
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

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

July 16, 2025
10:08 a.m.

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.

(Chorus of Good Morning.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: Good morning and welcome to today's live edition of the Board of Public Works. We will begin with the business of the day.

Mr. Secretary, good morning. It's good to see you.

MR. GONTRUM: Good morning, Governor. Good to see you Mr. Treasurer, Madam Comptroller. There are 20 items on the Secretary's Agenda this morning. I am happy to assist with answering any questions.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you so much. Is there any -- Madam Comptroller, is there discussion on the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Sure. I just had a couple items I wanted to note, if that's okay.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Always.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Okay. I just wanted to note first Item 11 and 12. These are comprehensive flood management grants. You know, and I think it's worth that the Department of the Environment is bringing -- these are grant funds. This is grant funding to local governments to support projects intended to mitigate flood risks. And I just wanted to, you know, take a moment.

I think we all have watched what's happened in Texas over the past couple of weeks. As a former Texas resident for a few years who lived in the Guadalupe, it's been devastating -- absolutely devastating and terrifying to watch what happened there. And I think just we are not immune in Maryland to the type of flooding that we saw happen there, and the warning signs remain and they're

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close to home.

I think just in the past week, officials in Howard County ordered the shutdown of Main Street in Historic Ellicott City not once but twice, as a result of significant rain producing events. They're doing yeoman's work in Howard County. And I recently had the pleasure of visiting Stillmeadow Community Fellowship along Frederick Avenue in Baltimore City, which is an area that's been historically affected by flooding. And so I can share personally how crucial the grant in Item 12 is to install these high-water warning systems.

These are the systems that save lives, and it's important that we understand how -- that we do have to continue to dedicate funding to this work. You see what happens when we don't, unfortunately. So I think these items just serve as stark reminders of the cost and importance of taking a full account of climate extremes in the design and construction of our infrastructure, and ensuring that we have adequate warning systems for people in the future is essential. So thank you, Governor.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you so much for that.

Is there any further discussion for the Secretary's Agenda? May I have a motion to approve the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Can I say one other thing?

GOVERNOR MOORE: Of course.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Sorry.

On Items 18 and 19, I did just want to note these are requests to award new grant funding to nonprofit organizations in Howard County and Baltimore City, as required by the operating budget that was approved by the General Assembly. Approval of these operating budget grants is nothing new to the Board's responsibilities. Organizations like the Maryland Zoo and the Historic Annapolis Foundation, have received approval for 20 and 30 years,

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respectively.

But I do want to note that within the last few years, I've noticed an increase in the number of new operating budget grants to nonprofit organizations. My staff informs me that between FY'25 and FY'26 to date, the Board has approved 16 new operating budget grants. Given this increase, I do want to ensure that there's proper oversight of these funds and perhaps even a public application process so that all nonprofits in the State have an opportunity, and that nonprofits who do receive these dollars are set up to succeed. That we are not -- that we are being good stewards of taxpayer dollars as well. So I look forward to discussing further options with, on operating dollar grants with Executive Secretary Gontrum, with our presiding officers, and colleagues on the Board.

So I just wanted to make a quick note about that. Thank you, Governor.

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

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

GOVERNOR MOORE: Is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Thank you so much.

We'll proceed with the Department of Natural Resources. Secretary Kurtz, good morning.

MR. KURTZ: Good morning, Governor, Madam Comptroller, Mr. Treasurer. For the record, Josh Kurtz, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. The Department has nine items on the agenda for your consideration today. I did want to flag Item 4, which is the Forest Rural Legacy Easement in the Bishop-Showell Rural Legacy Area, which was created by Board action

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earlier -- in the previous fiscal year. I'm happy to take any questions you may have and I have staff here as well.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Where's Eric Luedtke?

(Laughter.)

MR. KURTZ: He's at 580 Taylor Avenue.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: Right answer is working, working hard.

(Laughter.)

MR. KURTZ: You're in the building, you're working hard.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: There are capital projects.

MR. KURTZ: Yep, yep. I look forward to bringing many of those projects to you all.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yes, I know. We're so excited. I'm so thrilled for him and congratulations to you.

MR. KURTZ: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: A great colleague in the House and it's great news. So I'm sorry.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Is there any other discussion on the DNR Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

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

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the DNR Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Okay. Is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Yes, please go make sure

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that Eric is (indiscernible).

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thanks, Mr. Secretary.

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

MR. HICKEY: Good morning, Governor, Mr. Treasurer, Madam Comptroller.

GOVERNOR MOORE: I love your suit, man.

MR. HICKEY: Thank you. It's the only thing I can wear this time of year.

GOVERNOR MOORE: I love it. Love it.

MR. HICKEY: Thank you. Madam Comptroller -- good morning, everyone. Tom Hickey representing the University System of Maryland. There are three items for your consideration, and I'm happy to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you so much. Is there any discussion on the USM Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

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

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the USM Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

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

MR. HICKEY: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you.

We'll proceed with the MDOT Agenda. Ms. Radomsky, good

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morning.

MS. RADOMSKY: Good morning, Governor, Madam
Comptroller, Mr. Treasurer.

TREASURER DAVIS: This is usually where it breaks down.

(Laughter.)

TREASURER DAVIS: Let's see what happens.

MS. RADOMSKY: I'll try to keep it going.

(Laughter.)

MS. RADOMSKY: For the record, my name is Valerie
Radomsky, Chief Procurement Officer for the Department of Transportation.
Today we are presenting 13 agenda items for your consideration and withdrawing
Item 3-GM.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Wonderful. Thank you so much.

And Ms. Radomsky, I hope it's okay. I just wanted to take a
moment to pay tribute to one of yours and our colleagues, Mr. Thornton, who's
been the Director of Procurement at the Maryland Port Administration, who is
retiring after a 39-year career in public service to the state of Maryland.

This is -- it's really extraordinary because when you think about
that level of commitment to the people of this state, that level of commitment to
excellence, and that measure of commitment to just making sure that we have an
economic system -- a procurement system -- that works and sees everybody, you
know, it's just very obvious to everybody that your fingerprints are just really all
over so much of the good work that is taking place throughout the Department.

After a seven-year law practice over in Salisbury, Mr. Thornton
started his career with the State of Maryland in 1986. He served as an Assistant
Attorney General for the Department of General Services providing advice and
representation to procurement, construction law, real estate, and so much more.

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He has represented the State of Maryland in over 80 cases before the Maryland State Board of Contract Appeals during his tenure. And since 2005, Mr. Thornton has overseen the Maryland Port Administration's procurement of contracts for services and commodities, maintenance, and other agreements that are supporting the entire public marine terminals throughout our remarkable and nation-leading Port of Baltimore. And throughout his 39 years of public service, Mr. Thornton has made an enormous contribution to procurement reform and also innovation. And we really do owe you a sincere debt of gratitude for the commitment that you continue to make to the people of this State.

Mr. Thornton, you really do exemplify what it means to lead through service. And especially at a time when we know how important it is that we have our state's best, who are willing to raise their hand and serve. That how important it is that we have our state's best, who are willing to say that the people of this state are worth fighting for. How important it is to know that in this time where oftentimes you see public service being diminished, public service being minimized, that we know that it's actually service that will save us. And your service has truly saved us and led us to a better and a higher place. And so we wish you nothing but the best on 39 years of service.

I'm like 39 is like -- I'm like, "Almost 40. You're almost there with a round number."

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: But we wish you absolutely nothing but the best in retirement. And so both for myself, the Comptroller, and also the Treasurer, we will be honored to actually have you come up because I'd love to be able to present you a Governor's citation in celebration of your service.

(Applause.)

MALE VOICE: Oh actually, he's coming to you.

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(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: After 39 years, we can go to him. Right up here -- and he's got the Maryland tie.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yeah.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you so much.

MR. THORNTON: Thank you, sir.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Congratulations.

MR. THORNTON: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you for your service.

GOVERNOR MOORE: So it reads, "Be it known that on behalf of the citizens of the state, in recognition of your nearly 40 years of dedicated service to the State of Maryland, in honor of the high level of professionalism and expertise you have demonstrated throughout your distinguished career as the people of Maryland join in expressing our deep respect, gratitude, and sincere best wishes on the occasion of your retirement. We are pleased to confer upon you this Governor's Citation. Signed Secretary of State Susan Lee, Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller, and Governor Wes Moore."

Congratulations.

(Applause.)

(A citation was presented and photographs were taken.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you so much, Ms. Radomsky, for letting us do that.

MS. RADOMSKY: Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Is there any other discussion on the MDOT Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: I have a couple.

Thank you, Mr. Governor.

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First, I would like to offer a special congratulations to Secretary Wiedefeld on maintaining his streak of successfully avoiding Board of Public Works meetings.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: For his entire tenure as the Secretary of Transportation.

TREASURER DAVIS: That sounds like something I would say.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: So wherever he is right now, he owes you one Valerie. But God's speed to him.

GOVERNOR MOORE: He's still got -- actually, he's got one more Board of Public Works. I think we have a new mission for Secretary Wiedefeld.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yeah.

And also, I want to note that there are six requests from SHA to award contracts for a variety of maintenance-related services. And, Ms. Radomsky, you know well my previous commentary and advocacy around the importance of identifying opportunities for participation by minority business enterprises on maintenance contracts, particularly those conducted by SHA. And I'm really pleased to see that of these six items, four include a MBE participation goal. And I think that is -- I know that is the highest that we have ever seen in my tenure here. So I do appreciate the Agency taking that feedback and turning it into action. Thank you.

Thank you Governor.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Of course, thank you so much.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Could you also -- sorry. Could you also please keep us updated on the appeal that is pending for the MAA issue

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as well? I understand that it is going to be happening this month, maybe this week.

MS. RADOMSKY: Yes.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: So we would be -- I would be curious in understanding the outcome, given my chagrin of approving contracts that are on appeal. Thank you.

MS. RADOMSKY: Absolutely, Madam Comptroller. The hearing is scheduled for July 23rd.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: The 23rd, okay.

MS. RADOMSKY: So as soon as we get a decision --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Great. Thank you.

MS. RADOMSKY: -- we will absolutely let you know.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you so much.

May I have a motion to approve the MDOT Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the MDOT Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And may I have a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Beautiful. Thanks so much. Thank you so much, Ms. Radomsky.

We will conclude with the DGS Agenda. Secretary Chaudhry, good morning.

MR. CHAUDHRY: Good morning, sir, Mr. Governor, Madam Comptroller, Mr. Treasurer. For the record, I'm Atif Chaudhry, Secretary of the Maryland Department of General Services. Today the Department is presenting 38 items in our agenda. We will be withdrawing two items today, that is Items 34-IT and 38-IT.

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Our agenda does feature ten capital grants and loans totaling more than \$30 million. I did want to highlight Items 6 through 9, Items 6-CGL through 9-CGL, which provides more than \$20 million in State support to several community colleges including the Community College of Baltimore County's Catonsville and Essex campuses, Anne Arundel Community College, Montgomery County's Rockville Campus as well. These State funds will provide critical infrastructure upgrades to these campuses including building renovations, electrical system upgrades, as well as library renovations.

As we continue to keep an eye on minority business participation in our contracting, we have six contract awards and modifications totaling more than \$7 million awarded to certified minority businesses across the State. And we have agency representatives here to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR MOORE: This is great. Good work. Thank you so much.

I would actually love to take a moment to highlight Item 35-CGL. And that is the \$7.5 million grant to Frederick County. And that's to support the construction of the very exciting new Downtown Frederick Hotel and Conference Center. You know, I remember even when just campaigning for governor, just hearing the unified support from every member. Not just the Frederick Delegation, but also just everyday citizens on the excitement about this project. The excitement that have been working on for years. The concerted effort that's been taking place from leadership all throughout Frederick County to make it happen. And we are thrilled to see to see this item onboard.

This development, which is really adjacent to Carroll Creek Park for those who have been up there, will include over 200 upscale hotel rooms including drink and food venues. It will include nearly 22,000 square feet of ballroom and flexible conference space. It will have a 250-space parking garage.

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It will have a fully renovated old trolley building, which we're happy to be there to see the first whack at it as it started to come down to get fully revitalized. And it's all designed to focus on and support the economic growth that we're seeing all throughout Frederick County.

Frederick County really is one of the true economic engines and one of the true cultural engines of the entire state. And seeing this kind of development here, it's long overdue and long necessary. And we are thrilled to see this work come to fruition. You know, when we had a chance to hear from people about why this was so important in addition to being something that's going to be just an outstanding site inside the area, we are talking about a project that is going to generate over 200 full-time jobs and will generate over \$1.5 billion for our economy over the next two decades.

Our economy needs growth, and that means that growth needs investments. And so despite the plans being made before we took office and despite previous funding shortfalls that caused setbacks and nearly prevented the hotel and conference center from coming to fruition, we are thrilled that in this moment we are getting this thing done. And so we're really grateful to see the construction beginning as soon as humanly possible. And in that spirit, we've committed a capital grant funding as part of our Fiscal Year 2025 budget proposal, along with an additional \$7.5 million in Fiscal Year '26 as part of our targeted growth investments.

In doing so, we will leverage over \$65 million in private investments and also \$21 million in support from Frederick County and also the City. Putting this landmark project back on track, where one day soon we will all be able to stay in the hotel and enjoy shows, and making sure that all people, not just in the state of Maryland, but throughout the entire region will be able to benefit from that as well. I am excited that today is here. I'm grateful that today

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is here. And it also is really about how we're starting an entire new chapter about Maryland's story about economic growth because that is the way that Maryland wins this decade.

As we've said before, you will never cut nor tax your way to prosperity. It has to be growth. And that is what we're looking to foster here. Later on in the afternoon -- the afternoon when we were there, I signed an executive order to strengthen Maryland's business climate and bolster Maryland's economic competitiveness. It was there in Frederick that we really set forward a plan to be able to set the framework for how we're thinking about as a state permit reform, how we're thinking about economic partnerships, how we're thinking about targeted investments, how we're thinking about regulatory reform.

Making it easier for businesses to choose Maryland. Making it easier for businesses to stay in Maryland. Making it easier for entrepreneurs to be able to get the capital that they need and also the supports that they need so that they can be the next page in the next chapter of Maryland's great economic growth story. And that day that we sent a very clear message, while sitting together in Frederick, that Maryland was going to be unapologetically pro-growth.

That Maryland was going to be unapologetically pro-economic advancement. That Maryland was going to make it easier for businesses to grow, and that Maryland's finances are going to help lead the way for everything else that we're hoping to get done within the State of Maryland. That we refuse to be here and just simply manage the client. That's not why anyone has gotten to this point. This is not about managing a client, this is about creating real measurements of economic growth. And as the home of leading-edge manufacturers and biotech innovators, Frederick remains a centerpiece of this State's economic growth strategy.

And projects, like the Downtown Frederick Hotel, demonstrate

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what happens when state and local governments, state and local leadership, the private sector, the nonprofit sector, and community members actually work together and focus on making sure that we can have private sector growth that is going to help to drive our economy for years to come.

And I just looked over and saw our friend, Mayor O'Connor, who -- let's be clear. We would not be here, if it were not for your leadership and for your consistent push. I remember literally from our first conversation I asked, "What's your priority and what things are you focusing on?" And literally, I think one of the first things out of your mouth was the Downtown Hotel and Convention Center. We are thrilled to have you here this morning. And we are grateful because your leadership was indispensable in making today happen.

So Mr. Mayor, we'd love to be able to call you up to make a few comments.

MAYOR O'CONNOR: Thank you, Governor, Comptroller, Treasurer. If you're excited, I'm not sure that there's a word to describe how we feel in the City of Frederick right now.

(Laughter.)

MAYOR O'CONNOR: Thank you for the opportunity to speak here today. First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to you, Governor. That first meeting was an opportunity to lay out a vision that we could see from that moment was shared between us and the Moore-Miller Administration. Comptroller Lierman, Treasurer Davis, all of you have been highly supportive of this project. Your leadership continues to show that investing in people and in places are what will power Maryland's future.

I want to thank our County Executive Jessica Fitzwater, who can't be here today. She is represented by Pat Murray with her staff. Our State delegation, which has been strongly supportive of this project in the City of

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Frederick for about 15 years now that we've been working on it. Deputy Chief of Staff Manny Welsh, who's been a great partner with us as we've move through this process, for their continued support and prioritization of this project. I want to thank the Secretary of Housing and Community Development Jake Day. He has supported a partnership with this project, helping us to hit milestones. There's \$2 million of demolition funding from DHCD that is in this project to keep it moving forward.

This vote by the Board of Public Works today is something that has been a long time coming. And for some of us, we weren't sure that it was ever really possible. It seemed like this mirage out on the horizon. We felt like we had a vision of where we wanted to go. And for a variety of reasons, it's taken a while to get here, but it is testament to a lot of perseverance that's necessary to get any important project through.

The Downtown Hotel and Conference Center has been a project priority for the city, for the county, and for the state. And while previous administrations did, in fact, fund pieces of this project, for whatever reason, that funding never came before the Board to be released. And that has changed with this Administration, and we are enormously grateful for that.

The project is a prime example of Frederick's, and we believe Maryland's -- and you've said it as well, Governor -- long-term economic strategy. It represents hundreds of jobs, millions of dollars in new tax revenue, an opportunity to compete for conferences and tourism dollars that we currently lose to other jurisdictions around the region. But more than that, it is a demonstration of what a public-private partnership can achieve when state and local governments work hand in hand.

I couldn't do it without my staff. My Director of Economic Development is here, along with members of my staff and our State Advocacy

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Team, which worked very hard to get us to this point. But the most important partner in this project is the private sector because they are the ones putting up the overwhelming lion's share of the funding to make this project a reality. And that's Plamondon Hospitality Partners. And Pete Plamondon and his son, Jeff, are here with us today. And if I can't believe that we're here today doing this, I can tell you they really can't believe that we are here doing this today. It's been a lot of twists and turns, but I thank them for their continued belief in this project and their commitment to Frederick.

State investments and projects like this in our community signal that all parts of Maryland matter, that our shared economic growth story is one that we all have to believe and invest in. That a city like Frederick steeped in history, rich in culture, brimming with opportunity deserves and is receiving the tools necessary to compete and thrive as an important statement by the State of Maryland, by this Administration.

So on behalf of our residents, our business community, and generations of leaders who have worked to keep this vision alive, thank you. Your decision today fuels a future for the State's fastest growing city, one that I am enormously proud to lead and to serve. We're proud to be your partners in the City of Frederick. Thank you so much.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you Mr. Mayor.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. And we are proud to be your partner. First, let's say -- I'm going to echo your statements and congratulations to the County Executive. Please pass it on to the County Executive, we all know (indiscernible) leadership as well.

But also to your point, to every member of society that helped make this happen, thank you for the belief. Thank you for the belief that today

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was going to come. We are really looking forward to all the next steps. And frankly, today is not just a great day for Frederick, for both the city and the county. Today's a great day for the State of Maryland. So congratulations and thank you so much.

MAYOR O'CONNOR: Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you for being here as well.

I would also like to -- (indiscernible).

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: (indiscernible) Thank you,
Governor.

And thank you, Mr. Mayor, so much for being here today. You've been an extraordinary leader in Frederick, and this project is one of many that shows the work that you've done. When I think of this project, I just think, "Better late than never." As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I was proud to have consistently voted to fund this project alongside former Delegate Carol Krimm, former Delegate, now Senator Karen Lewis Young, and so many others. Former County Executive Jan Gardner used to -- you know, came down every year.

And I'm so sorry. This shouldn't have been this hard, right? Projects like this that promise a truly transformative effect on a local economy should be easy wins for local and state government to form partnerships on. But I'm extremely grateful that both our local government and our private partners persisted, and that we were able today to make this happen. And I look forward to staying there in the coming years.

So thank you so much and congratulations.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Any remarks?

TREASURER DAVIS: Yeah, I like it too.

(Laughter.)

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GOVERNOR MOORE: He's going to be your first tourist, your first visitor for the night.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: All right. Lastly I'd like to call up Item 26-GM, which is a request from the Department of Natural Resources to award a \$1.8 million contract to the Chesapeake Appreciation and Oyster Recovery Partnership for the oyster restoration in Nanticoke River, which is an oyster sanctuary that is in Dorchester County.

I have the honor right now of serving as chair of the Chesapeake Bay Executive Council and working with other governors in the region and also outside in other jurisdictions with a core vision and a core mission of making sure that we are setting a clear direction for how we're thinking about the restoration and the protection of the Chesapeake Bay. Which, as I've said before, is truly one of the great heirlooms that all of us have. It's something that we did not create. It is something we inherited, and it's something we have a solemn obligation to make sure that we are protecting.

That in 2014, the State of Maryland committed to restoring oyster populations in the Chesapeake Bay. And this strategy has resulted in more than five billion oysters planted on nearly 1,100 acres of restored oyster reefs. So to put that simply, oyster restoration works. That the data is very clear about its importance. And that oysters filter -- it helps to filter harmful pollutants from the bay's water. And oyster reefs provide a critical habitat for Maryland's iconic underwater (sic) species.

And the thing that I wanted to be able to highlight today is that despite the progress that's been made thus far, we are very clearly not finished about the work that we're going to be doing. But Item 26 on the DGS Agenda, that will allow us to plant 414 more spat-on-shells and 151 acres of reef bottom in

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the Nanticoke River. And the Nanticoke will then become our sixth targeted river for large scale restoration.

And I just want to take a moment to thank the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Secretary, thank you to your entire team for this dedicated work and this dedicated effort. And also, frankly, the partnership that we are seeing all throughout our State. And I also want to take a moment here to welcome and to say thank you to Paul Schurick, who's here with us today. Paul, thank you so much for all the leadership and everything you do and show. Again, another thing. We cannot be here, if it were for your work and for your leadership on this. Paul and the Oyster Recovery Partnership have just been true, true leaders and visionaries in terms of making this work happen. And people who we're going to be leaning on and relying on for the continued progress that we were going to see all throughout.

With that, is there any other discussion item for the DGS Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there -- do I have a motion to approve the DGS Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the DGS Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

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

MR. CHAUDHRY: Thank you, sir.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. That concludes today's Board of Public Works meeting. We'll be back here on August 6th. Thank you all. Meeting adjourned everybody.

(Whereupon, at 10:38 a.m., the meeting was concluded.)

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