



2015 Annual Report



A Message from Governor Larry Hogan



Dear Friends:

I am truly humbled and deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as the 62nd governor of the great state of Maryland. Now is the time for a new direction for our state, guided by simple, common sense principles. Our administration will focus on creating jobs, helping struggling Maryland families, and restoring our state's economy.

I invite you to read about the accomplishments of the Maryland Department of Planning in this 2015 Annual Report. Our administration has challenged every cabinet secretary to support economic development and make their agency a voice of the people. As public servants, it is our duty to hold ourselves to a higher level of customer service and engagement, and we should work every day to improve the lives of each and every citizen in our state. Planning has done an excellent job of working with local municipalities, counties, and other entities while respecting local authority.

As outlined in this report, you can find the highlights of Planning for 2015. In the past year, we have launched a new strategic plan, refocusing the mission of the agency to expand its assistance to local partners and support the business climate of Maryland, while continuing to protect our natural, agricultural, and historic resources.

Planning continues to be a tireless advocate for Maryland cities, towns, and communities, recognizing them as vibrant places to live, work, play, and learn. Our natural, cultural, and historic resources are catalysts that strengthen and renew economic and community development. I am confident that Planning's actions will help us change Maryland for the better, and with your continued support we will make Maryland the best place in America to work, raise a family, and start a business.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Hogan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" and last name "Hogan" clearly distinguishable.

Larry Hogan
Governor



Message from the Secretary

This annual report presents the Maryland Department of Planning's accomplishments as we advanced the priorities of the Hogan Administration in 2015. The Maryland Department of Planning, Planning for short, is realizing the governor's mission by *supporting communities, preserving resources, enriching lives and changing Maryland for the better.*



Governor Hogan has charged his administration to focus our service to the state in five key areas: to strengthen the economy and create a business-friendly environment; to reduce the burden of fees; to operate in a fiscally responsible manner; to make reforms where necessary; and to improve the quality of life enjoyed by our residents. Simply put, we want to make it easier for businesses to do business and for families to live, work and play in Maryland.

Planning is here to serve local government. Realizing that one solution does not fit all situations, we are guided by three central themes as we assist our cities, towns and communities. We keep economic development at the top of our minds. Planning always seeks flexibility in applying regulations and laws to solutions. We respect local authority for land use and growth decisions.

Planning sees Maryland cities, towns and communities as attractive, vibrant places to live. These places grow in ways that add value to the local landscape and provide opportunity to new enterprises. Our natural, cultural and historic resources are catalysts that strengthen and renew economic and community development.

This year, Planning unveiled its strategic plan that lays out our mission, our vision and our approach to serving Maryland. This plan is built upon delivering exceptional customer service and the department establishing itself as a center of planning excellence. Won't you join me in this mission so that, together, our actions will change Maryland for the better.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Craig". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David R. Craig
Secretary of Planning

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Planning participated in Governor Hogan's Day of Service where state employees volunteered their time to Maryland charitable service organizations. Planning collected clothing and personal items for Paul's Place in Baltimore's Pigtown and served lunch to the clients at the charity on three dates. Paul's Place provides programs, services and support that strengthen individuals and families, fostering hope, personal dignity and growth.



Introduction

The Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) serves the state by providing technical assistance, program guidance, data analysis and outreach to local governments. We assist state agency partners and provide timely data to the private sector and the general public. The work of the department reflects the priorities and direction of the Hogan Administration. There is a heightened focus on efficiency and collaboration while emphasizing economic development, flexibility and respect for local authority.

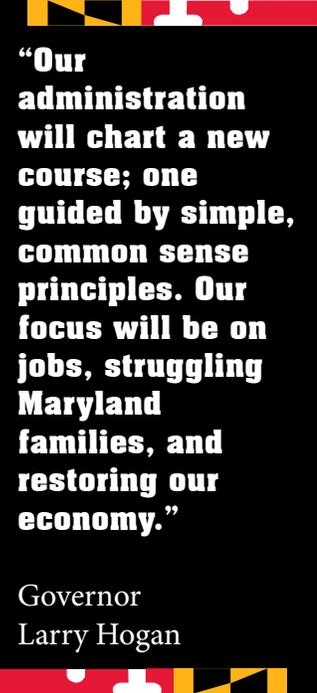
Planning serves its constituent base with 147 employees recently re-organized in four divisions: Planning Services, the State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance, Operations and the Maryland Historical Trust.

Through **Planning Services**, Planning completes more than 200 technical assistance projects for counties and municipalities in a typical year. Planning Services provides support in reviewing or drafting more than 60 comprehensive plans and/or ordinances for local governments each year. It also collects, analyzes and publishes social, economic and geographic information and maintains the digital maps of the state's 2.3 million parcels. These maps form the foundation for the development of policy and are used throughout the state by various agencies, decision makers and stakeholders.

The **State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance** ensures that proposed financial and non-financial assistance projects within Maryland are consistent with state and local laws, regulations and guidelines. The Clearinghouse annually circulates nearly 1,000 projects worth more than \$1.4 billion to state, regional and local agencies and reports on their consistency with state and local policy.

Operations is responsible for the administrative support for the department such as financial, information technology, procurement and logistics. The communications section coordinates outreach to promote the department's initiatives and services in order to develop and strengthen relationships as well as support the administration's legislative and policy initiatives. The unit also focuses on educational opportunities as part of our outreach and administers grants.

The **Maryland Historical Trust** is dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past. The Trust serves as Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and provides direct assistance to a broad base of local, state and federal stakeholders in the identification, protection and



“Our administration will chart a new course; one guided by simple, common sense principles. Our focus will be on jobs, struggling Maryland families, and restoring our economy.”

Governor
Larry Hogan



Our leadership takes many opportunities to speak to local government, community groups and professional associations letting them know that the administration and Planning stand ready to assist. Pictured here, Deputy Secretary Wendi Peters addresses the Maryland Societies of Professional Engineers and Surveyors at their joint conference.

enhancement of heritage resources. The Trust administers a variety of historic preservation grant, loan, and tax credit programs including the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit which leverages private investment in the rehabilitation of both commercial and residential historic properties. The Trust also administers and oversees operations of the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum in Calvert County, which includes the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory.

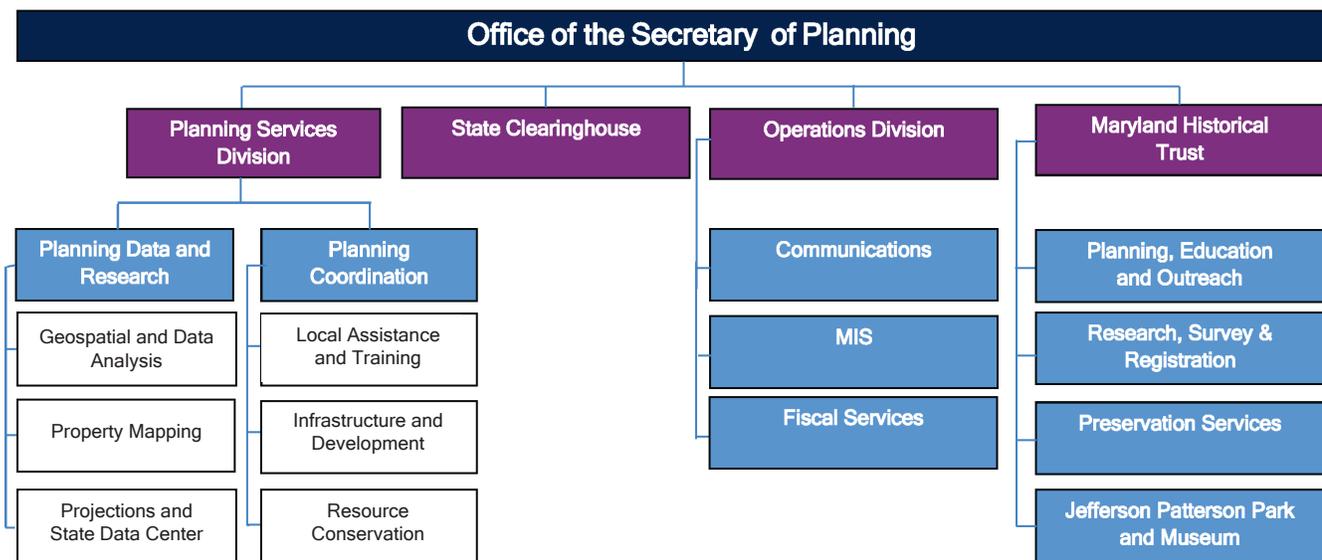
Planning sees Maryland's cities, towns and communities as attractive, vibrant places. We stand ready to assist communities in their plans to add value to their landscape and provide opportunity to their residents and other stakeholders. The natural, cultural and historic resources of our communities are catalysts that strengthen and renew economic and community development.

Local government and those they serve invest time and resources in creating a shared vision for the future of their communities. We understand that they are in the best position to achieve these local aspirations through comprehensive plans, ordinances and design implementation. There is not one solution that fits every challenge across Maryland, and Planning recognizes that successful solutions require balancing concerns of various stakeholders.

Planning also has a responsibility to provide guidance for the direction of state resources most efficiently across jurisdiction lines. In doing so, we strive with the highest professionalism and integrity to respect local desires and help each jurisdiction implement their vision and achieve their goals consistent with respect for people and place.



Maryland Department of Planning Organizational Chart



Operations

The Operations Division experienced significant changes in 2015, all with a heightened focus on achieving efficiencies through consolidation as well as providing opportunities for collaboration. This collaboration starts with the professionals within the agency and extends to our state and local partners. The Operations Division has been efficient at making the resources available for effective collaboration.

These consolidations were most notably in the area of personnel. The Assistant Secretary of Operations has replaced the former vacant positions of Director of Operations and Director of Communications. The agency also became part of the Shared Services program with the Department of Budget and Management and the Human Resources Manager and Human Resources Officer positions were transferred there. We are continuing to support the realignment efforts by balancing workload, addressing priorities and fulfilling the mission of the agency.



Planning had the privilege of mentoring young talent this summer. We hosted interns from the Governor's Summer Internship Program, the Mayor of Baltimore's YouthWorks 2015 Program and the Maryland summer intern program. The department is active in giving students opportunities to develop their professional skills while serving our constituents.

The Management Information Systems section devoted significant efforts working with the Department of Information Technology to renegotiate the Microsoft licensing package for Planning in order to trim down non-essential software programs and ensure the greatest functionality of our current systems. This resulted in savings of over \$32,000. The division also continued its review of existing maintenance contracts.



Consolidation of copy, print, fax and plotting operations was undertaken as leases were set to expire on equipment. Supply storage areas were consolidated and the mail room was expanded to accommodate an agency centralized document reproduction and transmission center. This will enable the agency to eliminate the maintenance and supply contracts for individual printers and allow us to achieve greater efficiency while reducing costs.

The Communications section developed a work plan that focuses on delivering timely, accurate and useful information to our state agency partners, local governments and other stakeholders. We continue to maintain the national Smart Growth Information Clearinghouse website to serve as point of contact for the best ideas in maximizing public investment and reducing impacts on resource areas. We have consolidated and trimmed library subscriptions saving thousands of dollars annually. We continue to work to develop and make our in-house online resources more accessible.



Planning staff provide general and specific education courses to our local partners. This includes planning commission and boards of appeal members, local planning staff and elected officials. Pictured here, David Dahlstrom and Peter Conrad of Planning conduct a training session for the Maryland Planning Commissioners Association.

Planning Services

A key part of the 2015 reorganization was to bring the former Planning Data and Analysis Division under the Planning Services Division in order to unify and better integrate the core planning functions of the agency. The newly expanded Planning Services Division now consists of two major units: 1) Planning Coordination, which houses Local Assistance and Training, Infrastructure and Development, and Resource Conservation functions; and 2) Planning Data and Research, which houses Geospatial and Data Analysis, Projections and State Data Center, and Property Mapping functions.

This allows the Planning Services Division, which undertakes the vast majority of planning-related activities within the department, to function with greater efficiency and responsiveness going forward. It will also assist the division in better aligning its activities with our strategic plan and the administration's priorities.

The following are highlights that evidence Planning Services accomplishments for 2015 consistent with our strategic goals.

“We must improve our state government’s ability to be more responsive to, and to better serve and represent all of our citizens.”

Governor
Larry Hogan



Planning’s Kristen Mitchell and Tracey Gordy listening to a municipal official’s concerns at the annual Maryland Municipal League convention.



I. Expand Technical Assistance to Local Planning Organizations and State Agency Partners

In furthering Planning's first strategic goal to *expand its technical assistance to local planning organizations and state agency partners*, the Planning Services Division focused on assisting local governments revitalize their established communities and helping address some of the difficult issues, such as blighted and foreclosed properties. Our regional planners, are trained in land use and public facility matters and serve as a liaison on local and state concerns. They are on the ground, covering all regions of the state, providing direct technical assistance to communities and our state agency partners on a daily basis.

As part of Planning's effort to assist local governments, we offered three planning commissioner training classes for all local planning leaders emphasizing how they can make a difference in shaping the future of their community. Planning staff also supported the Maryland Planning Commissioners Association (MPCA) with its annual conference. With more than 50 commissioners and local planners attending, the conference featured information on the future of drinking water, implementing solar power, cultivating community interest and preserving historic communities. As part of Planning's commitment to providing resources for local governments, we hosted four regional sessions of the Planning Directors Roundtable. Over 150 planning directors from Maryland's counties and municipalities attended these four sessions featuring presentations and discussions about rural broadband, local planning technical assistance, and the comprehensive plan review process.



The Bainbridge Development Corporation presents the plan to develop the site of the U.S. Naval Training Center at Bainbridge, MD into a vibrant mixed-use project bringing economic development opportunities and jobs to Cecil County. The plan was presented to Secretary Craig and the members of the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission.



Maryland Department of Planning Deputy Secretary Wendi Peters and Assistant Secretary Stu Sirota (pictured) met with Druid Heights Community Development Corporation Executive Director Roscoe Johnson (pictured) to discuss recent progress and challenges with neighborhood redevelopment efforts.

We provided significant technical and policy assistance to local governments implementing state laws. This assistance included preparation of a guidance document in coordination with the Maryland Association of Counties and the Maryland Municipal League to assist local governments in complying with recent changes in state law regarding comprehensive plan review. Over the past year, regional planners worked closely with communities preparing Sustainable Communities program applications, as well as managing state funded community development projects. We evaluated over 170 funding requests this year to support local Sustainable Community Action Plans. We were pleased to help communities all across the state, training new planning commissioners in Friendsville, participating on the Somerset County Long Term Recovery Committee, leading the Smith Island Visioning project, participating in a design charrette in the Town of North Beach, updating the zoning code for the Town of North East and completing maps for comprehensive plans and zoning ordinance updates for Leonardtown and Aberdeen.

In working with our state agency partners, this year Planning played a critical coordination role in transportation planning, working closely with staff from the Maryland Department of Transportation and local governments throughout the state. We were pleased to take part in planning the new *BaltimoreLink* transit plan as well as effectively ensuring that good planning practices were considered on transportation projects, such as the MD Route 28/MD Route 198 Project Study (Montgomery County) and the US Route 219 Project Study (Garrett County). These collaborations promote economic and community interests of the local jurisdictions, while also fitting into the overall statewide transportation network.



The Trail Town Program, an American Planning Association award recipient, is one of numerous projects funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission that strengthens the links between recreational trail users and local businesses.



Our collaboration with our state agency partners also included providing custom tabulation of U.S. Census information to the Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation on unemployment and poverty to support the agency's programs for jobs, veterans and youth. We also collaborated with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation and local governments to improve the quality of information available to the public.

2. Supporting State and Local Efforts to Improve Maryland's Business Climate and Economic Prosperity

Planning Services' efforts in 2015 to address the department's second goal *of supporting state and local efforts to improve Maryland's business climate and economic prosperity* covered a full spectrum of strategies from the rural areas of the state to urban centers. Our regional planners played a critical role working at the local level on economic initiatives, such as the Trail Town Program which received an American Planning Association award, and the numerous projects funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission. These projects include the Frostburg Grows Training & Research Field Station that focuses on jobs in local food production and natural resource entrepreneurship; the HART Animal Center, Phase II enables Garrett College to offer hands-on clinical training in the veterinary field; and the Hagerstown-Martinsburg MSA Manufacturing Supply Chain Study provides an in-depth analysis of the current area's supply chain for materials and components. Our regional planners have helped local governments update comprehensive plans and development regulations as part of attracting new development to their community, such as the Town of Port Deposit's effort to support the Bainbridge Mixed-Use Residential Master Plan. As part of the Maryland Scenic Byways Program regional workshops, we also advised local governments on strategies and available State resources for business district revitalization geared to heritage areas and scenic byways.

Planning heightened its focus on rural planning and economic development, including ongoing coordination with the Sustainable Growth Commission's Rural Economies Workgroup. Planning, along with other state agencies, has facilitated the investigations of four workgroup subcommittees to promote improved business opportunities for Maryland's farmers, foresters, and small town business owners. This workgroup has generated a number of specific recommendations to streamline regulations and enhance markets – in areas of integrating sediment and erosion control plans into forest management plans; standardizing the application procedure for forest harvesting across the state; and expanding the market for local wood.



“We have our beautiful Chesapeake Bay, the Port of Baltimore, and a great location in the heart of the Mid-Atlantic region. We must leverage these amazing assets to transform Maryland into a place where businesses can flourish and create more jobs and opportunities for our citizens. Starting today let me say loudly and clearly: Maryland is open for business.”

Governor
Larry Hogan



In addition, Planning Services has continued to advance many of the recommendations identified in *Reinvest Maryland: Accelerating Infill, Redevelopment & Community Revitalization* report to help communities across Maryland improve their downtowns, strengthen their economies and increase diversified housing stock. Planning Services compiled a Catalog of Technical Assistance available to jurisdictions interested in pursuing infill, redevelopment and revitalization opportunities.

We continued our coordination with other state agencies, such as the Department of Commerce and Department of Housing and Community Development on legislative initiatives with a focus on promoting economic development in the state's distressed communities. In 2015 we continued to update and maintain 28 interactive mapping applications all of which provide valuable information for promoting economic development. For example, our Transit Station Area Profile Tool provides detailed snapshots of conditions around each transit station, allowing users to explore development activity and conduct in-depth research about existing conditions around every Metro and MARC station in Maryland. The Maryland Census/American Community Survey Viewer is an interactive map that provides a common platform to view Maryland Census related data. In addition, we developed five new interactive mapping applications in 2015, including one that allows users to answer real estate questions important to government decision-making and private sector investment. All of these applications are accessible to the public and our sister agencies in a free, easy to use format. Since January 1, 2015 there have been over 8,500 downloads of our digital mapping datasets.



Supporting rural Maryland communities is a part of Planning's mission. We are pleased to provide the technical assistance and planning guidance that helps contribute to flourishing town centers, successful downtown business districts and thriving neighborhoods.



3. Preserve and Protect Natural, Agricultural and Historic Resources

Planning Services' education and coordination efforts in 2015 have continued to advance Planning's third goal to *preserve and protect natural, agricultural and historic resources*. Working with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, we developed new Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) Guidelines that will help local governments manage and enhance their systems of preserved public lands, parks and recreation facilities.

Planning Services staff developed training materials on water and sewer planning for regional planners and local planning staffs that will improve preparation of water and sewer functional plans and should reduce the time for local government approvals of plan amendments.



Secretary David R. Craig, Assistant Secretary Rob McCord and staff visit Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum in St. Leonard, Maryland. The museum comprises 560 scenic acres along the Patuxent River, more than 65 identified archaeological sites and 9,000 years of documented human occupation.

The Patuxent River Commission, staffed by Planning, has been implementing the 2015 Patuxent River Policy Plan Update by facilitating the work of the various counties to reduce stormwater pollution to the river; promote fishing, boating and other river-based tourism throughout the watershed; improve sewage spill notification and signage; and communicate the ecological and economic value of the Patuxent River to the general public and elected officials.

Following the civil unrest in Baltimore City, we assisted Baltimore City Planning staff in researching properties affected to identify high priority historic properties of concern that should be inspected and may be eligible for rehabilitation assistance. We also initiated opportunities to enhance coordination efforts on local planning initiatives in Baltimore City. This



resulted in Planning staff participation in the city's efforts to prepare for redevelopment of the Perkins Homes public housing and revitalization of the surrounding neighborhoods and community schools.

Planning staff has continued to work closely with Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Maryland Department of Agriculture administering the Rural Legacy Program and the certification of County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs. These programs enhance open space, protect natural resources and strengthen the local agriculture industry. We also provided GIS support for program and policy decisions by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation, the State Agricultural Certification Program and the Maryland Rural Legacy Program.

We also worked with the county leaders with Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) programs. Together, we carefully evaluated these programs, identified aspects that have been effective and also identified possible impediments. Secretary Craig will be sharing a report prepared by Planning Services with local governments as we work together to improve local TDR programs.

Finally, Planning has played a lead role in implementing the multi-state Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, focusing on the Healthy Waters strategies. As Vice Chair of the Healthy Waters Management Strategies team, Planning has worked with other states to better understand the potential costs and time required to implement some of the Bay Agreement strategies.

As we strive to be a center of planning excellence, Planning continues its work supporting communities, preserving resources and enriching lives.



The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority meets formally every three months working on economic development through the promotion, creation and support of heritage tourism. Pictured here, the Authority and local officials observe the Garrett Trails trailhead maps while touring Garrett County Visitors Center near Deep Creek Lake.



Maryland State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance

The State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance (the Clearinghouse) is the designated Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for the receipt and review of selected federal and state financial assistance and direct development projects. The review process is initiated via the Electronic Maryland Intergovernmental Review and Coordination Process (E-MIRC). E-MIRC is an Internet web-based process that allows staff to receive, transmit, and post Clearinghouse projects for intergovernmental review.

To date, in 2015 the Clearinghouse received and coordinated the review of 981 projects. The total dollar amount of funds requested from all funding sources (federal, state, local, and other) is \$1,743,027,154.18. These projects and our letters can be viewed on Planning's website via the *Intergovernmental Monitor (Monitor)*. So far this year, the *Monitor* received 1,747 views on these pages. The Clearinghouse also provides information on grants availability and proposed rule changes to more than 656 followers through its Twitter (@MDClearinghouse).

The Clearinghouse receives many projects that promote economic development and add to the viability of Maryland and improve quality of life for our citizens. Clearinghouse staff understands the importance of a timely review and that time is money. In 2015, we had a renewed commitment to delivering timely service and preventing delays that can add to the expense of a project or jeopardize the success of a project. The Clearinghouse process is an opportunity to increase outreach to stakeholders and communities for feedback regarding consistency with local vision and planning.

It is the goal of the Clearinghouse to continue to enhance customer service, deliver timely, transparent and cost-effective service. In 2015 we advanced this goal by providing access for state agencies to input project information and upload projects directly to E-MIRC. Building on this success, E-MIRC access will expand to local governments in 2016. As a result, all state agency and local government submissions will be paperless, reducing both processing time and costs.

The Clearinghouse manages a review process that requires consideration of multiple perspectives in order to maximize public investment in a built environment that will serve each community well into the future.



Maryland Historical Trust

The Maryland Historical Trust (the Trust) administered a wide variety of research, protection and financial assistance programs that aid state and local governments, nonprofit organizations and individuals to undertake preservation-related activities.

Office of Planning, Education and Outreach

Heritage Areas Program



A Maryland Heritage Areas grant will improve public access to the Phoenix Shot Tower (Baltimore City), built in 1828 to manufacture lead gun shot.

The Patapsco Recognized Heritage Area, located in portions of Howard and Baltimore County, became Maryland's 13th Certified Heritage Area in 2015, making non-profit organizations, local governments, businesses and individuals within the heritage area eligible to receive program benefits. The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area expanded to include the Town of Sharpsburg (Washington County), making key sites associated with the Battle of Antietam eligible for financial benefits and technical assistance. In 2015, 114 grant applications were submitted, totaling \$4,983,806 in requests for heritage tourism projects and activities statewide. The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority awarded \$2,894,223 to 60 projects that foster economic development through heritage tourism, leveraging \$17,233,090 in non-State matching support. In addition, the Authority awarded two emergency matching grants: \$30,000 to the Baltimore Heritage Area Association, Inc. in Baltimore City for "Healing and Moving Forward: Baltimore's Neighborhoods return to 'Visitor-Ready'"; and \$5,000 to the Caroline County Historical Society, Inc. for stabilization of the Nehemiah Fountain Cobbler Shop, the oldest known commercial structure still surviving in the Town of Denton.

Cultural Resources Hazard Mitigation Planning Program

The new Cultural Resources Hazard Mitigation Planning Program is aimed at protecting historic places, archeological sites and cultural landscapes from the effects of natural hazards, such as flooding, wind and coastal erosion. This two-year program, supported by a grant through the federal Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Fund, will produce trainings, model guidance and educational materials to assist local governments based on a planning framework promoted by the Federal Emergency Management Administration. In 2015, program staff offered one-on-one technical assistance to aid local governments and produced two online training modules for counties and municipalities ready to embark on hazard mitigation planning. In 2015, the program provided approximately \$280,000 in support of local projects that help prepare for and reduce impacts from natural hazards to historic and cultural sites, structures and objects.

Terrestrial Archeology Assistance and Public Programs

Staff assisted six state agencies by issuing thirteen terrestrial archeology permits in 2015 for investigations on lands they administer. The annual Field Session in Maryland Archeology, led and coordinated by the Trust, combines public outreach, education and research through the investigation of a significant archeological site. In partnership with Towson University and the Archeological Society of Maryland, the 2015 field session focused on a prehistoric village site in Frederick County and involved more than 100 volunteers. An additional outreach and education effort focused on the Bald Friar petroglyphs, which were removed from the Susquehanna River in the 1920s. Staff consulted with the Department of Natural Resources and the Chesapeake Conservancy to create the first exhibit of these evocative and artistically carved prehistoric stones at Susquehanna State Park. Staff also participated in the filming of an episode of Aqua Kids, an educational television program, about the petroglyphs.



Volunteers at the annual Field Session in Maryland Archeology.



The Malls Bay - Widewater Historic and Archeological District comprises the remains of 128 World War I steamships of the U.S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet which were scrapped in the Potomac River between 1922 and 1945.

Office of Research, Survey and Registration

Research and Survey

In 2015 the Trust's Research and Survey staff reviewed and administered six ongoing grant projects related to Hurricane Sandy, funded by the National Park Service. These six grant projects, totaling close to \$500,000, include restoration and stabilization of historic structures and archeological sites. Staff met with six county preservation planners in our continued outreach efforts and are working on revisions to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form to enhance research capabilities, as well as updating our Standards & Guidelines for survey. Staff conducted numerous site visits to assist in documentation and advise property owners and county preservation partners throughout the state. Staff oversaw the completion of the restoration of the Old Senate Chamber and continues to work on interpretive exhibits and public outreach for the project. In 2015, the Archeological Synthesis Project launched professional and public versions of its online searchable database.

National Register of Historic Places

In 2015, the National Park Service added four Maryland individual properties and three historic districts to the National Register of Historic Places. These noteworthy properties include: Auchentoroly Terrace Historic District and the McDonogh Place Historic District in Baltimore City; Fort Carroll in Baltimore County; Malls Bay-Widewater Historic & Archeological District in Charles County; Hopeful Unity in Kent County; Peace Cross and Ridgeley School in Prince George's County. As contributing resources within these listings, 970 Maryland properties are afforded the benefits and protections of National Register designation.



The Peace Cross, a memorial to Prince George's County soldiers lost in World War I, was erected in 1925 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2015.

Geographic Information Systems at the Trust

Trust staff completed and launched online version of Medusa, the state cultural resource information system. Online applications were also completely redesigned and launched for the state's National Register properties, historical markers and Archeological Synthesis Project. The new Medusa system provides access to 42,195 digital documents, 46,107 architectural resources and 13,619 archeological resources on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties. In 2015, staff continued maintenance of 11 geographic information systems (GIS) map layers and associated databases for heritage areas, historic sites inventories and financial assistance projects, adding digital information on over 1,200 properties.



Military Monuments and Roadside Markers

In 2015, Trust staff coordinated conservation maintenance for 20 outdoor bronze and stone sculptural monuments and plaques. Trust staff continued to administer the Maryland Roadside Historical Marker Program, which seeks to commemorate people, events, and places of special significance to the state through the erection of roadside markers. In 2015 five markers were installed and an additional three are on order and planned for installation by the end of 2015. These markers commemorate historical structures in five different counties and Baltimore City.



A new marker commemorates the community of Ridgley, established in Prince George's County by former slaves after the Civil War.



Office of Preservation Services

Review and Compliance

In 2015, the Trust reviewed over 5,600 public undertakings pursuant to federal and state historic preservation legislation to assess the effects of those projects on historic and archeological properties. Consultation resulted in over 20 formal agreement documents to resolve the adverse effects of projects on significant cultural resources and afford pertinent mitigation measures. Staff closely coordinated with program customers (including governmental agencies, local governments, business entities, consultants, interested organizations and the general public) to facilitate the successful completion of the historic preservation review process.



As part of an agreement through federal project review, a Watch Box prepares for a journey by barge to its original home at the Washington Navy Yard. Photo courtesy of Thomas Wright, Naval Support Facility Indian Head.

Grants and Loans

The Trust provided \$1 million in capital grants to 13 projects under the 2016 African American Heritage Preservation Program, which was reauthorized during the 2015 session of the General Assembly, in addition to the ongoing administration of 59 capital grants and approximately 17 capital loans. Staff also administers a \$1.47 million grant from the National Park Service through the Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Fund.

Sustainable Communities Tax Credit Program

Program staff received over 313 new project applications, residential and commercial, federal and state, while continuing to finalize certifications on projects from past years. For 2015, the completed Part III certified state tax credit projects may be categorized as follows:

2015 Completed State Rehabilitation Tax Credit Projects					
	No. of Projects	Total Proposed Expenditure	Average Proposed Expenditure	Total Final Expenditure	Average Final Expenditure
Residential	150	\$7,385,621.00	\$49,237.47	\$7,301,428.00	\$48,676.19
Commercial	4	\$16,272,848.00	\$4,068,212.00	\$15,866,887.00	\$3,966,721.75



The Gymnasium at National Park Seminary in Silver Spring was recently completed with rehabilitation tax credits.

Historic Preservation Easement Program

From July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, the Trust acquired 22 new easements and 7 modifications, making a statewide total of 703 easements on over 844 properties, encompassing approximately 9,200 acres. During the year, the easement committee reviewed approximately 194 requests from property owners/operators for changes to these easement properties and staff conducted 31 easement property inspections statewide.

Maryland Maritime Archeology Program

The Trust played a significant role in helping to nominate the Mallows Bay Historic District for consideration by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as the first new National Marine Sanctuary in more than 20 years. In addition to research on sites threatened by coastal erosion, program staff completed work on the site of the Ram schooner Levin J. Marvel in time for several events commemorating the 60th anniversary of its loss. The Maryland Maritime Archeology Program became an international training partner of the Nautical Archaeology Society in 2015 and has offered two courses to date, in addition to 20 outreach and education lectures and presentations on various topics statewide.



Participants attend the first year of Nautical Archaeology Society trainings hosted by the Maryland Historical Trust.

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JefPat) connects people to the past through history and archaeology and supports the preservation of Maryland's cultural resources. Located on 560 acres on the Patuxent River in Calvert County, this unique museum encompasses more than 65 documented archaeological sites spanning 9,500 years. With events, tours, lectures, school visits and workshops, JefPat hosts more than 125 programs annually. It is also the home of the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to archeological conservation and research.



Families enjoying the hay maze at the 30th Children's Day on the Farm, June 7, 2015.

Educational Programs and Events

In 2015, more than 59,000 people visited the site. In early June, more than 4,100 people participated in the 30th Children's Day on the Farm – the highest attendance ever for this popular event. A week later, JefPat celebrated the Patuxent River Wade-In as concerned citizens and elected officials joined Senator Bernie Fowler to focus attention on the need to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. In September, JefPat held its annual 1812 Fair and Re-enactment.

JefPat's commitment to serving area schools continued through two onsite programs, one designed for fourth graders and the second aimed at students in the sixth grade. In total, more than 2,500 children participated in these two programs in 2015. Once again, staff members worked with students from Huntingtown High School on an archaeology-based project. In addition, for a second year, the JefPat education department worked with students from Mill Creek Middle School in Lusby to produce three short videos on 1812-related themes.



The "Artifacts of Outlander" traveling exhibit on display in the Calvert County Public Library in Prince Frederick.

Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab



MAC Lab staff and Maryland State Highway Administration employees unload the Nanticoke shipwreck into an above-ground swimming pool for safe storage.

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum houses the state's archaeological collection, which includes over eight million objects collected over the past 100 years. In 2015, lab staff conserved artifacts from clients throughout the United States, including fifteen bayonets from Valley Forge, twelve cannon from the Museum of the American Revolution, the landing gear from a 1950s Navy Sky Raider test plane and seven Enright muskets likely from the Battle of Bull Run. Staff also participated in the analysis of a shipwreck recovered from the Nanticoke River.

Lab staff provided tours to 363 people and conducted outreach and activities in local schools. Staff is currently working on a searchable database of the lab's collections through a grant funded by Maryland State Highway Administration. As part of JefPat's Public Archaeology Program, 215 participants spent 1,082 hours digging at the Smith's St. Leonard site or processing artifacts in the lab. The lab staff, with help from museum facilities department, put together a traveling exhibit based on the popular *Outlander* book series and the Starz Channel miniseries of the same name. This exhibit, which uses 200 objects from the lab's archaeological collections, will have been on display in four public libraries in Southern Maryland and two public events by the end of 2015.

The Maryland Historical Trust and JefPat continue their efforts to inform us of the rich tapestry of our past as we strive to plan for a better future and Change Maryland for the better.



Planning staff was pleased to join Governor Hogan's Maryland Unites Day of Service. We had such an overwhelming response we participated in three days of service. Pictured here, members of the Maryland Historical Trust volunteer at Paul's Place in Baltimore's Pigtown neighborhood.



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