

















































































































TREASURER KOPP: Could I ask about, Mr. Secretary, for the second phase will hopefully not be as grave as the first phase. We don't know. Will the process -- I'm concerned about things like MBE requirements and all the normal parts of State procurement. Will that be worked in more into this second phase?

MR. CHURCHILL: It's an excellent question, Madam Treasurer. And yes, the procurement is almost ready for prime time and our strategy is to of course have a State contract that any department can order off of for their needs. And there will be two. There will be not only the baseline procurement, but there will also be the same procurement as an SBR so that we capture as many vendors as possible and have a very diverse pool of vendors for State organizations to secure their products from.

TREASURER KOPP: Great.

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Madam Treasurer, I apologize. I missed your vote on the Lieutenant Governor's motion. I heard the Comptroller's second. The motion to remand A19?

TREASURER KOPP: I vote aye.

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Are there any other questions on the Secretary's Agenda?

HUNT REPORTING COMPANY  
Court Reporting and Litigation Support  
Serving Maryland, Washington, and Virginia  
410-766-HUNT (4868)  
1-800-950-DEPO (3376)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes. Item A17.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Bingo.

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Item A17 is a report by the State Board of Elections. We have Administrator Lamone, as well as Deputy Administrator Charlson available by phone. That's Administrator Ms. Linda Lamone and Deputy Administrator Ms. Nikki Charlson.

MS. LAMONE: Good morning. Linda Lamone, Administrator of Elections.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Good morning.

MS. LAMONE: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So this is the Comptroller and obviously we have already gone over the fact that the ballots that are being counted now had the incorrect date printed on them. There have been reports that the information about drop off locations were given to voters in a language other than their own language. There were reports about postage being required, reports about ballots being mailed late, ballots not being received at all, errors in reporting of results, so on and on. I guess what is the situation now, Madam Administrator, with the election results, particularly in Baltimore City, but also around the State? There are some other races that I guess have not been fully reported. And I take it you put some results up, or someone put results up, and then took them down again?

HUNT REPORTING COMPANY  
Court Reporting and Litigation Support  
Serving Maryland, Washington, and Virginia  
410-766-HUNT (4868)  
1-800-950-DEPO (3376)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So what's going on, I guess?

MS. LAMONE: Well, let me just preface my answer with saying that this election indeed presented some unanticipated challenges, unprecedented challenges with the virus and having to plan for the election in the middle of that health situation, and the fact that people were basically confined to their homes for weeks at a time unless they were essential. And then we had the horrible situation with George Floyd getting killed, murdered, and then the protest that followed that. I think while it was a tragedy about him, it really motivated a lot of people to get involved in the democratic process, which was a good thing. I'm sorry, did somebody ask me a question?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, the question is, you know -

-

MS. LAMONE: Okay. I know.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- we got reports that some people actually showed up to vote in person and they were told that they had already had an absentee ballot sent in. And they said no, we didn't do it. So I guess there are some real concerns about security here, and about obviously the election in November now is front and center. And I guess do you have any thoughts as to what we're going to have to do in November to have a safe election that's a little

less confusing and marred, I guess, by situations like what I just talked about? I mean, that is just, I assume if we have an in-person election in November, you're going to have the proper precautions. But we're talking about some long lines there, obviously, and some health issues. If we're not going to, if we're going to have a mail-in, frankly that really causes me real concern. Because this has not been smooth, either a month ago or now.

MS. LAMONE: Well, of course the big difference is we have time to plan for November, whereas we had virtually no time to plan for the two elections that were held a month apart, all by mail and something frankly that we had never done before. So we're going to do what we always do. We're going to look to see how we can make things better and work with the local boards of elections as well as our friends and stakeholders in the community to deliver the best election possible.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can I just say I understand what you're saying but I'm not particularly, I don't feel comfortable with it. Because I'm thinking back, and maybe Treasurer Kopp recalls her days when she ran as a Delegate. I was a Delegate from District 20. When I made a mailing to, oh whatever it was, 4,000 or 5,000 voters, I used to literally visit the print shop and make sure it was printed. I followed it in my car over to the Post Office when they mailed it. I talked to the Post Office people about the need to get something out,

that it can't just sit in the back room. But this was 3.5 million ballots that apparently you were misinformed had been printed, and hadn't been printed, or had been sent, but hadn't been sent. How can that, I just find that to be unbelievable, that, and this is, it's not the first time, this is a more recent experience, that your team was not all over the vendors that you hired to make sure that there was no delay in delivering, in mailing ballots.

MS. LAMONE: Well, they were. And then the vendor simply didn't tell us the truth. And I don't know how you overcome that.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well, the vendor has publicly disagreed with you.

MS. LAMONE: The vendor publicly disagreed entirely with us but it was unfortunate. The candidates for Mayor in Baltimore City had specifically asked us to delay the Baltimore City ballots for some time because they didn't want the voters in Congressional 7 District to get a ballot for the City election right on top of the ballots they had just voted for the congressional race. So we did that, and that was, I'm not blaming them, but that was, you know, part of everything that was going on. We were trying to run a congressional election and also prepare for the presidential primary. And as I said before, I'm really proud of the way everybody pitched in and helped and tried to make everything work as best as they could.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well I, you heard the Lieutenant Governor at the beginning of this. I hesitate to ask for anybody's resignation, but I think it's time for some retirements and some new leadership, and I'm particularly concerned about the fact that, you know, as competent as you are, Linda, and as, you know, your staff reveres you, there is something going on over there that is just completely unacceptable. And I actually would include in the suggestion for some retirement the Baltimore City Director. I think it's Armstead Jones. I mean, we just need some new, fresh leadership now rather than come November.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah. I agree. I said it earlier. I've lost faith and I have said in previous Board meetings going back to the first of April that I don't think that the, the thought process in terms of where the challenges could be. If the City is asking for a delay, and I said in a previous meeting, I received my ballot in Howard County two weeks after the special election. So the Baltimore City ballots could have been sent whenever my ballot was sent because it arrived two weeks after the special. There wouldn't have been any confusion. And I just, as the Comptroller just stated with regard to any mailings, and I said that on the first, April first, that the concern is you're always going to have people who move. And it didn't seem as though there really was a lot of attention on that. The response initially was, well, we're getting information from Motor Vehicles. Well, on April 1st the Motor Vehicles locations were closed.



So it's, that's not enough. People don't always change their addresses. There are a lot of people who vote at the precinct where they used to live. And so your information was going to be difficult. So there were some additional steps that needed to take place.

I wasn't pleased with the PR firm that was hired. You know, there's a lot of talk about a politically connected or politically connected vendors on our emergency contracts, but these were a politically connected PR firm and no one's saying anything about that. So I have lost faith. I think it is time for some change, some new blood, some new thinking. I, like the Comptroller, rarely ask, you know, people to step down. But I just think it's time. We need to, you know, maybe it's just a new thought, you bring in a new coach from time to time, even a coach that can be doing relatively well. Sometimes it's just a little bit more to get the team over the hump and to be prepared for the new environment that we're in. I think mail-in voting is going to be here for, you know, for a long time. You know, until we get to online voting, which I think is something that's going to be the next step. So I echo the words of the Comptroller who was echoing my words, and just say thank you for your service.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I just say, I'm not part of the echo and I'm not prepared to fell the Administrator. But I am very concerned, as you know, about this next election. The lessons learned in the past, in the special election and

then now in the primary, we have to understand what happened. I gather there were more people who showed up in person than anticipated. In retrospect, I hope we will not make that mistake. I agree with the Lieutenant Governor. I think there's going to be a lot by mail. I'm not so sure about electronic in terms of security.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: At some point. At some point.

TREASURER KOPP: At some point. A lot by mail. We have to revamp and reorient our process. I'm not convinced, Linda, that you can't do that, that you're not the person to do that. I think that the switch in midstream brings its own problems. But I do feel that in order for people to have faith and trust in the system, they have to understand more clearly exactly what is happening and what provisions are being made to assure a full fair election. And unfortunately, that means repeating to us and to the public over and over again the same material, being open and transparent about problems, and just laying out what steps are being taken and what problems. You say you found problems but they have been addressed. Well, we have to know what problems and how they are addressed, and by whom. The sort of documentation I guess that you would expect an accounting office to be asking for, we need too, we, the public, need too.

These elections in November are going to be one of the most critical in the history in the United States of America. We can't mess them up. And I just,

while I don't agree with the Comptroller and the Governor about who makes the decision of who goes and who stays, I do think that we need a complete new reorientation of the agency and of the Board of Elections, and of the county boards, to be focused with a laser like intensity on making sure that these elections run smoothly and transparently and people understand what the problems are. If you need more assistance, if you need more funds to do things correctly, then it's incumbent on you to tell us so. That's my position.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Are there any more questions on this Agenda item, or any of the others?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Madam Treasurer, any more questions on the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Thank you, Secretary Gontrum. Department of Natural Resources?

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Hi, good morning, Governor, and Madam Treasurer, and Mr. Comptroller. For the record, Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. We're seeking

approval for nine items on our Real Property Agenda today and we're happy to answer any questions you may have.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I don't have any.

TREASURER KOPP: I wish we could find a problem. I don't know. Jeannie, this is the 17th in a row.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well we can --

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: My staff is really good. I give them all the credit.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: We can go through item by item and talk about the concession building at the Holly Avenue Rec Center in Allegany County. And I will say, Madam Secretary, I think we are planning to do a park visit now that the parks are open. Is it next week or the week after that we're going down to Calvert Cliffs?

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Yes, sir. I'm very much looking forward to that.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah, I'm going to restart my park tours. You all should go with us on some of these --

TREASURER KOPP: I would love to go.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, we'll let you know.

TREASURER KOPP: -- a great idea.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah. I mean, it's been wonderful. You know, because you just, for me, I didn't realize that we have, what 75 parks --

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: We have 75 State parks.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: In addition to our Natural Resources Management Areas and our Wildlife Management Area. So, lots of opportunities for outdoor recreation in Maryland. And I'm happy to report that Maryland citizens are definitely taking advantage of that during these tough times. But we're, you know, we're happy to be able to host all of the visitors to our State parks and allow people to test their cabin fever and get some time outside during these hard times.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah, get out in the fresh air.

TREASURER KOPP: Peter?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, I'm going to defer and let you two go to the parks. I will take a firsthand report, of course. And I just want to thank the Secretary. You know, we never have real questions for you. You run a

very tight ship. And you know, congratulations to you, and also frankly to the administration for having you in charge.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Well, thank you all very much for your support. These projects are very meaningful to our local jurisdictions and to our State environmental goals. So we really appreciate the support that all three of you give our department.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: All right. Well, thank you, Madam Secretary. We're all in favor.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Thank you very much. See you in about a week. Okay. University System?

MR. EVANS: Good morning. Joe Evans, representing the University System of Maryland. We have five items on the Agenda. We're here to answer any questions.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I just want to commend you on Item 4-C, the option small business reserve for an A/E contract. And I'm very appreciative. I was touting the University System, how they do a good job with the Small Business Reserve, to one of the small business advocates

HUNT REPORTING COMPANY  
Court Reporting and Litigation Support  
Serving Maryland, Washington, and Virginia  
410-766-HUNT (4868)  
1-800-950-DEPO (3376)

just I think it was last week. And I was talking about how the University, along with State Highway, are kind of the stars in that area. I know DGS tries. I know Ellington is out there somewhere. But they do a very good job and so Joe, I want to thank you, particularly for this item, but generally the effort of the University System to work with the small businesses and utilize the Small Business Reserve program.

MR. EVANS: I'll pass that onto College Park.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. Governor, could I just point out, I have no problem with it, but Item 1-GM, Bowie State University. I think the Comptroller would be interested to see, if he didn't notice it, the J.E. Proctor Building --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Right.

TREASURER KOPP: -- chiller replacement. It's a chiller replacement. The important thing is the J.E. Proctor, who was our former, our late colleague and dear friend Jim Proctor. And it's good to know that it's getting a new chiller. A great man, a great university, and an excellent program in his building, too.

I had a question about 3-S, the University of Maryland, Baltimore shuttle bus service, and just wondered what effort had been made to go to electric, and how you all are going to meet your goals if you don't start doing that.

MR. EVANS: On this particular item, it says we are contracting with the contractor to provide the actual buses. So it's a service. But we have done other things to --

TREASURER KOPP: Excuse me. The fact that it's a contract for service doesn't mean that one of the criteria can't be energy efficiency.

MR. EVANS: Yes, ma'am. I truly understand that. And honestly, I have to take full responsibility for that. This is my campus. I'm the procurement officer and --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Off with his head.

MR. EVANS: -- and I was involved in this procurement, and I kind of focused on something on the ADA part of those buses. But like I said, I take full responsibility for the part of looking at alternative fuel vehicles and/or electric vehicles for this particular project.

But on our campus, we have done other things to reduce emissions. In our garages now we have 18 dual chargers in all of our garages and that will service 36 vehicles. We are looking to put two additional chargers in each garage, but it is kind of been deferred at this moment. Our garages have 43 lower emission



fuel efficient spaces and that's in six of seven garages. We instituted back in 2017, and I was involved in this, negotiated with Nissan Leaf for their electric vehicles. The program started in 2017 for faculty, staff and students. There was like a \$10,000 rebate for those people that would buy the Leaf vehicle. We had numerous people on campus that bought those vehicles. Our parking and transportation service, the ones that are managing this particular contract, they have a lightweight electric truck currently that they are using, and we have publicized that on our website. Our public safety currently has two electric motorcycles that they are using in Baltimore City. We've got electric Segways and we have two electric bicycles. And in addition to that, the vehicles that we are buying, although they are not electric yet, they are all flex fuel vehicles and the majority of the vehicles that we purchase we are purchasing off of the DGS contract.

So we are trying to reduce the emissions from vehicles as it relates to the campus. But for the bus, and there are five of these buses, three that will be running over three routes and then backup and one option for night, again, like I said, I will take responsibility for not looking at whether or not it could be electric.

TREASURER KOPP: You're a good man, Joe Evans. Thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Joe gave a lot more information than I think we were all prepared for.

TREASURER KOPP: He did that. But the Lieutenant Governor has pointed out often that one of the problems with going electric, one of the impediments, is the lack of the infrastructure. So I think it actually is very important to know what you are doing, particularly in the garages, to enhance the infrastructure. That's good. Thank you.

MR. EVANS: Yes, ma'am.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: That reminds me, and maybe I'll ask Ellington when we get to the DGS Agenda, that we had discussions, Ellington and I had some discussions about DGS purchasing. I believe Ford now has an electric truck. They utilize pickup trucks down here in Annapolis and they have the facility to charge. And there was the possibility of being able to purchase it with some of the Volkswagen settlement money. So I just wanted to follow up. So be on the alert, Ellington. I'm going to ask about that. Any other questions on the University Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes, Item 5-S is a \$4.5 million one-year renewal with Thompson Hospitality Services at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore for comprehensive dining services. It's a \$4.5 million extension. This is what the University System seems to be doing a lot of, which is going to privatized dining services. We can raise that issue at other times. But I think I read that the System's institutions issued partial refunds for housing and

dining plans that students prepaid at the beginning of last semester, which was cancelled back in March. And I'm wondering, Mr. Vice President, whether the vendors refunded to the State for services not rendered due to the unforeseen closure of the campuses back in March.

MR. EVANS: For this particular item, I would have to ask Lester Primus, who is the Vice President for Administration and Finance at University of Maryland Eastern Shore to field that question.

MR. PRIMUS: Good morning.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well, it's a generic question. I assume that the System, the reports that the System granted partial refunds for housing and dining, that makes perfect sense. The question is whether these fixed contracts, like the one we're about to vote on, whether, this is not concerning this contract because this is prospective, but retroactively did these vendors that have these contracts refund to the State some of the payments where appropriate?

MR. PRIMUS: Yes, Mr. Comptroller, this is Lester Primus, Vice President of Finance and Administration at UMES. It was not an automatic according to the contract, but we were able to negotiate with them at a lesser cost because of the early closure. So initially, we received an outstanding invoice for services rendered, particularly between March 23rd, the middle of March, all the

way up to the end of May 15th, which is according to the contract. When I received that, we did have a discussion. The vendor that we use was very understanding and there were some savings that will be obviously offset because of the refunds that we have given to our students.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Good. Because I, it appears as if the University System, not just including you guys, are planning to open. It's going to be some kind of creative combination of in-person college education come September and remote classes, I'm told. And in an article by the *Sun* last Friday, it was reported that universities were working to reduce student density both in living spaces and dining halls. Most schools will prohibit or limit the use of kitchens, lounges, or other community spaces, while several institutions will offer grab-and-go dining options to allow social distancing in dining halls. I'm just, I guess the question is just once again what you just mentioned. Are these contracts going to have an understanding that there should be refunds from the vendors if these kinds of changes are made?

MR. PRIMUS: Yes. Not only that, Mr. Comptroller, I have a meeting with our vendor sometime next week with our VP of Enrollment Services and we are going to talk about all of that.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. And I understand the students like the private concessions. So I'm not suggesting that is the case. I'm

just saying, if things change, hopefully if a refund is appropriate, that, or lowered payments going forward appropriate, that would be recognized in good faith by everybody. It sounds like it is.

MR. PRIMUS: Yes, so far it has. We have been having a good relationship with them. And as I mentioned earlier, with the early closing we were able to renegotiate. And as I stated, that we are going to be meeting our vendor at University of Maryland Eastern Shore to discuss all types of options and particularly looking at some of the contractual language with them. But so far, they have been very much understanding to the situation and have been working with us.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I'm glad to hear that. Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: However, I think the Comptroller's original question was sort of system wide, and not just for this item. And I think we would be interested in general, Joe, not necessarily right now, to know how the System in its planning and then reflected in funding, financial issues, is dealing with the virus and changes in routine, like students being on campus part time and not dining, changes in the use of, you know, the buildings, you know, six feet, people being six feet from each other, etcetera, what the impact is and how that's impacting financing. Is that --

MR. EVANS: I understand your question. I will get with System headquarters and we will get an answer.

TREASURER KOPP: I think that's what you were asking.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, no, I am so glad the Treasurer is there because otherwise half of my questions would go unanswered, I guess. And I didn't even articulate it and she knows what I was concerned about. But it makes a lot of sense, Joe, obviously, system wide. If there are, you know, depending, some of these contracts are long term and not subject for review. So --

MR. EVANS: I think every, each one of the contracts would have to be looked at individually to see what kind of contract language was in there when the contract was first negotiated. But like Vice President Primus said, a lot of the contractors are willing to work with you. I know on my campus, I've got one that's working with us now. Although we don't have a traditional dining facility, we do have grab-and-go, and they are shut down now. And we're working through that with that vendor.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great, I'll look forward to that.  
Thank you, Madam Treasurer.

TREASURER KOPP: Governor?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: In general at some point, not just because we are interested in higher education and --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: For a moment --

TREASURER KOPP: Not just because we --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Moment --

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah. Something else just popped up on my screen.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: You're back, though.

TREASURER KOPP: It's my laptop. I apologize. I was going to say, not just because we are interested in higher education, which we all are individually, but also because of the financial ramifications, particularly as we go into a very tough budget situation. I think it would be interesting for this Board to know what the University sees as it looks out over the next 12 to 18 months in terms of their finances and their programs. I know that the System administration is pulling together and going through things and trying to understand what the impact of the coronavirus will be on attendance and funding, tuition, costs, etcetera. At some point, and I suppose they would be the ones to know when it's the appropriate point, when they have everything together, I think it would be useful to brief the Board of Public Works on this so we can understand as we look into the budget and

look into revenue forecasts and look into cuts to understand how the Board of Regents is looking at this.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah, we can, I can reach out to the Board of Regents and ask that they give us a date when they think they feel comfortable coming and talking to us about their projections. Not what they are asking for, per se, in a budget --

TREASURER KOPP: Right. Right.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- but where they are projecting in terms of the, you know, attendance, revenue decline, tuition, the room and board questions. So it will be interesting to hear. And as I've mentioned a couple of times, I think they also need to be thinking in terms of, and particularly those who have the educational experience, what is the new world going to look like for education? Because people are getting and younger people are getting very used to this remote education. And I read just I want to say it was yesterday an article in the *Wall Street Journal* about these engineering students who put together an app which they did it for somewhat good reasons, but it was in an article about how these kids are spoofing their instructors because they know how to do these things on Zoom. But these engineering students or computer science students had put together an app that made it seem that they were sitting in the classroom, in the virtual classroom, when they weren't. But the computer science student who



created it said, I didn't want to sit in an 8:00 class virtually. So what I would do is I created this so the professor thinks I'm there, but I watch the lecture at 3:00 in the afternoon. So it's almost like our DVRs now, that we watch our shows when we want to watch them. They are getting the lecture when they want to get it versus when the professor is actually standing there. And I thought that was, you know, quite interesting. And it relates to something that Dr. Wilson at Morgan had told me about, students who use YouTube to watch a lecture on the subject that they are currently studying because they can relate to the lecturer, or he or she presents it in a way that they understand it better than the person who is standing in front of them in the classroom. So it really starts to change the whole, these professors almost become free agents. You know? It's going to be really a different world. And it may not be next year. But I think the universities and the education community has to start thinking about, you know, what's going to be the future of higher education.

TREASURER KOPP: Well, I'm sure they are thinking about it and they are trying to make some plans. But it's a new world, you're right.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah.

TREASURER KOPP: And it would be good to know where they are in their thinking.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Right. There's the two parts. There's the here and now, the immediate, and then the long term. So.

TREASURER KOPP: Right. Exactly.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Any other questions for the University System? And I will check with the Board of Regents and talk to them about coming in and talking to us.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I would move approval.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Do we have a second?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Thank you.

MR. EVANS: Thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Thank you, Joe.  
All right. Department of Transportation? Maryland Department of Transportation?

MR. SLATER: Good afternoon. How are you? Again, one minute after morning.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Oh, good afternoon.

MR. SLATER: Good morning, great to see everyone. Good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, my name

is Greg Slater, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation. Before I get started, I've been enjoying the conversation about a variety of topics, but Madam Treasurer, you would be interested to know that we just received a \$3 million grant from FTA for some zero emission buses for Baltimore City for MTA's fleet.

TREASURER KOPP: Great.

MR. SLATER: So we're going to be purchasing three 60-foot zero emission buses and be able to install some charging infrastructure with that grant as well. It will give us the opportunity to try these vehicles downtown and be able to kind of make some progress before we make a bigger, larger type of a purchase and see how it works for us through this FTA grant.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Very good.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah, that's great. Always nice to do good things with other people's money.

MR. SLATER: Absolutely. Well, we have a little bit of our skin in the game as well as part of the match. But it's a great opportunity. The Maryland Department of Transportation is presenting 12 items for your consideration today. We have representatives as well as myself here to answer any questions you may have.



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: On Item 1-C, and it's a simple question, any of these boiler repair operations are either MBE or SBR firms?

MR. CHURCHILL: Governor, I can get back to the group about these --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah, if you don't have it in front of you, you can get back to me.

MR. CHURCHILL: You've got it, yes.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. And then I'm going to, if anyone has anything before we get to 18-IT, I've got a, well I can ask if anyone has any other questions on the Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I did, on Item 17. This is I believe a commissary contract modification.

MR. CHURCHILL: Yes. Item 17 and we do have Secretary Green from Public Safety to respond.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. So I don't have any problem necessarily with this, but this has come before us now eight times. This is the eighth time. We've given modifications on seven other occasions. I believe that the department has indicated that there is a, finally a new procurement out for this contract and bids and proposals are due next Friday, June 15th. And I just want

to confirm that this is the case and that we're going to have a competitive procurement process after all of this with an October, I think, date for a contract awardee. Is that still kind of the schedule?

MR. GREEN: Good afternoon, Governor, Mr. Comptroller, and Madam Treasurer. That is correct. We are exercising this single six-month renewal. The department in fact went out to bid on April 1st. As you noted, Mr. Comptroller, that is due on June 15 and we anticipate bringing a new contract before the Board by October.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent. And if I could, Lieutenant Governor, just pivot for a second to one of my current frustrations, which is the Corizon contract. I'm a little frustrated, and I think my staff is also. We thought this would be on this week's Agenda with some clarification responses to the issues that were raised at the last meeting. But here we are and the item is not added back on the Agenda. So I certainly hope that we can expect and anticipate the Corizon contract to be on the Agenda for our June 17th meeting. I wonder if that makes sense to the Secretary, for the Secretary?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Comptroller, you can anticipate that. We received questions as late as Monday evening and we want to provide a full overview and a full rendering to all of the questions the Board has asked about that contract.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. We'll see you on the 17th.

Thank you, Lieutenant Governor.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Sure. I guess I'm just looking at 18-IT. I've been seeing a lot of the project managers coming up and I guess this is one specifically for MD THINK, which I think is something that -- I shouldn't say I think. I believe that this is something that will help us through the process and help us move forward. I don't really have a question. I'm just commenting that I think it's a good idea to make sure that we can get this going in the best manner.

Mr. Secretary, on the potential Ford electric truck?

MR. CHURCHILL: Yes?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: We talked about that a little while ago. Has there been any progress on that?

MR. CHURCHILL: Well, we have not moved to order but we are evaluating all our EV models in terms of small trucks and vans. And our Department of Facilities Management is very interested, especially since we have charging stations as part of our Annapolis complex. So we're working with DBM concerning, you know, that topic. In addition, I will just note that the department is also vetting and will be building with the help of our Office of Energy and Sustainability more charging stations at least five sites across the State. So.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, I think that one of the items that popped up, and maybe Secretary Grumbles, I don't know if he's still on the line, but I was led to believe with the settlement with Volkswagen a while ago that there was some funding that could be utilized for both charging stations, but also for the acquisition of these vehicles. And that's why when I saw that Ford had issued this truck, and I don't want to just send everything to Ford per se, but just I saw that. And I thought about your agency and also to a certain extent DNR, that those are two agencies that probably could utilize the electric pickups and really Transportation as well. Particularly since they have gotten away from that ugly yellow color on most of their vehicles, so.

MR. CHURCHILL: Right. Absolutely. And the department is working with the Department of Budget and Management concerning that topic in terms of funding for vehicles that fit that definition.

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, it's my recollection that the Department of Budget and Management in fact put out a letter saying that electric vehicles should be the default, or energy efficient vehicles should be the default unless an explanation can be made why they shouldn't be used. And it's also my impression that the Secretary and the gentleman, the former police officer or trooper who is in charge of the vehicle program, are quite enthusiastic about electric vehicles or at least hybrid electric.



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay.

TREASURER KOPP: Electric and hybrid, hybrid electric. But there is a feeling that sometimes the folks in the other agencies or in the bureaucracy are not as comfortable, they haven't had them, they are not sure that they are reliable, etcetera. So maybe, Mr. Secretary, you could work with the Secretary of DBM and try to reach out to, you know, the folks in the field and your fellow cabinet members and the Lieutenant Governor and get them all together pushing so that it's a group effort instead of in silos or one department trying to bang on the others. Wouldn't that be helpful? Would that be helpful?

MR. CHURCHILL: Well a general conversation about strategy of course would be welcome. We will work with the Department of Budget and Management as they are the lead agency concerning this topic in any way that we can. And we will try to lead as we normally do, by example.

TREASURER KOPP: That's great. Maryland should be in the forefront. We should be an example for the nation. And I'm sure that Secretary Brinkley and his staff will do everything they can to support you and bring folks together.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Madam Treasurer, on behalf of my grandkids, thank you for your leadership. Because someday your efforts will be rewarded.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. There are many problems before us, but this one is not going away while we deal with the short term crises, shorter term crises.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: And we can talk about geothermal at another time, Mr. Secretary.

TREASURER KOPP: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes.

MR. CHURCHILL: I look forward to it, Governor.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: All right. Any other questions on the General Services Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Well, thank you. Thank you all. Thank you very much for another riveting Board of Public Works meeting. Take care.

TREASURER KOPP: You, too.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you. Goodbye.

(Whereupon, at 12:13 p.m., the meeting was concluded.)