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STATE OF MARYLAND

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

March 18, 2020
10:04 a.m.

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PRESENT

HONORABLE BOYD RUTHERFORD
Lieutenant Governor

HONORABLE NANCY KOPP
Treasurer

HONORABLE PETER FRANCHOT
Comptroller

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Secretary, Board of Public Works

ELLINGTON CHURCHILL
Secretary, Department of General Services

DAVID BRINKLEY
Secretary, Department of Budget and Management

GREG SLATER
Secretary, Department of Transportation

JEANNIE HADDAWAY-RICCIO
Secretary, Department of Natural Resources

MIKE LEAHY
Secretary, Department of Information Technology

JIMMY RHEE
Special Secretary
Office of Small, Minority and Women Business Affairs

LISA GRIGSBY
Recording Secretary, Board of Public Works

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PROCEEDINGS

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, good morning.

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Good morning.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: This is the first time that we've conducted the Board of Public Works in a virtual environment. So as I said to the Treasurer a little earlier, we are in the future now. And so, you know, this is done virtually as Maryland, as well as the rest of the country, and really the world for that matter, is in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. And so we are all engaging in social distancing in an effort to slow the spread of this virus and to safeguard our populations, particularly our vulnerable population, those of us who a little older, as well as those of us who have compromised immune systems.

I know the Governor knows that social distancing is an important step for all of us to take in our administration and in government, including limiting mass gatherings, closing schools, and certain businesses that attract large numbers of people. And it has been a challenge for many people, all of us. It has been very disruptive to our daily lives. But these are not actions that the administration takes lightly. But they are absolutely necessary to slow down this virus and, as has been often said, flatten the curve so as it won't overwhelm our

healthcare system and helps to ensure that we have the space and the resources necessary to treat those who are ill and who will become ill.

With this virus, it is largely unknown exactly how we are going to handle it. In terms of a cure, it's not there yet, and potential vaccines. But we have a responsibility to do our part to protect ourselves, our loved ones, as well as the vulnerable populations. And social distancing, as I said, is a major part of it.

But I also want to point out that so too is our responsibility to others. And that means not hoarding essential items and supplies to, you know, the degree that it hurts and it harms our neighbors and our friends and our families. You know, we have seen firsthand in the news and social media, and if you've been to a grocery store recently, the response of many people with regard to they are stocking up on a lot of items. But, and there's nothing wrong with buying a couple of extra cans of soup or a few other household items because you're going to be homebound. But when you are buying essentially a year's supply of toilet paper or other products, you really are harming others who may need those very same products. And so we want people to be responsible, watch out for your friends and family, and particularly those who may be in the risk categories.

And just to give a brief update on the number of positive coronavirus cases in the State, as of this morning we have 85 confirmed cases of coronavirus here in Maryland. The majority of those cases, some 78 percent of

them, are in Prince George's and Montgomery County. The three original cases that we had, those individuals have been cleared. They are fully recovered. They are no longer in quarantine. And we believe that there are others, many others that we're checking on now, who are also cleared and out of quarantine.

We've had hospitalizations -- I just want to verify that. We've had 14 hospitalizations, three of which have been discharged at this point. And three individuals are in ICU and they came in in various conditions that required that type of treatment. But the majority of people that have come down with this ailment are in recovery stages. The majority are at home. Of the 85, 11 as I said are still hospitalized, but the remainder are at home recovering or have recovered.

So there is some good news, that we're so far able to handle this situation and hopefully the steps that we're taking will flatten the curve out and help keep everyone safe as well as save lives.

On a slightly different note, last week many of you may have received your Census documents or the invitation to start filling out your Census. I filled out my Census, oh, Monday. But those of us who are empty nesters, it only takes a few minutes to fill out your Census, to do it online. I did mine online and starting last week it's available for folks to do it online or over your phone. If you don't do it online or over your phone by the first of April, you'll start receiving in the mail the mail-in Census form. It's very important that we all are counted. In the last Census, we had somewhere in the 78 percent, 75 percent

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response rate, which meant that the State missed out on a lot of federal assistance that we could have had. It's approximately $18,000 per individual, individual resident of Maryland. And so, I'm really encouraging everyone to get on the Census.gov website and fill out their Census. Madam Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, could I ask, I know we talked a couple of meetings ago about the PR and the advertising that's being, the marketing that's being done for the Census.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: Do you have any sense of how that's going? Or what more we can do --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: You know, I saw a Census commercial just last night, as a matter of fact. I have not gone back to ask how many hits, but I know that there's been a substantial buy-in throughout Maryland. There's kind of a combination and some overlap in the Washington area, because the District of Columbia is also doing Census advertising. We're also using social media as a way of getting information out, you know, encouraging people, suggesting very strongly that they would fill out the Census. But we can follow up. I can find out exactly what --

TREASURER KOPP: I just, I would urge, especially since people are not aggregating in the same extent as we expected. I know there was going to be a lot of advertising at MVA offices, for instance.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: That's a very good point. And Metro and the bus --

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, exactly.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- that's a very good point. That the advertising at MVA is not going to do any good, since there's no one at MVA right now other than the online service. So yes, that's something that we can follow up on. Maybe we can get that money back and shift it someplace else.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. The Comptroller I think was going to say something.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes, no, thank you, Madam Treasurer and Lieutenant Governor. I want to take a minute and just compliment Governor Hogan. I saw him all over the national news this morning outside of the mansion giving intelligent, competent, rational, thoughtful, thorough instructions to the State and --

TREASURER KOPP: An interesting contrast.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well, that may be. That's for others down the road, Madam Treasurer, I agree. But it's particularly, I'm particularly proud as a Marylander to see Governor Hogan on national news doing exactly what a good leader should do.

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I have a couple of comments about the coronavirus pandemic, if I could. It's obviously an unprecedented time in our country's history and it's very critical that we deal particularly initially with this public health threat. That is the primary and top priority, the health aspect of this pandemic. But I have to say, simultaneous to that we need to pay attention to the possible permanent damage that we're doing to the economic and financial and fiscal situation here in the State.

We have 175,000 businesses in our State. Most of them are small retail businesses. It's not just the restaurants and the bars and taverns. It's everybody is being affected by the understandable public health response. And I'm suggesting that, having spoken with more small business owners in the last few days than I can count, I can assure you that in the absence of extraordinary action, simultaneous with the health proposals, we have to do an economic relief plan for our Maryland small businesses. Many of them are going to go under as a result of the economic devastation created by the coronavirus pandemic. And just walk down your community right now. It's like ghost towns all over the State.

So I believe that the actions that have been proposed to date simply haven't been enough on the economic front. And I'm not suggesting that that's a higher priority. I'm just saying we need to do both things simultaneously here. To survive for the next 45 days, these businesses need cash to pay their employees, their vendors, their landlords, and the banks. They are going to go

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under otherwise. So I believe it's imperative that the State of Maryland borrow at a minimum $500 million from the State's Rainy Day Fund and push it out the door as quickly as humanly possible to these business owners. I'm talking about checks going out Monday and Tuesday of next week. And unless we do that, we're going to see thousands of these businesses unable to open whenever the health protections are lifted. These business owners have contacted me already and said even before all the restrictions, we don't know whether we can survive.

So I also believe Congress is talking about federal stimulus relief packages to small businesses. I totally applaud that. But you know the federal government. It takes forever. And then when you go to get some money from the federal government, you have to fill out a 30-page application. And then you don't hear for weeks.

So God bless the Congress, but these small businesses right now are facing something that's very severe. And the decimation of our small business sector in the State of Maryland would, I believe, catapult us, because it will be mimicked all around the country, we're not unique in this aspect, but we're going to see an economic climate that's more like the 1930s than it was 2009 if we continue along the same route without a big relief plan. That's why we need to act. We need to act fast at the State level, because at the federal level we're just not going to be able to save the thousands of Maryland employees that are going to be affected by this.

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If we pass a $500 million small business relief package, I believe we would avoid most of the furloughs, most of the layoffs of small business folks. Instead of the owners having to pay the banks and the utilities and all their fixed costs, we should relieve them of that for 30 to 60 days. I can't emphasize enough how critical this is. And everyone in Maryland knows that we should have, or let me remind you all, that we have a patriotic responsibility to get on the phone, get on the internet, get on social media, support our local businesses all across the State. They are facing something that we've never seen before, that they have never seen before. There's nobody shopping. It's not just restaurants and bars. Call a restaurant and order something take out right now to be delivered to your home, even if you don't need it. Spend some money with your restaurants. Hopefully, you know, we'll be able to do something with the rest of the hospitality industry. But I'm talking about every small business, all over the State. If you know four or five small businesses in your community, get on the phone and call them. Order something. It might be picked up later on, who knows. But we need to show some loyalty and support. Otherwise, we're going to emerge from this chaotic crisis that we're in right now, but we're going to have lost thousands of wonderful small businesses that are the economic goalposts of our communities. And I beg the people of the great State of Maryland to -- if you're at home, a lot of people are teleworking, a lot of people are freed up, get on the phone and call four or five local businesses. And order something and pay

for it with your credit card. And, okay, don't go down and pick it up for a while. But let's do the right thing and we'll all get through this together. I don't mean to go on about this. But I think the economic consequences obviously are something that we simultaneously have to deal with as well as the health crisis. Thank you for letting me make that statement, Lieutenant Governor.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Thank you. It's very important. And we're looking at all efforts to be able to help the business community, just like you mentioned --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I'm relying -- I know you are. And you guys are filling, Nancy, you are too, we're filling in for the lack of preparation at the federal level. I mean, let's be honest. I'm not blaming anybody. I'm just saying, the whole thing is a chaotic crisis right now. But we need to pick up. We just can't rely on the federal government right now. I think that's what Governor Hogan was saying this morning. We have to do it ourselves. So, I urge everybody to think positively about some immediate backstopping of small businesses. We could ask them to pay it back later on, maybe. I'm very liberal --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah, we're looking at all of those --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- but to leave them out there all by themselves to the mercy of what's going on right now is just criminal, and we

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need to really do something dramatic. And I emphasize it needs to be done in the next few days.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: If it's not rainy now, when is it ever going to be rainy? I mean, this is, this is what the Rainy Day Fund was set up for, and we can always pay it back --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Mr. Comptroller, we're looking into all of those ideas. And more.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you. Yeah. I appreciate it.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Madam Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. Let me just add to what the Comptroller was saying. When I said that the Governor this morning was a significant contrast to others, I was in fact referring to what has come from the White House. And I think we are very fortunate to be in Maryland, a strong state where people do pull together. I know in my community, and yours, and in the rest of the State, the community is coming together to try to help people who are now homebound, essentially, with shopping and other necessary services. But I do agree that it certainly does look like it's raining out. I hope that we're going to get through this in good order. And that the economy will thrive. I'm not yet

prepared to give up by any means. But as the Fed said last week, they have done what they can, although they have a few more tricks up in their house. But, the rest depends on fiscal action, and fiscal action includes exactly the sort of program that we saw come too late elsewhere, and too late historically in the United States at the time of the Great Depression. But, if we act now, and I know both the Legislature, including with the creation of a special committee while they are out of session, a special committee to oversee and direct their role in dealing with the coronavirus, and the executive branch working together under the leadership of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor Rutherford, and all of the departments coming together, I see Bobby Neall is now a field general, I think, if there were such a post in Maryland, that we will pull through and we'll do it in good order. And I hope our children and grandchildren will say, as they think of what we did now, just as when they think of how we finally began to combat the challenge of climate change, that we did the right thing.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Great. Good morning.

TREASURER KOPP: Good morning. Good to see you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: On that happy note, what's on the Agenda?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, we're doing that. In the interests of making sure that we're in compliance with Open

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Meetings, I wanted to state who is in the room with me. I have Valerie Radomsky. She is our Board of Public Works Liaison. Patrick Siebert is here, and my Deputy Chief of Staff Courtney Highsmith are in the room with me. And I would ask that you, if there's anyone in your room with you, you should identify them.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes. I have my indispensable Board of Public Works Assistant Anne Klase, who is with us, Susan O'Brien from Communications, and Gary Ellison. So we're at your service.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: And you don't have the popular Manny there, by any chance?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Manny is I think teleworking, or whatever we call it. I'm in close communication with Manny. I'll tell him that you -- well, he's watching this. He'll be delighted about mentioning him.

TREASURER KOPP: Hi, Manny. I have Joanna Kille and Megan Schutz sitting in with me here.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. So, for the Secretary's Agenda, John?

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Hi, good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. We have 12 items on the Secretary's Agenda -- good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. We have 12 items on

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the Secretary's Agenda and one report of an emergency procurement. I'm happy to assist with answering any questions.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I don't have any questions on any of the Agenda items, so I'm happy to have a standing vote to approve. But I wanted to defer to the Treasurer and the Lieutenant Governor. I know we need to make sure we do our due diligence. But I've looked carefully at everything, Lieutenant Governor, on this Agenda, and just consider my motion to be a standing motion to approve unless you or the Treasurer have something on these --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: On the Secretary's Agenda, I don't have any questions.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Madam Treasurer, are you --

TREASURER KOPP: No. I'm okay on the Secretary's Agenda, although I did have a question of the University regarding its --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I've got many questions on the University's Agenda.

TREASURER KOPP: Fine. They are more general. I can raise them when we get to the University Agenda.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Perfect. I would move approval then of the Secretary's Agenda.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay, we are all in favor. Okay. Department of Natural Resources. Is the Secretary on? There she is. There she was.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Wow.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: That is --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Oh you're --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Technical difficulties.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I think you're muted. We still don't hear you.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Oh.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: There we are. There you are. Uh oh.

TREASURER KOPP: No.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can I just say I recommend that we vote approval of the Secretary's Agenda --

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Okay, can you hear me?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- and if there's a second vote --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Now we hear you.

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MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Great. Well, thank you very much. For the record, Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. We have 14 items on our Real Property Agenda today and I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: I should have a question, but I second the Comptroller's motion.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, before going there, I do want to ask or talk a little bit about 10-A. I have some questions. I think they've mostly been addressed. But the hatchery, trout, brown trout hatchery, that we've been leasing, we the State have been leasing the land for the hatchery since the 1960s. And I was, wanted to know if there are other places where the brown trout are natural, where we, where they are swimming and breeding and spawning in the wild, so to speak.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Thank you, Governor, for that question. We're really proud of our fisheries hatchery program. We have some really excellent staff that have been working on these projects for a very long time supporting over two dozen species through a variety of strategies. And as you referenced, the Cushwa Hatchery in particular when it comes to brown trout, they stock 43,000 adults and 75,000 juveniles every year just from this one facility. I

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believe we have Brian Richardson from our fisheries team on the phone, who can add a little bit more detail about brown trout in natural settings.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Brian?

MR. RICHARDSON: Hello, can you hear me?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yes.

MR. RICHARDSON: Yes, so the question was where do we have brown trout naturally spawning right now?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Correct.

MR. RICHARDSON: Yes, so throughout the State there's various locations. I think we've documented them in about 29 different major watersheds. Some are very successful and reproducing. Some are less successful and we also stock in those areas as well.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: How is the Youghiogheny? There are brown trout there as well?

MR. RICHARDSON: Yes, we stock a lot of our fingerling brown trout, the juvenile brown trout, into the Youghiogheny. And it's very successful. They grow well there and produce lots of successful trophy size trout.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, I mention that in particular, as the Secretary knows that part of my tour of the State Parks we went to Youghiogheny. And it's a beautiful area out in Western Maryland and

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I was told that there are brown trout there. Now you said you stock there. Are there some that are native there as well?

MR. RICHARDSON: Yes, I believe we do have reproducing populations out there.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I don't have any more questions there. I don't know what other sound that is.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I just want to compliment the Secretary. I and the Treasurer, I believe, served with her in the Legislature. I know I did. And thank you for running a tight ship. The State Parks and the State natural resources are such a huge asset for our wonderful State. So Secretary Haddaway-Riccio, thank you for your good leadership.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Thank you very much. We have a great team.

TREASURER KOPP: Madam Secretary, looking for good news, I just noticed the memo that you sent, the newsletter that you all sent out to everyone about Maryland's endangered Tiger Salamanders stage a comeback, is one of the few times when we actually have brought back or preserved a species at a time when people thought they were going under. And I see you moving some papers around. Is there anything you'd like to say about that? I just think people should hear and know.

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MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Well, thank you very much for your interest in this. As many people know, eagles and ospreys are a great American comeback story. And right here in Maryland we're working on our own comeback story with this cute little guy here, the Eastern Tiger Salamander. I don't know if you can see him or not. But they are coming back since we've been doing a lot of work to restore lost habitat. This habitat is very unique to the Eastern Shore. They are actually small elliptical depressions that only occur in the Delmarva Region. And thanks to your support on programs such as Program Open Space and Rural Legacy, where we're conserving land, we're able to help this species recover. And hopefully we'll have a really great story at the end of the day and maybe we'll even be able to take them off of the endangered list.

TREASURER KOPP: That would be terrific. Really good news. Thanks.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: In support of the salamanders, I would vote approval of your Agenda. Or move approval.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Thank you very much.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Do we have a second?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: All in favor? So we're all --

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TREASURER KOPP: Aye.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- okay, all approved. Thank you, Madam Secretary.

TREASURER KOPP: Remember the Tiger Salamander.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Remember the Tiger Salamander. Very good. Okay. University of Maryland System. Good morning, Joe.

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: Okay. I have a question on 2-RP, or I have a couple of questions, actually on 2, 3, and 4.

MR. EVANS: Okay. Ed Maginnis, the Assistant Vice President for Real Estate at College Park, would be the speaker on all three of those items.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. How did Core Campus Manager get involved in this project? It's a, you're surplussing the land with the intent to sell it to Core Campus Manager. How did they get this opportunity?

MR. MAGINNIS: Good morning. Core Campus Manager has basically acquired the neighboring half acre of property. So they are

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consolidating their half acre with our quarter acre. That creates the appropriate mass in order to develop the project that's described.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Ed, can you identify yourself again just for the record?

MR. MAGINNIS: Sure. You caught me off guard because I don't see myself on the screen and it's a little confusing. Ed Maginnis, Assistant Vice President of Real Estate, University of Maryland College Park.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. So Core Campus Manager is purchasing the adjoining property?

MR. MAGINNIS: That is correct. They have the adjoining property under a purchase and sale agreement already.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Who are they purchasing that from?

MR. MAGINNIS: A private owner.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Oh, okay. But not the University that --

MR. MAGINNIS: Not the University. That's exactly right. It's a private owner. And I also want to point out that the property that we're talking about is, if you go to College Park, this is sort of in the old Knox Box neighborhood. So we're continuing to tear down the Knox Boxes, which are 1950-era, very poorly maintained. There were actually a couple of students that

were killed in fires in these properties about 10 or 15 years ago. So it's just a continuation of sort of bringing College Park up to the 21st Century and just improving what it looks like right now.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. And this property is a good little ways from the property involved in 3-RP and 4-RP, correct?

MR. MAGINNIS: It's probably about a half mile away but it's not immediately adjacent.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. All right. Now at this point you've already gone through the process of excessing the property, where other entities can look at whether there's a need that they would have for it?

MR. MAGINNIS: That's why we're here before the Board today. So this property has been through clearinghouse. The clearinghouse has recommended that it be surplussed and we're asking at this point for the Board's approval to surplus the property. We will according to our procedures return to the Board after the 45-day legislative notice. We'll return to the Board at that time to seek approval of the transaction. So today is surplus, future transaction.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: And you're expecting the future transaction to be in the range of $2.3 million?

MR. MAGINNIS: That's correct, sir.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Because that will be the value once the property is added to the adjoining property?

MR. MAGINNIS: That is correct. That is -- I'm also going to point out, when we come back in about two months, probably, hopefully not like this, hopefully in person, the property that was appraised at just over $400,000 with a $2.3 million purchase price, that's based upon the key location of this. It's, it's the critical mass of our property makes their property that much more valuable.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. All right. I have questions on 3-RP. Madam Treasurer, did you have questions on this one? On 2-RP?

TREASURER KOPP: No. That actually was my question on 2-RP. Thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: All right. Regarding 3-RP, I believe this UMCPF IV-A LLC is the group that the Board maybe a year ago or more allowed the University to transfer to this entity, is that correct?

MR. MAGINNIS: UMCPF IV is an affiliate of the Terrapin Development Company. However, this particular property we're talking about, because we were before the Board, I think it was more than a year, probably 18 months ago, to see approval of the Board to transfer some University properties to

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TDC. This is actually one of the properties that TDC pre-owned through the Foundation. So its ownership of this was not through the University, but they are in fact the owner of this property on the City Hall Block in College Park, yes.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. And Terrapin Development is an LLC that is owned by the University and the Foundation?

MR. MAGINNIS: That is correct.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Who is the Executive Director of that?

MR. MAGINNIS: Ken Ulman.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. And what is the role of Margrave Strategies in all of this?

MR. MAGINNIS: Margrave Strategies is a company that is owned and controlled by Mr. Ulman. Beyond that, beyond that, I don't know the full answer to that question.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Are they --

MR. MAGINNIS: This transaction doesn't involve Margrave Strategies. The entity that the University is dealing with is Terrapin Development Company.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. You said you don't know -- I missed part of what you just said. You said the entity you're

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dealing with is Terrapin Development, but you didn't know the role of Margrave Strategies? Is that what you said?

MR. MAGINNIS: And that is correct. So the University is entering into a contract with TDC. I know that TDC has two members, the University and the Foundation. I know that its Executive Director is Ken Ulman. I know that Ken Ulman is the President of Margrave Strategies. If you want the storytelling to go beyond that, that's sort of the extent of my storytelling knowledge. That's all that I know.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Now --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can I interrupt for a minute? Lieutenant Governor, can I interrupt? Because that's total news to me. I would love to put the item off and understand exactly what you just brought up, if you're interested in doing that. It certainly caught my eye. I had not seen that in the initial documents. So I'm happy to join you if --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: My questions, the reason I'm asking these questions because I am concerned about potential conflicts of interest. We've had a major issue with the, and I know it's a separate entity altogether, but they still go under the moniker of the University of Maryland, which goes under, you know, a State entity and that's the University of Maryland Medical Systems. We saw --

MR. MAGINNIS: Right.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- some challenges there. I'm a little concerned. I was going to ask about the Foundation as well, and who is the Executive Director of the Foundation. I think there may be some links there as well. I am very concerned. I've gotten some external complaints or concerns about Margrave and the role that they play along with the role that Mr. Ulman plays in terms of being the executive or strategy director, or something of that nature, where he has a position with the University System. It's either as a contractor or as an employee, I don't know. But I am very concerned about what is the appearance of conflicts of interest. And so for both Item 4, Item 3 and Item 4, I think it should be deferred at the very best, because I am not prepared to vote in the positive for either one of those.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I would second that, although I know Ken Ulman, obviously a lot of people do in the State. And I --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I know Ken, too. And I like him personally. But, you know, and I'm not, you know, I'm not opposed to people making money. Okay? But when it's a State entity involved, I'm just a little more concerned of, you know, the possible conflicts of interest that -- and I'll say this, you know, with Joe on the line, is my experience going back to when I was at General Services, the University System sometimes plays a little loose on things and sometimes forgets that they are a State agency. I remember having a conversation with an individual who at the time was a Vice

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President there, and he talked about the State as opposed to the University. And I had to remind him that they were a State institution. So I just get a little concerned about this. And I just, this is a sensitive area as far as I'm concerned.

MR. EVANS: As far as the University System, we realize that we are a State agency. On the procurement side, we do have our, we do have some procurement policy procedures. But those procedures do follow pretty much State guidelines. So I don't know that we would be characterized as loose --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well --

MR. EVANS: -- we've got to do the right thing.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- but I'm going back several years ago and just in terms of the approach. And you weren't the Vice President at that time that I'm referring to. Also, I mean, when we set up these LLCs under an entity, I'm not sure that their executive director has to file financial disclosure forms or anything of that nature, if they fall under the ethics guidelines. These are things that I really don't know. But it just doesn't sit well with me as I went through this particular project and some of the anecdotal comments I've received from people on the outside.

MR. MAGINNIS: So something --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- more information with regard to who all is involved in this particular project. What is the role of Margrave Strategies? Who are the directors or the executive directors

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of the Foundation board? If there is some connection there, what is the involvement of Ken Ulman in his official role with the University, Direct of Strategic Strategy, or something of that nature? How does this all play together? And I just, I'm a little concerned, a lot concerned.

MR. MAGINNIS: I think I understand what the Board is asking for.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Thank you.

MR. MAGINNIS: And I'm comfortable that I can provide it in a way that will make everybody comfortable here.

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just add, I do think it's worthwhile to defer these items so these questions can be addressed and the air cleared on them. This Board did acknowledge and the partnership of the Foundation and the University a couple of years ago, with the creation of Terrapin, which I think has been very good for the University. But in these times, it is always good to address concerns before they become exacerbated. So I personally think the development and the use of Terrapin and its affiliates is a good thing, but agree that there are questions. I didn't know either about Margrave and would like to understand its role better. So thank you. Let me just say right -- and this is Items 3 and 4, as I understand it.

MR. MAGINNIS: Yes.

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TREASURER KOPP: Yes. I was just going to say in general about the University's items, and this is a different subject altogether, I hope when the University and its affiliates are building capital projects that will last 50 years or more, that you can tell us for each of these projects how it impacts and is impacted by the State's goals regarding energy use, renewable energy, green energy, and climate change. These are things that are going to last a long time and we have hard goals that we are, in law, addressing, and the University plays a large part in that. And it ought to be, they are not mentioned at all in these items and I think they should be mentioned in every item. So if you can continue taking that message back to the campuses, Joe, it would be very helpful.

MR. EVANS: We've tried to put them in the construction ones, the capital projects we bring down. So --

TREASURER KOPP: Well I noticed, I don't mean, I do mean to interrupt you. But sometimes you do point out that these are LEED Silver or aiming for LEED Silver. Fifty years from now LEED Silver will not be particularly helpful.

MR. EVANS: Yes, ma'am.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Let me ask --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Governor, I would move to approve the Agenda without Items 3 and 4, that they be deferred until, you know,

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the Treasurer and you and I can be briefed on what the situation is. And but I would approve the other items, unless you have other --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I have another question.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh, I'm sorry.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Item 5. Don't move so fast. Not so fast.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I want to get back to work on coronavirus.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, you've got to collect our taxes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: We've got to make sure things don't fall apart while the Governor focuses on coronavirus. Number 5, 5-RP, I'm just trying to understand the transaction. The property is being purchased by the University of Maryland, or UMB Health Systems Research Corp., a 501(c)(3). They are buying the property above the appraised value, and then they are transferring or selling that property to the University at the appraised value, a difference of $750,000. And then the Foundation is contributing $75,000 to compensate the nonprofit. Why was it done this way? Why wouldn't the University, I mean, you can only, you know, appraised value is

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what an outsider thinks the property is worth. The only, the real thing is how much the person is willing, or the owner is willing to sell it for, it tells you what the real value of the property is. So the value of the property to the University is $550,000. Is it that the University was required to purchase only at the appraised value? Why did they have to use this process?

MR. EVANS: For this question, I have Luke Mowbray, who is the Interim Director for Real Estate and Space Management here at the University.

MR. MOWBRAY: Can everyone hear me?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yes. Good morning.

MR. MOWBRAY: Again, this is Luke Mowbray. I am the Interim Director for Real Estate Planning and Space Management at the University of Maryland Baltimore. To answer your question, we receive guidance from the USM, the System office, on real estate transactions. The intent of having this kind of more complicated procedure, where RPC purchases it and then we purchase from RPC, is exactly what you said, to purchase the property for the appraised value and to make sure that that is the amount that the State pays for the property. So that was the intent there of having RPC purchase first, and our Foundation has been very generous and offered to make RPC whole after the transaction.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. All right. So you wanted to stay, as far as the University was concerned, at the appraised value, okay. That's understandable. Okay. No, when I saw it, it was just a little convoluted process. So, okay. That's my last question with regard to the University System Agenda. So we have a motion, I guess, still on the table to withdraw Items 3-RP and 4-RP, and then approve the remainder of the Agenda, correct? Do we have a second on that?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. I'm in favor. We're all in favor. Okay. Thank you, Joe.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you, Joe.

MR. EVANS: Thank you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Maryland Department of Transportation. Is this going well so far?

TREASURER KOPP: Good.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: There's --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Is anybody listening to us? How many people are out there?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, I can tell you that my Deputy Chief of Staff is looking at the Wi-Fi broadcast and she said it's coming across very well. So she's at least one participant. Normally the folks

who run the Wi-Fi know how many people log in. I don't know if it's telling us that at this point. Do we have Greg Slater here from --

TREASURER KOPP: Most of the people who actually watch it are telecommuting today, teleworking.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Teleworking for Transportation, just like State Troopers are teleworking.

MR. SLATER: Good morning. This is Greg. Can you hear me?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: We have 100 people who have logged in to watch it via the webcast. So that's --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- that's about I think normal were. We'll come back to Transportation, since it appears that no one is on from Transportation yet.

TREASURER KOPP: I think Greg --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Wait a minute. Are you on?

MR. SLATER: Good morning. Can you hear me? It's telling me that I can't, somebody on that end has to turn on my webcam share ability.

SECRETARY GONTRUM: We'll get right on it.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Our systems person.

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Is that Secretary Slater?

MR. SLATER: It is.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Why don't we just go forward with audio, if possible.

MR. SLATER: I'm happy to do that.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: You know, you just identify yourself and we go forward.

MR. SLATER: Absolutely. Good morning, Lieutenant Governor, Madam Treasurer, and Mr. Comptroller. For the record, my name is Greg Slater, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation. The Maryland Department of Transportation is presenting 12 items today. We have a number of folks on the phone to answer any questions. One thing that I will point out specifically for you, Madam Treasurer, is this is the last procurement that you will see from us over at MTA for rolling stock that does not have an electric option to it. So, all contracts moving forward will have that option.

TREASURER KOPP: Good news, Mr. Secretary.

MR. SLATER: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Very good.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. For a change, and I don't want either one of the constitutional officers to have a heart attack, I don't have any questions on this Agenda.

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval, Governor. I mean, that's, yeah. And you've noticed --

TREASURER KOPP: I have --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- how quiet I've been during the meeting.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I know. Something is going on with you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent.

TREASURER KOPP: I will second that, but I do have a couple of questions.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Sure.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay.

TREASURER KOPP: Brief. One, Greg, I just hope in the future the same thing that I asked of the University, that when we see projects we will see both their impact on and impact by climate change and impact on the energy goals that are set out in law. There are a number of these, and you just mentioned a very significant accomplishment. These should be noted as we go forward, but towards electrification of the fleet and towards improvement of our capital projects so that they are fit for the next 50 years. And that includes dealing with problems like the taxis and Uber and Lyft at the Airport, what we are doing to

encourage, we're encouraging traffic by bringing these people in. We have to make sure that it's in conformity with our goals, as well.

But the other question I wanted to ask, Greg, and this is unexpected and I don't expect an answer now but I'd like you to come back to us. The question has arisen about the cost to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and the ratepayers of the changes they are going to have to make in major lines, major pipelines along the 270 corridor as we go forward with our project. And there have been some numbers thrown around in the press, $2 billion cost to the ratepayers over 40 years. I'd just like to know what it's all about. So if you could have somebody come back at the next meeting it would be helpful, I think.

MR. SLATER: Sure. I can certainly address it a little bit now. We're still early in the process. We really don't know what any of those impacts will be. The utility situation on the top side of the Beltway is very different than it is on 270 where we're focused right now. I actually have a meeting set up with some leadership at WSSC to kind of talk through how we can work together. But avoidance, much like we do with some of our natural resources, is going to be our critical approach from the beginning so that we don't disrupt them any more than we have to.

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TREASURER KOPP: We would really appreciate it. Two billion sounds like a lot of money for the ratepayers to pay, and then you notice it's over 40 years, which makes a significant difference. I'd like to just get the facts out.

MR. SLATER: Sure. Absolutely. I'll be sure to prepare some materials.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. Thank you, Governor.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. One quick point. Well, no, I was looking at the next Agenda. I think -- did we have a motion to approve?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I would move to approve.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Second? Okay. And I think we're all in favor so we'll move on to General Services. Before Secretary Churchill comes on, Madam Treasurer, I'm going to ask Secretary Churchill about a discussion that he and I had a little while ago. I also had a conversation with Secretary Haddaway-Riccio with regard to the purchase of electric trucks. Ford has a pickup truck, and I know we were going to look at that. We could possibly start in our Annapolis, since we have the charging station here, but at least start in our Annapolis location. Because they do use pickup trucks. And there was some conversation of using some of the proceeds from the Volkswagen suit to do that. So --

TREASURER KOPP: Right. That would be great.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- I saw the Secretary was coming online. I'm sorry?

TREASURER KOPP: Secretary Brinkley was talking about driving a Ford F-150 at some point in the future, I think. Others can use these trucks, too.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah, he's a future farmer of America. Secretary Churchill?

MR. CHURCHILL: Good morning, Lieutenant Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, I'm Ellington Churchill, Secretary for the Maryland Department of General Services. The department has 34 items on our Agenda today, including two supplementals. Revisions have been submitted for 16, 30, and 34, and the department is withdrawing Items 4 and 12. And we can answer questions at this time.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I know last week, or two weeks ago, the Comptroller mentioned the Delmarva Community Services. We have another CGL for them, and the great work that Santo Grande does there. The intergenerational facility that they are building there is going to be a wonderful addition to Dorchester County and the Cambridge area. Santo does a very good job. I've visited him several times, was there for the groundbreaking of the facility. They ran into a challenge with regard to the costs associated with steel, as steel went up, and with some of the tariffs. And so we were able, I was

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glad that we were able to put in our capital budget additional money to compensate for that and make sure that the project continued to go forward. So I don't know if Santo is on the line. That's not necessary. But I did want to give a shout-out to all the good work they are doing and particularly --

MR. CHURCHILL: -- from the, he's not available, Mr. Santo is not available.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. That's fine. I just give him kudos there.

TREASURER KOPP: He was there at the last meeting, I think. Was it the last meeting?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yes. Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: And very much appreciated.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Well, good. I have a question on 10-AE.

MR. CHURCHILL: Ten, 10-AE having to do with architectural services for multiple construction projects, yes, sir.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Right. It's a modification. My question is on the compliance with MBE. The goal is 30 percent, but they are at zero and we are modifying? Putting more money into this?

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MR. CHURCHILL: I am going to ask that Lauren Buckler come to the microphone. She is the Assistant Secretary for Capital Construction and can explain this.

MS. BUCKLER: Good morning, members of the Board of Public Works. Lauren Buckler, Assistant Secretary for Design, Construction, and Energy. I have a feeling that we have a correction to the record to make. I know that it is not zero on the task orders that we've done. We do a task order by task order assessment to assign an MBE goal when we use the architectural contract, so we will get back to you with a correction on what the percentage is currently.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Thank you. And then just a follow up question to that. Are any of these prime contractors MBE or certified small businesses?

MS. BUCKLER: Yes. When we did this procurement originally, we did a subset of the procurement for Small Business Reserve. So we required a portion of the participants to be small business in order to be on this master contract. So it's about half of the list, but we can give you the ones that are and are not Small Business Reserve.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Yeah, I would appreciate it if you would just let me know which ones are either small business or MBEs or both.

MR. CHURCHILL: We'll do that.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Thank you. And I have a question on 12-S, which is a service contract, opioid crisis campaign, systemwide campaign.

MR. CHURCHILL: 12-S has been withdrawn.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Oh, it was? Okay. All right. I guess I missed that part. And then 14-S.

MR. CHURCHILL: 14-S having to do with statewide opioid awareness. I believe we have Dana Dembrow or Margie Donohue, who was the contract monitor for the department.

MR. DEMBROW: Hello, there.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Good morning.

MS. DONOHUE: Good morning. This is Margie Donohue.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Good morning.

MR. DEMBROW: Board, I'm happy to respond to questions on 14-S. 12-S was indeed withdrawn, and we'll be happy to answer questions about that at a subsequent time, Mr. Lieutenant Governor.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Thank you. This is a sole source, 14-S. Why is it a sole source? The document says they are on the only company that provides this service.

MR. DEMBROW: Yes. It's a very unusual advertising campaign that is made uniquely available by PSN. What they do is public service

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announcements and audio messaging of patients while they are at the pharmacy or at a doctor's office or an urgent care center. They reached 62 million impressions last year, on their last contract at least. They did 20 million extra. It's a very effective advertising campaign because you are reaching the patient at the time that they are going to be inquiring about excessive opioid prescriptions. And it is a unique provider.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. And so they basically have a monopoly on those doctor commercials that, you know, I've been the doctor's office and seen these, like, rolling commercials. Usually it's like health stuff, and you know, ask your doctor X. So they have the monopoly on all that?

MR. DEMBROW: I believe that is the case. Ms. Donohue, I'll ask if you have anything to add?

MS. DONOHUE: PSM is, came to us as a recommendation from SAMHSA as well. They are uniquely qualified to deliver health related messages. I know that there are commercial type ads appearing in doctors' offices as well, but these are regarding health specific public service announcements.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah. No, I believe I've seen probably these ads because they really weren't marketing a

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product but just talking about good living. Now, it's all federal funds. Do you know if this is part of the SOAR money from a couple of years ago?

MS. DONOHUE: Yes, that is correct. This is funding from SOAR year two.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. All right. Okay. Well, thank you. That's a good deal if they have the monopoly on that. I guess it's pretty good.

MR. DEMBROW: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, if you don't mind my saying so, to answer an earlier question, this WebEx is working extremely well. My commendations to Secretary Gontrum. Audio and video are both very clear. This is a very efficient way of conducting your broadcast and it's appreciated.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Thank you. Thank you. Dana, it's always good --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: That voice, Lieutenant Governor, if I could interrupt, that voice, of course, is former Delegate Dana Dembrow who --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: No, no. I know. I recognize --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- the Treasurer and I served with and I particularly have a very fond view of Delegate Dembrow and I'm glad

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that he's working for your administration because he's just a very talented individual.

MR. DEMBROW: Thank you, Mr. Comptroller.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Great job.

TREASURER KOPP: My --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- my last question, and then I'll turn it over to others.

TREASURER KOPP: I was just going to say, Governor --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Oh, sorry.

TREASURER KOPP: -- that I believe that Delegate Dembrow was my little brother when we were, when he was a new delegate.

MR. DEMBROW: That is correct, Madam Treasurer. We were assigned mentors when I was first elected. I was very pleased to have you assigned to be my mentor, and you still are.

TREASURER KOPP: I can see what good it's done, thank you. Sorry, Governor.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: All right. My last question, and I'll turn it over to the others. 23-IT 1.1. This is the Skyline Network Engineering contract.

MR. CHURCHILL: We have Secretary Leahy from the department available to speak.

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MR. LEAHY: Good morning, Mr. Governor --

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Good morning.

MR. LEAHY: -- Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. Yes, sir. What questions would you like to ask about the Skyline contract?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I'll get to the bottom line. Why wasn't this contract rebid? It started at $42.5 million. There was a $12 million modification -- or wait a minute. Was it a $29 million mod --

MR. LEAHY: Yes, sir. And this one is for $12 million.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: And this one is $12 million. So there was a $29 million mod done previously, and now we're at $12 million, that we're close to doubling the original contract with one more year being extended onto the term. Why did we not rebid this and start maybe a year ago in that bidding process?

MR. LEAHY: Well, we actually have been working on the RFP for some time. As you aware, this coming year's budget also includes us taking various items out of what is part of this contract and building our own security operations center. So we thought it best to keep things in place as they are currently existing, and the RFP will be going out in the next month or so.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. All right. On a side note, my office is scheduling a conference call with you and Bob Gleason to look at our processes and procedures for contracting, awarding,

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bidding information technology contracts. The flow chart I saw is too convoluted and I think we need to utilize Lean methods, Lean Six Sigma, to eliminate some of the steps that are clearly unnecessary. So we're going to bring in our Office of Performance Improvement to look at reengineering that process so that we can move a little bit quicker.

My experience on the federal level is that we don't need as many steps, as many people looking at the same procurement two and three times. And it's just, it makes it difficult. So we'll be talking about that in the next couple of days.

MR. LEAHY: Looking forward to this meeting, sir.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Any --

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, I, let me just thank you for taking that on. I think the Secretary would agree the process, this is a time of transition still and the process is just, it needs clarification. Could I also put in a plug that it also needs enough people to make it work, the right people to make it work.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yeah.

TREASURER KOPP: And we have to be competitive in the IT market. And I'm afraid that at this moment, we really are not. And it is impacting the entire State, as you know, as you well know.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Right. Right.

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TREASURER KOPP: Anything we can do to help, I'm sure that we'll be there.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Yeah, we know that we have particularly salary challenges. But we also, and we've addressed part of that on the procurement side because we have, we still have salary challenges on the procurement side. But we're getting a little better. But it's now bringing in talent and making sure we keep our talent --

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: -- that can do this work. So I appreciate that. Any other questions on General Services?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval -- I'm sorry, go ahead.

TREASURER KOPP: Let me just ask a question that I think the Comptroller will be interested in also. Item 34. I just want to make sure that the item that we have -- this is the Sunflower Bakery.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Yes.

MR. CHURCHILL: Sunflower Bakery, yes.

TREASURER KOPP: This is everything that's needed to have Sunflower go ahead with its project?

MR. CHURCHILL: That's correct.

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TREASURER KOPP: Great. Very good. Very worthwhile project that I know the Comptroller and I have supported for some time. Sunflower --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I believe --

TREASURER KOPP: -- that's the one --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- is involved in this. And yes, I'm very pleased to join in support of that and, you know, everybody at the local level is working very hard to help these small businesses.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Very good.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can I just mention, Governor, you mentioned the tax collector. We've processed more than a million returns. We still are urging people to file electronically for refunds because we're going to give out a total of $3 billion in refunds. We're basically two-thirds of the way through, but people should file if we owe them a refund. Yesterday we announced with the IRS that we're going to extend the April 15th deadline to July 15th. That in effect is a 90-day zero percent interest loan to the corporations, businesses, and individuals. So we're hoping that that will help folks stabilize the local economy also. Obviously, we play this by ear and we're in touch with the executive and with the legislative branches. But there is a continued extension of these business taxes and now personal income taxes that I think will benefit the State greatly by keeping cash in people's hands.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Right.

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: In their pockets, keep it in their pockets.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Well, and it's a good point, particularly those who are expecting a return to go ahead and get it filed and file online now so that they can get this turned around. Your office does a great job of turning it around fairly quickly. So you know, encouraging people to do that. File your taxes, as well as fill out your Census. So thank you. Do we have, did we get a motion on the DGS Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I would move approval of the DGS Agenda.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay. Well, thank you. And from what I can tell, this first virtual Board of Public Works has gone very well without any hitches, just the little delays, but those, that's expected. And so I want to thank the Treasurer and Comptroller for participating. This has been good. I do prefer to have all of us together, but this has been great.

TREASURER KOPP: Pretty efficient.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Very efficient.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I don't mean to sound surprised, but I'm stunned that it actually worked. No, I'm kidding. This was terrific and to the other people out there, please spread the word that we're doing our best in the

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midst of a lot of frankly chaos and crisis. And I couldn't agree more with the Lieutenant Governor. This was a, it was hard to pull off, put it that way, because it's the first time we've done it.

TREASURER KOPP: And thanks to John Gontrum, too.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: I was going to say something. John was a little nervous yesterday, or maybe it was the day before, when we were testing. And I said, John, we should publicize this. And he said, maybe the second time.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Also, John had an assistant, James, who I have a lot of confidence in, Point Du Jour, I think is his last name.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: Okay.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent staff person.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD: All right. Well thank you all, and stay safe, and support those small businesses.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 11:15 a.m., the meeting was concluded.)