STATE OF MARYLAND

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION ROOM

SECOND FLOOR, STATE HOUSE

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

November 2, 2011

10:00 a.m.

## PRESENT

GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY, Presiding;

HONORABLE PETER FRANCHOT, Comptroller;

HONORABLE NANCY KOPP, Treasurer;

- SHEILA C. MCDONALD, Secretary, Board of Public Works;
- ALVIN C. COLLINS, Secretary, Department of General Services;
- T. ELOISE FOSTER, Secretary, Department of Budget and Management;
- DARRELL MOBLEY, Deputy Secretary,

  Department of Transportation;
- EMILY WILSON, Deputy Director, Land
  Acquisition and Planning, Department
  of Natural Resources;
- LUWANDA JENKINS, Special Secretary,
  Governor's Office of Minority Affairs;
- MARY JO CHILDS, Procurement Advisor, Board of Public Works; and,
- MARION BOSCHERT, Recording Secretary, Board of Public Works.

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GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All right, good morning everybody. Welcome to the Board of Public Works.

Today is November 2nd, All Souls Day, 2011. It's good to see all you souls here. We'd like to ask the Comptroller and the Treasurer if they have any opening thoughts, comments?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Just thank you,

Governor. I just wanted to note for the record that

90 years ago today was the birth date of Governor

William Donald Schaefer.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: All Souls Day.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And Maryland has not been the same since. Obviously the Governor left a tremendous legacy of public service, both as a elected official and as an advocate encouraging others to get involved and to give back to the community. And I salute Governor Schaefer all over the State. And the fact that today is the 90th, would have been his 90th

birthday, I think it's appropriate that that legacy of his is being honored today in Baltimore. It's the Inaugural Day of Service in Baltimore. And I hope that this annual event will continue to grow throughout the City and the State in years to come.

I'm going to be joining my senior management team at the Maryland Food Bank later on today. And I know many Comptroller employees will be participating in numerous Service Day events as well. I just want to encourage everyone to think of other ways that you can connect and help build a stronger community.

Obviously Maryland State employees work hard every day to provide good quality services to their neighbors, but as Governor Schaefer would always say in his inimitable style, there's always more that we can do. And his lifetime of service and dedication to helping people is how I always will remember him. And I think that's the memory that most Marylanders have of him. And it's why he touched so many lives.

I hope everyone will take some time in the coming days and throughout this holiday season to volunteer for a cause that they believe in. There are plenty of events going on today throughout Baltimore but if you can't do something please find a little bit of time in the coming weeks. It's a perfect way to pay tribute to Governor Schaefer's belief that each of us in our own way can help make our State a better place to live. Thank you, Governor.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you, Mr. Comptroller.

TREASURER KOPP: Well spoken.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Madam Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: He's keeping an eye --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes, I've noticed

that. It's very friendly.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All right. Let's go call the Secretary's Agenda?

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Yes. Good morning,
Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. There are

thirteen items on the Secretary's Agenda. Two reports of emergency procurements. We're prepared for your questions. We do have a matter, Item 12 is about the Maryland Historical Trust African American Heritage Preservation Program Grant to the Sphinx Club Project being performed by Druid Heights Community Development Corporation. Is Ms. Raines here, and the guest? Mr. Johnson?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Mr. Johnson?

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Yes.

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, good morning.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Good morning. This is exciting. Tell us about it.

MR. JOHNSON: Good morning, yes --

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Could you both introduce yourselves for the record, and then talk about the project a little bit?

MR. JOHNSON: Sure. My name is Roscoe Johnson, III. I'm the Director of Real Estate

Development for Druid Heights Community Development
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Corporation located in West Baltimore, the 44th

Legislative District. I'm pleased to be here this

morning to say thank you for the support that the

State is lending to a project that's very important to

the community and the residents of Druid Heights.

Druid Heights is a nonprofit community

development corporation. We represent the residents

of the Druid Heights community. And over, some time

ago the community came together and put together a

plan on both what they would want to see in terms of

residential development as well as commercial

development in the area. Druid Heights recently took

over sponsorship for the Main Street Program on

Pennsylvania Avenue and this is part and parcel of

what we're trying to do to recreate, to create some

jobs and to do revitalization of the community.

Just to be brief, the project is an \$8.4 million project. We have the support of private financing from State Farm Insurance Company. I noted in the remarks that you have before you, the

restaurant and the building, the Sphinx Club will be converted into a family restaurant. We'll also have a venue for entertainment that is planned to be used as a way of engaging the young people in the community, providing them an outlet for both cultural and social activities.

Also included in the project is, for new construction, is a building that would house BALL, Black Athletes and Lost Legends, as well as provide space to house some incubator businesses.

This particular 2100 Block of Pennsylvania

Avenue is part of a broad plan that we're trying to do

to work to create jobs and to provide an environment

which most people experience in their local

neighborhoods. So it will be a place for people to

come to enjoy, bring their families, and also as an

educational and social venue. Okay?

And as you can see we sort of have a rendering of what it's going to look like once we get finished and also the existing conditions.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: So Mr. Johnson, how big is that corner building? I mean that's a, that's, that can fit?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes. Yes. It looks large there but it's going to be three stories.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Mm-hmm.

MR. JOHNSON: Basically the total footage for the project, we're taking 12,000 square feet and creating about 14,000 square feet of usable space. So with the addition, there was a three-story building there. We're not creating anything different in terms of sites and so forth --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Has that been cleared?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Is it a vacant lot now?

MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, the building fell down.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Good.

MR. JOHNSON: So we've, that's all been cleared out of the way. Any other questions about the project?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Sometimes they'll do that for you. Usually we had to do it ourselves. Now which, remind me, which building was actually the Sphinx Club? Wasn't it the one on the left? Yeah. Right.

MR. JOHNSON: Right. Exactly.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Or correct, rather. That was the Sphinx Club.

MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Do you have any old pictures?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, we do. We have, as well as, we've been over at Druid High School working on this for a while.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Around the dinner table, there?

MR. JOHNSON: We have a video tape of the previous owner and things like that that we'll be able to use within the complex --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And all the famous entertainers and sports figures that came through there?

MR. JOHNSON: And we have the history

documented for the use of the building. For those who

don't know, during the time when Maryland, segregation

was the law of the land, this was a place where

African Americans came. A lot of our noted leaders

and politicians used to come and socialize at this

particular place and to strategize on how they were

going to help bring change to Maryland.

TREASURER KOPP: So what is, what is the BALL House Museum part --

MR. JOHNSON: BALL is an organization of, it's called, it's Black Athletes and Lost Legends.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

MR. JOHNSON: And right now BALL is an organization that is primarily focused on Negro baseball, the Negro League. And they have a mobile

exhibit that goes around to schools, stadiums, and I think obviously they've been here in Annapolis. Now we're finding a home and they're going to expand it to target other sports legends in terms of African Americans, whether it's football, boxing, and things of that nature.

TREASURER KOPP: But we were talking at one point of having a Negro League Museum. What was, is that --

MR. JOHNSON: That is, I understand that is in the works in Baltimore County.

TREASURER KOPP: Oh, okay.

MR. JOHNSON: That is something that is happening.

TREASURER KOPP: Okay, this is --

MR. JOHNSON: So this is a little broader than just one particular sports subject.

TREASURER KOPP: Okay.

MR. JOHNSON: Okay?

TREASURER KOPP: I look forward to both.

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MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Any questions? Well, thank you once again. Thank you for your support.

And I hate to say, we will be back.

(Laughter)

MR. JOHNSON: Have a good day.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you, Mr. Johnson. That's a good one.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And what are we putting towards that today? What is the --

TREASURER KOPP: Hundred thousand.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Hundred thousand.

MR. JOHNSON: Hundred thousand.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: For the planning, and, okay. Great. Anything else on the Secretary's Agenda? The Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

TREASURER KOPP: Before she leaves --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I'm sorry?

TREASURER KOPP: -- Governor, could I just point out? Sneaking out the door is the Director of Debt Management for the State of Maryland who just completed another really good deal on behalf of the people of the State. The Energy Lease deal. And I just want to thank her publicly for being here, and for her hard work. You mentioned the hardworking State employees. Patti Konrad is an outstanding example of Maryland's talented, hardworking, and dedicated employees. And I --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: To the people who help us defend that AAA bond rating.

TREASURER KOPP: That is --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: One of only eight in the nation, thanks to our fiscally responsible choices.

TREASURER KOPP: Patti's the one.

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Congratulations.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you, Patti.

MS. KONRAD: It has really been quite a great partnership that we have with DGS and the energy contracting people in DGS. And in this particular financing we'll save compared to the utility savings and the debt service on them, this lease is about \$13 million over 13 years.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: These are part of the ESCOs?

MS. KONRAD: -- really significant effort.

TREASURER KOPP: Mm-hmm.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: That's great.

MS. KONRAD: All right. Thank you very

much.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: So far since benchmark

2006?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: We have reduced energy consumption in State buildings by roughly 7 percent.

MR. COLLINS: Seven percent, yes sir.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: On our way to achieving a 15 percent reduction --

MR. COLLINS: That's correct, sir.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: -- by 2015. All right.
Well now we move on to --

TREASURER KOPP: As we say, halfway home and a long way to go.

MR. COLLINS: That's true.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Yeah. In some other areas we're not making as much progress. But we now move on to the Department of Budget and Management.

MS. FOSTER: Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller, good morning. There are five items on the Department of Budget and Management's Agenda for today. And I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Questions? The

Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer.

All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it. We move on now to the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{--}}$ 

SECRETARY MCDONALD: University System.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: -- University System of

Maryland. No Open Space, or any of that? No?

SECRETARY MCDONALD: No, not today. No Open Space Agenda.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: No Open Space?

SECRETARY MCDONALD: They will have it coming back next time. There's a transition period, remember Ms. Lathbury left? Ms. Emily Wilson is sitting in but there are no items.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Hello Emily.

MS. WILSON: Hi.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: They will come back at the next meeting with a full Agenda.

MS. WILSON: Indeed.

MR. STIRLING: Good morning, Governor, Mr. Comptroller, Madam Treasurer. I'm Jim Stirling for the University System. We have four items on today's Agenda and I'll be happy to address any questions you have.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Mr. Comptroller?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, I just on Item, is it one? Frostburg State University I, speaking of recognizing great State employees, Mr. Klasmeier reminded me that years ago when Blair Lee was the Acting Governor there was emergency federal funding to help Frostburg stay afloat out there because it's built on all these old coal mines.

MR. STIRLING: Right.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And he asked the

System to make sure that the construction company was

looking at that and everything -
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MR. STIRLING: We are.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- came back saying that of course, there isn't a square inch out there that isn't, doesn't have a coal mine underneath it but that everybody was taking precautions. So --

MR. STIRLING: Yes, sir. I understand there are a couple of mine shafts underneath this particular site at 80 feet and another one at a couple of hundred feet. But geotechnical engineers evaluated that and if there's any remediation required we'll take care of it.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I can't remember what I did yesterday, so Mr. Klasmeier remembering something that happened, what, before --

MR. KLASMEIER: 1977.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: 1977, it's just always good for the Board to have continuity and thank you for that.

TREASURER KOPP: Mr. Klasmeier will remember, I think, perhaps that I was chairing a subcommittee at that time. And indeed things did

start to go in, and indeed they did have to rush in and shore up some of those old mines. And indeed at that time the plats were not always correct. But they've since gone back and --

MR. STIRLING: It's all been surveyed.

TREASURER KOPP: I'd hate to see the kids sliding down into --

(Laughter)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you, Madam Treasurer. Someone else has a good memory.

TREASURER KOPP: It was really something.

It's the sort of thing if you were there then you remember it.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well, thank you. Thanks for getting back to us on that.

MR. STIRLING: Yes, sir.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And I move approval on this.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Okay. Madam Treasurer,

TREASURER KOPP: No.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All righty. The

Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer.

All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it. We

move on now to the Department of Transportation.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Information Technology?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I'm sorry. Oh, how

could I forget. I apologize.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Secretary Schlanger.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I was seeing DoIT, but I was reading MDOT.

MR. SCHLANGER: Good morning, Governor --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Mr. Schlanger, good to see you.

MR. SCHLANGER: -- Madam Treasurer, Mr.

Comptroller. Elliot Schlanger, Department of

Information Technology. This morning we have five items on the Agenda. I'd be happy to answer any questions at this time.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it.

MR. SCHLANGER: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Now we move on to the Department of Transportation.

MR. MOBLEY: Good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller, for the record Deputy Secretary Darrell Mobley representing MDOT. Today is Transit Day. Ralign Wells, the Administrator for MTA, is here to speak about two good news items. MDOT is representing seven items today. Item 5-E has been revised.

MR. WELLS: Good morning, good morning. For the record, my name is Ralign Wells. I am the Administrator for the Maryland Transit Administration. And I appreciate the opportunity to talk to you today about a couple of items that we have on the Agenda.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: It's great to see you absent a snow emergency --

MR. WELLS: Yes and --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: -- a hurricane, or other things.

MR. WELLS: -- other things, yes. Exactly. So this is a great day. So I'm really happy to be here.

(Laughter)

MR. WELLS: At least right now.

(Laughter)

MR. WELLS: All right. I'm here to talk about two things today. The MARC rail car procurement that we are planning and the new commuter bus service that we are planning, we're calling the 906. And that

commuter bus service provides express trips from the Waldorf area to the Downtown D.C. area. And it helps alleviate the overcrowding conditions we have on the 901 lines. Here with us in support of that is Candice Kelly. She's the President of the Charles County Board of Commissioners and she's here to basically support that service.

The other thing that I wanted to talk about is the Metro, the MARC rail car procurement. Now the MARC, as you know, has been growing exponentially. Back in 1990 we were operating with about 13 patrons per day using the service. Today we're at about 33,000 patrons per day. And so we struggle to keep pace with the grown and the demand for that service. That is a good problem for transit, as you can imagine, because we have to figure out how to address those demands. And one of the things that will help us is if we can procure these 54 rail cars.

This purchase will help us with both our reliability for the cars, but as well it will increase HUNT REPORTING COMPANY
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capacity. This is a rendering of the way the cars will look. And as you can see these cars, I don't know if you notice the difference, but these cars will have four doors to also help the patrons be able to get off the train and get on the train more quickly. And it has some other upgrades to the train. So I was going to say this nice sleek new car, but it's, you might not notice the difference. But it is some differences there that adds to improvement --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: So these are not the engines? These are the cars themselves?

MR. WELLS: These are the cars that just free roll, basically, yes. And basically what that's going to do is also add capacity to our system.

Because once we begin to receive those cars in 2013 we will retire about 38 of them. So we will actually net a 16 car increase to our fleet, or 3,000 seats per trip which goes towards our goal of being able to accommodate our patrons and demands.

TREASURER KOPP: How many are you retiring?

I'm sorry.

MR. WELLS: We're going to retire about 38, 38 of them. And so that's going to help us, that will net an increase of 16 for about 3,000 seats. Because each car has about a capacity of up to 142 seats. They are bilevel cars. The old single levels had about 110 seats on them. So this gives us an increase.

We were actually fortunate that we were able to piggyback off of New Jersey Transit's options.

They weren't able to use, or didn't need to use, their options that they had. So we are actually piggybacking off of that procurement. And we're doing that with Bombardier.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Because New Jersey couldn't follow through on --

MR. WELLS: They couldn't use them. Yeah, for whatever reason they didn't need them. So they had options --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Well they probably needed them.

MR. WELLS: Well, yeah, they'll need them sooner or later. Because as a matter of fact if they continue to grow the way that we are growing we're going to need to add about four cars, we should be adding four cars per year to get to --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Great. So they ordered them and they couldn't pay for them, and then we --

MR. WELLS: Well they assigned so many options with the expectation that they would need those options and they said they don't. We have a good relationship with all the other transit agencies in the industry. We were able to take advantage of this opportunity because it helps us --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: MARC riders will be so relieved --

MR. WELLS: Oh, they will be thrilled, yeah.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I mean, it's such a heavily used service.

MR. WELLS: It is, it is.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And a real lifeline for smart growth.

MR. WELLS: Absolutely.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And for allowing people who work in the Washington area to be able to live in Baltimore at half the expense --

MR. WELLS: Absolutely. It's a great service, so we want to accommodate our riders. So that's what that's for.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Great. The Mayor will be happy.

MR. WELLS: She will, very much so.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Make sure the City of Baltimore knows.

MR. WELLS: Absolutely.

TREASURER KOPP: So what, I'm sorry, you did say this and I didn't write it down, the net increase in seats?

MR. WELLS: Would be about 3,000 seats per trip. So that's just, that's 3,000 seats capacity. And then of course those cars cycle back and forth. So it's more than just 3,000.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

MR. WELLS: It's just, it's multiplied times the trips. So that's all I wanted to talk about.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I don't know whether

Commissioner Kelly signed up to speak, but I'd love to

hear --

MR. WELLS: Yeah, would you like to say anything in support?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Come on up.

MR. WELLS: If it's in support.

(Laughter)

MR. WELLS: No, come on up.

MS. KELLY: I would just like to say that we're just so thrilled with this opportunity. This will give us 800 additional spaces for our commuters.

And I have to say, we've had some complaints from many

of our constituents in Charles County about not having enough service. So pleased with the responsiveness. This will be 800 new spaces that will be made available at our Regency Stadium. So it's really a win-win. And we hope that you will look favorably upon this. 62 percent of our citizens leave our county everyday to work somewhere else. And so their ability to get into the District and back in a reasonable period of time so impacts their quality of life. I mean, you can imagine what that must be like for mothers who leave so early, get home late, and still have all that to do. So we'd appreciate your support of this. And thank you again.

MR. WELLS: Thank you. That was in support?

MS. KELLY: Was that okay?

(Laughter)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The MARC service in Charles County runs from where to where?

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$  WELLS: Usually, this will be in the Waldorf area.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Mm-hmm.

MR. WELLS: So you're talking about the Blue Crab Stadium, that area, into downtown.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Mm-hmm.

MR. WELLS: So out through Route 5. A lot of, we're seeing a lot of growth in that area.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Sure.

MR. WELLS: I guess it's the housing, it's a lot less expensive than it used to be.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Uh-huh.

MR. WELLS: And there's a lot of people --

TREASURER KOPP: Where does it go in the

District? Where does it terminate?

MR. WELLS: It goes through downtown, all through downtown. It actually makes stops throughout the downtown area. All the way up K Street, New York Avenue, and then back, it deadheads back in once it drops people off. It just does, it doesn't do reverse commutes. So it's one way trips in in the morning,

and then one way trips out throughout downtown out to that area.

TREASURER KOPP: Great.

MR. WELLS: All right.

TREASURER KOPP: So if I look on your website will I be able to see where it stops in the District?

MR. WELLS: You would probably, yes, you should be able to see, pick up every stop. When you click on the commuter bus schedules --

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

MR. WELLS: -- you'll see the schedules.

Okay. Thank you, yeah. It looks like this. It will look like this on the website. But it has 7th Street in Maryland, Pennsylvania Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue and 12th Street, and it reverses the same way.

TREASURER KOPP: Great. Excellent, yeah. Good. Thanks.

MR. WELLS: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you. Any other questions, Department of Transportation Agenda? Mr. Comptroller?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I had just a comment on Item 6. I'd frankly just like to commend Secretary Swaim-Staley, Mr. Mobley, and your colleagues for this item. I'm very much in support of it. It, as you know, supports the Maryland and Delaware Railroad, which is a vital economic engine on the Eastern Shore. It provides rail connections for so many industries but it's particularly important to the Eastern Shore poultry industry.

I think the railroad company working with Worcester County Commissioners have been seeking about \$12 million in federal and State money through a TIGER III grant. And those are going to provide monies for necessary upgrades on the 26-mile freight line that goes from Frankford, Delaware to Snow Hill, Maryland. It's known, at least in my world, as the Snow Hill Line. It's going to accommodate bigger rail cars that

can carry more feed in for poultry and it's apparently essential to the profitability of Tyson Food which is, I think employs about 2,500 people on the Shore at one plant alone.

So I'm really pleased to see all of you rally and put some skin in the game, I guess, by putting the million dollars in. In your world it's probably not that big an amount, large an amount of money, but it's a crucial ingredient. And I, you know, really appreciate that value that you give to, you know, this sector over there. And it provides, obviously, the poultry industry provides good paying jobs and the business community really depends on it. And we all have our own opinions of what is good investment, but this is a good investment.

And please keep us informed if you would about what, how this proceeds. Because I know the federal request is crucial. And please tell the Secretary that I applaud her judgment and I think that

the money will come back to the State a thousand times over.

MR. MOBLEY: I certainly will. Thank you very much, Mr. Comptroller. Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: It's good work.

MR. MOBLEY: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you. All right, the Treasurer moves approval of the --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, no, I had --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I'm sorry, we've got one more issue.

issue, really. But it's, I'd like to get updated, Mr. Mobley, if I could, by you folks on an issue that concerns the Queen Anne's County and that I've read about quite a bit. It's the intersection of US Route 301 and Route 304. And it's become apparently somewhat of a toxic mix where if I'm not mistaken there have been five fatalities over the last

foreseeable past, and one that recently really shook the community. And it's I guess that unfortunate intersection, a big truck highway with school buses and the commuting public.

I know you're well aware of the acute need for solutions at the intersection and I know you've taken some steps for a, not to get technical but a J turn --

MR. MOBLEY: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- as an interim measure.

MR. MOBLEY: Mm-hmm.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But could you help me understand how this fits into your context of other improvements that would protect the public safety of folks who are using these, using this intersection?

MR. MOBLEY: Absolutely. Yesterday the Secretary of Transportation attended a meeting with the community and the elected officials in Queen

Anne's County for our Consolidated Transportation

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Tour. And she is committed to attending a follow up meeting with the community as well.

The J turn, the interim improvement, the contractor has added additional crews to try and complete the interim improvement, the J turn improvement, by at least December of this year, trying to eliminate the crossover portion there. The entire project should be completed by early Summer 2012.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: In addition to that J turn improvement, which I applaud, are there any other steps that can be taken? Are traffic lights appropriate on a truck route like that? Or what else can be done?

MR. MOBLEY: Well for the J turn what we've noticed on US 301, we've installed this at MD 313, MD 544, MD 300, MD 456, and MD 18. And our analysis shows that we've had an 80 decrease in crashes when installing a J turn. It eliminates --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mm-hmm.

MR. MOBLEY: -- the conflict where you have vehicles trying to cross 301 over to the other side of 304. So the J turn is a safer movement which allows vehicles to cross safely by performing a U-turn and then entering onto the road that it's trying to cross at that --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. If you could get back to us with some of that data?

MR. MOBLEY: We certainly will.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Because some of the members of the community really want to have an overpass, which obviously is an expensive item. It may be called for in this kind of public safety urgent situation that exists there.

MR. MOBLEY: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But that's a longer term solution. And I'd, if you have any data on the J turn from national stuff that would be great. And if there's any extra traffic lighting warning, even blinking, I know there are some blinking lights down

there, but something that can be done in addition to what you're looking at right now. And if you can inform that Board, that would be great. And also if you could put in the cost for an overpass, which is a solution that a lot of the community is asking for.

MR. MOBLEY: Yes, sir, we will.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

MR. MOBLEY: I will get that back to you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

MR. MOBLEY: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Governor?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you, Mr.

Comptroller. Anyone else have anything on Department of Transportation Agenda items? The Treasurer moves approval, seconded by the Comptroller. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it.

Department of General Services, Al Collins?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, sir. Good morning,

Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. The

Department of General Services has 18 items on our

Agenda. We are withdrawing Item 1. Item 16 has been revised. And we'll be glad to answer any questions on any of the items today.

TREASURER KOPP: I don't have a question, but I'm very glad to see 17, housing for developmentally disabled. I think it --

MR. COLLINS: Yes, ma'am.

TREASURER KOPP: -- it's part of a long term program in the county, in Montgomery County --

MR. COLLINS: Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: -- HOC and the nonprofit sector. And I think actually Ms. Rogan pointed out earlier that they've done almost every time over the years with the cooperation of the neighborhood because

of transparency and caring folk. And I just want to say how pleased I am to see this.

MR. COLLINS: Thank you. We're always very happy to carry these items for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

MR. COLLINS: They do a great job --

TREASURER KOPP: Terrific.

MR. COLLINS: -- of making sure that they fit within the neighborhoods as they do.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Okay. Any other questions? All right. We, the Comptroller moves approval of the DGS Agenda items, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it. And that concludes our Agenda for today. Thank you very much.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Thank you, Governor.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you all.

(Whereupon, at 10:30 p.m., the meeting

was concluded.)