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# **BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

*GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, STATE HOUSE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND*

**October 16, 2024**  
**10:09 a.m.**

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# PRESENT

## **HONORABLE WES MOORE**

Governor

## **HONORABLE BROOKE E. LIERMAN**

Comptroller

## **HONORABLE DERECK E. DAVIS**

Treasurer

## **JOHN GONTRUM**

Secretary, Board of Public Works

## **ATIF CHAUDHRY**

Secretary, Department of General Services

## **JOSH KURTZ**

Secretary, Department of Natural Resources

## **THOMAS HICKEY**

Director of Procurement and Real Property Initiatives,  
University System of Maryland

## **VALERIE RADOMSKY**

Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Transportation

## **LISA GRIGSBY**

Recording Secretary, Board of Public Works

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# PROCEEDINGS

GOVERNOR MOORE: Good morning, everybody. Good morning, please take a seat. All right. Good morning and welcome to today's meeting of the Board of Public Works. Actually, first, I'd like to turn over to the Treasurer for a point of personal privilege to acknowledge a few lost but not forgotten colleagues. So --

TREASURER DAVIS: Thank you, Governor.

GOVERNOR MOORE: -- good morning.

TREASURER DAVIS: And good morning, everyone.

I'll be real brief. I just want to mention two gentlemen who recently passed. One was a delegate from my district, from District 25 in Prince George's County. He served from 1978 to 1990, so I never served with him. I was in high school then.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: That whole time?

TREASURER DAVIS: I didn't -- well --

(Laughter.)

TREASURER DAVIS: (indiscernible) college, but I never made it out (indiscernible).

(Laughter.)

TREASURER DAVIS: Anyway, Dennis Donaldson, affectionately known as Denny. He represented District 25 from 1978 to 1990. I can't recall specifically when it was, but I actually bumped into either his daughter or his daughter-in-law. It was by chance. It was sometime this year. And I also don't remember where we were. But she came up to me and she -- you know, she

recounted, she said, "You're Delegate Davis?" Yeah, I'm doing this now and all of that. She said -- either it was her father or her father-in-law. I can't remember which. She said, "You may have heard of him, Denny Donaldson." I was like, yeah, I knew him and so forth. And I believe he was living in Florida at the time. So I while I didn't know him personally, I knew him, you know, through former Senator Ulysses Currie and others who served with him. And they just had many wonderful things to say about him. Again, all the embodiment of the things legislators should be. So we will miss Denny.

But the next gentleman I did serve with, along with the Comptroller, Donald "Doc" Elliott. Doc Elliott, I know he served 28 years. He actually served longer than I did. I think it was -- when did he get there? I know he left in 2015, so back up 28 years. I think it was '87. Doc was -- and that's what we called him. He was a pharmacist. And when I first got to Annapolis, I was assigned to the Environmental Matters Committee where he was assigned. And even though we came from different parts of the aisle and different parts of the state, Doc was just a terrific human being. Smart, helpful, kind. He represented his constituents, but he cared about the entire state.

My first eight years, we were together. So once I switched committees, we weren't as in contact as much, but he did a lot of great things for the for the State of Maryland. Again, reaching across the aisle, never partisan. He had his beliefs, but he wasn't the flamethrower type and all of that. And he was just an all-around terrific guy that everybody liked.

And so I just couldn't let this moment pass without mentioning Doc and Denny. So thank you, Governor, for that moment. And thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. And thank you for -- thank you for sharing. And thank you for reminding us that we're all standing on the shoulders of some pretty remarkable public servants.

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TREASURER DAVIS: Yes, indeed.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And to their families, we know that -- we hope that you all find peace.

Mr. Secretary. Mr. Secretary, good morning.

MR. GONTRUM: Good morning.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Good morning.

(Microphone adjustment.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: Mr. Secretary, can you -- is that any better?

MR. GONTRUM: A little bit of a reverb.

GOVERNOR MOORE: A little bit?

MR. GONTRUM: Someone from the -- let me just go ahead and rearrange it.

GOVERNOR MOORE: When he puts a pencil in the ear, we know we're down to business here.

(Laughter.)

MR. GONTRUM: (Indiscernible) the microphones --

(Laughter.)

MR. GONTRUM: Please proceed, sorry.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Sorry.

MR. GONTRUM: So good morning, Governor. Good morning to you, Mr. Treasurer and Madam Comptroller. There are 17 items to start the agenda. However, I'm withdrawing Item 6, the U.S. Wind Title Wetlands License, from the agenda this morning. Leaving 16 items on the agenda for your consideration this morning. I'm happy to assist with answer any questions.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Great. Thank you so much. And I would like to call up Item 9, which is a request from the Department of Housing and

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Community Development to award \$3.4 million in rental housing works programs to fund the Enterprise Community Development to support Waverly Winds affordable housing project in Columbia.

The reason that I'm calling up this project and just wanted to highlight it is that this project, which does involve the demolition of existing unit to construct a new 60-unit rental apartment community, will offer a mix of affordable both one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments that will be able to help support families. And specifically support families that have incomes between 30 percent and 60 percent of the area median income. So it's a very targeted program about the families that we're hoping to build for and that we're hoping to serve. And it's going to do a great deal to be able to address the affordability challenges that we know a lot of families continue to face.

The reason that we also want to highlight this one, though, is because it includes a number of sustainability measures that realign with the State's commitment for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. And so continuing to show that we do have an ability to increase inventory. We do have an ability to be aggressive, when it comes to adding additional housing options. And that does not mean compromising a larger idea that the State needs to move forward and make sure we can have a clean energy state as well. And I cannot underscore how important and also how impactful the Rental Housing Works Program is in terms of addressing these issues. And so I want to give a huge shout out again to DHCD and also my partners inside this work.

This is really revolutionary work that's already showing significant impact for a lot of families. I'm proud that our Administration is directing these awards and based on -- solely on considerations of merit and need, and they're being distributed equally across communities all across the State. So you're seeing how the impacts are showing themselves in Western Maryland, the Eastern

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Shore, and everywhere in between. And collectively with this Board and also with the General Assembly, and both the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch, this shows how we are working just united to address an issue that we know is a very real issue for a lot of families and a lot of communities all throughout the State.

Since the start of our Administration just over 20 months, we have dispersed over \$132 million in State funds across several programs that are geared towards expanding access to affordable rental housing. And that has created -- that has now created nearly 4,000 units of affordable housing and generated a combined economic activity of \$1.4 billion. And this past session, we were really proud to work in coordination with the General Assembly to pass the most sweeping housing package of any governor in recent history that focused on things like transit-oriented development, that focused on things like density bonuses, and focused on things like incentivizing renters to become homeowners, that focused on things like supporting our renters.

You know, these are -- this is really important work, and we know that it is not simple. It is it is very challenging. But once again, Maryland continues to show not just why this is important, but that Maryland is really prepared to lead on this issue. So I wanted to highlight that with a deep level of thanks for all parties involved, in making this work and making it happen.

With that, is there any further --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Can I say something?

GOVERNOR MOORE: Please, please, please, please.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you.

No, I wanted to thank you for highlighting Item 9 and thank you to the Department of Housing and Community Development for its work on the Rental Housing Works Program. I just want to note it's really, I think,

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informative to look at this item to understand how difficult it is to build affordable housing in this country and in this state. And you know, whether it's zoning and community hurdles that developers have to overcome or the funding mechanisms. If you look at the second page of this item, and you look at the funding sources -- there's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 -- 13 different funding sources in the capital stack for just -- you know, for just 68 units.

And I think that really demonstrates how challenging it is to meet our collective goal of ensuring that every Marylander can be safely and justly housed. And so the Rental Housing Works, I think it's worth noting, is just such an important part of the capital stack to create affordable housing units in the State. And so it's essential that awards be based on merit and need, and the ability to deploy those funds immediately --

GOVERNOR MOORE: Right.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- and nothing else. So thank you to DHCD for their work on this and to all of our affordable housing developers for their work to power through, to persist, to overcome the hurdles that are thrown in their way so that they can build homes for Marylanders.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Amen.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thanks.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Any other discussion on the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Nope.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Okay. May I have a motion to approve the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the Secretary's Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there a second?

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TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding, thank you so much. We will proceed with the Department of Natural Resources.

Secretary Kurtz, good morning.

MR. KURTZ: Good morning, Mr. Governor. Good morning, Madam Comptroller and Mr. Treasurer. For the record, Josh Kurtz, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. The Department has eight items on the agenda for your consideration. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you.

Is there any discussion on the DNR Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Not from me.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Okay. May I have a motion to approve the DNR Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the DNR Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And do I have a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Mr. Secretary, thank you so much.

Next up, University System of Maryland. Mr. Hickey, good morning.

MR. HICKEY: Good morning, Governor. Good morning, Mr. Treasurer and Madam Comptroller. Tom Hickey representing University System of Maryland. There are 11 items on our agenda, and we're happy to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR MOORE: I want to highlight one. That's right,

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since I see we have Blackwell Hall on it.

Last Thursday, I had the pleasure of going out to Sea Gull Nation and seeing Blackwell Hall, which is probably the fourth time we've had a chance to visit Salisbury University since inauguration. And I had a chance to -- and it was a joy to spend time again with President Lepre and the students and the staff and the faculty there, and just seeing the level of excitement that they have about what Blackwell Hall can be. And I think one of the great things you see about Blackwell Hall is it really is -- it's going to serve as almost like a center hub for the campus where you're -- it's impossible to avoid it, right?

Because you have everything from financial aid in there, to student supports in there. The orientation committee is in there. And so it becomes really important because it almost becomes like this front door to the University. And last year in partnership with the General Assembly, we were able to invest nearly \$30 million towards this project. And we are really, really proud of what that's going to be and why it matters. Not just to the Shore, not just to the University, but just to higher ed inside of the State as well.

So is there any further discussion on the USM Agenda? Okay.  
May I have a motion to approve the USM Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: A motion to approve the USM Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding, thanks so much. Mr. Hickey, thank you.

We will proceed with the with the MDOT Agenda. Ms. Radomsky, good morning.

MS. RADOMSKY: Good morning, Governor, Madam

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Comptroller, and Mr. Treasurer. For the record, my name is Valerie Radomsky, Chief Procurement Officer for the Maryland Department of Transportation. Today, we are presenting 10 agenda items for your consideration and withdrawing MDOT 3-M-OPTION (3-M-OPT).

MDOT is seeking approval of one award of a certified small businesses valued at approximately \$2 million and one award to a duly certified small veteran small business valued at approximately \$764,000. We have representatives available to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR MOORE: I'm sorry, what was the -- what was the withdrawal again?

MS. RADOMSKY: I'm sorry. It was Item Number 3.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Great.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Could I ask a question?

MS. RADOMSKY: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thanks.

On the SHA maintenance contracts, there are several that are going to the same lighting maintenance, which is fine, but to have different MBE awards, even though it's for the same type of work -- and I note in the -- in the PRG details, it's based on the geographic area. But (indiscernible) that we're pretty small state, like I'm just -- if you could talk to us a little bit about how you set that geographic area because Howard County is not that far from Baltimore County. And yet they have wildly different rates, when it would be perfectly easy for somebody from Baltimore County to work in Howard County or vice versa.

MS. RADOMSKY: Right. Let me call -- SHA has all of the details on the PRG and how they set its -- as you said, the geographical area. We have Jada Wright available, the Director of Procurement.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thanks.

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MS. RADOMSKY: Okay. She can get into --

(Pause.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Oh, she went away. She was there.

MS. RADOMSKY: Yes, we may have Administrator Pines --

MS. WRIGHT: Oh, where'd I go?

MS. RADOMSKY: Okay.

MS. WRIGHT: I was just there.

MS. RADOMSKY: Thanks, Jada.

MR. GONTRUM: Will Pines.

MS. WRIGHT: Hello. Will Pines will speak to this.

MR. GONTRUM: I don't see Administrator Pines.

MS. RADOMSKY: Okay. She's here though.

MS. WRIGHT: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Okay. It sounds like she has a delay.

TREASURER DAVIS: Delay.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Okay. I wonder why that is. That's interesting.

(Pause.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: We can see you, but we can't hear you.

TREASURER DAVIS: This is going really well.

(Laughter.)

MS. RADOMSKY: I can cover it. I was just --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Technology.

MS. RADOMSKY: -- wanting her to give more -- to give all of

the details of how we do --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Muted?

MS. RADOMSKY: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: It doesn't look like she's muted on her --

GOVERNOR MOORE: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- screen. Just looks like --

GOVERNOR MOORE: (Indiscernible).

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- maybe her microphone is not --

MS. RADOMSKY: Right.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- set up properly.

MS. RADOMSKY: It may be. I am very sorry about that.

MS. WRIGHT: I apologize. Can you hear me?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Oh, yes. That's fine. We can hear you.

MS. WRIGHT: So technical difficulties, I apologize. My webcam is not synced with my microphone for whatever reason.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yeah.

MS. WRIGHT: But Jada Wright, Procurement Director for the Maryland State Highway Administration. Good morning, Mr. Governor, Mr. Treasurer, Madam Comptroller. To speak to our -- the difference in MBE goals, we look at the -- our Procurement Review Group looks at the available subcontractors in each area. So in this case, there were different -- a different set of available subcontractors for Howard County versus Baltimore and Harford Counties. I do not have the numbers in front of me, but I can get those to you --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Is it --

MS. WRIGHT: -- for your further review.

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COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Is it possible to -- I guess I'm just curious. All of these counties are right next to each other.

MS. WRIGHT: Yes.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: So why is it that you can't count somebody who's performing work in Baltimore County as also being willing to perform work in Howard County? Why would those change? Why would it be different?

MS. WRIGHT: So it also depends on where the subcontractors list themselves as available for work. So it may --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Right.

MS. WRIGHT: -- so looking at the contract for Howard County, we had two available MBEs for the protection vehicle and six for maintenance of traffic. I apologize. So, and then looking at the available subs for Baltimore and Harford counties, we had 11 available MBEs for the protection vehicle -- I'm sorry, 11 for maintenance of traffic, and 3 for the protection vehicle, and 23 for materials and repairs. So there were slightly different numbers for each contract and that's what figured. We go directly to the MBE database, regarding who is certified in those areas.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Right. Thanks. So is it possible for you to reach out to MBEs who are working in these spaces? I mean, given SHA's challenges in meeting MBE goals on some of these small projects, since it's not actually about how much of the work can be subcontracted and instead you're setting these different amounts based on the number of MBEs available geographically --

MS. WRIGHT: Yes.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- can you reach out to these MBEs and ask if they can change -- if they would be interested in changing the

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geographical limitations that they put on their work, so that somebody from Baltimore County could be considered to work in Howard County? I mean, is that --

MS. WRIGHT: Yes.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- something that you all are able to do, and would you do it?

MS. WRIGHT: Yes, we can absolutely do that. We can absolutely look at adjoining districts rather than just strictly the district of the work is being performed in.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Great. Thank you. Yeah, I mean, if it's -- you know it's one issue if there's only 6 percent of the work can be subcontracted out. But if you can hit up to here, 16 percent of the work can be subcontracted out and it's the same type of work and it's -- the only barrier is that certain MBEs have limited themselves or your geographic limitations that you're looking on. That seems like a fixable problem, like, pretty easily. So just wanted to plug that in, as I looked at this, so --

MS. WRIGHT: Yes, we will definitely do that for Procurement Review Groups going forward.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you.

MS. WRIGHT: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Great.

That's it for me.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you.

Any other discussion on the MDOT Agenda? Okay. May I have a motion to approve the MDOT Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the MDOT Agenda.

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GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Great, thank you so much.

Thanks, Ms. Radomsky.

MS. RADOMSKY: Yeah.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. We will conclude with the DGS Agenda.

Secretary Chaudhry, good morning.

MR. CHAUDHRY: Morning, sir. Mr. Governor, Madam Comptroller, and Mr. Treasurer, for the record, I'm the Atif Chaudhry, Secretary of the Department of General Services. Today, the Department is presenting 36 items on our agenda. We will be withdrawing two items. One is 12-S and the other one is 27-EX.

Our agenda does feature over \$14.3 million in capital grants and loans. I just wanted to highlight one in particular, Item 3-CGL from the Department of Health. Which is \$2.8 million in State support to Community Support Services, Inc. for the renovation of a property in Montgomery County that will provide community and supportive living services for individuals with severe developmental disabilities. Services include day habilitation, assistive technology, career development services, self-advocacy, professional and therapeutic services, and housing support services.

As we continue to keep an eye on our participation in contracts for agendas, we have 13 contract awards for certified minority businesses totaling more than \$42 million on our agenda today. And we have agency representatives here to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. And I do want to highlight the work and the progress that's been done around MBE and inclusion

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for MBE, WBE and VBE. It's spectacular what we're seeing, so well done.

I also want to call up Item 2-CGL, the \$10 million capital grant towards the Downtown Partnership in Baltimore. And that's to support various projects. The First Lady and I had the opportunity to attend Downtown Partnership's event, I believe it was last Thursday, and to see the level of momentum and excitement that's happening around what's being -- that's taking place in Downtown to include the work and the progress here on Harborplace. It's tangible, and it matters because I think -- you know, one thing that we've known is that for the state's largest city and the relationship between that state -- for it to be strong is imperative. That in order to have a thriving state, you need the state's largest city to thrive. In order to have a thriving city, you need to have the state involved and engaged.

And I think it's this kind of work that we're seeing here with 2-CGL that I think really helps to harmonize that and push that together. And as we say oftentimes, that this is going to be Maryland's decade. And in order for it to happen, it's got to be Baltimore's time. And I think our dear friend, Shelonda Stokes, added the addendum. And she said, "But for it to be Baltimore's time, it's got to be Downtown's moment." And I think how we're seeing the evolution and the progress of Downtown and how it's not just restricted to Downtown, but then it also shows itself all throughout the city, I think is incredibly important.

And I know today we're joined virtually by Maria Evora, who's the COO of Downtown Partnership in Baltimore to offer some comments.

Madam COO, good morning.

MS. EVORA: Good morning, Governor Moore, Madam Comptroller, and Treasurer Davis. Thank you very much for the opportunity to really reiterate our gratitude for your confidence in Downtown Partnership of Baltimore by designating the \$10 million in public funding for us to be able to

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enhance our efforts in quality of life, public safety, and capital improvements throughout the Baltimore City Central Business District and the 106 blocks that we service very proudly for the citizens of Baltimore.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Evora. And thank you for your leadership.

MS. EVORA: Oh --

GOVERNOR MOORE: Oh, go on. I'm sorry.

MS. EVORA: Sure. Governor Moore, you said it best. This is Maryland's decade and Baltimore's time. And as you know, Shelonda Stokes and Downtown Partnership believe that this is Downtown's actual moment. And for over 40 years, it's been our mission to promote, advance, and stimulate the economic health, and vitality of Downtown. And with the approval of these essential funds, we intend to further deliver on that mission at the time of increased focus and momentum for Downtown Baltimore. The heart of our city's businesses, tourism, entertainment sector, and increasingly where tens of thousands of new residents choose to call home.

So it is our intention to put this grant funding to great use, further investing our State of good repair initiatives, graffiti removal, repair sidewalks, fountains, beautification of parks, plazas, and green spaces, and eliminating blight. At the same time, it will enable us to fulfill the vital services we provide to increase safety and security. Downtown Baltimore is a place where Baltimoreans, neighboring county residents, and visitors from near and far feel safe and welcome. So as our essential Downtown Business District and surrounding neighbors thrive, so too does Baltimore City along with it. So does the State of Maryland.

We could not be more grateful to you -- Governor Moore, Comptroller Lierman, Treasurer Davis, for your support for Downtown

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Baltimore's mission and impact. You could be assured of our commitment to being your partner and a faithful steward of those funds. Recognizing the budget constraints you are dealing with, it is our intention, with your support, to realize the full potential of all that Downtown Baltimore represents for the benefit of Baltimore City residents and visitors near and far. Thank you very much for this opportunity.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. Thank you. And thank you for -- thank you for the leadership and for the vision because this work is going to continue not just making the city better, but also the State. So we really appreciate it. And please, by the way, give our best, give our best to Shelonda as well and to the entire team.

MS. EVORA: Will do. Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. Thank you.

TREASURER DAVIS: It comes after like, decade moment, period.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yes, it's (indiscernible).

TREASURER DAVIS: I can delineate --

GOVERNOR MOORE: (Indiscernible).

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: This is my second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: It's a good question. We'll have an answer by the next BPW.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yes.

TREASURER DAVIS: I appreciate it. I was just trying to figure out what came next.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: We also have the pleasure of being joined

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here by a few of our colleagues speaking in support of the submission. I see Delegate Ric Metzgar over here and speaking on Item 26-CGL (sic).

And so Delegate, good morning and it's good to see you.

DELEGATE METZGAR: Where do I stand?

GOVERNOR MOORE: Oh, right over there, sir.

DELEGATE METZGAR: I just want to follow instructions.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: That's not the (indiscernible).

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: And maybe as the Delegate approaches, I'll just note in terms of the 2-CGL that one of the things in this project is they're going to be working to beautify downtown bus stops, metro stations, and streets. And of course, we'll need MTA's support for that. And so I'm hopeful that in the new CTP, there will also be work to make sure that MTA is working with Downtown Partnership to make sure that these funds are used to their best and furthest enhancement.

So Delegate, good to see you.

DELEGATE METZGAR: Well, good morning.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Good morning.

DELEGATE METZGAR: Governor Moore, it's a privilege. Good morning Madam Comptroller, and good morning Treasurer Davis. I have to tell you, it's a real honor to speak before you today.

In 1968, the Essex & Middle River Heritage Museum came to being. And ever since then, we took an old firehouse and we've developed it into a state-of-the-art museum with history with Essex and Middle River. Lennon Martin Company being one. King Syrup being another. Just some great things. But since 1968, we've never come to the Board of Public Works and asked for a

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dollar. So I think that's a volume in itself, but I want to speak on this because it's so very important that we kind of upgrade the heating system and things around the museum.

So any questions I can answer?

GOVERNOR MOORE: No, we really appreciate it. And just for reference, it's -- what item? 36-CGL is \$62,000 for the Heritage Society of Essex and Middle River and for the improvements.

DELEGATE METZGAR: For the record, my historian, Paul Blitz, is with us. He's been the historian for -- since 1985, so.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Wonderful.

DELEGATE METZGAR: Yeah, thank you so kindly.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Bless you. Thank you so much.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Great to see you. And thank you --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yep.

GOVERNOR MOORE: -- for this work.

DELEGATE METZGAR: I think I was one of those votes for that bill she was talking about for the housing.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Yes.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yeah.

GOVERNOR MOORE: That's right. That's right. That's right.

DELEGATE METZGAR: I just wanted to bring it to your attention.

GOVERNOR MOORE: From Dundalk to Dorchester.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yeah.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thanks, Delegate.

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And also, we have also our friend, W. Greg Wims, who's here. Good morning. It's good to see you, Delegate. Speaking on support of Item 4-CGL, which is the Department of Health to grant Cornerstone Montgomery for the renovation of the Grantee's Facilities.

So Delegate, good morning and it's great to see you.

DELEGATE WIMS: Good morning, Governor, Madam Comptroller, and Treasurer Davis. I'm just going to take a few seconds to just say thank you for what you've just provided for our citizens who have mental health issues. You've approved funding for three houses in Montgomery County and Germantown in District 39. On behalf of the Senator and the other Delegates, we want to say thank you.

But the reason why I came down is because 24 years ago, I volunteered when I was with the Rotary Club at what was called the St. Luke's House. It's now Cornerstone. It's grown. And I can tell you firsthand, those residents that you're helping today with the housing, if they weren't there, they would have to be institutionalized probably in the hospital. So on their behalf, we want to say thank you. And we'll also say the great community of Germantown in 39, you see the three different houses throughout the area. We are a welcoming community. In some communities, they say, "Not in my backyard." We all know about that. In Germantown, we say, "Yes, you're welcome."

So thank you very much for those donations to help those who need it most. God bless all of you.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you, Delegate.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Love that, love that. God bless you too. Great. Thanks, Delegate. Thank you.

Is there any further discussion on the DGS Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

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GOVERNOR MOORE: May I have a motion to approve the DGS  
Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the DGS  
Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Thank you so much.  
Thanks, Mr. Secretary.

This concludes the meeting of the Board of Public Works. Next  
time we'll see you all it will be the day before Halloween, October 30th. So have  
a great week, everybody.

(Whereupon, at 10:40 a.m., the meeting was concluded.)