(1,500)	-43%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	100	100	0	0%
	6100.250	Administrative Expense Room Tax Bills & Envelopes	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6100.260	Administrative Expense Tax Bills & Envelopes	23,500	21,000	2,500	12%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	7,880	6,640	1,240	19%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	3,420	3,600	(180)	-5%
	6110.270	Supplies & Equipment Office Equipment Repairs	300	300	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	1,750	2,600	(850)	-33%

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	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	6,060	3,240	2,820	87%
	6130.020	Equipment Maintenance Equipment Annual Maint Contr.	119,500	115,050	4,450	4%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	1,000	1,400	(400)	-29%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			193,610	184,155	9,455	5%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.110	Consulting Services Programming	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,440	1,400	40	3%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			2,940	2,900	40	1%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	6,000	7,000	(1,000)	-14%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	3,000	4,200	(1,200)	-29%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	5,025	4,350	675	16%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	2,200	2,000	200	10%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			16,225	17,550	(1,325)	-8%
Location Total: 010 - Treasurer's Office			1,922,151	1,881,992	40,159	2%
Department Total: 1005 - Treasurer's Office			1,922,151	1,881,992	40,159	2%
Department: 1006 - Elections Office						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	131,900	16,550	115,350	697%
	6000.500	Personnel Services State Employee Salary & Benefit	668,350	642,642	25,708	4%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	53	7	46	657%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	5,650	1,267	4,383	346%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	53	7	46	657%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	2,796	252	2,544	1010%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	199	27	172	637%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	226	31	195	629%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	245	33	212	642%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	255	35	220	629%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			809,727	660,851	148,876	23%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	630	630	0	0%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	1,400	1,200	200	17%
	6100.180	Administrative Expense National Voter Regis Postcards	792	764	28	4%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	20,000	11,000	9,000	82%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	2,000	1,500	500	33%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	6,877	6,457	420	7%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	2,000	9,000	(7,000)	-78%
	6110.440	Supplies & Equipment Voting Machines	298,471	327,845	(29,374)	-9%

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	6120.010	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Absentee Ballot Expenses	89,300	43,400	45,900	106%
	6120.020	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Ballot Expenses	750	750	0	0%
	6120.040	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Election Board Member Mileage	3,800	3,800	0	0%
	6120.050	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Election Cell Phone	1,750	1,500	250	17%
	6120.060	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Election Judge Expense	84,125	176,750	(92,625)	-52%
	6120.070	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Election Judge Training Material	10,500	10,000	500	5%
	6120.080	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Poll Rent & School Expense	2,800	2,800	0	0%
	6120.090	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Specimen Ballot Expense	42,000	24,000	18,000	75%
	6120.095	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses State Allocation County Share	19,104	27,159	(8,055)	-30%
	6120.110	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Voter Notification Cards	4,000	3,500	500	14%
	6120.120	Voting Machine & Poll Expenses Voting Machine Supplies	10,800	9,800	1,000	10%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	1,627	1,627	0	0%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	2,760	2,760	0	0%
	6130.100	Equipment Maintenance Other Equipment Lease	1,769	1,769	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			609,255	670,011	(60,756)	-9%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.150	Consulting Services Temporary Clerical Staff	54,000	47,520	6,480	14%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	3,000	2,912	88	3%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	900	650	250	38%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	11,078	8,750	2,328	27%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	100	100	0	0%
	6550.170	Building Site Expenses Office Rent/Lease	94,000	84,265	9,735	12%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	1,100	1,100	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	750	750	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	6,840	6,840	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			171,768	152,887	18,881	12%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	2,489	2,489	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	10,121	8,742	1,379	16%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	4,000	4,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			16,610	15,231	1,379	9%
Department Total: 1006 - Elections Office			1,607,360	1,498,980	108,380	7%
Department: 1007 - Human Resources						
Location: 090 - Human Resources						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	458,582	435,622	22,960	5%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	4,000	4,000	0	0%

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	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	185	191	(6)	-3%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	56,145	59,563	(3,418)	-6%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	60,900	52,144	8,756	17%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	35,395	33,270	2,125	6%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	185	191	(6)	-3%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	9,721	6,621	3,100	47%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	693	715	(22)	-3%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	785	810	(25)	-3%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	850	877	(27)	-3%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	887	915	(28)	-3%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	20,368	21,726	(1,358)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			651,696	619,645	32,051	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	540	540	0	0%
	6100.040	Administrative Expense Alcohol and Drug Testing Supplie	363	100	263	263%
	6100.050	Administrative Expense Background Checks	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	600	500	100	20%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	720	528	192	36%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	400	400	0	0%
	6100.150	Administrative Expense Incentives & Events	1,250	1,250	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	2,400	2,400	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	1,272	1,272	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	2,040	2,040	0	0%
	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	510	510	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	2,400	2,400	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	850	850	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			23,345	22,790	555	2%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	50,000	0	50,000	N/A
	6530.050	Consulting Services Crisis/Fitness for Duty	2,000	1,700	300	18%
	6530.080	Consulting Services Physicals, Shots & Drug Testing	32,375	16,000	16,375	102%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	3,500	3,500	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	400	400	0	0%
	6900.040	Advertising Personnel Advertisements	19,000	14,000	5,000	36%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			108,775	37,100	71,675	193%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						

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	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	3,225	2,800	425	15%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	20,800	800	20,000	2500%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	7,016	1,400	5,616	401%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	100	200	(100)	-50%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			31,141	5,200	25,941	499%
Location Total: 090 - Human Resources			814,957	684,735	130,222	19%
Location: 095 - Volunteer Services						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	62,891	59,326	3,565	6%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	25	26	(1)	-4%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	20,857	19,293	1,564	8%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	8,352	7,101	1,251	18%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	4,818	4,544	274	6%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	25	26	(1)	-4%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	1,333	902	431	48%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	95	97	(2)	-2%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	108	110	(2)	-2%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	117	119	(2)	-2%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	122	125	(3)	-2%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	3,395	3,621	(226)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			102,138	95,290	6,848	7%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.150	Administrative Expense Incentives & Events	5,150	5,150	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			5,150	5,150	0	0%
Location Total: 095 - Volunteer Services			107,288	100,440	6,848	7%
Department Total: 1007 - Human Resources			922,245	785,175	137,070	17%
Department: 1008 - Development, Review & Permits						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,941,460	1,839,033	102,427	6%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	782	805	(23)	-3%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	333,145	313,980	19,165	6%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	257,826	220,132	37,694	17%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	148,800	139,573	9,227	7%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	781	805	(24)	-3%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	41,153	27,954	13,199	47%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	2,934	3,018	(84)	-3%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	3,325	3,421	(96)	-3%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	3,599	3,702	(103)	-3%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	3,756	3,863	(107)	-3%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	96,068	106,820	(10,752)	-10%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			2,851,629	2,681,106	170,523	6%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	1,200	900	300	33%
	6100.052	Administrative Expense Bank Fees	0	2,000	(2,000)	-100%
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	1,915	1,915	0	0%

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	6100.070	Administrative Expense International Bldg Code Supplies	500	500	0	0%
	6100.080	Administrative Expense Copier Supplies	75	75	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	3,299	2,927	372	13%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	3,500	3,000	500	17%
	6100.240	Administrative Expense Printing Expense	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6110.080	Supplies & Equipment Computer Repairs & Supplies	750	750	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	10,880	22,030	(11,150)	-51%
	6110.140	Supplies & Equipment GIS Mapping Supplies	11,032	4,900	6,132	125%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	6,820	6,820	0	0%
	6110.270	Supplies & Equipment Office Equipment Repairs	300	300	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	3,000	4,450	(1,450)	-33%
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	150	150	0	0%
	6110.390	Supplies & Equipment Small Equipment	500	500	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	2,978	2,978	0	0%
	6130.020	Equipment Maintenance Equipment Annual Maint Contr.	1,100	1,100	0	0%
	6130.060	Equipment Maintenance Software Licensing	34,000	34,580	(580)	-2%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	9,920	7,500	2,420	32%
	6130.075	Equipment Maintenance Software Upgrades	0	5,000	(5,000)	-100%
	6150.040	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniform Allowance	3,500	3,500	0	0%
	6180.010	Housing Rehabilitation Program CDBG Advertising	700	700	0	0%
	6180.020	Housing Rehabilitation Program CDBG Appraisals & Credit Reports	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6180.040	Housing Rehabilitation Program CDBG Housing Rehab Grant	150,000	150,000	0	0%
	6180.050	Housing Rehabilitation Program Housing Rental & Disability Cons	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6180.060	Housing Rehabilitation Program Lead Paint Contract Inspections	23,000	23,000	0	0%
	6180.080	Housing Rehabilitation Program Special Loan Fee Expense	7,000	7,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			292,619	303,075	(10,456)	-3%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6510.010	Legal Services Board/Commission Attorney	32,000	32,000	0	0%
	6510.050	Legal Services Court Reporters	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	0	31,551	(31,551)	-100%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	13,000	13,000	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	150	150	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,260	1,260	0	0%
	6900.025	Advertising Legal Advertisements	18,000	18,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			73,410	104,961	(31,551)	-30%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	26,400	26,400	0	0%
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	1,735	2,215	(480)	-22%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	26,226	21,381	4,845	23%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			57,361	52,996	4,365	8%
Department Total: 1008 - Development, Review & Permits			3,275,019	3,142,138	132,881	4%
Department: 1010 - Environmental Programs						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,585,656	1,479,048	106,608	7%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	639	647	(8)	-1%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	322,930	315,800	7,130	2%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	210,575	177,042	33,533	19%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	121,418	112,805	8,613	8%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	638	647	(9)	-1%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	33,611	22,482	11,129	50%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	2,396	2,427	(31)	-1%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	2,716	2,751	(35)	-1%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	2,940	2,978	(38)	-1%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	3,067	3,107	(40)	-1%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	69,250	73,868	(4,618)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			2,367,336	2,205,102	162,234	7%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.030	Administrative Expense Alcohol and Drug Testing	200	100	100	100%
	6100.052	Administrative Expense Bank Fees	7,000	7,000	0	0%
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	585	691	(106)	-15%
	6100.080	Administrative Expense Copier Supplies	344	172	172	100%
	6100.090	Administrative Expense Database/Shared Computer costs	1,350	1,350	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	3,270	3,270	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	600	600	0	0%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	250	150	100	67%
	6100.240	Administrative Expense Printing Expense	400	400	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6110.050	Supplies & Equipment Camera Equipment	100	100	0	0%
	6110.080	Supplies & Equipment Computer Repairs & Supplies	3,200	2,700	500	19%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	11,220	1,820	9,400	516%
	6110.140	Supplies & Equipment GIS Mapping Supplies	400	400	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	7,420	7,420	0	0%
	6110.270	Supplies & Equipment Office Equipment Repairs	175	175	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	390	0	390	N/A
	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	245	245	0	0%
	6110.295	Supplies & Equipment Program Supplies and Equipment	1,950	2,000	(50)	-3%
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	2,880	2,280	600	26%
	6110.390	Supplies & Equipment Small Equipment	520	520	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6160.135	Grant Programs Other Environmental Grants	0	96,000	(96,000)	-100%
	6160.140	Grant Programs Septic Upgrade Grant	280,000	260,000	20,000	8%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			331,499	396,393	(64,894)	-16%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6530.140	Consulting Services Stormwater Management Review	110,000	74,100	35,900	48%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	23,000	20,000	3,000	15%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	4,500	4,500	0	0%
	6540.040	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Registration	300	300	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	9,687	5,000	4,687	94%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	3,120	3,060	60	2%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,045	1,045	0	0%
	6900.025	Advertising Legal Advertisements	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6900.030	Advertising Legislative Advertisements	500	500	0	0%
	6900.060	Advertising Water & Sewer Plan Amendments	2,000	2,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			165,352	121,705	43,647	36%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	1,400	300	1,100	367%
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	635	635	0	0%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	6,365	5,115	1,250	24%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	114	114	0	0%

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	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	150	0	150	N/A
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			8,664	6,164	2,500	41%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	9010.060	Capital Equipment Other	0	0	0	N/A
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			50,000	50,000	0	0%
Department Total: 1010 - Environmental Programs			2,922,851	2,779,364	143,487	5%
Department: 1011 - Information Technology						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,147,006	1,121,443	25,563	2%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	13,400	3,000	10,400	347%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	462	491	(29)	-6%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	174,180	151,630	22,550	15%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	152,322	134,237	18,085	13%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	87,747	85,653	2,094	2%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	462	491	(29)	-6%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	24,313	17,046	7,267	43%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	1,733	1,840	(107)	-6%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	1,965	2,086	(121)	-6%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	2,126	2,258	(132)	-6%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	2,219	2,356	(137)	-6%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	59,406	61,557	(2,151)	-3%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			1,677,341	1,594,088	83,253	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	700	500	200	40%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	80	80	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	600	500	100	20%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	200	200	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	2,360	4,560	(2,200)	-48%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	18,940	13,740	5,200	38%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	800	500	300	60%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			24,880	21,280	3,600	17%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	2,200	1,800	400	22%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	1,480	1,000	480	48%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	40	40	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			3,720	2,840	880	31%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	4,000	2,400	1,600	67%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	200	200	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			9,200	7,600	1,600	21%
Department Total: 1011 - Information Technology			1,715,141	1,625,808	89,333	5%
Department: 1090 - Other General Government						
Location: 020 - Information Technology						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	5,400	4,852	548	11%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	9,500	8,000	1,500	19%
	6110.080	Supplies & Equipment Computer Repairs & Supplies	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	20,000	20,000	0	0%
	6110.165	Supplies & Equipment IT	4,500	4,500	0	0%
	6110.390	Supplies & Equipment Small Equipment	11,000	0	11,000	N/A
	6130.020	Equipment Maintenance Equipment Annual Maint Contr.	152,000	152,000	0	0%
	6130.042	Equipment Maintenance Network	206,000	205,000	1,000	0%
	6130.060	Equipment Maintenance Software Licensing	147,915	120,665	27,250	23%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	1,011,365	179,850	831,515	462%
	6130.075	Equipment Maintenance Software Upgrades	137,200	134,750	2,450	2%
	6160.043	Grant Programs Other Grants	100,000	100,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			1,814,880	939,617	875,263	93%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6500.090	Systems Maintenance Wireless Network Upgrades	500	500	0	0%
	6530.110	Consulting Services Programming	12,000	17,000	(5,000)	-29%
	6550.305	Building Site Expenses Utility Locator	500	500	0	0%
	6700.250	Other Maint. & Svcs Internet Service	5,200	5,000	200	4%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			18,200	23,000	(4,800)	-21%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	9,500	8,000	1,500	19%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			9,500	8,000	1,500	19%
Location Total: 020 - Information Technology			1,842,580	970,617	871,963	90%
Location: 025 - Management Information Systems						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6110.270	Supplies & Equipment Office Equipment Repairs	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6110.350	Supplies & Equipment Scanners	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	161,189	154,200	6,989	5%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			172,189	165,200	6,989	4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	5,000	5,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			5,000	5,000	0	0%
Location Total: 025 - Management Information Systems			177,189	170,200	6,989	4%
Location: 050 - Courthouse						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	3,000	5,000	(2,000)	-40%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	13,260	13,260	0	0%

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	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	93,000	93,000	0	0%
	6550.070	Building Site Expenses Elevator Testing	10,300	10,000	300	3%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	2,030	2,030	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	225	225	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6550.110	Building Site Expenses Heating Fuel Oil	28,000	28,000	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	700	700	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	684	684	0	0%
	6550.230	Building Site Expenses Security System Expenses	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	920	920	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	15,000	14,600	400	3%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	600	600	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	2,400	2,400	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			227,119	228,419	(1,300)	-1%
Location Total: 050 - Courthouse			227,119	228,419	(1,300)	-1%
Location: 055 - Public Safety Storage						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.015	Building Site Expenses Building Supplies	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.020	Building Site Expenses Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	2,200	2,200	0	0%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	200	200	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	500	400	100	25%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	1,000	1,500	(500)	-33%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	300	100	33%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	500	500	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	800	800	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			27,800	28,100	(300)	-1%
Location Total: 055 - Public Safety Storage			27,800	28,100	(300)	-1%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Location: 060 - Isle of Wight						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	500	500	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	6,756	6,600	156	2%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	7,000	7,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	380	310	70	23%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	50	50	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	345	340	5	1%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	750	1,000	(250)	-25%
	6550.240	Building Site Expenses Sewer Pump/Septic Tank Maint	400	400	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	110	100	10	10%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,100	1,100	0	0%
	6550.320	Building Site Expenses Water Treatment	3,000	6,000	(3,000)	-50%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			27,891	30,900	(3,009)	-10%
Location Total: 060 - Isle of Wight			27,891	30,900	(3,009)	-10%
Location: 070 - Government Center						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	18,352	18,322	30	0%
	6100.165	Administrative Expense Meeting Expense	3,480	3,480	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	3,000	5,000	(2,000)	-40%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	150,100	145,000	5,100	4%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6110.110	Supplies & Equipment Disaster Preparedness Materials	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6110.370	Supplies & Equipment Sign Materials	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	162,783	109,000	53,783	49%
	6130.100	Equipment Maintenance Other Equipment Lease	9,360	9,360	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			358,075	301,162	56,913	19%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6510.070	Legal Services Judgements & Lawsuits	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6530.010	Consulting Services Annual Audit Fees	99,200	53,000	46,200	87%
	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	81,500	81,500	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	25,000	25,000	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6545	Energy	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	13,500	5,000	8,500	170%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	69,675	68,000	1,675	2%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	14,885	12,000	2,885	24%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	100,000	100,000	0	0%
	6550.070	Building Site Expenses Elevator Testing	3,800	3,800	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	1,650	1,650	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	175	175	0	0%
	6550.085	Building Site Expenses Generator Fuel Oil	800	800	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	70,000	70,000	0	0%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	14,000	14,000	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	3,500	3,500	0	0%
	6550.170	Building Site Expenses Office Rent/Lease	2,760	2,760	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	350	350	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	250	250	0	0%
	6550.230	Building Site Expenses Security System Expenses	5,000	6,000	(1,000)	-17%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	1,250	1,250	0	0%
	6550.260	Building Site Expenses Taxes	500	500	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	47,000	47,000	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	17,500	17,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			607,295	549,035	58,260	11%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	30,700	33,800	(3,100)	-9%
	7000.050	Travel, Training & Expense Courier Service	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	700	700	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	26,145	24,635	1,510	6%
	7040.010	Tri-County Council Shore Transit MTA Local Match	387,737	415,814	(28,077)	-7%
	7040.020	Tri-County Council Shore Transit Capital Match	66,867	30,520	36,347	119%
	7040.030	Tri-County Council Tri-County Council	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	7120.110	Other Non-Matching Expenses Briddletown Service Area Appro.	31,500	31,500	0	0%

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	7120.130	Other Non-Matching Expenses SDAT Expense	1,265,573	685,000	580,573	85%
	7170.100	Benefits & Insurance Property & Liability Insurance	1,016,450	800,000	216,450	27%
	7500	Other Expenses	96,930	96,897	33	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			2,934,102	2,130,366	803,736	38%
Location Total: 070 - Government Center			3,899,472	2,980,563	918,909	31%
Location: 075 - Other Government Buildings						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	132	132	0	0%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	200	200	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	5,280	4,600	680	15%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	900	900	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	18,750	18,750	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	900	900	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	130	130	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	300	300	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	520	520	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	6,840	4,092	2,748	67%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	672	672	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,560	1,560	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	900	900	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	400	400	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	5,400	7,614	(2,214)	-29%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			47,884	46,670	1,214	3%
Location Total: 075 - Other Government Buildings			47,884	46,670	1,214	3%
Location: 080 - State's Attorney Building						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	835	800	35	4%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	10,500	10,500	0	0%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	40,000	40,000	0	0%
	6550.070	Building Site Expenses Elevator Testing	3,650	3,500	150	4%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	553	553	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	40	40	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	500	500	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	408	408	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.230	Building Site Expenses Security System Expenses	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	760	760	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	3,240	3,240	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	120	120	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	1,060	1,000	60	6%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			69,466	69,221	245	0%
Location Total: 080 - State's Attorney Building			69,466	69,221	245	0%
Location: 085 - Bank Street Building						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	450	450	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	3,220	3,125	95	3%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	450	450	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	5,500	4,000	1,500	38%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	360	320	40	13%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	35	35	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	3,000	4,100	(1,100)	-27%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	360	325	35	11%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	204	204	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,320	1,200	120	10%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	50	50	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	550	550	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	840	600	240	40%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			19,339	18,409	930	5%
Location Total: 085 - Bank Street Building			19,339	18,409	930	5%
Department Total: 1090 - Other General Government			6,338,740	4,543,099	1,795,641	40%
Department: 1101 - Sheriff's Office						
Location: 030 - Sheriff						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	9,313,100	8,113,995	1,199,105	15%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	409,500	409,500	0	0%
	6000.410	Personnel Services Overtime Grants/Reimbursements	380,250	105,500	274,750	260%
	6000.450	Personnel Services Overtime Pay - Kennel	75,000	88,317	(13,317)	-15%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	3,753	3,513	240	7%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	1,282,499	1,096,592	185,907	17%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	2,966,755	2,430,260	536,495	22%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	795,743	620,112	175,631	28%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	3,748	3,513	235	7%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	197,411	122,013	75,398	62%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	14,074	13,174	900	7%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	15,951	14,931	1,020	7%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	17,265	16,160	1,105	7%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	18,016	16,863	1,153	7%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	385,629	409,173	(23,544)	-6%
	Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services		15,928,694	13,513,616	2,415,078	18%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.030	Administrative Expense Alcohol and Drug Testing	500	600	(100)	-17%
	6100.050	Administrative Expense Background Checks	1,500	2,000	(500)	-25%
	6100.055	Administrative Expense Bond	350	500	(150)	-30%
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	1,500	10,000	(8,500)	-85%
	6100.080	Administrative Expense Copier Supplies	200	240	(40)	-17%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	12,000	12,000	0	0%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	20,000	26,000	(6,000)	-23%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	200	100	100	100%
	6100.240	Administrative Expense Printing Expense	4,500	4,000	500	13%
	6110.030	Supplies & Equipment Bike Patrol Equipment	7,500	6,000	1,500	25%
	6110.035	Supplies & Equipment STAR Team Supplies & Equipment	33,000	30,000	3,000	10%
	6110.050	Supplies & Equipment Camera Equipment	420,000	420,000	0	0%
	6110.080	Supplies & Equipment Computer Repairs & Supplies	2,500	3,000	(500)	-17%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	40,890	58,500	(17,610)	-30%
	6110.125	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Maintenance & Repair	4,500	4,500	0	0%
	6110.160	Supplies & Equipment Investigation Supplies	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6110.180	Supplies & Equipment K9 Expense	20,000	42,000	(22,000)	-52%
	6110.190	Supplies & Equipment Law Enforcement Equipment	135,000	170,000	(35,000)	-21%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	54,000	50,000	4,000	8%
	6110.270	Supplies & Equipment Office Equipment Repairs	500	600	(100)	-17%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	7,500	8,400	(900)	-11%
	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	16,500	4,500	12,000	267%
	6110.297	Supplies & Equipment Community Policing Supplies	5,750	5,000	750	15%
	6110.320	Supplies & Equipment Radio Supplies	0	2,000	(2,000)	-100%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	4,200	5,500	(1,300)	-24%
	6130.020	Equipment Maintenance Equipment Annual Maint Contr.	5,000	6,000	(1,000)	-17%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6130.040	Equipment Maintenance MILES Computer Chg/MDT User Fees	46,500	48,000	(1,500)	-3%
	6130.060	Equipment Maintenance Software Licensing	10,000	25,000	(15,000)	-60%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	195,000	200,000	(5,000)	-3%
	6150.010	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Bullet Proof Vests	49,000	49,000	0	0%
	6150.040	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniform Allowance	80,750	80,750	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	100,000	100,000	0	0%
	6150.060	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Ammunition	84,500	84,585	(85)	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			1,374,340	1,469,775	(95,435)	-6%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6510.085	Legal Services Other Legal Expenses	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	6530.050	Consulting Services Crisis/Fitness for Duty	6,500	6,500	0	0%
	6530.090	Consulting Services Pre-Employment Physicals	7,000	7,000	0	0%
	6530.100	Consulting Services Professional Fees	0	4,500	(4,500)	-100%
	6530.115	Consulting Services Psychological Services	55,000	66,400	(11,400)	-17%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	400,000	348,000	52,000	15%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	175,000	175,000	0	0%
	6540.040	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Registration	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6540.045	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Repairs Outside	25,000	40,000	(15,000)	-38%
	6540.050	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Use/Other Areas	0	48,000	(48,000)	-100%
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	1,140	1,020	120	12%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	600	1,000	(400)	-40%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	1,500	1,557	(57)	-4%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	7,000	7,000	0	0%
	6550.170	Building Site Expenses Office Rent/Lease	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	3,600	7,980	(4,380)	-55%
	6900.040	Advertising Personnel Advertisements	4,300	3,500	800	23%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			705,640	736,457	(30,817)	-4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.030	Travel, Training & Expense Canine Training	35,000	7,000	28,000	400%
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	80,000	75,500	4,500	6%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	95,000	90,000	5,000	6%
	7000.090	Travel, Training & Expense Firearms Training	11,000	10,000	1,000	10%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	6,500	8,000	(1,500)	-19%
	7000.125	Travel, Training & Expense Transport Expenses	4,500	6,000	(1,500)	-25%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			232,000	196,500	35,500	18%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	568,000	560,000	8,000	1%
	9010.020	Capital Equipment Public Safety Equipment	294,000	230,000	64,000	28%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			862,000	790,000	72,000	9%
Location Total: 030 - Sheriff			19,102,674	16,706,348	2,396,326	14%
Location: 035 - Firearms Training Center						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	1,500	0	1,500	N/A
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			1,500	0	1,500	
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.020	Building Site Expenses Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	2,260	3,000	(740)	-25%
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	1,920	1,500	420	28%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	2,400	3,000	(600)	-20%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	100	125	(25)	-20%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	7,000	7,620	(620)	-8%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	1,020	1,020	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,800	2,100	(300)	-14%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			16,500	18,365	(1,865)	-10%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.090	Travel, Training & Expense Firearms Training	3,000	0	3,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			3,000	0	3,000	
Location Total: 035 - Firearms Training Center			21,000	18,365	2,635	14%
Location: 040 - Animal Control						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	266,969	250,305	16,664	7%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	20,000	16,500	3,500	21%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	108	109	(1)	-1%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	54,919	50,857	4,062	8%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	35,453	29,961	5,492	18%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	21,953	19,151	2,802	15%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	107	109	(2)	-2%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	5,659	3,799	1,860	49%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	403	410	(7)	-2%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	457	465	(8)	-2%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	495	503	(8)	-2%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	516	525	(9)	-2%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	16,973	18,105	(1,132)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			425,012	391,799	33,213	8%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	0	100	(100)	-100%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	1,000	1,500	(500)	-33%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	1,000	1,250	(250)	-20%
	6110.020	Supplies & Equipment Animal Food	8,000	8,000	0	0%
	6110.025	Supplies & Equipment Animal Transport Containers	500	600	(100)	-17%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6110.045	Supplies & Equipment Medication/Supplements	1,000	0	1,000	N/A
	6110.055	Supplies & Equipment Animal Supplies	1,000	0	1,000	N/A
	6110.070	Supplies & Equipment CO2 for Chambers	20,000	17,000	3,000	18%
	6110.135	Supplies & Equipment Fuel for Incinerator	4,500	6,000	(1,500)	-25%
	6110.160	Supplies & Equipment Investigation Supplies	3,500	0	3,500	N/A
	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	0	200	(200)	-100%
	6110.315	Supplies & Equipment Rabies Clinic Supplies	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6110.395	Supplies & Equipment Spay and Neuter Supplies	7,000	7,500	(500)	-7%
	6110.430	Supplies & Equipment Traps	2,500	2,953	(453)	-15%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	900	900	0	0%
	6150.040	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniform Allowance	4,250	4,250	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	7,000	7,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			67,150	62,253	4,897	8%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.120	Consulting Services Rabies Clinic	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6530.160	Consulting Services Veterinary Services	18,000	18,000	0	0%
	6530.165	Consulting Services Vet Services - Spay & Neuter	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	20,000	17,000	3,000	18%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6550.020	Building Site Expenses Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	1,320	1,440	(120)	-8%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	2,500	3,000	(500)	-17%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	600	600	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	7,200	7,200	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	360	360	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	300	300	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	8,500	8,500	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.130	Building Site Expenses Incinerator Expense	500	1,200	(700)	-58%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	360	300	60	20%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	360	230	130	57%
	6550.240	Building Site Expenses Sewer Pump/Septic Tank Maint	1,200	1,400	(200)	-14%

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	6550.242	Building Site Expenses Sewage Pump Monitoring	300	200	100	50%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	2,100	2,700	(600)	-22%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	150	150	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,320	1,320	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			93,270	92,100	1,170	1%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	10,000	10,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			10,000	10,000	0	0%
Location Total: 040 - Animal Control			595,432	556,152	39,280	7%
Department Total: 1101 - Sheriff's Office			19,719,106	17,280,865	2,438,241	14%
Department: 1102 - Emergency Services						
Location: 044 - Operations Center						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	2,635,605	2,168,052	467,553	22%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	200,000	180,518	19,482	11%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	1,062	949	113	12%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	12,000	12,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	575,735	346,838	228,897	66%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	350,008	259,516	90,492	35%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	216,925	164,076	52,849	32%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	1,061	949	112	12%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	55,867	32,955	22,912	70%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	3,983	3,558	425	12%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	4,514	4,033	481	12%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	4,886	4,365	521	12%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	5,098	4,554	544	12%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	142,574	133,977	8,597	6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			4,209,318	3,316,340	892,978	27%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	4,500	4,500	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	6,020	4,625	1,395	30%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6110.017	Supplies & Equipment AED Units	13,000	30,500	(17,500)	-57%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	9,540	0	9,540	N/A
	6110.110	Supplies & Equipment Disaster Preparedness Materials	2,500	1,900	600	32%
	6110.120	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Rental	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6110.125	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Maintenance & Repair	8,000	8,000	0	0%
	6110.140	Supplies & Equipment GIS Mapping Supplies	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	16,420	15,170	1,250	8%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	1,500	4,500	(3,000)	-67%
	6110.320	Supplies & Equipment Radio Supplies	52,450	42,450	10,000	24%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6110.325	Supplies & Equipment Radio Equipment	75,000	60,000	15,000	25%
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6110.390	Supplies & Equipment Small Equipment	17,000	0	17,000	N/A
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	2,988	2,988	0	0%
	6130.040	Equipment Maintenance MILES Computer Chg/MDT User Fees	2,400	2,400	0	0%
	6130.050	Equipment Maintenance Radio Maintenance Contract	323,567	319,668	3,899	1%
	6130.060	Equipment Maintenance Software Licensing	26,500	19,500	7,000	36%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	164,450	158,306	6,144	4%
	6130.090	Equipment Maintenance Weather Service Subscription	0	2,400	(2,400)	-100%
	6150.040	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniform Allowance	15,700	2,500	13,200	528%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	6,750	7,225	(475)	-7%
	6160.080	Grant Programs Homeland Security Grant	96,477	96,477	0	0%
	6160.602	Grant Programs Homeland Security - HMEP	0	35,000	(35,000)	-100%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			868,262	841,609	26,653	3%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6500.085	Systems Maintenance Sirens	10,000	0	10,000	N/A
	6530.030	Consulting Services Computer Services	100,000	0	100,000	N/A
	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	218,000	35,000	183,000	523%
	6530.050	Consulting Services Crisis/Fitness for Duty	40,000	0	40,000	N/A
	6530.095	Consulting Services Pre-Employment Testing	18,000	0	18,000	N/A
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	17,200	17,200	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	8,650	8,650	0	0%
	6540.040	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Registration	200	200	0	0%
	6540.045	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Repairs Outside	4,200	4,200	0	0%
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	5,100	5,100	0	0%
	6550.170	Building Site Expenses Office Rent/Lease	38,472	38,472	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	28,000	28,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			489,622	138,622	351,000	253%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	14,750	8,500	6,250	74%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	1,000	3,500	(2,500)	-71%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	30,650	11,800	18,850	160%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			46,400	23,800	22,600	95%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	189,000	77,000	112,000	145%

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	9010.020	Capital Equipment Public Safety Equipment	60,000	18,000	42,000	233%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			249,000	95,000	154,000	162%
Location Total: 044 - Operations Center			5,862,602	4,415,371	1,447,231	33%
Location: 045 - Transmitter Site						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6130.020	Equipment Maintenance Equipment Annual Maint Contr.	47,500	37,500	10,000	27%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			47,500	37,500	10,000	27%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	70,000	70,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	1,250	1,250	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	200	200	0	0%
	6550.086	Building Site Expenses Generator Fuel Propane	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6550.125	Building Site Expenses HVAC Repairs/Replacement	47,750	0	47,750	N/A
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	3,000	500	2,500	500%
	6550.290	Building Site Expenses Transmitter Site Expenses	4,000	4,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			138,200	87,950	50,250	57%
Location Total: 045 - Transmitter Site			185,700	125,450	60,250	48%
Department Total: 1102 - Emergency Services			6,048,302	4,540,821	1,507,481	33%
Department: 1103 - Jail						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	7,637,849	7,244,203	393,646	5%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	100,000	75,000	25,000	33%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	3,078	3,187	(109)	-3%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	1,439,285	1,268,511	170,774	13%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	1,404,948	1,109,633	295,315	27%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	591,946	552,969	38,977	7%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	3,074	3,187	(113)	-4%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	161,900	110,672	51,228	46%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	11,543	11,950	(407)	-3%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	13,082	13,543	(461)	-3%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	14,159	14,658	(499)	-3%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	14,775	15,295	(520)	-3%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	336,068	354,858	(18,790)	-5%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			11,781,707	10,827,666	954,041	9%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.050	Administrative Expense Background Checks	500	500	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	250	175	75	43%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	6,750	6,750	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	7,090	5,300	1,790	34%
	6110.190	Supplies & Equipment Law Enforcement Equipment	1,500	1,500	0	0%

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	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	2,256	1,500	756	50%
	6110.320	Supplies & Equipment Radio Supplies	7,000	5,000	2,000	40%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	6,700	6,700	0	0%
	6130.040	Equipment Maintenance MILES Computer Chg/MDT User Fees	210	588	(378)	-64%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	26,388	25,136	1,252	5%
	6150.040	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniform Allowance	66,500	57,400	9,100	16%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	12,863	12,250	613	5%
	6160.064	Grant Programs Inmate Opiod Medication	213,920	131,840	82,080	62%
	6190.010	Inmate Expenses Food Services	450,000	450,000	0	0%
	6190.020	Inmate Expenses Hospital & Physicians Charges	95,000	95,000	0	0%
	6190.030	Inmate Expenses Inmate Supplies & Services	15,750	15,000	750	5%
	6190.040	Inmate Expenses Jail Dentist	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	6190.070	Inmate Expenses Kitchen Supplies	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6190.080	Inmate Expenses Medical Supplies	20,000	25,000	(5,000)	-20%
	6190.090	Inmate Expenses Pharmaceutical	100,000	100,000	0	0%
	6190.100	Inmate Expenses Processing Supplies	8,500	8,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			1,062,177	969,139	93,038	10%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6190.075	Inmate Expenses Medical Contract	1,899,740	1,542,013	357,727	23%
	6530.050	Consulting Services Crisis/Fitness for Duty	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6530.080	Consulting Services Physicals, Shots & Drug Testing	500	500	0	0%
	6530.115	Consulting Services Psychological Services	6,780	6,500	280	4%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6540.045	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Repairs Outside	300	300	0	0%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	60,000	60,000	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	262,500	250,000	12,500	5%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	1,550	1,550	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	90,000	75,000	15,000	20%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.110	Building Site Expenses Heating Fuel Oil	260,000	260,000	0	0%
	6550.125	Building Site Expenses HVAC Repairs/Replacement	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	500	500	0	0%
	6550.240	Building Site Expenses Sewer Pump/Septic Tank Maint	10,500	10,000	500	5%

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	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	1,700	1,700	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	5,000	25,000	(20,000)	-80%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	5,750	4,600	1,150	25%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	148,400	140,000	8,400	6%
	6700.050	Other Maint. & Svcs Phone Service	650	650	0	0%
	6700.700	Other Maint. & Svcs Prison Labor	10,344	12,000	(1,656)	-14%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			2,793,714	2,419,813	373,901	15%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	15,100	4,000	11,100	278%
	7000.090	Travel, Training & Expense Firearms Training	4,850	3,850	1,000	26%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	2,406	2,206	200	9%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			22,356	10,056	12,300	122%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.020	Capital Equipment Public Safety Equipment	13,719	0	13,719	N/A
	9010.060	Capital Equipment Other	161,500	13,895	147,605	1062%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			175,219	13,895	161,324	1161%
Department Total: 1103 - Jail			15,835,173	14,240,569	1,594,604	11%
Department: 1104 - Fire Marshal						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	709,741	710,723	(982)	0%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	40,800	20,000	20,800	104%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	286	309	(23)	-7%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	130,786	116,076	14,710	13%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	237,489	216,577	20,912	10%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	57,418	52,131	5,287	10%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	286	310	(24)	-8%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	15,044	10,749	4,295	40%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	1,073	1,161	(88)	-8%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	1,216	1,315	(99)	-8%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	1,316	1,424	(108)	-8%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	1,373	1,486	(113)	-8%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	27,157	28,968	(1,811)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			1,228,985	1,166,229	62,756	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.060	Administrative Expense Books and Publications	1,000	500	500	100%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	6,940	6,285	655	10%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	200	200	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	1,500	1,000	500	50%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	400	400	0	0%
	6100.240	Administrative Expense Printing Expense	425	425	0	0%
	6110.050	Supplies & Equipment Camera Equipment	1,200	1,000	200	20%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	2,100	2,100	0	0%

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	6110.130	Supplies & Equipment Fire Investigation Equipment	2,500	2,000	500	25%
	6110.150	Supplies & Equipment Hazmat Supplies & Equipment	19,850	16,050	3,800	24%
	6110.160	Supplies & Equipment Investigation Supplies	2,500	2,000	500	25%
	6110.190	Supplies & Equipment Law Enforcement Equipment	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	3,900	3,900	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	1,500	1,200	300	25%
	6110.320	Supplies & Equipment Radio Supplies	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6110.450	Supplies & Equipment Fire Prevention	2,000	1,200	800	67%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	1,600	1,600	0	0%
	6130.040	Equipment Maintenance MILES Computer Chg/MDT User Fees	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	4,520	3,695	825	22%
	6150.020	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Fire Investigator Gear	8,300	7,400	900	12%
	6150.040	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniform Allowance	5,950	5,100	850	17%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	3,500	3,200	300	9%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			79,385	68,755	10,630	15%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.050	Consulting Services Crisis/Fitness for Duty	3,750	3,750	0	0%
	6530.080	Consulting Services Physicals, Shots & Drug Testing	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	30,000	27,000	3,000	11%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	14,000	12,000	2,000	17%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	450	360	90	25%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			54,200	49,110	5,090	10%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	2,940	2,520	420	17%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	4,350	3,625	725	20%
	7000.090	Travel, Training & Expense Firearms Training	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	4,900	3,920	980	25%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			13,690	11,565	2,125	18%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	72,000	144,000	(72,000)	-50%
	9010.020	Capital Equipment Public Safety Equipment	18,000	32,000	(14,000)	-44%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			90,000	176,000	(86,000)	-49%
Department Total: 1104 - Fire Marshal			1,466,260	1,471,659	(5,399)	0%
Department: 1105 - Volunteer Fire Departments						
Location: 100 - Town of Pocomoke						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	1,144,479	1,017,957	126,522	12%

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	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	159	617	(458)	-74%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			1,144,638	1,018,574	126,064	12%
Location Total: 100 - Town of Pocomoke			1,144,638	1,018,574	126,064	12%
Location: 105 - Pocomoke VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	301,924	266,650	35,274	13%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			333,959	298,735	35,224	12%
Location Total: 105 - Pocomoke VFD			333,959	298,735	35,224	12%
Location: 110 - Town of Berlin						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	4,175	11,500	(7,325)	-64%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			4,175	11,500	(7,325)	-64%
Location Total: 110 - Town of Berlin			4,175	11,500	(7,325)	-64%
Location: 115 - Berlin VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	301,924	266,650	35,274	13%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	1,309,919	1,197,215	112,704	9%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			1,643,878	1,495,950	147,928	10%
Location Total: 115 - Berlin VFD			1,643,878	1,495,950	147,928	10%
Location: 120 - Town of Snow Hill						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	754	2,200	(1,446)	-66%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			754	2,200	(1,446)	-66%
Location Total: 120 - Town of Snow Hill			754	2,200	(1,446)	-66%
Location: 125 - Snow Hill VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	301,924	266,650	35,274	13%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	1,007,236	903,312	103,924	12%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			1,341,195	1,202,047	139,148	12%
Location Total: 125 - Snow Hill VFD			1,341,195	1,202,047	139,148	12%
Location: 130 - Town of Ocean City						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	3,711,841	3,254,635	457,206	14%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	43,566	34,833	8,733	25%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			3,755,407	3,289,468	465,939	14%
Location Total: 130 - Town of Ocean City			3,755,407	3,289,468	465,939	14%
Location: 135 - Ocean City VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	301,924	266,650	35,274	13%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			333,959	298,735	35,224	12%
Location Total: 135 - Ocean City VFD			333,959	298,735	35,224	12%

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Location: 145 - Girdletree VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	311,924	273,650	38,274	14%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	86,550	81,600	4,950	6%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			430,509	387,335	43,174	11%
Location Total: 145 - Girdletree VFD			430,509	387,335	43,174	11%
Location: 155 - Stockton VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	311,924	273,650	38,274	14%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	89,850	85,800	4,050	5%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			433,809	391,535	42,274	11%
Location Total: 155 - Stockton VFD			433,809	391,535	42,274	11%
Location: 165 - Newark VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	311,924	273,650	38,274	14%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	411,192	407,064	4,128	1%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			755,151	712,799	42,352	6%
Location Total: 165 - Newark VFD			755,151	712,799	42,352	6%
Location: 175 - Bishopville VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	311,924	273,650	38,274	14%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	502,660	464,205	38,455	8%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			846,619	769,940	76,679	10%
Location Total: 175 - Bishopville VFD			846,619	769,940	76,679	10%
Location: 185 - Showell VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	311,924	273,650	38,274	14%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	473,780	441,243	32,537	7%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			817,739	746,978	70,761	9%
Location Total: 185 - Showell VFD			817,739	746,978	70,761	9%
Location: 195 - Ocean Pines VFD						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.010	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Fire Companies	301,924	266,650	35,274	13%
	7080.020	Fire & Ambulance County Grant to Ambulance Cos.	952,200	870,124	82,076	9%
	7080.060	Fire & Ambulance State Grant for Fire Companies	32,035	32,085	(50)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			1,286,159	1,168,859	117,300	10%
Location Total: 195 - Ocean Pines VFD			1,286,159	1,168,859	117,300	10%

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Location: 197 - County Fire Training Center						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6110.150	Supplies & Equipment Hazmat Supplies & Equipment	53,000	52,200	800	2%
	6200.020	Other Supplies & Materials Materials	0	30,000	(30,000)	-100%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			53,000	82,200	(29,200)	-36%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.010	Building Site Expenses Building/Property Improvement	1,500	1,200	300	25%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	1,300	1,200	100	8%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	3,000	2,500	500	20%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	300	200	100	50%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	7,500	7,000	500	7%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	500	472	28	6%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	200	200	0	0%
	6550.085	Building Site Expenses Generator Fuel Oil	600	600	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	3,500	3,000	500	17%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	1,500	1,000	500	50%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	500	400	100	25%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,400	1,400	0	0%
	6550.240	Building Site Expenses Sewer Pump/Septic Tank Maint	300	300	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	650	600	50	8%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	100	100	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	850	800	50	6%
	6550.320	Building Site Expenses Water Treatment	200	100	100	100%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			25,900	23,072	2,828	12%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.125	Travel, Training & Expense Transport Expenses	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	7080.030	Fire & Ambulance Firemens Training Center	15,000	10,000	5,000	50%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			18,000	13,000	5,000	38%
Location Total: 197 - County Fire Training Center			96,900	118,272	(21,372)	-18%
Location: 198 - LOSAP						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.040	Fire & Ambulance LOSAP Appropriation	205,266	205,266	0	0%
	7080.080	Fire & Ambulance EMT Paramedic Tuition Reimb Pgm	8,000	8,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			213,266	213,266	0	0%
Location Total: 198 - LOSAP			213,266	213,266	0	0%
Location: 200 - Administration						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6160.043	Grant Programs Other Grants	210,000	0	210,000	N/A

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Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			210,000	0	210,000	
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7080.070	Fire & Ambulance Fire	83,348	63,723	19,625	31%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			83,348	63,723	19,625	31%
Location Total: 200 - Administration			293,348	63,723	229,625	360%
Department Total: 1105 - Volunteer Fire Departments			13,731,465	12,189,916	1,541,549	13%
Department: 1201 - Maintenance						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,682,571	1,440,773	241,798	17%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	17,900	7,500	10,400	139%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	678	631	47	7%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	8,000	8,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	331,055	242,960	88,095	36%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	223,445	172,460	50,985	30%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	133,390	109,209	24,181	22%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	677	631	46	7%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	35,666	21,900	13,766	63%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	2,543	2,365	178	8%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	2,882	2,680	202	8%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	3,119	2,901	218	8%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	3,255	3,027	228	8%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	95,050	79,662	15,388	19%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			2,540,231	2,094,699	445,532	21%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	9,945	9,945	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	1,200	1,000	200	20%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	5,140	800	4,340	543%
	6110.200	Supplies & Equipment Lawn Equipment & Maintenance	8,950	4,500	4,450	99%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	17,250	14,952	2,298	15%
	6110.320	Supplies & Equipment Radio Supplies	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	5,700	3,500	2,200	63%
	6110.420	Supplies & Equipment Tools & Supplies	16,750	26,000	(9,250)	-36%
	6130.035	Equipment Maintenance Maintenance Management Service	22,204	24,450	(2,246)	-9%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	15,000	11,400	3,600	32%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			104,139	98,547	5,592	6%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.080	Consulting Services Physicals, Shots & Drug Testing	100	100	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	60,750	45,000	15,750	35%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	14,500	10,000	4,500	45%
	6540.040	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Registration	200	100	100	100%
	6540.060	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Equipment	21,800	7,500	14,300	191%

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	6540.080	Vehicle Operating Expenses Heavy Equipment Maintenance	3,000	2,500	500	20%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	3,200	3,200	0	0%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	10,000	9,500	500	5%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	355	325	30	9%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	400	400	0	0%
	6550.085	Building Site Expenses Generator Fuel Oil	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	5,500	5,500	0	0%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	348	348	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	588	564	24	4%
	6550.240	Building Site Expenses Sewer Pump/Septic Tank Maint	450	450	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	300	300	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,860	1,421	439	31%
	6800.010	Custodial Services Custodial Purchases	72,500	65,000	7,500	12%
	6800.020	Custodial Services Custodial Supply Billing	(67,500)	(60,000)	(7,500)	13%
	6900.005	Advertising Bid Advertising	500	500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			137,051	100,908	36,143	36%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	9,200	8,500	700	8%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	2,750	2,500	250	10%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	8,086	6,550	1,536	23%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			20,036	17,550	2,486	14%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	152,500	60,000	92,500	154%
	9010.070	Capital Equipment Heavy Equipment	66,450	43,750	22,700	52%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			218,950	103,750	115,200	111%
Department Total: 1201 - Maintenance			3,020,407	2,415,454	604,953	25%
Department: 1202 - Roads						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	2,051,470	1,919,036	132,434	7%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	20,000	20,000	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	827	840	(13)	-2%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	14,000	14,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	596,570	452,201	144,369	32%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	272,435	229,708	42,727	19%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	155,166	146,349	8,817	6%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	826	840	(14)	-2%

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	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	43,485	29,170	14,315	49%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	3,100	3,149	(49)	-2%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	3,514	3,569	(55)	-2%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	3,803	3,863	(60)	-2%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	3,968	4,031	(63)	-2%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	129,335	137,960	(8,625)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			3,298,499	2,964,716	333,783	11%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.080	Administrative Expense Copier Supplies	400	400	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	1,181	773	408	53%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	1,400	1,400	0	0%
	6110.080	Supplies & Equipment Computer Repairs & Supplies	160	160	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	5,060	7,180	(2,120)	-30%
	6110.120	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Rental	456	456	0	0%
	6110.125	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Maintenance & Repair	3,710	3,710	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	6,600	6,864	(264)	-4%
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	4,500	4,500	0	0%
	6110.345	Supplies & Equipment Salt	8,350	8,350	0	0%
	6110.365	Supplies & Equipment Shop Supplies	6,000	5,000	1,000	20%
	6110.370	Supplies & Equipment Sign Materials	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	6110.390	Supplies & Equipment Small Equipment	49,000	20,000	29,000	145%
	6110.400	Supplies & Equipment Striping Paint & Supplies	70,000	70,000	0	0%
	6110.420	Supplies & Equipment Tools & Supplies	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	1,212	1,305	(93)	-7%
	6130.055	Equipment Maintenance Roads Management System	8,400	12,700	(4,300)	-34%
	6130.075	Equipment Maintenance Software Upgrades	4,000	2,400	1,600	67%
	6140.010	Road Maintenance Materials Blacktop for Overlay	1,500,000	1,000,000	500,000	50%
	6140.020	Road Maintenance Materials Patching Material	35,000	25,000	10,000	40%
	6140.030	Road Maintenance Materials Stone	62,000	62,000	0	0%
	6140.040	Road Maintenance Materials Pipe	120,000	120,000	0	0%
	6140.050	Road Maintenance Materials Bridge Material	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6140.060	Road Maintenance Materials Other	1,700	1,500	200	13%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	18,000	18,200	(200)	-1%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			1,974,629	1,439,398	535,231	37%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.080	Consulting Services Physicals, Shots & Drug Testing	150	150	0	0%

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	6540.010	Vehicle Operating Expenses Equipment/Vehicle Rental	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	230,000	220,000	10,000	5%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	180,000	133,500	46,500	35%
	6540.040	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Registration	300	200	100	50%
	6540.045	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Repairs Outside	35,000	50,000	(15,000)	-30%
	6540.060	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Equipment	10,800	5,160	5,640	109%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	4,400	4,200	200	5%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	1,300	1,300	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	20,000	14,000	6,000	43%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	900	900	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	1,250	1,250	0	0%
	6550.085	Building Site Expenses Generator Fuel Oil	300	300	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	6,500	5,000	1,500	30%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	1,250	750	500	67%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	5,500	5,500	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	2,820	2,640	180	7%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	1,032	300	732	244%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	2,340	2,072	268	13%
	6550.240	Building Site Expenses Sewer Pump/Septic Tank Maint	780	780	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	3,180	3,000	180	6%
	6600.010	Road Maintenance Ocean Pines Per Agreement	223,071	195,866	27,205	14%
	6600.015	Road Maintenance Paving and Re-paving	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6600.020	Road Maintenance Special Road Construction	5,000	15,000	(10,000)	-67%
	6600.025	Road Maintenance Contractual Services	79,000	50,000	29,000	58%
	6600.030	Road Maintenance State Aid Bridges	600,000	0	600,000	N/A
	6600.040	Road Maintenance Street Lighting	150,000	125,000	25,000	20%
	6600.055	Road Maintenance Tipping Fees - Litter	6,000	3,500	2,500	71%
	6900.025	Advertising Legal Advertisements	300	500	(200)	-40%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,582,173	851,868	730,305	86%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	9,398	9,613	(215)	-2%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	9,715	500	9,215	1843%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			19,113	10,113	9,000	89%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	279,000	486,592	(207,592)	-43%
	9010.060	Capital Equipment Other	50,000	0	50,000	N/A
	9010.070	Capital Equipment Heavy Equipment	407,692	83,508	324,184	388%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			736,692	570,100	166,592	29%
Department Total: 1202 - Roads			7,611,106	5,836,195	1,774,911	30%
Department: 1203 - Public Works						
Location: 200 - Administration						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	337,287	272,256	65,031	24%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	136	119	17	14%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	44,903	31,392	13,511	43%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	44,792	32,589	12,203	37%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	24,905	19,842	5,063	26%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	136	119	17	14%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	7,150	4,138	3,012	73%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	510	447	63	14%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	578	506	72	14%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	625	548	77	14%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	652	572	80	14%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	16,973	10,863	6,110	56%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			481,647	376,391	105,256	28%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	120	120	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	325	700	(375)	-54%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	3,060	3,220	(160)	-5%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	2,300	1,700	600	35%
	6110.290	Supplies & Equipment Other Office Equipment	3,000	0	3,000	N/A
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	800	600	200	33%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			14,105	10,840	3,265	30%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6530.065	Consulting Services Gas Monitoring/Remediation	40,000	40,000	0	0%
	6530.070	Consulting Services Ground Water Mon/Closed Landfill	80,000	80,000	0	0%
	6530.170	Consulting Services Water & Sewer Consulting	70,000	70,000	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	3,000	2,000	1,000	50%
	6550.043	Building Site Expenses Closed Landfills Maintenance	30,000	30,000	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	420	420	0	0%
	6900.005	Advertising Bid Advertising	1,000	500	500	100%
	6900.025	Advertising Legal Advertisements	500	0	500	N/A
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			237,920	235,920	2,000	1%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	13,600	12,250	1,350	11%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			13,600	12,250	1,350	11%
Location Total: 200 - Administration			747,272	635,401	111,871	18%
Location: 210 - Central Fuel Facility						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	12,000	12,000	0	0%
	6850.010	Central Fuel Facility Fuel Purchases	1,200,000	1,000,000	200,000	20%
	6850.020	Central Fuel Facility Central Fuel Gas Billings	(1,200,000)	(1,000,000)	(200,000)	20%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			12,000	12,000	0	0%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.050	Capital Equipment Building Improvements	65,000	0	65,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			65,000	0	65,000	
Location Total: 210 - Central Fuel Facility			77,000	12,000	65,000	542%
Location: 220 - Fleet Management						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	400,501	365,180	35,321	10%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	5,000	0	5,000	N/A
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	161	160	1	1%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	122,033	115,167	6,866	6%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	53,187	43,712	9,475	22%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	31,022	27,938	3,084	11%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	161	160	1	1%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	8,489	5,551	2,938	53%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	605	599	6	1%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	686	679	7	1%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	742	735	7	1%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	775	767	8	1%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	20,368	25,347	(4,979)	-20%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			646,730	588,995	57,735	10%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	200	200	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	2,100	0	2,100	N/A
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6110.365	Supplies & Equipment Shop Supplies	2,500	2,000	500	25%
	6110.420	Supplies & Equipment Tools & Supplies	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6130.020	Equipment Maintenance Equipment Annual Maint Contr.	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6130.075	Equipment Maintenance Software Upgrades	5,800	4,800	1,000	21%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	3,000	3,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			22,100	18,500	3,600	19%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.080	Consulting Services Physicals, Shots & Drug Testing	150	150	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	3,500	3,000	500	17%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	3,500	2,500	1,000	40%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	900	900	0	0%
	6700.650	Other Maint. & Svcs Tipping Fees	1,700	1,700	0	0%
	6750.010	Fleet Services Fleet Repairs	300,000	164,500	135,500	82%
	6750.020	Fleet Services Repair Billings	(300,000)	(195,124)	(104,876)	54%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			9,750	(22,374)	32,124	-144%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	1,500	1,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			1,500	1,500	0	0%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.060	Capital Equipment Other	0	76,000	(76,000)	-100%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			0	76,000	(76,000)	-100%
Location Total: 220 - Fleet Management			680,080	662,621	17,459	3%
Department Total: 1203 - Public Works			1,504,352	1,310,022	194,330	15%
Department: 1204 - Boat Landings						
Location: 240 - For Non-Split Expenses						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6160.180	Grant Programs Boat Landing Site Expenses	5,000	5,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			5,000	5,000	0	0%
Location Total: 240 - For Non-Split Expenses			5,000	5,000	0	0%
Location: 250 - Cedar Hall						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	525	500	25	5%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	100	100	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	900	900	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,525	1,500	25	2%
Location Total: 250 - Cedar Hall			1,525	1,500	25	2%
Location: 255 - Gum Point						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	420	400	20	5%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	100	100	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	900	900	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,420	1,400	20	1%
Location Total: 255 - Gum Point			1,420	1,400	20	1%
Location: 260 - George Island Landing						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6160.181	Grant Programs DNR Waterway Improvement Funds	250,000	0	250,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			250,000	0	250,000	
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	100	100	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	900	900	0	0%
	6900.005	Advertising Bid Advertising	200	200	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,200	1,200	0	0%
Location Total: 260 - George Island Landing			251,200	1,200	250,000	20833%
Location: 265 - Public Landing						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6160.181	Grant Programs DNR Waterway Improvement Funds	100,000	0	100,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			100,000	0	100,000	
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	1,000	800	200	25%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	3,550	3,300	250	8%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	6,900	6,000	900	15%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	2,838	2,838	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			14,288	12,938	1,350	10%
Location Total: 265 - Public Landing			114,288	12,938	101,350	783%
Location: 270 - Taylor Landing						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	100	100	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	900	900	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,000	1,000	0	0%
Location Total: 270 - Taylor Landing			1,000	1,000	0	0%
Location: 275 - South Point						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	200	200	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	900	900	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,100	1,100	0	0%
Location Total: 275 - South Point			1,100	1,100	0	0%
Location: 280 - West Ocean City						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	2,500	2,000	500	25%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	5,250	5,000	250	5%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	17,000	17,000	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	2,000	2,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			28,750	28,000	750	3%
Location Total: 280 - West Ocean City			28,750	28,000	750	3%
Location: 285 - Mason Landing						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	230	300	(70)	-23%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	100	100	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	900	900	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,230	1,300	(70)	-5%
Location Total: 285 - Mason Landing			1,230	1,300	(70)	-5%
Location: 290 - Shell Mill						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	100	100	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	900	900	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			1,000	1,000	0	0%
Location Total: 290 - Shell Mill			1,000	1,000	0	0%
Department Total: 1204 - Boat Landings			406,513	54,438	352,075	647%
Department: 1205 - Homeowner Convenience Centers						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	415,042	394,595	20,447	5%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	5,000	5,000	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	167	169	(2)	-1%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	78,247	65,169	13,078	20%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	55,117	46,198	8,919	19%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	32,135	30,148	1,987	7%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	167	169	(2)	-1%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	8,798	5,866	2,932	50%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	627	633	(6)	-1%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	711	718	(7)	-1%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	769	777	(8)	-1%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	803	811	(8)	-1%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	30,552	32,589	(2,037)	-6%
		Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services	629,135	583,842	45,293	8%
	SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials					
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	7,700	7,700	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	4,500	4,500	0	0%
		Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials	12,200	12,200	0	0%
	MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services					
	6550.020	Building Site Expenses Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	8,000	8,000	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	4,000	3,000	1,000	33%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	3,996	3,648	348	10%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	996	912	84	9%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	250,000	300,000	(50,000)	-17%
		Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services	266,992	315,560	(48,568)	-15%
	OTHR CHGS - Other Charges					
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	1,000	1,000	0	0%
		Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges					
	8010.120	Interfund Landfill Enterprise Charges	0	70,461	(70,461)	-100%
		Account Classification Total: INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges	0	70,461	(70,461)	-100%
	CAP EQ - Capital Equipment					
	9010.060	Capital Equipment Other	68,000	0	68,000	N/A
		Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment	68,000	0	68,000	
	Department Total: 1205 - Homeowner Convenience Centers		977,327	983,063	(5,736)	-1%
	Department: 1206 - Recycling					
	PERS SVCS - Personnel Services					
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	499,847	474,908	24,939	5%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	201	203	(2)	-1%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	127,099	112,663	14,436	13%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	66,380	55,553	10,827	19%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	38,620	36,295	2,325	6%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	201	203	(2)	-1%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	10,595	7,054	3,541	50%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	755	762	(7)	-1%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	856	863	(7)	-1%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	927	934	(7)	-1%

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	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	967	975	(8)	-1%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	30,552	32,589	(2,037)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			783,000	729,002	53,998	7%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.030	Administrative Expense Alcohol and Drug Testing	90	90	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	880	0	880	N/A
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6110.420	Supplies & Equipment Tools & Supplies	11,500	11,500	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	4,500	4,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			20,470	19,590	880	4%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.100	Consulting Services Professional Fees	0	10,000	(10,000)	-100%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	60,000	60,000	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	10,000	6,000	4,000	67%
	6540.070	Vehicle Operating Expenses Off-road Fuel	10,000	15,000	(5,000)	-33%
	6540.080	Vehicle Operating Expenses Heavy Equipment Maintenance	35,000	35,000	0	0%
	6550.020	Building Site Expenses Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	50,000	30,000	20,000	67%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	1,500	1,000	500	50%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	40,000	35,000	5,000	14%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	50	50	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	360	360	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	2,000	1,500	500	33%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	1,600	1,500	100	7%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,400	1,000	400	40%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	30,000	3,000	27,000	900%
	6700.620	Other Maint. & Svcs Tire Recycling	35,000	30,000	5,000	17%
	6700.640	Other Maint. & Svcs Special Events	40,000	30,000	10,000	33%
	6700.660	Other Maint. & Svcs HHW Ads	7,000	7,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			328,910	271,410	57,500	21%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	1,000	1,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			1,000	1,000	0	0%
INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges						
	8010.120	Interfund Landfill Enterprise Charges	0	154,530	(154,530)	-100%
Account Classification Total: INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges			0	154,530	(154,530)	-100%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						

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	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	80,000	0	80,000	N/A
	9010.070	Capital Equipment Heavy Equipment	30,000	50,000	(20,000)	-40%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			110,000	50,000	60,000	120%
Department Total: 1206 - Recycling			1,243,380	1,225,532	17,848	1%
Department: 1301 - Health Department						
Location: 200 - Administration						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6900.025	Advertising Legal Advertisements	2,500	2,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			2,500	2,500	0	0%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7120.050	Other Non-Matching Expenses Health Dept Ocean City Apartment	0	19,860	(19,860)	-100%
	7120.060	Other Non-Matching Expenses Health Dept On Call	26,468	26,468	0	0%
	7130.020	Matching Appropriation Health Department State Share	11,254,986	11,022,108	232,878	2%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			11,281,454	11,068,436	213,018	2%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	56,048	0	56,048	N/A
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			56,048	0	56,048	
Location Total: 200 - Administration			11,340,002	11,070,936	269,066	2%
Location: 300 - Snow Hill Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	3,240	3,240	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	50,289	49,558	731	1%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	70,000	70,000	0	0%
	6550.070	Building Site Expenses Elevator Testing	3,700	2,800	900	32%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	600	600	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	200	200	0	0%
	6550.085	Building Site Expenses Generator Fuel Oil	1,000	450	550	122%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	27,000	27,000	0	0%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	3,500	1,500	2,000	133%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	70,000	70,000	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	550	550	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	500	500	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	550	450	100	22%
	6550.242	Building Site Expenses Sewage Pump Monitoring	550	550	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	3,650	3,650	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	24,500	24,500	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	400	400	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,866	1,200	666	56%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	4,000	4,000	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6700.250	Other Maint. & Svcs Internet Service	1,800	1,800	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			267,895	262,948	4,947	2%
Location Total: 300 - Snow Hill Branch			267,895	262,948	4,947	2%
Location: 310 - Pocomoke Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	0	1,000	(1,000)	-100%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	12,094	11,918	176	1%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	50	50	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	19,000	15,079	3,921	26%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	300	200	100	50%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	100	100	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	4,800	4,800	0	0%
	6550.110	Building Site Expenses Heating Fuel Oil	8,000	8,000	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	300	300	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	1,000	200	800	400%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	300	225	75	33%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	5,200	5,200	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	50	50	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	20	20	0	0%
	6700.250	Other Maint. & Svcs Internet Service	2,100	2,100	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			53,314	49,242	4,072	8%
Location Total: 310 - Pocomoke Branch			53,314	49,242	4,072	8%
Location: 320 - Berlin Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	3,300	3,300	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	20,221	19,928	293	1%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	26,000	26,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	535	950	(415)	-44%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	175	175	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	12,000	20,000	(8,000)	-40%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	5,000	1,000	4,000	400%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	7,500	7,000	500	7%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	650	650	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	600	(200)	-33%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	450	450	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	10,680	10,680	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	300	300	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	3,098	2,000	1,098	55%
	6700.250	Other Maint. & Svcs Internet Service	2,880	2,880	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			93,189	95,913	(2,724)	-3%
		Location Total: 320 - Berlin Branch	93,189	95,913	(2,724)	-3%
Location: 330 - Ocean City Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	200	200	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	5,913	5,828	85	1%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	450	300	150	50%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	250	250	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	1,550	1,550	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	300	100	33%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	300	225	75	33%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	2,900	2,900	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	25	25	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	40	40	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6700.250	Other Maint. & Svcs Internet Service	2,340	2,340	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			22,368	21,958	410	2%
		Location Total: 330 - Ocean City Branch	22,368	21,958	410	2%
Location: 345 - Berlin Dental Clinic						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	200	200	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	4,622	4,555	67	1%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	8,500	8,500	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	450	285	165	58%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	20	20	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	3,000	2,000	1,000	50%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	4,600	4,600	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	250	150	60%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	300	225	75	33%
	6550.255	Building Site Expenses Stormwater Utility Fee	150	100	50	50%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	5,000	3,000	2,000	67%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	20	20	0	0%
	6700.250	Other Maint. & Svcs Internet Service	1,800	1,800	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			29,062	25,555	3,507	14%
Location Total: 345 - Berlin Dental Clinic			29,062	25,555	3,507	14%
Location: 700 - School Safety						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7120.350	Other Non-Matching Expenses School Safety	189,755	189,755	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			189,755	189,755	0	0%
Location Total: 700 - School Safety			189,755	189,755	0	0%
Department Total: 1301 - Health Department			11,995,585	11,716,307	279,278	2%
Department: 1302 - Mosquito Control						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	77,841	70,608	7,233	10%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	0	1,000	(1,000)	-100%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	31	31	0	0%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	8,154	7,550	604	8%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	10,337	8,452	1,885	22%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	5,957	5,403	554	10%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	31	31	0	0%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	1,650	1,073	577	54%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	118	116	2	2%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	133	131	2	2%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	144	142	2	1%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	151	148	3	2%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	3,395	3,621	(226)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			108,942	99,306	9,636	10%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.080	Administrative Expense Copier Supplies	100	100	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	100	100	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	300	300	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	525	525	0	0%
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6110.420	Supplies & Equipment Tools & Supplies	500	500	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	480	300	180	60%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	500	500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			3,505	3,325	180	5%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	12,500	12,500	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	4,500	4,000	500	13%
	6540.045	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Repairs Outside	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6540.060	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Equipment	1,440	0	1,440	N/A

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	300	200	100	50%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	3,500	3,500	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	325	325	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	150	150	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	5,500	5,500	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,020	975	45	5%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	0	500	(500)	-100%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	100	100	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			31,335	29,750	1,585	5%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	500	200	300	150%
	7120.030	Other Non-Matching Expenses Appropriation for Mosquito Cont.	151,040	95,000	56,040	59%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			151,540	95,200	56,340	59%
Department Total: 1302 - Mosquito Control			295,322	227,581	67,741	30%
Department: 1401 - Commission on Aging						
Location: 200 - Administration						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6110.295	Supplies & Equipment Program Supplies and Equipment	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6160.065	Grant Programs Md Dept of Aging	5,635	46,000	(40,365)	-88%
	6160.142	Grant Programs SSTAP	131,000	126,975	4,025	3%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			138,635	174,975	(36,340)	-21%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.070	Travel, Training & Expense Expense Allowance	7,300	7,000	300	4%
	7140.010	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Aging Audit	8,800	8,400	400	5%
	7140.020	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Aging Insurance	4,800	4,600	200	4%
	7140.040	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Share Salaries & Fringe	405,200	410,800	(5,600)	-1%
	7170.010	Benefits & Insurance Allowance for COLA	196,355	79,830	116,525	146%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			622,455	510,630	111,825	22%
Location Total: 200 - Administration			761,090	685,605	75,485	11%
Location: 300 - Snow Hill Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	7,000	7,000	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	22,700	21,800	900	4%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	2,100	2,000	100	5%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	25,700	24,800	900	4%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	400	400	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	200	200	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	8,300	8,000	300	4%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	600	600	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	20,800	20,000	800	4%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	3,400	3,400	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	200	200	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	200	200	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	3,500	3,400	100	3%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	3,700	3,600	100	3%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			101,800	98,600	3,200	3%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7140.040	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Share Salaries & Fringe	74,600	96,900	(22,300)	-23%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			74,600	96,900	(22,300)	-23%
Location Total: 300 - Snow Hill Branch			176,400	195,500	(19,100)	-10%
Location: 310 - Pocomoke Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	3,800	3,600	200	6%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	200	200	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	200	200	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	3,100	3,000	100	3%
	6550.110	Building Site Expenses Heating Fuel Oil	4,800	4,400	400	9%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	200	200	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	200	200	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	200	200	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	800	800	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	800	800	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			19,100	18,400	700	4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7140.040	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Share Salaries & Fringe	78,600	84,300	(5,700)	-7%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			78,600	84,300	(5,700)	-7%
Location Total: 310 - Pocomoke Branch			97,700	102,700	(5,000)	-5%
Location: 320 - Berlin Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	2,400	2,400	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	4,500	4,300	200	5%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	600	600	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	9,200	8,800	400	5%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	400	400	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	200	200	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	1,300	1,200	100	8%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	600	600	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	2,300	2,200	100	5%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	200	200	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	600	600	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	1,700	1,600	100	6%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			28,000	27,100	900	3%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7140.040	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Share Salaries & Fringe	78,200	84,300	(6,100)	-7%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			78,200	84,300	(6,100)	-7%
Location Total: 320 - Berlin Branch			106,200	111,400	(5,200)	-5%
Location: 330 - Ocean City Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	6,800	6,200	600	10%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	900	800	100	13%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	7,200	6,800	400	6%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	400	400	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	200	200	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	6,200	6,000	200	3%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	13,000	12,500	500	4%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	600	600	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	200	200	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	400	400	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	800	800	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	2,500	2,400	100	4%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			46,000	44,100	1,900	4%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7140.040	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Share Salaries & Fringe	78,200	84,300	(6,100)	-7%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			78,200	84,300	(6,100)	-7%
Location Total: 330 - Ocean City Branch			124,200	128,400	(4,200)	-3%
Location: 340 - Worcester Adult Medical Day Svcs						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7140.040	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Share Salaries & Fringe	213,432	170,700	42,732	25%
	7140.090	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Senior Ride Service	21,800	21,000	800	4%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			235,232	191,700	43,532	23%
Location Total: 340 - Worcester Adult Medical Day Svcs			235,232	191,700	43,532	23%
Location: 350 - Direct Services - MAP						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	5,000	4,400	600	14%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	3,800	3,000	800	27%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			8,800	7,400	1,400	19%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7140.030	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Aging Programs	13,600	12,800	800	6%
	7140.035	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Shr Kitchen Salary & Frng	30,100	22,100	8,000	36%
	7140.040	Commission on Aging Appropriatio County Share Salaries & Fringe	30,100	30,500	(400)	-1%
	7140.045	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Comm For Life Salaries & Fringe	64,500	65,300	(800)	-1%
	7140.055	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Co. Shr. MealOnWheel Salary & Fr	77,500	66,400	11,100	17%
	7140.070	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Senior Meals	7,600	6,800	800	12%
	7140.080	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Senior Ride Salary & Fringe	115,500	106,900	8,600	8%
	7140.090	Commission on Aging Appropriatio Senior Ride Service	43,200	42,800	400	1%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			382,100	353,600	28,500	8%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	104,600	0	104,600	N/A
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			104,600	0	104,600	
Location Total: 350 - Direct Services - MAP			495,500	361,000	134,500	37%
Department Total: 1401 - Commission on Aging			1,996,322	1,776,305	220,017	12%
Department: 1402 - Other Social Services						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7100.010	County Grants Atlantic General Hospital	110,000	115,259	(5,259)	-5%
	7100.017	County Grants Big Brothers/Big Sisters	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	7100.020	County Grants BRAVE Program	3,500	3,500	0	0%
	7100.022	County Grants Coastal Hospice at the Ocean	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	7100.023	County Grants The Cricket Center	50,000	35,000	15,000	43%
	7100.030	County Grants Development Center	219,497	219,497	0	0%
	7100.035	County Grants Diakonia	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	7100.040	County Grants Drug & Alcohol Council	9,000	9,000	0	0%
	7100.076	County Grants Worcester County Humane Society	0	0	0	N/A
	7100.077	County Grants Jesse Klump Memorial Fund, Inc.	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	7100.085	County Grants Life Crisis Center	8,500	8,500	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	7100.100	County Grants Maryland Food Bank	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	7100.160	County Grants Samaritan Shelter	20,000	20,000	0	0%
	7100.175	County Grants Social Services Pharmacy Grant	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	7100.197	County Grants Tri Community Mediation	0	0	0	N/A
	7100.210	County Grants Worcester County GOLD	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	7100.220	County Grants Youth & Family Counseling	95,000	95,000	0	0%
	7100.230	County Grants New Non-Profit Requests	0	0	0	N/A
	7130.005	Matching Appropriation DHMH Dev. Center Mandated Share	28,871	28,871	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			646,368	636,627	9,741	2%
Department Total: 1402 - Other Social Services			646,368	636,627	9,741	2%
Department: 1502 - WOR-WIC Community College						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7120.040	Other Non-Matching Expenses Appropriation for Wor-Wic	2,707,168	2,618,000	89,168	3%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			2,707,168	2,618,000	89,168	3%
Department Total: 1502 - WOR-WIC Community College			2,707,168	2,618,000	89,168	3%
Department: 1505 - Board of Education						
Location: 200 - Administration						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7120.010	Other Non-Matching Expenses Appropriation for Board of Educ.	111,833,776	105,393,692	6,440,084	6%
	7120.092	Other Non-Matching Expenses Non-Recurring Board of Ed	42,098	0	42,098	N/A
	7120.300	Other Non-Matching Expenses Board of Ed Employee Retirement	929,955	818,722	111,233	14%
	7120.340	Other Non-Matching Expenses Teacher Pension Shift	672,312	0	672,312	N/A
	7170.040	Benefits & Insurance Other Post-Employment Benefits	9,600,000	8,841,987	758,013	9%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			123,078,141	115,054,401	8,023,740	7%
Location Total: 200 - Administration			123,078,141	115,054,401	8,023,740	7%
Department Total: 1505 - Board of Education			123,078,141	115,054,401	8,023,740	7%
Department: 1601 - Recreation Department						
Location: 400 - Admin						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	1,649,361	1,365,061	284,300	21%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	665	597	68	11%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	208,863	169,733	39,130	23%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	194,374	142,513	51,861	36%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	126,292	103,469	22,823	22%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	664	597	67	11%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	34,962	20,749	14,213	68%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	2,493	2,240	253	11%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	2,825	2,539	286	11%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	3,058	2,748	310	11%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	3,191	2,868	323	11%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	91,315	94,508	(3,193)	-3%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			2,325,563	1,915,122	410,441	21%

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SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.050	Administrative Expense Background Checks	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6100.052	Administrative Expense Bank Fees	9,500	6,000	3,500	58%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	11,350	10,350	1,000	10%
	6100.110	Administrative Expense Envelopes	200	200	0	0%
	6100.165	Administrative Expense Meeting Expense	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6100.240	Administrative Expense Printing Expense	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6100.270	Administrative Expense Tournament Fees	35,100	35,100	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	10,010	3,500	6,510	186%
	6110.100	Supplies & Equipment Concession Stand	117,500	97,500	20,000	21%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	2,400	2,500	(100)	-4%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	525	2,600	(2,075)	-80%
	6110.310	Supplies & Equipment Promotional Materials	6,500	5,550	950	17%
	6110.385	Supplies & Equipment Sponsorship Materials	14,000	0	14,000	N/A
	6110.410	Supplies & Equipment Surveillance Equipment	0	1,200	(1,200)	-100%
	6110.420	Supplies & Equipment Tools & Supplies	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	2,400	2,400	0	0%
	6130.025	Equipment Maintenance Equipment Upgrades & Replacement	17,650	20,350	(2,700)	-13%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	8,885	8,440	445	5%
	6130.075	Equipment Maintenance Software Upgrades	18,000	10,000	8,000	80%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	9,700	5,600	4,100	73%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			275,520	223,090	52,430	24%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	5,160	5,160	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	2,870	2,190	680	31%
	6540.040	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Registration	200	100	100	100%
	6540.060	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Equipment	3,800	0	3,800	N/A
	6550.010	Building Site Expenses Building/Property Improvement	14,000	0	14,000	N/A
	6550.028	Building Site Expenses Cable	2,208	2,208	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	21,500	20,760	740	4%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	76,000	72,000	4,000	6%

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	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	700	700	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	200	200	0	0%
	6550.085	Building Site Expenses Generator Fuel Oil	700	700	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	42,300	40,000	2,300	6%
	6550.100	Building Site Expenses Generator Services & Repairs	1,840	1,200	640	53%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	42,000	42,000	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	2,700	2,700	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	225	50	175	350%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	408	408	0	0%
	6550.242	Building Site Expenses Sewage Pump Monitoring	350	350	0	0%
	6550.245	Building Site Expenses Solar Panel Maintenance	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	800	720	80	11%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	50	50	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	3,082	3,082	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	5,200	4,500	700	16%
	6700.700	Other Maint. & Svcs Prison Labor	500	500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			245,593	218,378	27,215	12%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	2,800	2,800	0	0%
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	15,450	13,768	1,682	12%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	32,970	25,285	7,685	30%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			51,220	41,853	9,367	22%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	31,000	0	31,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			31,000	0	31,000	
Location Total: 400 - Admin			2,928,896	2,398,443	530,453	22%
Location: 410 - Recreation						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6175.010	Recreation Programs Adult Recreation Programs	25,125	38,225	(13,100)	-34%
	6175.020	Recreation Programs After School Programs	20,250	20,300	(50)	0%
	6175.030	Recreation Programs Aquatics Programs	4,200	4,200	0	0%
	6175.040	Recreation Programs MRPA Amusement Park Tickets	6,000	6,000	0	0%
	6175.070	Recreation Programs Special Events	194,300	224,450	(30,150)	-13%
	6175.080	Recreation Programs Summer Camps for Youth	29,750	30,000	(250)	-1%
	6175.090	Recreation Programs Youth Recreational Outdoor Pgms	53,350	46,650	6,700	14%

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	6175.204	Recreation Programs Fitness Programs	16,640	18,140	(1,500)	-8%
	6175.205	Recreation Programs Public High School Track Meets	5,000	4,000	1,000	25%
	6175.206	Recreation Programs Senior Adult Recreational Pgms	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6175.400	Recreation Programs Motor Coach Tours	15,000	15,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			370,815	408,165	(37,350)	-9%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6900.050	Advertising Recreation Advertisements	26,400	27,300	(900)	-3%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			26,400	27,300	(900)	-3%
Location Total: 410 - Recreation			397,215	435,465	(38,250)	-9%
Department Total: 1601 - Recreation Department			3,326,111	2,833,908	492,203	17%
Department: 1602 - Parks Department						
Location: 500 - Admin						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	585,320	552,584	32,736	6%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	2,000	2,500	(500)	-20%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	236	242	(6)	-2%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	104,254	115,000	(10,746)	-9%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	77,730	66,144	11,586	18%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	44,931	42,158	2,773	7%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	236	242	(6)	-2%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	12,407	8,399	4,008	48%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	885	907	(22)	-2%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	1,003	1,028	(25)	-2%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	1,085	1,112	(27)	-2%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	1,132	1,161	(29)	-2%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	39,378	40,555	(1,177)	-3%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			873,597	835,032	38,565	5%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.080	Administrative Expense Copier Supplies	280	280	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	550	550	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	400	400	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	25	25	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	280	1,180	(900)	-76%
	6110.120	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Rental	1,235	1,100	135	12%
	6110.125	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Maintenance & Repair	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6110.200	Supplies & Equipment Lawn Equipment & Maintenance	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	1,200	1,800	(600)	-33%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	0	1,500	(1,500)	-100%
	6110.340	Supplies & Equipment Safety Program Equipment	780	780	0	0%
	6110.380	Supplies & Equipment Signage	2,900	2,000	900	45%

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	6110.390	Supplies & Equipment Small Equipment	3,500	3,500	0	0%
	6110.420	Supplies & Equipment Tools & Supplies	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	4,240	4,240	0	0%
	6160.225	Grant Programs POS - Future Park Land Acquis	112,552	311,844	(199,292)	-64%
	6160.241	Grant Programs New Park Development	371,422	1,029,085	(657,663)	-64%
	6200.020	Other Supplies & Materials Materials	48,900	48,000	900	2%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			565,264	1,423,284	(858,020)	-60%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	35,900	35,000	900	3%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	8,500	7,000	1,500	21%
	6540.040	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Registration	200	100	100	100%
	6540.060	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Equipment	300	2,100	(1,800)	-86%
	6550.020	Building Site Expenses Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	15,000	3,000	12,000	400%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	4,400	3,500	900	26%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	600	370	230	62%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	32,000	32,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	300	300	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	324	300	24	8%
	6700.640	Other Maint. & Svcs Special Events	4,900	4,000	900	23%
	6900.005	Advertising Bid Advertising	500	500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			105,424	90,670	14,754	16%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.040	Travel, Training & Expense Continuing Education/Certificati	3,960	3,070	890	29%
	7000.060	Travel, Training & Expense Educational Training	950	950	0	0%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	3,375	6,825	(3,450)	-51%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	400	400	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			8,685	11,245	(2,560)	-23%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	45,000	45,000	0	0%
	9010.060	Capital Equipment Other	8,500	12,000	(3,500)	-29%
	9010.070	Capital Equipment Heavy Equipment	79,245	49,000	30,245	62%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			132,745	106,000	26,745	25%
Location Total: 500 - Admin			1,685,715	2,466,231	(780,516)	-32%
Location: 510 - John Walter Smith Park						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	7,800	7,800	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	0	95	(95)	-100%

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	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	3,248	3,000	248	8%
	6550.242	Building Site Expenses Sewage Pump Monitoring	278	278	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	185	185	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	3,056	2,700	356	13%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	850	425	425	100%
	6700.350	Other Maint. & Svcs Mosquito Control	480	300	180	60%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			15,897	14,783	1,114	8%
Location Total: 510 - John Walter Smith Park			15,897	14,783	1,114	8%
Location: 520 - Showell Park						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	4,600	4,600	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	3,248	3,000	248	8%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	2,144	1,920	224	12%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	800	800	0	0%
	6700.350	Other Maint. & Svcs Mosquito Control	355	175	180	103%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			11,147	10,495	652	6%
Location Total: 520 - Showell Park			11,147	10,495	652	6%
Location: 530 - Newtown Park						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	7,200	7,200	0	0%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	2,040	2,040	0	0%
	6550.242	Building Site Expenses Sewage Pump Monitoring	300	278	22	8%
	6700.350	Other Maint. & Svcs Mosquito Control	400	400	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			9,940	9,918	22	0%
Location Total: 530 - Newtown Park			9,940	9,918	22	0%
Location: 540 - N Worc Cty Athletic Complex						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	5,700	5,500	200	4%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	5,112	5,112	0	0%
	6550.242	Building Site Expenses Sewage Pump Monitoring	300	278	22	8%
	6550.255	Building Site Expenses Stormwater Utility Fee	1,785	1,785	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	100	100	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6700.350	Other Maint. & Svcs Mosquito Control	325	325	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			14,522	14,300	222	2%
Location Total: 540 - N Worc Cty Athletic Complex			14,522	14,300	222	2%
Location: 590 - Satellite Parks						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	1,500	1,300	200	15%
	6550.200	Building Site Expenses Portalets	7,300	7,300	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			8,800	8,600	200	2%
Location Total: 590 - Satellite Parks			8,800	8,600	200	2%
Department Total: 1602 - Parks Department			1,746,021	2,524,327	(778,306)	-31%
Department: 1603 - Libraries						
Location: 200 - Administration						

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PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	2,566,656	2,357,837	208,819	9%
	6000.400	Personnel Services Overtime Pay	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	1,034	1,032	2	0%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	19,000	19,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	524,576	405,042	119,534	30%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	340,852	282,233	58,619	21%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	196,504	180,224	16,280	9%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	1,033	1,032	1	0%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	54,406	35,839	18,567	52%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	3,879	3,870	9	0%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	4,396	4,386	10	0%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	4,758	4,747	11	0%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	4,965	4,953	12	0%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	158,868	168,739	(9,871)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			3,882,927	3,470,934	411,993	12%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	1,600	1,600	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	18,000	18,000	0	0%
	6100.210	Administrative Expense Paper	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	4,500	4,500	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	25,950	20,400	5,550	27%
	6110.125	Supplies & Equipment Equipment Maintenance & Repair	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6110.210	Supplies & Equipment Library AV-Multimedia	81,000	78,000	3,000	4%
	6110.230	Supplies & Equipment Library Books	204,000	186,000	18,000	10%
	6110.240	Supplies & Equipment Library Periodicals	32,000	28,000	4,000	14%
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	1,550	1,425	125	9%
	6110.270	Supplies & Equipment Office Equipment Repairs	500	500	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	5,100	5,100	0	0%
	6110.310	Supplies & Equipment Promotional Materials	5,000	0	5,000	N/A
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	24,300	24,300	0	0%
	6130.030	Equipment Maintenance Library Shared Computer System	7,150	7,150	0	0%
	6130.070	Equipment Maintenance Software Maintenance Agreements	9,500	9,000	500	6%
	6160.120	Grant Programs Library Srv Enhancement - ESRL	80,000	80,000	0	0%
	6170.040	Program Expense Library Programs	3,600	0	3,600	N/A
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			509,750	469,975	39,775	8%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6510.085	Legal Services Other Legal Expenses	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6530.060	Consulting Services Design Fees	12,000	0	12,000	N/A

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	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	4,250	4,250	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			17,750	5,750	12,000	209%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	8,800	8,800	0	0%
	7170.100	Benefits & Insurance Property & Liability Insurance	3,000	2,200	800	36%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			11,800	11,000	800	7%
Location Total: 200 - Administration			4,422,227	3,957,659	464,568	12%
Location: 300 - Snow Hill Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.005	Building Site Expenses Automatic Doors	447	447	0	0%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	15,525	0	15,525	N/A
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	2,100	1,500	600	40%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	500	500	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	150	150	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	7,000	7,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	7,500	7,500	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.125	Building Site Expenses HVAC Repairs/Replacement	500	500	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	400	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	2,800	2,800	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	400	400	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	4,000	4,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			62,322	46,197	16,125	35%
Location Total: 300 - Snow Hill Branch			62,322	46,197	16,125	35%
Location: 310 - Pocomoke Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.005	Building Site Expenses Automatic Doors	447	447	0	0%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	0	1,000	(1,000)	-100%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	9,300	9,300	0	0%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	1,400	800	600	75%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	2,500	10,000	(7,500)	-75%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	300	300	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	50	50	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	500	5,000	(4,500)	-90%
	6550.110	Building Site Expenses Heating Fuel Oil	0	5,000	(5,000)	-100%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	400	0	400	N/A
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	300	600	(300)	-50%
	6550.170	Building Site Expenses Office Rent/Lease	32,505	0	32,505	N/A
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	400	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	400	1,200	(800)	-67%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	3,500	3,000	500	17%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	400	400	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	50	50	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	500	500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			52,952	38,047	14,905	39%
Location Total: 310 - Pocomoke Branch			52,952	38,047	14,905	39%
Location: 320 - Berlin Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	15,525	15,100	425	3%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	2,400	1,800	600	33%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6550.070	Building Site Expenses Elevator Testing	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	600	600	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	50	50	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	7,500	7,500	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	400	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	5,000	5,000	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	400	400	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	600	600	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	3,000	3,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			54,175	53,150	1,025	2%
Location Total: 320 - Berlin Branch			54,175	53,150	1,025	2%
Location: 325 - Ocean Pines Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.005	Building Site Expenses Automatic Doors	638	638	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	2,500	2,500	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	17,100	16,600	500	3%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	2,400	1,800	600	33%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	37,000	37,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	50	50	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6550.120	Building Site Expenses Heating Propane	16,000	16,000	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.125	Building Site Expenses HVAC Repairs/Replacement	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	400	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	400	400	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	2,300	2,300	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	3,500	3,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			103,088	101,988	1,100	1%
Location Total: 325 - Ocean Pines Branch			103,088	101,988	1,100	1%
Location: 335 - Ocean City 100th St. Branch						
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.005	Building Site Expenses Automatic Doors	575	575	0	0%
	6550.030	Building Site Expenses Carpet/VCT Cleaning	1,600	1,600	0	0%
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	13,650	13,300	350	3%
	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	2,400	1,800	600	33%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	40,000	40,000	0	0%
	6550.070	Building Site Expenses Elevator Testing	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6550.080	Building Site Expenses Fire Alarm Testing	450	450	0	0%
	6550.081	Building Site Expenses Fire Extinguishers	50	50	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	6550.124	Building Site Expenses HVAC Loop Water Treatment	800	800	0	0%
	6550.125	Building Site Expenses HVAC Repairs/Replacement	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	2,500	1,800	700	39%
	6550.180	Building Site Expenses Pest Control/Termite Insp	400	400	0	0%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6550.242	Building Site Expenses Sewage Pump Monitoring	300	300	0	0%
	6550.250	Building Site Expenses Sprinkler Testing	1,800	1,800	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	4,000	4,000	0	0%
	6550.280	Building Site Expenses Tipping Fees	400	400	0	0%
	6550.300	Building Site Expenses Trash Removal	100	100	0	0%
	6550.310	Building Site Expenses Water & Sewer	4,500	4,500	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			91,025	89,375	1,650	2%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.100	Capital Equipment Furniture & Fixtures	32,000	0	32,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			32,000	0	32,000	
Location Total: 335 - Ocean City 100th St. Branch			123,025	89,375	33,650	38%
Department Total: 1603 - Libraries			4,817,789	4,286,416	531,373	12%
Department: 1604 - Other Recreation & Culture						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7100.019	County Grants Cpt. Steve's Poor Girls Open Inc	10,000	10,000	0	0%
	7100.050	County Grants Furnacetown	40,000	40,000	0	0%
	7100.095	County Grants MarVa Theatre Performing Arts Ct	15,000	15,000	0	0%
	7100.116	County Grants O.C. Developmental Corporation	0	0	0	N/A
	7100.135	County Grants Delmarva Discovery Ctr/Poc Mktg	30,000	15,000	15,000	100%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			95,000	80,000	15,000	19%
Department Total: 1604 - Other Recreation & Culture			95,000	80,000	15,000	19%
Department: 1701 - Extension Service						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	7,700	4,950	2,750	56%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	749	749	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	6,000	6,600	(600)	-9%
	6100.230	Administrative Expense Postage & Freight	1,000	1,500	(500)	-33%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	5,000	6,000	(1,000)	-17%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			20,449	19,799	650	3%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	0	195	(195)	-100%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			0	195	(195)	-100%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7120.020	Other Non-Matching Expenses Appropriation for Extension Svc	262,292	247,500	14,792	6%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			262,292	247,500	14,792	6%
Department Total: 1701 - Extension Service			282,741	267,494	15,247	6%
Department: 1702 - Other Natural Resources						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6170.010	Program Expense Spongy Moth Control	50,000	73,935	(23,935)	-32%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			50,000	73,935	(23,935)	-32%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
	7100.180	County Grants Soil Conservation	12,000	12,000	0	0%
	7130.030	Matching Appropriation Conservation Easements	13,800	0	13,800	N/A
	7130.040	Matching Appropriation Md Agri Land Preservation Fund	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	7130.050	Matching Appropriation Beach Maintenance	490,000	490,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			565,800	552,000	13,800	3%
Department Total: 1702 - Other Natural Resources			615,800	625,935	(10,135)	-2%
Department: 1801 - Economic Development						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	170,481	161,323	9,158	6%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	69	71	(2)	-3%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	36,580	33,874	2,706	8%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	22,640	19,310	3,330	17%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	13,044	12,343	701	6%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	69	71	(2)	-3%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	3,614	2,452	1,162	47%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	258	265	(7)	-3%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	292	300	(8)	-3%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	316	325	(9)	-3%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	330	339	(9)	-3%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	6,789	7,242	(453)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			256,482	239,915	16,567	7%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	4,110	3,400	710	21%
	6100.150	Administrative Expense Incentives & Events	16,000	10,000	6,000	60%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	700	700	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	2,100	0	2,100	N/A
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	2,040	2,040	0	0%
	6110.280	Supplies & Equipment Office Furniture	1,500	1,500	0	0%
	6110.310	Supplies & Equipment Promotional Materials	12,000	0	12,000	N/A
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	1,200	1,200	0	0%
	6130.060	Equipment Maintenance Software Licensing	11,000	0	11,000	N/A
	6170.020	Program Expense Workforce Development Programs	200,000	200,000	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			250,650	218,840	31,810	15%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	45,000	45,000	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	1,875	1,875	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	700	700	0	0%
	6900.015	Advertising Economic Development	30,000	0	30,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			78,575	48,575	30,000	62%

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	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	1,500	4,200	(2,700)	-64%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	25,450	15,220	10,230	67%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	150	1,200	(1,050)	-88%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			27,100	20,620	6,480	31%
CAP EQ - Capital Equipment						
	9010.010	Capital Equipment New Vehicles	0	31,000	(31,000)	-100%
	9010.170	Capital Equipment Software	20,000	33,500	(13,500)	-40%
Account Classification Total: CAP EQ - Capital Equipment			20,000	64,500	(44,500)	-69%
Department Total: 1801 - Economic Development			632,807	592,450	40,357	7%
Department: 1803 - Tourism						
Location: 200 - Administration						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	271,891	249,133	22,758	9%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	110	109	1	1%
	6010.025	Benefits Deferred Comp Match	2,000	2,000	0	0%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	7,248	6,712	536	8%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	36,107	29,821	6,286	21%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	20,803	19,060	1,743	9%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	109	109	0	0%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	5,763	3,787	1,976	52%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	411	409	2	0%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	466	463	3	1%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	504	502	2	0%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	526	523	3	1%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	10,184	10,863	(679)	-6%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			356,122	323,491	32,631	10%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	600	600	0	0%
	6100.100	Administrative Expense Dues, Licenses & Subscriptions	7,554	2,969	4,585	154%
	6100.150	Administrative Expense Incentives & Events	1,800	900	900	100%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	4,200	0	4,200	N/A
	6110.245	Supplies & Equipment Mobile Phones	1,308	1,308	0	0%
	6110.310	Supplies & Equipment Promotional Materials	54,800	38,263	16,537	43%
	6110.393	Supplies & Equipment Special Event Sponsorship	10,000	6,000	4,000	67%
	6130.010	Equipment Maintenance Copier Lease	600	600	0	0%
	6130.060	Equipment Maintenance Software Licensing	10,000	2,000	8,000	400%
	6160.043	Grant Programs Other Grants	0	104,160	(104,160)	-100%
	6160.150	Grant Programs Tourism Grant Projects	195,000	160,000	35,000	22%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			286,862	317,800	(30,938)	-10%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						

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	6530.040	Consulting Services Consulting Services	35,100	19,100	16,000	84%
	6530.180	Consulting Services Web Page	18,000	18,000	0	0%
	6540.020	Vehicle Operating Expenses Fuel - WC Fleet	2,400	2,400	0	0%
	6540.030	Vehicle Operating Expenses Vehicle Maintenance	1,125	1,125	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	3,000	3,000	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	275	275	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	2,058	2,058	0	0%
	6550.170	Building Site Expenses Office Rent/Lease	37,602	37,602	0	0%
	6900.052	Advertising Supplemental Advertising	283,500	283,500	0	0%
	6900.055	Advertising Tourism	506,000	456,000	50,000	11%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			889,060	823,060	66,000	8%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.020	Travel, Training & Expense Board Member Allowance	1,500	2,800	(1,300)	-46%
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	20,000	9,500	10,500	111%
	7000.115	Travel, Training & Expense Mileage	200	450	(250)	-56%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			21,700	12,750	8,950	70%
Location Total: 200 - Administration			1,553,744	1,477,101	76,643	5%
Location: 420 - Pocomoke Welcome Center						
PERS SVCS - Personnel Services						
	6000.100	Personnel Services Salaries	95,234	102,126	(6,892)	-7%
	6010.020	Benefits Contingency	38	45	(7)	-16%
	6010.030	Benefits Hospitalization Insurance	8,154	7,550	604	8%
	6010.050	Benefits Retirement	12,647	12,224	423	3%
	6010.060	Benefits Social Security Taxes	7,287	7,814	(527)	-7%
	6010.070	Benefits Unemployment Insurance	38	45	(7)	-16%
	6010.090	Benefits Workmans Compensation Ins	2,019	1,552	467	30%
	6010.120	Benefits Long Term Disability	144	168	(24)	-14%
	6010.130	Benefits Life Insurance	163	190	(27)	-14%
	6010.140	Benefits FSA & PSA Admin and EAP Program	177	206	(29)	-14%
	6010.150	Benefits Retirement Administration Fee	184	215	(31)	-14%
	6010.900	Benefits OPEB contribution	8,487	8,328	159	2%
Account Classification Total: PERS SVCS - Personnel Services			134,572	140,463	(5,891)	-4%
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6100.010	Administrative Expense Administrative Expenses	100	100	0	0%
	6100.190	Administrative Expense Office Supplies	600	600	0	0%
	6110.090	Supplies & Equipment Computers & Printers	800	800	0	0%
	6110.380	Supplies & Equipment Signage	1,000	1,000	0	0%
	6150.050	Uniforms & Personal Equipment Uniforms	400	400	0	0%
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			2,900	2,900	0	0%
MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services						
	6550.040	Building Site Expenses Cleaning Contract	4,142	4,142	0	0%

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	6550.050	Building Site Expenses Custodial Supplies	380	380	0	0%
	6550.060	Building Site Expenses Electricity	14,000	14,000	0	0%
	6550.090	Building Site Expenses General Maintenance Repairs	250	250	0	0%
	6550.140	Building Site Expenses Internet Access	1,722	1,722	0	0%
	6550.220	Building Site Expenses Security Alarm Monitoring	204	204	0	0%
	6550.270	Building Site Expenses Telephone	1,800	1,800	0	0%
Account Classification Total: MAINT & SVCS - Maintenance & Services			22,498	22,498	0	0%
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7000.100	Travel, Training & Expense Meetings/Conferences/Shows	100	100	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			100	100	0	0%
Location Total: 420 - Pocomoke Welcome Center			160,070	165,961	(5,891)	-4%
Department Total: 1803 - Tourism			1,713,814	1,643,062	70,752	4%
Department: 1901 - Taxes Shared with Towns						
Location: 100 - Town of Pocomoke						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7160.020	Towns' Share Towns' Share County Income Tax	374,782	332,548	42,234	13%
	7160.040	Towns' Share Towns' Share Liquor License Fees	9,375	9,375	0	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			384,157	341,923	42,234	12%
Location Total: 100 - Town of Pocomoke			384,157	341,923	42,234	12%
Location: 110 - Town of Berlin						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7160.020	Towns' Share Towns' Share County Income Tax	735,422	652,548	82,874	13%
	7160.040	Towns' Share Towns' Share Liquor License Fees	29,150	23,000	6,150	27%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			764,572	675,548	89,024	13%
Location Total: 110 - Town of Berlin			764,572	675,548	89,024	13%
Location: 120 - Town of Snow Hill						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7160.020	Towns' Share Towns' Share County Income Tax	233,354	207,058	26,296	13%
	7160.040	Towns' Share Towns' Share Liquor License Fees	9,563	8,000	1,563	20%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			242,917	215,058	27,859	13%
Location Total: 120 - Town of Snow Hill			242,917	215,058	27,859	13%
Location: 130 - Town of Ocean City						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7160.010	Towns' Share Towns' Share County Bingo Fee	2,900	2,000	900	45%
	7160.020	Towns' Share Towns' Share County Income Tax	2,333,550	2,070,585	262,965	13%
	7160.040	Towns' Share Towns' Share Liquor License Fees	340,000	325,000	15,000	5%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			2,676,450	2,397,585	278,865	12%
Location Total: 130 - Town of Ocean City			2,676,450	2,397,585	278,865	12%
Department Total: 1901 - Taxes Shared with Towns			4,068,096	3,630,114	437,982	12%
Department: 1902 - Grants to Towns						
Location: 100 - Town of Pocomoke						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7100.153	County Grants Restricted Fire Grant	72,000	91,000	(19,000)	-21%
	7100.193	County Grants Unrestricted to Town	599,338	548,317	51,021	9%

Worcester County FY2026 Proposed Budget Detailed Report

	Account Number	Account Description	2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25	2025 Adopted Budget	$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted	% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			671,338	639,317	32,021	5%
Location Total: 100 - Town of Pocomoke			671,338	639,317	32,021	5%
Location: 110 - Town of Berlin						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7100.153	County Grants Restricted Fire Grant	221,000	221,000	0	0%
	7100.193	County Grants Unrestricted to Town	550,000	500,000	50,000	10%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			771,000	721,000	50,000	7%
Location Total: 110 - Town of Berlin			771,000	721,000	50,000	7%
Location: 120 - Town of Snow Hill						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7100.153	County Grants Restricted Fire Grant	83,000	75,000	8,000	11%
	7100.193	County Grants Unrestricted to Town	849,338	798,317	51,021	6%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			932,338	873,317	59,021	7%
Location Total: 120 - Town of Snow Hill			932,338	873,317	59,021	7%
Location: 130 - Town of Ocean City						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7100.153	County Grants Restricted Fire Grant	208,000	227,000	(19,000)	-8%
	7100.192	County Grants Tourism to Town	50,000	50,000	0	0%
	7100.193	County Grants Unrestricted to Town	3,503,494	3,485,994	17,500	1%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			3,761,494	3,762,994	(1,500)	0%
Location Total: 130 - Town of Ocean City			3,761,494	3,762,994	(1,500)	0%
Location: 190 - Ocean Pines Association						
SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials						
	6160.043	Grant Programs Other Grants	50,000	0	50,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: SUPP & MAT - Supplies & Materials			50,000	0	50,000	
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7100.028	County Grants OPA Recreation Conditional Grant	20,000	20,000	0	0%
	7100.065	County Grants Grants to Towns for Police	550,000	550,000	0	0%
	7100.153	County Grants Restricted Fire Grant	46,000	51,000	(5,000)	-10%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			616,000	621,000	(5,000)	-1%
Location Total: 190 - Ocean Pines Association			666,000	621,000	45,000	7%
Department Total: 1902 - Grants to Towns			6,802,170	6,617,628	184,542	3%
Department: 1975 - Debt Service						
OTHR CHGS - Other Charges						
	7700.090	Debt Service 2013 Capital Improvement Bonds	403,835	397,648	6,187	2%
	7700.100	Debt Service 2014 Capital Improvement Bonds	3,715,327	3,716,577	(1,250)	0%
	7700.110	Debt Service 2015 Capital Improvement Bond	800,064	796,737	3,327	0%
	7700.120	Debt Service 2019 Capital Improvement Bond	3,096,242	3,100,117	(3,875)	0%
	7700.130	Debt Service 2022 Capital Improvement Bond	2,065,167	2,066,375	(1,208)	0%
Account Classification Total: OTHR CHGS - Other Charges			10,080,635	10,077,454	3,181	0%
Department Total: 1975 - Debt Service			10,080,635	10,077,454	3,181	0%
Department: 1985 - Interfund						
INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges						
	8100.010	Transfers Out Transfers to Other Funds	1,158,594	7,229,278	(6,070,684)	-84%

Worcester County FY2026 Proposed Budget Detailed Report						
	Account Number	**Account Description**	**2026 Proposed Budget as of 5/28/25**	**2025 Adopted Budget**	**$ Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted**	**% Variance FY26 Proposed Budget vs FY25 Adopted**
	8100.080	Transfers Out Transfer to Reserve Fund	3,797,327	2,709,883	1,087,444	40%
	8100.090	Transfers Out Intergovernmental Grants	1,739,052	0	1,739,052	N/A
	8100.095	Transfers Out Intergovernmental Loans	140,000	0	140,000	N/A
Account Classification Total: INTFND CHGS - Interfund Charges			6,834,973	9,939,161	(3,104,188)	-31%
Department Total: 1985 - Interfund			6,834,973	9,939,161	(3,104,188)	-31%
EXPENSES Total			281,029,496	261,917,617	19,111,879	7%
Fund EXPENSE Total: 100 - General Fund			**281,029,496**	**261,917,617**	**19,111,879**	**7%**

COMMISSIONERS
JOSEPH M. MITRECIC, PRESIDENT
THEODORE J. ELDER, VICE PRESIDENT
ANTHONY W. BERTINO, JR.
MADISON J. BUNTING, JR.
JAMES C. CHURCH
JOSHUA C. NORDSTROM
DIANA PURNELL

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Worcester County
GOVERNMENT CENTER
ONE WEST MARKET STREET• ROOM 1103
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND
21863-1195

WESTON S. YOUNG, P.E.
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
ROSCOE R. LESLIE
COUNTY ATTORNEY

May 20, 2025

To: Worcester County Commissioners
From: Karen Hammer, Administrative Assistant V
SUBJECT: Upcoming Board Appointments -Terms Beginning January 1, 2025_

Commissioner Bertino – **You have Two (2) positions open:**
- George Solyak – Term Ending – Agricultural Reconciliation Bd.
- Maria C- Lawrence – Term Ending Dec. 2023 – Housing Review Board

Commissioner Purnell – All of your positions have been assigned, Thank you!

Commissioner Bunting - You have One (1) position open:
- Harry Hammond – Term Ending – Social Services Advisory Bd.

Commissioner Abbott – **You have Two (2) positions open:**
- Kevin Holland – Term Ending – Building Code Appeals Bd.
- Keri-Ann Byrd – **Resigned –** Housing Review Board

Commissioner Mitrecic – You have Two (2) positions open:
- Bill Paul – **Resigned** – Building Code Appeals Board
- Kimbrely List – Termed Out – Commission for Women

Commissioner Elder – **All of your positions have been assigned, Thank you!**

Commissioner Fiori - You have Four (4) positions open:
- Joe Schanno – Term Ending – Economic Development
- Keith Swanton -Term Ended Dec. 2021- Water & Sewer Advisory Council, West Ocean City
- Blake Haley – Term Ended Dec. 2024 - Water & Sewer Advisory Council, West Ocean City
- Elizabeth Rodier -Term Ending-Dec. 21- Commission for Women- Not a Reappointment

All Commissioners:

(5)-Adult Public Guardianship Board -
4– Terms Expiring Dec. 2023-attached summary in open session
1 - Term Expired - Ms. Wessels, (Roberta Baldwin will potentially help search for a viable replacement, if necessary).

(1) -Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council –1- Term Ending – Kim Moses

(2) -Local Development Council for the Ocean Downs Casino-
2- Previously Expired Terms - **Mark Wittmyer At-Large -Suggested Replacement. Expired Term** David Massey (At-Large-Business O.P.),

(2) – Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board – 1 regular member vacancy available and **an** alternate member

(1) – Solid Waste Advisory Board – Town of Snow Hill (Pruitt)

(2)- Water and Sewer Advisory Council- West Ocean City- 1 Term Ended-Dec. 2021 – Keith Swanton and Blake Haley

(**2- Total): Commission for Women:**
(2) Resigned -Elizabeth Rodier - (Fiori), Kathleen Palmer (Abbott)

ADULT PUBLIC GUARDIANSHIP BOARD

Reference: PGL Family Law 14-402, Annotated Code of Maryland

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Advisory
Perform 6-month reviews of all guardianships held by a public agency.
Recommend that the guardianship be continued, modified or terminated.

Number/Term: 11/3 year terms
Terms expire December 31st

Compensation: None, travel expenses (under Standard State Travel Regulations)

Meetings: Semi-annually

Special Provisions:
1 member must be a professional representative of the local department
1 member must be a physician
1 member must be a psychiatrist from the local department of health
1 member must be a representative of a local commission on aging
1 member must be a representative of a local nonprofit social services organization
1 member must be a lawyer
2 members must be lay individuals
1 member must be a public health nurse
1 member must be a professional in the field of disabilities
1 member must be a person with a physical disability

Staff Contact: Department of Social Services - Roberta Baldwin (410-677-6872)

Current Members:

Member's Name	Representing	Years of Term(s)
Connie Wessels	Lay Person	*15-16-19, 19-22 (Term Expired)
Brandy Trader	Non-profit Soc. Service Rep.	*15-17, 17-20, 20-23
LuAnn Siler	Commission on Aging Rep.	17-20, 20-23
Jack Ferry	Professional in field of disabilities	*14-14-17-20, 20-23
Thomas Donoway	Person with physical disability	17-20, 20-23
Roberta Baldwin	Local Dept. Rep. - Social Services	03-06-09-12-15-18-21-24
Melissa Banks	Public Health Nurse	*02-03-06-09-12-15-18-21-24
Dr. Ovais Khalid	Psychiatrist	23-26
Dr. William Greer	Physician	07-10-13-16-19-22-25
Richard Collins	Lawyer	95-16-19-22-25
Nancy Howard	Lay Person	*17-19, 19-22-25

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term

Updated: May 16, 2023
Printed: May 24, 2023

Reference: Public Local Law § ZS 1-346 (Right to Farm Law)

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Regulatory
Mediate and arbitrate disputes involving agricultural or forestry operations conducted on agricultural lands and issue opinions on whether such agricultural or forestry operations are conducted in a manner consistent with generally accepted agricultural or forestry practices and to issue orders and resolve disputes and complaints brought under the Worcester County Right to Farm Law.

Number/Term: 5 Members/4-Year Terms - Terms expire December 31st

Compensation: None - Expense Reimbursement as provided by County Commissioners

Meetings: At least one time per year, more frequently as necessary

Special Provisions:
- All members must be County residents
- Two Members chosen from nominees of Worcester County Farm Bureau
- One Member chosen from nominees of Worcester County Forestry Board
- Not less than 2 but not more than 3 members shall be engaged in the agricultural or forestry industries (**At-Large members - non-ag/forestry**)

Staff Contact: Dept. of Development Review & Permitting
- Jennifer Keener (410-632-1200)

County Agricultural Extension Agent - As Consultant to the Board
- Doug Jones, District Manager, Resource Conservation District - (632-3109, x112)

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Ag/Forest Industry	Resides	Years of Term(s)
George Solyak	At-Large	No	Ocean Pines	18-22
Dean Ennis	Farm Bureau	Yes	Pocomoke	06-10-14-18-22-26
Tom Babcock	At-Large	No	Whaleyville	14-18-22-26
Stacey Esham	Forestry Bd.	Yes	Berlin	12-16-20-24-28
Brooks Clayville	Farm Bureau	Yes	Snow Hill	00-04-08-12-16-20-24-28

Prior Members: Since 2000

Michael Beauchamp (00-06)
Phyllis Davis (00-09)
Richard G. Holland, Sr. (00-12)
Rosalie Smith (00-14)
Betty McDermott *(09-17)

* = Initial terms staggered

BUILDING CODE APPEALS BOARD

Reference: PGL - Public Safety Article - Section 12-501 - 12-508 - Annotated Code of Maryland
COMAR 05.02.07 (Maryland Building Performance Standards)
- International Building Code, International Residential Code

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Quasi-Judicial
Hear and decide upon appeals of the provisions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Residential Code for one- and two-family dwellings (IRC)

Number/Term: 7/4-year terms
Terms expire December 31

Compensation: $100 per meeting (by policy)

Meetings: As Needed

Special Provisions: Members shall be qualified by reason of experience, training or formal education in building construction or the construction trades.

Staff Contact: Jennifer Keener, Director
Development Review & Permitting (410-632-1200, ext. 1123)

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Resides	Years of Term(s)
Bill Paul	D-7 - Mitrecic	Ocean Pines	15-19-23 **Resigned**
Kevin Holland	D-1 - Abbott	Pocomoke	96-04-08-12-16-20, 20-24
Mike Poole	D-6 - Bunting	Bishopville	17-21, 21-25
Mark Bargar	D-4 - Elder	Berlin	14-18-22-26
Jim Wilson	D-3 - Fiori	Berlin	02-06-10-14-18-22-26
Elbert Davis	D-2 - Purnell	Snow Hill	*03-07-11-15-19-23-27
James Spicknall	D-5 - Bertino	Ocean Pines	04-08-12-16-20-24-28

Prior Members:

Robert L. Cowger, Jr. (92-95)
Charlotte Henry (92-97)
Robert Purcell (92-98)
Edward DeShields (92-03)
Sumei Prete (97-04)
Shane C. Spain (03-14)
Dominic Brunori (92-15)
Richard P. Mueller (98-17)

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term

Updated: December 3, 2024
Printed: December 3, 2024

Reference: PGL Health-General, Section 8-1001

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Functions: Advisory
Develop and implement a plan for meeting the needs of the general public and the criminal justice system for alcohol and drug abuse evaluation, prevention and treatment services.

Number/Term: At least 18 - At least 7 At-Large, and 11 ex-officio (also several non-voting members)
At-Large members serve 4-year terms; Terms expire December 31

Compensation: None

Meetings: As Necessary

Special Provisions: Former Alcohol and Other Drugs Task Force was converted to Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council on October 5, 2004.

Staff Contact: Regina Mason, Council Secretary, Health Department (410-632-1100)
Doug Dods, Council Chair, Sheriff's Office (410-632-1111)

Current Members:

Name	Representing	Years of Term(s)
	At-Large Members	
Kim Moses	Knowledgeable on Substance Abuse Issues	08-12-16-20, 20-24
Rev. James Jones	Knowledge of Substance Abuse Issues	*21-25
Alyce Marzola	Knowledge of Substance Abuse Treatment	*24-25
Eric Gray (Designee)	Substance Abuse Treatment Provider	*15-18-22-26
Sue Abell-Rodden	Recipient of Addictions Treatment Services	10-14-18-22-26
Colonel Doug Dods	Knowledgeable on Substance Abuse Issues	04-10 (adv)-14-18-22-26
Jim Freeman, Jr.	Knowledgeable on Substance Abuse Issues	04-11-15, 15-19-23-27
Mimi Dean	Substance Abuse Prevention Provider	*18-19-23-27
Michael Trader	Knowledgeable on Substance Abuse Issues	23-27
Matthew Giardina	Knowledgeable on Substance Abuse Issues	24-28
	Ex-Officio Members	
Rebecca Jones	Health Officer	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Roberta Baldwin	Social Services Director	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Crystal Duffy	Juvenile Services, Regional Director	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Travis Knapp	Field Supervisor	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Kris Heiser	State's Attorney	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Chasity Simpson	District Public Defender	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Sheriff Matt Crisafulli	County Sheriff	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Todd Ferrante	Board of Education President	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Diana Purnell	County Commissioners	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Judge Brian Shockley (Jen Bauman)	Circuit Court Administrative Judge	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Hon. Melvin Jews	District Court Administrative Judge	Ex-Officio, Indefinite
Timothy Mulligan	Warden, Worcester County Jail	Ex-Officio, Indefinite

Advisory Members

* Appointed to a partial term for proper staggering, or to fill a vacant term

Updated: January 16,2024
Printed: January 22, 2025

Reference: County Commissioners' Resolutions of March 1976, 4/16/85, 9/16/97, 5/4/99 and 03-6 on 2/18/03

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Advisory
Provide the County with advice and suggestions concerning the economic development needs of the County; review applications for financing; review Comprehensive Development Plan and Zoning Maps to recommend to Planning Commission appropriate areas for industrial development; review/comment on major economic development projects.

Number/Term: 7/4-Year - Terms expire December 31st.

Compensation: $100 per meeting as expense allowance

Meetings: At least quarterly, more frequently as necessary

Special Provisions: One member nominated by each County Commissioner
Members may be reappointed

Staff Contact: Economic Development Department - Melanie Pursel (410-632-3110)

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Resides	Term(s)
Joe Schanno	D-3, Fiori	West Ocean City	*19-20, 20-24
Ashley Harrison	D-7, Mitrecic	Ocean City	19-21, 21-25
Harry Wimbrow	D-4, Elder	Snow Hill	*22-25
Steven Habeger	D-5, Bertino	Ocean Pines	19-23-27
Natoshia Collick Owens	D-2, Purnell	Ocean Pines	*15-19-23-27
Stephen Kolarik, Jr.	D-6, Bunting	Bishopville	23-27
C.D. Hall	D-1, Abbott	Pocomoke	*22-24-28

Prior Members: Since 1972

George Gering
Margaret Quillin
Robert W. Todd
Charles Fulton
E. Thomas Northam
Charles Bailey
Terry Blades
Roy Davenport
M. Bruce Matthews
Barbara Tull
Tawney Krauss
Dr. Francis Ruffo
William Smith
Saunders Marshall
Elsie Marshall
Halcolm Bailey
Norman Cathell
Mary Humphreys
Theodore Brueckman
Shirley Pilchard
W. Leonard Brown
Charles Nichols (92-97)
Jeff Robbins (97-98)
Colleen Smith (94-98)
Tommy Fitzpatrick (97-99)
John Rogers (92-98)
Jennifer Lynch (98-99)
Don Hastings (92-99)
Jerry Redden (92-00)
Keith Mason (98-00)
Bob Pusey (99-00)
Harold Scrimgeour (00-02)
Scott Savage (98-03)
Gabriel Purnell (91-03)
Michael Avara (99-03)
Annette Cropper (00-04)
Billie Laws (91-08)
Anne Taylor (95-08)
Mary Mackin (04-08)
Thomas W. Davis, Sr. (99-09)
Mickey Ashby (00-12)
Priscilla Pennington-Zytkowicz (09-14)
Barbara Purnell (08-15)
Timothy Collins (03-15)
Joshua Nordstrom (12-16)
William Sparrow (16-18)
Greg Shockley (14-18)
Tom Terry (15-19)
John Glorioso (08-19)
Ralph Shockley (*08-21)
Robert Clarke (*08-22)
Marc Scher (*19-22)
Robert Fisher (87-22)

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term

HOUSING REVIEW BOARD

Reference: Public Local Law §BR 3-104

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Regulatory/Advisory
To decide on appeals of code official's actions regarding the Rental Housing Code. Decide on variances to the Rental Housing Code. Review Housing Assistance Programs.

Number/Term 7/3-year terms
Terms expire December 31st

Compensation: $100 per meeting (policy)

Meetings: As Needed

Special Provisions: Immediate removal by Commissioners for failure to attend meetings.

Staff Support: Development Review & Permitting Department
Davida Washington, Housing Program Administrator - 410-632-1200
Ext: 1171

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Resides	Years of Terms(s)
Maria Campione-Lawrence	D-5, Bertino	Ocean Pines	*22-23
Keri-Ann F. Byrd	D-1, Abbott	Pocomoke	22-25 Resigned
Debbie Hileman	D-6, Bunting	Ocean Pines	10-13-16-19-22-25
Don Furbay	D-3, Fiori	W. Ocean City	23-26
Charlie Murphy	D-7, Mitrecic	Ocean City	*23-26
Carl Smith	D-4, Elder	Snow Hill	24-27
Felicia Green	D-2, Purnell	Ocean Pines	*21-24-27

Prior Members:

Phyllis Mitchell
William Lynch
Art Rutter
William Buchanan
Christina Alphonsi
Elsie Purnell
William Freeman
Jack Dill
Elbert Davis
J. D. Quillin, III (90-96)
Ted Ward (94-00)
Larry Duffy (90-00)
Patricia McMullen (00-02)
William Merrill (90-01)
Debbie Rogers (92-02)
Wardie Jarvis, Jr. (96-03)
Albert Bogdon (02-06)
Jamie Rice (03-07)
Howard Martin (08)
Marlene Ott (02-08)
Mark Frostrom, Jr. (01-10)
Joseph McDonald (08-10)
Sherwood Brooks (03-12)
Otho Mariner (95-13)
Becky Flater (13-14)
Ruth Waters (12-15)
John Glorioso (*06-19)
Sharon Teagle (00- 20)
Davida Washington (*21-21)
Donna Dillion (08-22)
C.D. Hall 10-22
Chase Church (*19-22)
Jake Mitrecic (15-21)
Scot Tingle 14-24

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term

Updated November 19, 2024
Printed: November 19, 2024

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR THE OCEAN DOWNS CASINO

Reference: Subsection 9-1A-31(c) - State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Advisory
Review and comment on the multi-year plan for the expenditure of the local impact grant funds from video lottery facility proceeds for specified public services and improvements; Advise the County on the impact of the video lottery facility on the communities and the needs and priorities of the communities in the immediate proximity to the facility.

Number/Term: 15/4-year terms; Terms Expire December 31

Compensation: None

Meetings: At least semi-annually

Special Provisions: Membership to include State Delegation (or their designee); one representative of the Ocean Downs Video Lottery Facility, seven residents of communities in immediate proximity to Ocean Downs, and four business or institution representatives located in immediate proximity to Ocean Downs.

Staff Contacts: Kim Moses, Public Information Officer, 410-632-1194
Roscoe Leslie, County Attorney, 410-632-1194

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Represents/Resides	Years of Term(s)
Mark Wittmyer	At-Large	Business - Ocean Pines	15-19
David Massey [c]	At-Large	Business - Ocean Pines	09-13-17, 17-21
Bobbi Jones	Ocean Downs Casino	Ocean Downs Casino	23-indefinite
Mary Beth Carozza	Indefinite	Maryland Senator	14-indefinite
Wayne A. Hartman	Indefinite	Maryland Delegate	18-indefinite
Charles Otto	Indefinite	Maryland Delegate	14-indefinite
Bob Gilmore	Dist. 5 - Bertino	Resident - Ocean Pines	*19-21, 21-25
Matt Gordon	Dist. 1 – Abbott	Resident - Pocomoke	19-22, 22-26
Ivy Wells	Dist. 3 - Church	Resident - Berlin	22-26
Cam Bunting [c]	At-Large	Business - Berlin	*09-10-14-18-22-26
Roxane Rounds	Dist. 2 - Purnell	Resident - Berlin	*14-15-19-23-27
Michael Donnelly	Dist. 7 - Mitrecic	Resident - Ocean City	*16-19-23-27
Kerrie Bunting	Dist. 4 - Elder	Resident - Snow Hill	*22-24-28
Mayor Rick Meehan [c]	At-Large	Business - Ocean City	*09-12-16-20-24-28
Tina Kolarik	Dist. 6 - Bunting	Resident -Bishopville	24-28

Prior Members: Since 2009

J. Lowell Stoltzfus [c] (09-10)
Mark Wittmyer [c] (09-11)
John Salm [c] (09-12)
Mike Pruitt [c] (09-12)
Norman H. Conway [c] (09-14)
Michael McDermott (10-14)
Diana Purnell [c] (09-14)
Linda Dearing (11-15)
Todd Ferrante [c] (09-16)
Joe Cavilla (12-17)
James N. Mathias, Jr.[c] (09-18)
Ron Taylor [c] (09-14)
James Rosenberg (09-19)
Rod Murray [c] (*09-19)
Gary Weber (*19-21)
Charlie Dorman (12-19)
Gee Williams (09-21)
Bobbi Sample (17-23)
Steve Ashcraft (19-24)

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term/initial terms staggered
[c] = Charter Member

Updated: December 17, 2024
Printed: December 18, 2024

PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL BOARD

Reference: Annotated Code of Maryland, Tax-Property Article, §TP 3-102

Appointed by: Governor (From list of 3 nominees submitted by County Commissioners)
- Nominees must each fill out a resume to be submitted to Governor
- Nominations to be submitted 3 months before expiration of term

Function: Regulatory
- Decides on appeals concerning: real property values and assessments, personal property valued by the supervisors, credits for various individuals and groups as established by State law, value of agricultural easements, rejection of applications for property tax exemptions.

Number/Term: 3 regular members, 1 alternate/5-year terms
Terms Expire June 1st

Compensation: $15 per hour (maximum $90 per day), plus travel expenses

Meetings: As Necessary

Special Provisions: Chairman to be designated by Governor

Staff Contact: Department of Assessments & Taxation- Janet Rogers (410-632-1365)

Current Members:	Representing:	Term:
Steven W. Rakow	Ocean Pines	*19-22 Resigned
Richard Ramsay	Snow Hill	*21-22 -27
Martha Bennett	Berlin	19-24

Prior Members: Since 1972

Wilford Showell
E. Carmel Wilson
Daniel Trimper, III
William Smith
William Marshall, Jr.
Richard G. Stone
Milton Laws
W. Earl Timmons
Hugh Cropper
Lloyd Lewis
Ann Granados
John Spurling
Robert N. McIntyre
William H. Mitchell (96-98)
Delores W. Groves (96-99)
Mary Yenney (98-03)
Walter F. Powers (01-04)
Grace C. Purnell (96-04)
George H. Henderson, Jr. (97-06)
Joseph A. Calogero (04-09)
Joan Vetare (04-12)
Howard G. Jenkins (03-18)
Robert D. Rose (*06-17)
Larry Fry (*10-14 alt) (14-18)
Richard Thompson (*18-21alt)
Arlene Page 18-23

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term

SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Reference: Human Services Article - Annotated Code of Maryland - Section 3-501

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Functions: Advisory
Review activities of the local Social Services Department and make recommendations to the State Department of Human Resources.
Act as liaison between Social Services Dept. and County Commissioners.
Advocate social services programs on local, state and federal level.

Number/Term: 9 to 13 members/3 years
Terms expire June 30th

Compensation: None - (Reasonable Expenses for attending meetings/official duties)

Meetings: 1 per month (Except June, July, August)

Special Provisions: Members to be persons with high degree of interest, capacity & objectivity, who in aggregate give a countywide representative character.
Maximum 2 consecutive terms, minimum 1-year between reappointment
Members must attend at least 50% of meetings
One member (ex officio) must be a County Commissioner
Except County Commissioner, members may not hold public office.

Staff Contact: Roberta Baldwin, Director of Social Services - (410-677-6806)

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Resides	Years of Term(s)
Harry Hammond	D-6, Bunting	Bishopville	15-21, 21- 24
Shelly Daniels	D-1, Abbott	Pocomoke City	22-25
Rebecca Colt-Ferguson	D-7, Mitrecic	Ocean City	22-25
Janice Chiampa	D-5, Bertino	Ocean Pines	22-25
Diana Purnell	ex officio - Commissioner		14-18-22-25
Voncelia Brown	D-3, Church	Berlin	16-19-22-25
Mary White	At-Large	Berlin	*17-19-22-25
Margaret Labesky	D-4, Elder	Snow Hill	23-26
Nancy Howard	D-2, Purnell	Ocean City	09-16-17-20-23-26

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term

Updated: November 21, 2023
Printed: November 7, 2024

Reference: County Commissioners' Resolution 5/17/94 and 03-6 on 2/18/03

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Advisory
Review and comment on Solid Waste Management Plan, Recycling Plan, plans for solid waste disposal sites/facilities, plans for closeout of landfills, and to make recommendations on tipping fees.

Number/Term: 11/4-year terms; Terms expire December 31st.

Compensation: $100 per meeting expense allowance, subject to annual appropriation

Meetings: At least quarterly

Special Provisions: One member nominated by each County Commissioner; and one member appointed by County Commissioners upon nomination from each of the four incorporated towns.

Staff Support: Solid Waste - Solid Waste Superintendent – David Candy - (410-632-3177)
Solid Waste - Recycling Coordinator – Bob Keenan - (410-632-3177)
Department of Public Works - Dallas Baker- (410-632-5623)

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Resides	Years of Term(s)
Michael Pruitt	Town of Snow Hill		*22-24
James Charles	Town of Berlin		21-25
Brain Scarborough	Town of Ocean City		21-25
Vaughn White	D-2, Purnell	Berlin	*19-21, 21-25
Bob Gilmore	D-5, Bertino	Ocean Pines	*21-22, 22-26
George Linvill	D-1, Abbott	Pocomoke	14-18-22-26
George Dix	D-4, Elder	Snow Hill	*10-18-22-26
John O'Brien	D-6, Bunting	Bishopville	*22-23-27
Don Furbay	D-3, Fiori	Berlin	20-24-28
Granville Jones	D-7, Mitrecic	Berlin	*15-16-20-24-28
Mike Wyatt	Town of Pocomoke City		24-28

Prior Members: (Since 1994)

Ron Cascio (94-96)
Roger Vacovsky, Jr. (94-96)
Lila Hackim (95-97)
Raymond Jackson (94-97)
William Turner (94-97)
Vernon "Corey" Davis, Jr. (96-98)
Robert Mangum (94-98)
Richard Rau (94-96)
Jim Doughty (96-99)
Jack Peacock (94-00)
Hale Harrison (94-00)
Richard Malone (94-01)
William McDermott (98-03)
Fred Joyner (99-03)
Hugh McFadden (98-05)
Dale Pruitt (97-05)
Frederick Stiehl (05-06)
Eric Mullins (03-07)
Mayor Tom Cardinale (05-08)
William Breedlove (02-09)
Lester D. Shockley (03-10)
Woody Shockley (01-10)
John C. Dorman (07-10)
Robert Hawkins (94-11)
Victor Beard (97-11)
Mike Gibbons (09-14)
Hank Westfall (00-14)
Marion Butler, Sr. (00-14)
Robert Clarke (11-15)
Bob Donnelly (11-15)
Howard Sribnick (10-16)
Dave Wheaton (14-16)
Wendell Purnell (97-18)
George Tasker (*15-20)
Rodney Bailey *19
Steve Brown *10-19
Bob Augustine 16-19
Michael Pruitt *15-19
James Rosenburg (*06-19)
Jamey Latchum *17-19
Hal Adkins (*20-21)
Mike Poole (11-22)
Michelle B-El Soloh (*19-24)

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term

Updated: January 21, 2025
Printed: January 21, 2025

WATER AND SEWER ADVISORY COUNCIL
WEST OCEAN CITY SERVICE AREA

Reference: County Commissioners' Resolution of November 19, 1993

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Advisory
Advise Commissioners on water and sewer needs of the Service Area; review amendments to Water and Sewer Plan; make recommendations on policies and procedures; review and recommend charges and fees; review annual budget for the service area.

Number/Term: 5/4-year terms
Terms Expire December 31

Compensation: $100.00/Meeting

Meetings: Monthly

Special Provisions: Must be residents/ratepayers of West Ocean City Service Area

Staff Support: Department of Public Works - Water and Wastewater Division
Chris Clasing - (410-641-5251)

Current Members:

Member's Name	Resides/Ratepayer of	Terms (Years)
Keith Swanton	West Ocean City	13-17, 17-21
Blake Haley	West Ocean City	*19-20, 20-24
Todd Ferrante	West Ocean City	13-17-21-25
Gail Fowler	West Ocean City	99-23-27
Deborah Stanley	West Ocean City	95-23-27

Prior Members: (Since 1993)

Eleanor Kelly[c] (93-96)
John Mick[c] (93-95)
Frank Gunion[c] (93-96)
Carolyn Cummins (95-99)
Roger Horth (96-04)
Whaley Brittingham[c] (93-13)
Ralph Giove[c] (93-14)
Chris Smack (04-14)
Andrew Delcorro (*14-19)

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term
[C] = Charter member

Updated: March 1, 2020
Printed: February 7, 2025

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Reference: Public Local Law CG 6-101

Appointed by: County Commissioners

Function: Advisory

Number/Term: 11/3-year terms; Terms Expire December 31

Compensation: None

Meetings: At least monthly (3rd Tuesday at 5:30 PM - alternating between Berlin and Snow Hill)

Special Provisions: 7 district members, one from each Commissioner District
4 At-large members, nominations from women's organizations & citizens
4 Ex-Officio members, one each from the following departments: Social Services, Health & Mental Hygiene, Board of Education, Public Safety
No member shall serve more than six consecutive years

Contact: Coleen Colson, Chair and , Laura Morrison, Co-Chair
Worcester County Commission for Women - P.O. Box 211, Snow Hill, MD 21863

Current Members:

Member's Name	Nominated By	Resides	Years of Term(s)
Kimberly List	D-7, Mitrecic	Ocean City	18- 21-24
Elizabeth Rodier	D-3, Fiori	Bishopville	18-21 **Resigned**
Jocelyn Briddell	At-Large	Berlin	23-26
Coleen Colson	Dept of Social Services		19-22-25
Windy Phillips	Board of Education		19-22-25
Laura Morrison	At-Large	Pocomoke	*19-20-23-26
Crystal Bell, MPA	Health Department		*22-23-26
Jeannine Jerscheid	Public Safety – Sheriff's Office		23-26
Sharnell Tull	At-Large	Pocomoke	23 -26
Joan Scott	D-4, Elder	Newark	23-26
Susan Ostrowski	D-6, Bunting	Berlin	24-27
Dorothy Shelton-Leslie	D-5, Bertino	Ocean Pines	24-27
Dr. Darlene Jackson- Bowen	D-2, Purnell	Pocomoke	*19-21-24-27
Dianna Harris	At-Large	West O. City	24-27
Michelle Goad	D-1, Abbott	Pocomoke City	25-28

Prior Members: Since 1995

Ellen Pilchard[c] (95-97)
Helen Henson[c] (95-97)
Barbara Beaubien[c] (95-97)
Sandy Wilkinson[c] (95-97)
Helen Fisher[c] (95-98)
Bernard Bond[c] (95-98)
Jo Campbell[c] (95-98)
Karen Holck[c] (95-98)
Judy Boggs[c] (95-98)
Mary Elizabeth Fears[c] (95-98)
Pamela McCabe[c] (95-98)
Teresa Hammerbacher[c] (95-98)
Bonnie Platter (98-00)
Marie Velong[c] (95-99)
Carole P. Voss (98-00)
Martha Bennett (97-00)
Patricia Ilczuk-Lavanceau (98-99)
Lil Wilkinson (00-01)
Diana Purnell[c] (95-01)
Colleen McGuire (99-01)
Wendy Boggs McGill (00-02)
Lynne Boyd (98-01)
Barbara Trader[c] (95-02)
Heather Cook (01-02)
Vyoletus Ayres (98-03)
Terri Taylor (01-03)
Christine Selzer (03)
Linda C. Busick (00-03)
Gloria Bassich (98-03)
Carolyn Porter (01-04)
Martha Pusey (97-03)
Teole Brittingham (97-04)
Catherine W. Stevens (02-04)
Hattie Beckwith (00-04)
Mary Ann Bennett (98-04)
Rita Vaeth (03-04)

* = Appointed to fill an unexpired term
[c] = Charter member

Updated: March 4, 2025
Printed: March 4, 2025

Worcester County Administration
One West Market St. Room 1103 | Snow Hill MD 21863 | (410) 632-1194 | www.co.worcester.md.us

TO: *The Salisbury Daily Times* and *OC Today Dispatch Group*
FROM: Candace Savage, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
DATE: May 15, 2025
SUBJECT: Worcester County Public Hearing Notice

Please print the attached Public Hearing Notice in *The Salisbury Daily Times* and *Ocean City Digest/OC Today Dispatch* on May 22, 2025 and May 29, 2025. Thank you.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CARES ACT ADDITIONAL FUNDING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS
WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

The County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland will conduct a Public Hearing to obtain the views of citizens on activities to be submitted to the Maryland Community Development Block Grant Program for funds awarded through the federal CARES Act. The County was a recipient of previous funds and has the opportunity to apply for additional funds to be used for homeless and food programs and facilities. The hearing will be held on:

TUESDAY, June 3, 2025
AT 10:30 A.M.
IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
ROOM 1101 – GOVERNMENT CENTER – ONE WEST MARKET STREET
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND 21863

Efforts will be made to accommodate the disabled and non-English speaking residents with 3 business days advance notice to Candace Savage, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer at 410-632-1194.

WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

Worcester County Administration
One West Market St. Room 1103 | Snow Hill MD 21863 | (410) 632-1194 | www.co.worcester.md.us

APPROVED

WSY 05/06/25

TO: Weston Young, Chief Administrative Officer
Candace Savage, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Lynn Wright, Senior Budget Accountant
DATE: April 28, 2025
RE: Public Hearing Request for CDBG CV 2 Grant Amendment

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development has reclaimed COVID (Cares Act) funds, which are now available to support homeless shelters. Worcester County is eligible to receive these funds through an amendment to its original CV 2 Grant.

Two local shelters, Diakonia and Samaritan Ministries, have identified eligible needs for these funds, including homeless shelter supplies and kitchen appliances. The total grant amendment amount is $54,879. Diakonia proposes to use $30,401 to purchase food, bottled water, hygiene supplies, and first aid supplies. Samaritan Ministries proposes to use $24,478 to purchase kitchen appliances and food.

As required by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, a public hearing must be held to approve the grant amendment. I respectfully request the public hearing be held at the Commissioner meeting on June 3, 2025.

Attachments

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM – COVID FUNDING

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has approximately $2 million of CDBG COVID funding available. While the COVID crisis is technically over, there is still the opportunity to meet the criteria of "preparing for" a resurgence of COVID. To this end, we are offering funds as amendments to non-entitlement grantees who received funding from DHCD's CDBG COVID.

The funds would be made available for homeless and food projects. Specifically, the funds can be used for services, food supplies, shelter improvements, and food bank facility improvements.

Eligible activities include:

- Acquisition of equipment and appliances to improve facilities such as freezers, refrigerators, ovens, HVAC systems, and shelving*
- Operating costs for staff providing direct services
- Food supplies

◆Funding for *minimal* project administration will be considered for Grantees.

◆Funds will be provided as amendments to the recent grant agreements.

◆Grantees must conduct a public hearing and submit a description of activities, a budget and beneficiary information.

◆Equipment and appliance must be installed from manufacturer or be installed with non-CDBG funds.

Note that all activities must completed by June 2026 with no time extensions.

The Program will host a call on Tuesday, March 4th at 1 pm to discuss CDBG COVID uses and specifics.

CDBG CV AMENDMENT INFORMATION FORM

Grantee: The County Commissioners of Worcester County, MD

Activity	Amount	Subrecipient	National Objective	# Beneficiaries
Food, Bottled Water, Hygiene, and First Aid Supplies for Homeless Shelter	$30,401	Diakonia	LMI Limited Clientele – Presumed - Homeless	250
Appliances and Food for Homeless Shelter	$24,678	Samaritan Ministries, Inc.	LMI Limited Clientele – Presumed - Homeless	250
TOTAL	$55,079			

National Objectives

1. *Benefit to LMI – Limited Clientele - Presumed* – Homeless Persons – Presumed to be LMI – Report on persons
2. *Benefit to LMI – Limited Clientele – Income Qualified* - Food Programs (non-senior), counseling, childcare, adult day care, health centers – 51% of all beneficiaries must be LMI – self-certification allowed

COVID Emergency Supply List - Diakonia

Item	Cost per unit	# of units	Total Cost
Personal Hygiene Packs	$ 16.00	275	$ 4,400.00
Emergency Disposable Blankets	$ 12.65	42	$ 531.30
First Aid Kits	$ 32.88	20	$ 657.60
Ready to Eat Meals	$ 497.00	24	$ 11,928.00
Bottled Water	$ 5.64	912	$ 5,143.68
Sport Hydration Drinks	$ 7.46	111	$ 828.06
Food Storage Carriers	$ 48.00	4	$ 192.00
Insulated Hot Beverage Container	$ 147.00	4	$ 588.00
Beverage Cooler Dispenser	$ 55.44	3	$ 166.32
Cups	$ 40.41	20	$ 808.20
Protein Bars	$ 7.92	631	$ 4,997.52
Face Masks	$ 9.99	8	$ 79.92
Latex Gloves	$ 15.89	5	$ 79.45
			$ 30,400.05

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Beverage Dispenser. (3)
Add paper cones. (20 cases @ 1000 - $40.41) = $808.20

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: Grainger
Address: online.
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $255.87. Date: 4/25/25.

Quote #2:
Name of vendor: Walmart.
Address: Berlin, MD.
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $166.32 Date: 4/25/25

Quote #3:
Name of vendor: Amazon Online.
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $287.70 Date: 4/25/25.

Selected Vendor: Walmart

Reason for Selection: local vendor. lowest price.

Person Completing Form: Kim Angel **Date:** 4/25/25

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Bottled Water. [redacted]
365 x 300 = 36,500 bottles ÷ 40 = 912 cases.

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: Walmart
Address: Local Berlin, MD
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $143.68 Date: 4/25/25.

Quote #2:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Quote #3:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Selected Vendor: Walmart

Reason for Selection: local low price.

Person Completing Form: Ken Aydt **Date:** 4/25/25

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Emergency Disposable Blankets. (heat reflective) (500)

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: Grainger
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $450.00 Date: 4/25/25

Quote #2:
Name of vendor: Walmart.
Address: Berlin, MD
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $31.30 Date: 4/25/25
packs of 12.

Quote #3:
Name of vendor: Amazon
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $450 Date: 4/25/25

Selected Vendor: Walmart

Reason for Selection: local vendor

Person Completing Form: Kim Ayd **Date:** 4/25/25.

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: First Aid Kits. (20)
30 people served each.

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: Grainger
Address: online
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $459.40 Date: 4/25/25.

Quote #2:
Name of vendor: Walmart.
Address: Berlin MD
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $657.60 Date: 4/25/25.

Quote #3:
Name of vendor: Amazon
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $ 592.80 Date: 4/25/25

Selected Vendor: Walmart

Reason for Selection: Local vendor.

Person Completing Form: Ken Angt **Date:** 4/25/25

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Food Storage Carriers. (4)

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: Webrestaurant Store.
Address: online
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $192 Date: 4/25/25.

Quote #2:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Quote #3:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Selected Vendor: Webrestaurt.

Reason for Selection: Cambro is the most well-known disaster service supply provider for food storage. All ~~other~~ vendors sell for the same price.

Person Completing Form: Ken Angle **Date:** 4/25/25

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Survival Hygenie/ Kits. (275) # of residents served in emergency shelter / yr.

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: US Safety Kits.com
Address: 455 Tarrytown Rd, #1459, White Plains NY 10607
Phone #: 888-247-3947 (www.ussafetykits.com)
Quoted Price: $4111.25 (14.95 each) Date: 4/25/25

Quote #2:
Name of vendor: Walmart
Address: 11416 Ocean City Hwy Berlin, MD 21811
Phone #: 410-629-0502
Quoted Price: $4,400 (16.00 each) Date: 4/25/25.

Quote #3:
Name of vendor: Amazon
Address: online.
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $3,242.25 Date: 4/25/25.

Selected Vendor: WALMART

Reason for Selection: Local ties to Worcester. More items per pack/person

Person Completing Form: Kon Angel **Date:** 4/25/25

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Insulated Beverge Containers. (4)

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: Webrestaurant store.
Address: online.
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $568 Date: 4/25/25

Quote #2:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Quote #3:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Selected Vendor: Webrestaurant.

Reason for Selection: Cambro is the leader in disaster service storage containers and all stores sell at same price.

Person Completing Form: Ken Agt **Date:** 4/25/25

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Ready to Eat Meals.
20,000 servings.

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: My Patriot Supply
Address: online
Phone #:
Quoted Price: @ 24 units $11,928 Date: 4/25/25

Quote #2:
Name of vendor: Amazon.
Address: online
Phone #:
Quoted Price: @ 14 units $39,185.72. Date: 4/25/25

Quote #3:
Name of vendor: Emergency Essentials.
Address: online.
Phone #:
Quoted Price: @ 25 units $17,175 Date: 4/25/25

Selected Vendor: My Patriot Supply

Reason for Selection: cost.

Person Completing Form: Ken Angt **Date:** 4/25/25.

MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
VENDOR/COST DOCUMENTATION FORM

Description of needed service or product: Sport Hydration Drinks.
2000 bottles x 111 units
18/pack.

Quote #1:
Name of vendor: Walmart
Address: Local Berlin
Phone #:
Quoted Price: $28.06 Date: 4/25/25

Quote #2:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Quote #3:
Name of vendor:
Address:
Phone #:
Quoted Price: Date:

Selected Vendor: Walmart

Reason for Selection: lowest cost.

Person Completing Form: Lin Agt **Date:** 4/25/25

Samaritan Ministries, Inc.

P. O. Box 661
814 Fourth Street
Pocomoke City, MD 21851

Phone 410-957-4310
Fax 410-957-0125
Web address: thesamaritanshelter.org
E-mail thesamaritanshelter@gmail.com

A Private Non-Profit Homeless Shelter Since 1986

Worcester County Commissioners
One West Market St Room 1103
Snow Hill, MD 21863

April 28, 2025

Dear Commissioner President & County Commissioners,

The Board of Directors, staff, those in crisis and residents would like to thank you for the opportunity to request COVID funding to assist us in replacing some Kitchen/ Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry Equipment and to purchase food for our Food Pantry, Soup Kitchen and Shelter.

The needs here at the shelter are great and continue to grow due to the economy. We have been in operation since 1986 helping those in need in Worcester County. We are collaborating with Disability Advocates, Worcester County Parole & Probation, Worcester Youth & Family, Health Department for parenting classes, UMES for nutritional classes, Priority Partners for Health Classes, and many others to provide resources locally in Pocomoke to help those in need in Worcester County. Agencies come into the shelter and provide classes and other resources for the residents and those in the community. When someone is in a crisis it is sometimes difficult to get from point A to point B, so we are providing those resources at the shelter for those in need to access them also transportation can be an issue to those in need. We continue to provide several resources and referrals to those in crisis to become self-sufficient again. We are so thankful to be collaborating with so many organizations to make Samaritan Shelter a one stop resource for the community.

So, you can see your generosity is being well spent to help those in need. Your continued support is critical to keeping the doors open at Samaritan Shelter. Without your support we would not be able to apply for the grants we apply for to help keep the shelter running. We will be grateful for your continued support in the coming year. We do our best to keep our budget the same so we only have a staff of 5 to help keep costs down so funding can go to direct services for the residents.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 443-944-3889.

Thank You,

Shelly Daniels, Director

Deuteronomy 15:11
For the poor shall never cease out of thy land; Therefore, I command the saying, Thou shall open thy hand wide to thy brother, to thy poor and to thy needy in thy land.

Board of Directors
Chairman Carol Johnsen, Vice Chairman Shayla Miles, Treasurer Adele Williams, Rev. George Tasker, Charlie Webster, Eric Gomez, Tonya Sterling, Jamie Bailey, Rev. Dr. Joe Barth, Samantha Beauchamp, Greg Conley, John Spencer, Chris Greenwood, Danny Outten, Paul Cook

Director Shelly Daniels

Samaritan Ministries Inc
Tax I.D. Number 52-2080155

Requested: $24,677.49

Provider Information			
Name of Organization: Samaritan Ministries, Inc.			
Jurisdiction: Worcester			
Location of Equipment: 814 Fourth St, Pocomoke City, MD 21851			
EIN#: 52-2080155			
Program Street Address: 814 Fourth St			
City: Pocomoke City	State: MD	Zip Code: 21851	County/Baltimore City: Worcester County
Mailing Address: PO Box 661			c/o Shelly Daniels
City: Pocomoke City	State: MD	Zip Code: 21851	County/Baltimore City: Worcester County
Organization Director: Shelly Daniels	Direct Phone Number: 443-944-3889		Email Address: thesamaritanshelter@gmail.com
Program Director: Shelly Daniels	Direct Phone Number: 443-944-3889		Email Address: thesamaritanshelter@gmail.com
Primary Contact: Shelly Daniels	Direct Phone Number: 443-944-3889		Email Address: thesamaritanshelter@gmail.com

Program Demographics			
Program Type			
✓ Shelter ____ Food Bank	____ Senior Feeding ____ Residential Treatment	✓ Pantry ____ Other	✓ Soup Kitchen ____ Adult Daycare

Program Demographics
Days and hours of operation? Shelter 24/7 (3 meals a day plus snacks), Soup Kitchen Wed. 11-12:30 pm, Food Bank Tuesday & Saturday from 1-2 pm or as needed, hot meals as needed for anyone not in the shelter.
Program and the services provided and how long you have provided these services. Samaritan Shelter is a homeless shelter serving those in need for 37 years. We provide shelter, food, clothing, and many resources to the homeless. We have a food pantry and a soup kitchen where we provide to those in need in the community with food insecurities. We are governed by a dedicated group of 15 individual Board Members who diligently work to increase self-sufficiency for the homeless and those in need. Our board consists of a diverse group of individuals bringing various expertise to the table. The shelter is run by the Director who the Board hired 16 years ago and had previously worked at the shelter for 9 years before taking a 2-year break and 4 House managers who help run the day-to-day operations. All services are offered at no charge
Communities we serve. Samaritan serves the homeless, low income, seniors and those who are less fortunate and in need.

Number of individuals and families we serve annually by your program. We serve between 350 – 500 individuals annually in food pantries, soup kitchen and shelter.
The estimate of individuals that we will serve with this grant. We estimate serving 510 individuals whose incomes are low to no income, homeless, doubled up, have food insecurities through the Shelter, Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry.
Grocery bags and meals provided annually by your program. FY 2022-2023 we served 11,106 Meals in the Shelter, 1,954 Meals in the Soup Kitchen and distributed 8,570 Grocery Bags in the Food Pantry.

Type	Quantity	Cost	Other Expenses	Total Cost (Cost + Other Expenses)	Grant Request	Estimate(s) Included
Fridge for Soup Kitchen Foods	1	709.00		709.00	709.00	1 Estimates
Fridge for Residents food	1	1,575.00		1,575.00	1,575.00	1 Estimates
LP Stove/Oven	1	1,249.00	242.49	1,491.49	1,491.49	1 Estimates
Microwave	1	193.00		193.00	193.00	1 Estimates
Freezer for Soup Kitchen Foods	1	709.00		709.00	709.00	1 Estimates
Food for our food pantry, soup kitchen and shelter		20,000.00		20,000.00	20,000.00	
Total:		24,435.00	242.49	24,677.49	24,677.49	5 Estimates

MARYLAND'S Coast WORCESTER COUNTY

Worcester County Administration
One West Market St. Room 1103 | Snow Hill MD 21863 | (410) 632-1194 | www.co.worcester.md.us

TO: *The Salisbury Daily Times* and *OC Today Dispatch Group*
FROM: Candace Savage, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
DATE: May 15, 2025
SUBJECT: Worcester County Public Hearing Notice

Please print the attached Public Hearing Notice in *The Salisbury Daily Times* and *Ocean City Digest/OC Today Dispatch* on May 22, 2025 and May 29, 2025. Thank you.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CARES ACT ADDITIONAL FUNDING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS
WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

The County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland will conduct a Public Hearing to obtain the views of citizens on activities to be submitted to the Maryland Community Development Block Grant Program for funds awarded through the federal CARES Act. The County was a recipient of previous funds and has the opportunity to apply for additional funds to be used for homeless and food programs and facilities. The hearing will be held on:

TUESDAY, June 3, 2025
AT 10:30 A.M.
IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
ROOM 1101 – GOVERNMENT CENTER – ONE WEST MARKET STREET
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND 21863

Efforts will be made to accommodate the disabled and non-English speaking residents with 3 business days advance notice to Candace Savage, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer at 410-632-1194.

WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS