

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF



PLANNING



2017 Annual Report

*Supporting Communities, Preserving Resources, Enriching Lives...
Changing Maryland for the better*

A Message from Governor Larry Hogan

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to present the Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report for the Maryland Department of Planning. Under our administration, Planning has continued to play an important role in helping communities across the state change Maryland for the better. We remain focused and dedicated to creating jobs, helping Maryland families thrive, and restoring our state's economy, guided by simple, common sense principles.



I invite you to read about the full range of activities and accomplishments of the Maryland Department of Planning. This report demonstrates our commitment to delivering excellent customer service to our constituents by providing technical assistance to local partners and support for community revitalization and economic development.

Maryland's natural, cultural, and historic resources are catalysts that strengthen and renew economic and community development. Our administration is working hard to ensure that Maryland remains a vibrant place for people to live, work, and raise a family. We have accomplished a great deal, and I remain confident that together, we will accomplish much more.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Hogan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Larry Hogan
Governor



A Message from the Acting Secretary



This annual report highlights our activities and accomplishments in service to the state as we worked to advance the priorities of the Hogan Administration in FY 2017. We are focused on improving the quality of life for all Marylanders - a goal in which the Department of Planning plays an integral role.

It is our mission at Planning to collaborate with state agencies, local governments, and the private sector by providing assistance and data which enables each community to shape its future in a way that reflects local values, honors its heritage, and presents opportunities for all of Maryland to flourish.

Our regional planners serve as a resource for local governments, including providing technical assistance and grant application guidance. Regional planners were the first recipients of Planning's Customer Service Star initiative due to their commitment to delivering professional service and providing assistance that allows local jurisdictions to guide their own future in true partnership with the state.

As home to the State Data Center, Planning is a repository of employment, educational, and demographic information from multiple sources. We continuously seek to synthesize this data in new and meaningful ways. In FY 2017, we began creating work area profiles, which provide decision makers and employers with new ways to look at data that can support economic development and employment growth.

Together, we are changing Maryland for the better. Planning stands ready to assist bringing our full portfolio of professional staff, data resources, and programmatic assistance. We are helping each area of our state plan for a prosperous future, while preserving the natural, historical, and cultural resources that make Maryland our home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert S. McCord". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Robert S. McCord, MBA, JD
Acting Secretary



Table of Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	2
<i>Organizational Chart</i>	4
<i>Operations</i>	5
<i>Planning Services</i>	7
<i>Maryland Historical Trust</i>	27

Secretary Peters attended the preview event for “The Grist Mill: Early Industry in Carroll County” at the Union Mills Homestead/Shriver Grist Mill in Carroll County. She presented a Citation from Governor Hogan to Union Mills Executive Director Jane Sewell and Board President Sam Riley, commending the historic and educational value of the Homestead’s exhibit.





Introduction

“When we launched this [Customer Service] initiative last year, our goal was to set a new standard across state agencies and change the culture throughout government to improve services for all citizens.”

Governor Larry Hogan



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 general public. Our work reflects the priorities and direction of the Hogan Administration, including a heightened focus on efficiency while emphasizing economic development, flexibility, and collaboration with local jurisdictions.

Planning, serving its constituent base with 130 employees, is organized into three divisions: Operations, Planning Services, and the Maryland Historical Trust.

Operations is responsible for the administrative support for the department including financial, information technology, procurement, logistics, and legislative relations. 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.

Through **Planning Services**, Planning typically completes more than 200 technical assistance projects for counties and municipalities per year. We provide support in reviewing or drafting more than 60 comprehensive plans or ordinances for local governments each year. We also collect, analyze, and publish social, economic, and geographic information and maintain the digital maps of the state’s 2.3 million parcels. These maps form the foundation for the development of policies and are used throughout the state by various agencies, decision makers, and stakeholders. We also ensure that proposed financial and non-financial assistance projects within Maryland are consistent with state and local laws, regulations, and guidelines.

The **Maryland Historical Trust (the 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 enhancement of heritage resources. The Trust administers a variety of historic preservation grant, loan, and tax credit programs including the Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit which leverages private investment in the rehabilitation of both commercial and residential historic properties. The Trust also administers and oversees operation of the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum in Calvert County, which includes the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory.

Planning sees Maryland’s cities, towns, and communities as attractive, vibrant places to live, work, play, and learn. We help communities shape the vision for their future, while continuing to protect and preserve our resources. The natural, cultural, and historic resources of our communities are catalysts that strengthen and renew economic and community development.

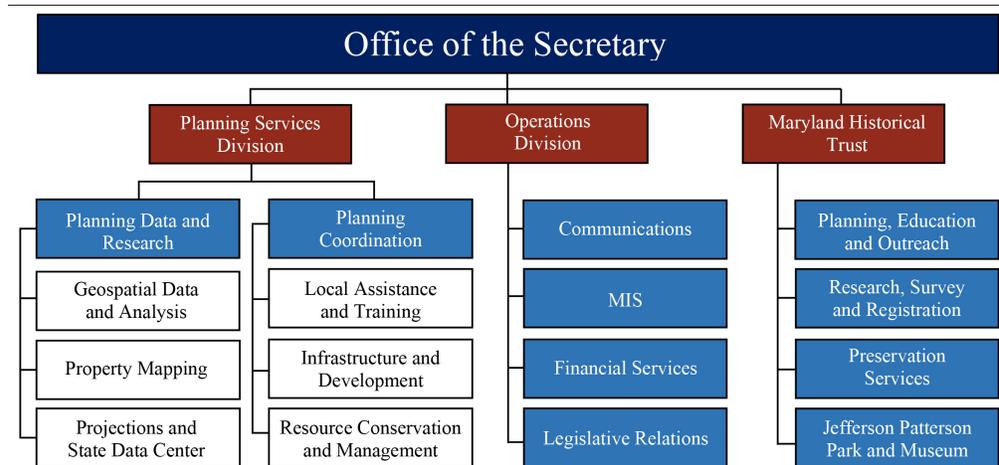
At Planning, we appreciate Maryland’s unique diversity and that “one size fits all” solutions do not work. We recognize that successful solutions require balancing concerns of various stakeholders. It is our responsibility to provide guidance for the direction of state resources most efficiently across jurisdiction lines. We strive to provide customers with the best service and to help each jurisdiction implement their vision and achieve their goals consistent with respect for people and place.



Secretary Wendi Peters leads the 2017 Maryland Sustainable Growth Awards ceremony held in the Governor’s Reception Room at the Maryland State House. These awards, sponsored by the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission, celebrate people and projects achieving results that advance sustainable growth and preservation.



Organizational Chart



Secretary Wendi Peters is joined by (left to right) Assistant Secretary Rob McCord, Eddie Somers, President of Smith Island United, Gary Pusey, Somerset County Planning Director, Randy Laird, President of the Somerset County Commissioners, Doug Taylor, Somerset County Manager, and regional planners Keith Lackie and Tracey Gordy on a tour of Smith Island. The island visit included stops at the villages of Ewell, Rhodes Point, and Tylerton. Planning's tour of Smith Island was a follow up to an open invitation to view first-hand the resilient community that has been thriving since 1686 and how assistance from the state has made a difference in preserving one of the most unique treasures of the Chesapeake.



Operations

The Operations Division reinforced the Governor's Customer Service Initiative through FY 2017, making improved customer service a priority.

We coordinated the completion of the online customer training course for all Planning employees across all locations. We developed a Customer Service Star recognition award in support of the Secretary's extraordinary customer service recognition program. Twelve employees received certificates for outstanding service to our constituents which contributed to the agency's 96% satisfaction rating. Our Customer Service Annual Report for FY 2017 is posted at the planning.maryland.gov website. The division implemented an internal routing system to better track Public Information Act requests.



Communications continued to support the agency's efforts to provide useful information to local governments and other stakeholders through digital media. Planning is active across multiple social media platforms, including Facebook and Twitter, on a regular basis. We use these channels to highlight our abilities and our tools to assist local governments, promote collaboration with state agencies, and identify resources. We also used social media to promote initiatives across the state such as the Maryland Buy Local Challenge and Farmer's Market Week. We have expanded our social media presence by cross-promoting inter-agency events and information from the Governor's Office, other agencies, the Bay Cabinet, the Smart Growth Subcabinet, and the Commerce Cabinet. Communications and MIS worked with the Department of Information Technology on the complete migration of the agency's website to the state's enterprise system. The website under this new system will become live later in calendar year 2017. We continue to work to promote our online resources and showcase the work of Planning throughout the state.



Fiscal Services participated in an audit with the Department of General Services concerning our inventory practices. The audit was completed without any adverse findings and resulted in several improvements to our electronic tracking system. We continued to operate well within our budget and achieved efficiencies for the citizens of Maryland.

Management Information Systems (MIS) worked closely with the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) to successfully transition Planning into the DoIT Enterprise model. This has revised our data security and reduced operational costs of all IT systems at Planning. MIS, in coordination with Maryland Historical Trust's staff, released the Map-Based Medusa application to the public.

The efforts of the Legislative unit included the passage of Senate Bill 2 by the General Assembly which was signed into law on May 4, 2017. The bill, the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) Revision of Boundary Maps, allows the MHAA to amend or revise heritage area boundaries using a geographic information system (GIS) as an option to boundary surveys or drawings. Being able to provide revised boundaries to the public in GIS format is more functional and user-friendly than published drawings or boundary descriptions, allowing boundaries to be viewed and understood in more detail.

Governor Hogan signing Senate Bill 2 - The Maryland General Assembly passed legislation to allow Heritage Area boundaries to be depicted in a GIS format.



Planning Services

The Planning Services Division is the core of the agency's planning-related functions. The Division's personnel are organized into two sections: 1) Planning Coordination, which includes the Local Assistance and Training, Infrastructure and Development, and Resource Conservation and Management units; and 2) Planning Data and Research, which includes Geospatial and Data Analysis, Projections and State Data Center, and Property Mapping units.

The following highlights some of the many activities and contributions of the Planning Services Division in support of the agency's strategic plan and mission.

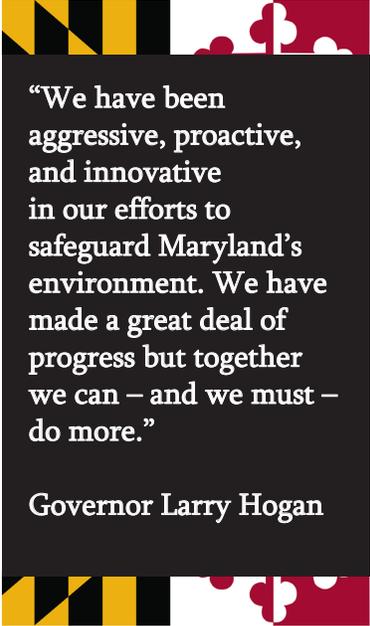
Planning Coordination

Local Assistance and Training

The unit's regional planners are trained in land use and public facility matters and serve as liaisons for state government. They are the "boots on the ground", covering all regions of the state, providing direct and indirect technical assistance to communities and state agency partners daily. As part of our effort to assist local governments, we held five planning commissioner training classes for all local planning leaders with a focus on legal requirements and good planning principles and how they can make a difference in shaping the future for each of their communities.

Comprehensive Plan Review and Policy Guidance

We provided significant technical and policy assistance to local governments implementing state laws. Regional planning staff completed reviews of 14 local comprehensive plans and amendments in FY 2017. In addition, they reviewed 10 municipal annexations. The unit conducted a training for over 25 Maryland Department of Transportation staff members involved in the inter-agency review process regarding local comprehensive plans to facilitate more effective transportation planning assistance to local governments.



“We have been aggressive, proactive, and innovative in our efforts to safeguard Maryland’s environment. We have made a great deal of progress but together we can – and we must – do more.”

Governor Larry Hogan

Sustainable Communities Designation Applications

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 248 funding requests this year to support local Sustainable Community Action Plans. Our regional planners continue to provide technical assistance and capacity building for these communities to make improvements, regardless of whether their grant requests get funded.

Priority Funding Area Updates

We were pleased to help communities across the state update their local Priority Funding Area (PFA) designations to reflect their current growth areas, while closely coordinating with state agencies on the scope and timing of planned capital improvements.

More than 100 communities in Maryland have been designated as a Sustainable Community, a state program that targets investment in places with a detailed revitalization plan, specific areas for investment, and stakeholders within the community who are committed to implementing the plan. Planning helps communities identify funding sources and prepare their applications. Planning also evaluates funding requests. The state designated eight new Sustainable Communities in FY 2017.

Examples include:

- Providing guidance to Calvert County staff on how to revise its PFA designations in the Solomons area to support state funding for an expansion of a Wastewater Treatment Plant and other potential infrastructure projects.
- Researching a Somerset County PFA matter for the replacement of a failing community water system in an older neighborhood in the county. Staff determined that the area met PFA requirements and that an exception would not be necessary to get state funding assistance. Staff prepared draft a map and PFA letter on behalf of the county.



Project CORE Support

We were pleased to continue to consult with and provide technical assistance to the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Maryland Stadium Authority, and local staff on the strategic planning, demolition, and redevelopment of properties associated with the Project CORE initiative in Baltimore City. Regional planners, as well as the manager of the Infrastructure and Development unit, attended bi-weekly technical group team meetings for tracking the progress of prioritized demolition clusters.

Maryland Planning Commissioners Association Support

Planning staff supported the Maryland Planning Commissioners Association (MPCA) with its annual conference. With more than 80 commissioners and local planners attending, the conference featured information on pressing issues for local governments. Topics included free help for developing local comprehensive plans, planning for the future of renewable utilities in communities, and *ex parte* communications.

As FY 2017 ended, Planning assisted the MPCA in its Outreach Project, a major effort to get input from its stakeholders across the state: local elected officials, local government planning staff, planning commissioners, board of appeals members, historic preservation commission members, and professional planners. Two focus group meetings were held in June, one in the Town of North Beach and one in the City of Frederick, drawing a wide range of planning practice. Focus group meetings will be held in five other locations in FY 2018.

The annual Maryland Planning Commissioner Association conference brings local government citizen planners from across the state together for two days of sessions that sharpen skills and informs on the latest in state planning.



Technical Assistance to Local Government

The following examples demonstrate how Planning provides assistance to local governments around the state.

- City of Crisfield – Planning’s Lower Eastern Shore Office provided technical assistance to the City of Crisfield on wetland issues surrounding its Carvel Hall property. Staff advised the city about potential zoning ordinance text amendments and issues related to redevelopment of the Carvel Hall property and potential annexation of an adjacent property within the county. They also assisted Crisfield with information they needed to submit a Community Legacy grant application to the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- Town of Snow Hill – The Lower Eastern Shore Regional Office provided technical assistance to the town regarding a duplex development proposal on a dead-end street. Advice included work on the site plan requirements, subdivision plat requirements, issues related to road improvement requirements, and a comparison between the existing town code versus proposed code under review, as well as potential modifications to the approval process.
- Town of Rising Sun – Planning’s Upper Shore Regional Planner conducted two workshops for the town’s Planning Commission providing guidance on their zoning code and comprehensive plan updates.
- Town of Mount Airy – Planning’s Regional Planner assisted the town with zoning ordinance language for their Planned Development Districts.

Planning by The Numbers

Planning Practice Wednesday
FY 2017

759 Subscribers
9% growth in FY 2017
subscribers

16,600 recipients

This adds up to:

Connecting, informing,
and serving local officials,
planners, and partners.

Planning is partnering with Baltimore City, the Maryland Transit Administration, and others in support of the North Avenue Rising Project. Planning is working on an economic development analysis to assess the potential benefits that could result from these efforts along the North Avenue corridor.



Planning Practice Wednesday

Local Assistance and Training began publishing a newsletter, Planning Practice Wednesday, with topics ranging from placemaking partnerships on Smith Island to Geospatial and Data analysis that assists local jurisdictions with their mapping needs. In addition, Planning connected local staff members and others to training and conference opportunities through regular updates to its Planning Practice Wednesday webpage.

Learning Opportunities Delivered on Wednesdays from the Maryland Department of Planning

 **Planning Practice Wednesday**



Wednesday, June 14, 2017
[Forward this issue](#)

Planning Assistance in Action

Sustainable Communities: An Intergovernmental Collaboration

As part of a larger effort to decrease the amount of vacant and underutilized space within its downtown, in 2014 one Maryland municipality implemented a Central Business District Façade Program. This program, combined with enhanced marketing, a small business outreach program, and design funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission, led to improvements in the appeal, marketability, and aesthetics of a historic downtown and prompted new commercial lease signings. Another Maryland community leveraged over \$800,000 in targeted state financing assistance to acquire and demolish eight blighted buildings and remediate hazardous material in a ninth. The dedicated collaboration of jurisdictions, the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning), and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) realized these stories of community revitalization success through the application of Maryland's Sustainable Communities Program...



Appalachian Regional Commission Program Management

Planning's Western Maryland office manages the state's Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) program, working closely with local governments and federal partners to promote economic development in several different ways. We assist local partners in Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties by reviewing their project plans, helping to secure ARC grant funding, and implementing approved projects. Our ARC work includes improving accessibility in the region through local road improvement and extension of broadband service to businesses and communities, enhancing educational opportunities and workforce development, and helping communities develop economic strategies uniquely focused to maximize the potential of their assets. The overall goal is to create a self-sustaining and growing economy.

ARC program grants are awarded to state and local government agencies, local governing boards, and nonprofit organizations, which contribute matching resources to projects. Planning, in partnership with ARC, has supported 20 projects in Maryland totaling nearly \$2.6 million over the last two federal fiscal years. These investments have been matched by \$9.9 million and will attract an additional \$10.4 million in leveraged private investments in Maryland. They will also create or retain 175 jobs, train and educate more than 1,600 students and workers, and benefit the 252,000 residents in Maryland's 3 Appalachian counties.

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES IN MARYLAND

The Maryland Department of Planning has prioritized these three ARC investment goals:

- **READY WORKFORCE**
ARC has invested almost **\$700,000** to increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of Maryland's Appalachian residents to work and succeed.
- **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**
ARC has invested **\$1.4 million** in Maryland's critical infrastructure development, including broadband, transportation, and water/wastewater systems.
- **LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY CAPACITY**
ARC has invested almost **\$400,000** to build the capacity and skills of Appalachia's current and next-generation leaders and organizations in Maryland to advance community and economic development.
- **ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES**
ARC has invested an additional **\$125,000** to strengthen the economy and to leverage cultural and natural heritage in Maryland.



Some of the ARC projects accomplished this past year that promoted technology development, education, workforce training, and enhanced local economic opportunities included:

- Garrett County construction of wastewater plant for Keyser's Ridge Business Park.
- Washington County construction of road extension of Halfway Boulevard to provide access to land for commercial and industrial development.
- University of Maryland, Hagerstown Campus purchased equipment for new Health Science Physician's Assistant/Nurse Practitioner Program.
- Allegany College of Maryland purchased simulation equipment for hands on training for Nurse Practitioner Program.
- Hagerstown Community College purchased equipment for electronics lab for STEM Programs and Alternative Energy Classes.
- Local Economic Opportunities in the region were enhanced.
- Targeted industry study identified specific industries that the City of Frostburg and Frostburg State University are positioned to attract.
- Washington County is updating its county-wide geographic information system planimetric data using new aerial photography.

Through an investment from ARC, the Allegany County Board of Commissioners strengthened the area's broadband network and improved services to the area's residents, businesses, and emergency services. The effort brought broadband service into every school in Allegany County, such as Mountain Ridge High School in Frostburg opened in 2007.



Infrastructure and Development

Advancing Economic Development Opportunities and Promoting a Multimodal Transportation System

Partnering with other state and local agencies, including the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Housing & Community Development, the Department of Planning of Baltimore City, and Baltimore Development Corporation, Planning is conducting an economic impact analysis for the North Avenue corridor where multimodal transportation improvements, including streetscaping, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, intersection reconstruction, dedicated bus lanes, more frequent bus service, and enhancements to transit stops are being planned or implemented via BaltimoreLink and North Avenue Rising. This project was funded by a U.S. Department of Transportation Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant. Planning is calculating potential socio-economic benefits associated with redevelopment in the corridor, including changes in property value and tax revenues, jobs, and payroll income benefits. Planning developed a set of indicators to monitor socio-economic changes and the impacts of revitalization in the North Avenue corridor.

Planning continued to provide GIS-based transit network performance analysis to the Department of Transportation to assist the effort to develop and implement BaltimoreLink, an overhaul of the Baltimore region's core bus transit system. Working with the Maryland Transit Administration, Planning updated the human services facilities accessibility-related metrics for several iterations of BaltimoreLink.

Partnering with state agencies and local planning departments, the Infrastructure and Development unit provides technical assistance and analysis to help create vibrant places, such as Downtown Silver Spring.



Following the State's FY 2017 Budget Report recommendation, Planning, in coordination with the Department of Commerce, and in collaboration with the Department of Transportation (including the State Highway Administration) completed the New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) Corridor Economic Development Potential Analysis. The analysis measured increased property values and tax revenues, as well as employment and payroll income benefits, that would accrue from redevelopment sites deemed to have high redevelopment potential.

In coordination with the Department of Transportation, Planning developed criteria and a methodology to classify the Purple Line's 21 station sites. The transit-oriented development (TOD) classification analysis enables stakeholders and agencies to identify opportunities and challenges in each station area and helps to guide TOD investment in these areas.

The Infrastructure and Development unit continued to participate in more than a dozen major transportation studies across the state. Planning reviews and provides input on projects to promote multimodal transportation planning and support for state and local growth management policies and goals.

The Infrastructure and Development unit continued to support local comprehensive plan update efforts and regional and statewide transportation planning activities conducted by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the Maryland Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council, and the State Coordinating Committee for Human Services Transportation.

Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission

The Infrastructure and Development Unit supported the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission's effort to update the Reinvest Maryland. The FY 2017 update included converting the report into a toolkit to assist local communities in their redevelopment activities. We worked with the Commission's Reinvest Maryland workgroup to review the 2014 document in detail, identify potential new priorities, and revise the report's recommendations to reflect current challenges and opportunities to and for redevelopment and reinvestment in Maryland. This work integrated new and revised case studies, tools, and resources into the document. Following the toolkit's adoption in FY 2018, the Infrastructure and Development unit will collaborate with the workgroup and other stakeholders to develop an interactive website for Reinvest Maryland that connects local communities, stakeholders, and developers with resources, technical assistance, funding opportunities, and workshops to support reinvestment activities statewide.



The Interagency Committee for School Construction

Planning is one of the five members of the Interagency Committee for School Construction (IAC), which is responsible for developing recommendations for more than \$300 million of annual state funding for school facility projects statewide. School funding is the state's second largest capital program, and it has far reaching effects for students and communities.

Planning Services plays a crucial role in this process by conducting reviews and assessments of enrollment projections, proposed school sites, the state rated capacities of individual schools, and the relationship of proposed facility projects to local Educational Facilities Master Plans (EFMP) and comprehensive plans. Each year, Planning analyzes each Local Education Agency's (LEA) proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and provides feedback in coordination with the other state agencies involved in the Public School Construction Program. This feedback allows each LEA to make effective planning decisions and maximize their funding eligibility, both in the short and long term.

The following provides a sampling of Planning's IAC related activities during FY 2017:

- Provided technical assistance to Maryland counties on their State Rated Capacities (SRC) and met with representatives from Baltimore City and St. Mary's County schools to review their enrollment projections in detail.
- Worked with Howard County on IAC requirements for site approvals and potential Priority Funding Area waivers.
- Worked with Frederick County on issues related to IAC site approval and special conditions for a special education replacement school.
- Initiated discussions with Prince George's County and the Department of Natural Resources to resolve matters related to a Program Open Space conversion and potential school site.
- Facilitated a meeting with Montgomery County Schools to discuss the process of reviewing and documenting property transfers to and from LEAs, especially in relation to rights-of-way changes and easements, and facilitated a review of this process with the IAC to identify how to better document, guide, and streamline the process.
- Coordinated with the IAC and new PSCP Executive Director Robert Gorrell to develop, review, and potentially implement Educational Facility Standards, also known as "adequacy" standards.



Maryland's Power Plant Research Program

Planning serves on the Power Plant Research Program (PPRP) inter-agency committee, which ensures that Maryland meets its electricity demands at reasonable costs, while protecting the state's valuable natural resources. PPRP evaluates the facility's potential impacts to environmental and cultural resources in Maryland. Ten PPRP reviews were completed in FY 2017, and several other projects were reviewed in preliminary stages.

Smart Growth Information Clearinghouse

The Infrastructure & Development unit also facilitates Planning's involvement in the Smart Growth Information Clearinghouse (SGIC). Planning continues to support the SGIC under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The unit provides content for smartgrowth.org and hosts a series of webinars offered to planners nationally on emerging topics. Planning hosted five webinars during FY 2017.

Opened in January 2017, Severna Park High School in Anne Arundel County is a state-of-the-art 354,162-square-foot building. The \$130 million project, the first new high school building in the county in more than three decades, increased capacity by 300 students over the previous building.



Resource Conservation and Management

Agricultural Preservation

Planning staff has continued to work closely with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of Agriculture to administer the Rural Legacy Program and the Certification of the County Agricultural Land Preservation Program. These programs enhance open space, protect natural resources, and strengthen the local agriculture industry. To facilitate local success in achieving the objectives of these programs, we provided technical and policy guidance through meetings with county agricultural program administrators and through responding to specific requests throughout the year.

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. This included development of five statistical measures for each of the twenty-five FY 2018 applications for the Rural Legacy Programs and maps to illustrate those measures.

Transfer of Development Rights

In FY 2017, the Resource Conservation and Management unit began work on an Inter-jurisdictional Transfer of Development Rights (I-TDR) initiative. *See the featured article on the facing page.*

Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plans

In coordination with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, we review draft Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plans (LPPRP) and develop guidance and review checklists. The local LPPRPs ensure local eligibility for Program Open Space funds to support local park improvements and recreation needs.

Program Open Space Review

Each year, each county submits proposed annual programs to the state for the use of Program Open Space funds to support LPPRP implementation. Planning completed review letters for each of the local Program Open Space annual programs, ensuring consistency with LPPRPs and with state visions for parks and recreation.



Transfer of Development Rights Programs

Many planners are familiar with Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) programs as a tool used to preserve open space by moving the development rights from a property and using those rights in another area to develop at a higher density. Less known is the use of TDRs for other purposes, such as development design flexibility or environmental mitigation, and the existence of county-municipal TDR programs.



Successful TDR programs throughout the United States have effectively preserved hundreds of thousands of acres, and programs have evolved over time to include TDRs for more than just density. TDR programs offer several advantages not found with traditional land preservation approaches, including:

- Private funds, not public funds, purchase development rights
- Development is sent to areas that have been designated for growth
- Growth areas see increases in economic and development activity

Planning's 2016 Transfer of Development Rights Committee Report recommended that inter-jurisdictional TDR, or I-TDR, programs be developed between counties and local jurisdictions. In the spring of 2017, Planning began working with counties and municipalities to assess their interest in developing an I-TDR program. Several jurisdictions provided positive feedback. To build upon this interest, Planning presented Transfer of Development Rights – New Ways of Looking at Preservation and Investment at the June 2017 Maryland Municipal League conference. The workshop included presentations from municipal, county, and state practitioners working with TDR programs as well as an interactive discussion with attending municipal officials about specific local challenges and solutions. Planning staff is available to provide workshops, information, technical assistance on policies, plans and ordinances, analysis services, and one-on-one consulting to Maryland local governments.

In addition to benefitting counties by preserving open space and agricultural lands, TDR programs can help Maryland municipalities. In exchange for municipalities agreeing to designate municipal growth areas as receiving areas for development rights from county sending areas, counties could offer municipalities incentives such as:

- Waiver of the 5-year delay provision for annexation
- Ranking formula for easement acquisitions to prioritize greenbelts around towns
- Payment to reduce municipal costs for implementing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) requirements
- Elimination of impact fees
- Provision of tax increment financing to fund infrastructure
- Easier access to and process for obtaining water and sewer capacity
- A TDR program can be tailored to advance the specific goals of a jurisdiction, with each designed to build upon existing long-term plans and visions.



Secretary Peters, Director of Planning Coordination Chuck Boyd, Jenny Plummer-Welker, Calvert County Planning & Zoning Department, and Chris Jacubiak, consultant to Maryland municipalities, led the panel discussion at the Maryland Municipal League conference.

Water and Sewer Plan Review

Our regional planners coordinated with the department's water and sewer planning resource staff, reviewing 210 amendments to county water and sewer plans. In addition to reviewing water and sewer plan amendments for consistency within the comprehensive plan, we guide local governments through the PFA process ensuring successful implementation of water and sewer plans. This includes detailed analyses to identify the specific steps needed for a local government to designate new PFAs in areas planned for service.

As part of Planning's commitment to providing resources for local governments, we co-hosted a Healthy Waters Roundtable at Chesapeake College in Talbot County with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, the University of Maryland Extension Service, and the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology on strategic sewer extensions into rural areas to address septic problems.

Coast Smart Program

Maryland Coast Smart Construction Program provides state agencies siting and design criteria for future capital projects, addressing impacts associated with sea level rise and coastal flooding. We work with state agencies on the Smart Growth Coordinating Committee, establishing an annual review of proposed capital projects by identifying and possibly modifying the scope of capital projects to minimize potential impacts, using these guidelines. If the project cannot fully comply with the process, we work with the sponsoring state agencies to navigate the waiver review process.

Preservation of our natural resources is one of Planning's top priorities.



Commission and Subcabinet Support

Throughout the year, unit staff provides support to various boards and commissions as well as subcabinets.

Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission – We facilitated the Rural Economies Workgroup of the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission, bringing together constituents from industry, local government, and nongovernmental organizations to identify and pursue implementation of strategies to support forestry, farming, land preservation, and other rural economic sectors. For example, through our support and guidance, the Sustainable Forestry Subcommittee of the Workgroup in FY 2017 facilitated a meeting between the Department of Natural Resources, Charles County, and the Charles County Soil Conservation District, where the parties reached agreement on procedural changes that would support Maryland’s forestry industry and rural communities. Specifically, this change provides certainty to both landowners and timber buyers regarding the quantity of timber at the time of sale, and allows a harvest permit to be issued quickly after the sale is finalized. The change would also eliminate the pressure on all parties to get permits issued after a sale is negotiated, since issuance of the permits and sale negotiation would happen concurrently.

Patuxent River Commission – The Patuxent River Commission has been implementing the 2015 Patuxent River Policy Plan Update, adopted by the seven counties in the watershed and the Maryland General Assembly, by facilitating the work of local and state government to reduce stormwater pollution to the river; promote fishing, boating, and other river-based tourism throughout the watershed, and improve sewage spill notification and signage.

In response to the Commission’s request for improvements to best practices for sewage spill procedures, Planning reached out to the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Department of Health for collaboration and assistance. Environment and Health agreed to develop new statewide guidance for local health departments regarding notification procedures. Also, the Commission developed an Annual Action Plan, provided formal comments to the Department of Natural Resources regarding oyster management in the Patuxent River, explored the feasibility of local implementation of a new PCB Total Maximum Daily Load for the Patuxent River, and initiated development of the Patuxent River Challenge, a watershed-wide event planned for 2018 that will encourage Marylanders to visit the many historical, cultural, and recreational parks and amenities along the Patuxent River and its tributaries.



Bay Cabinet – We bring a long-term planning and local government perspective to the Bay Workgroup, which provides recommendations to the Governor’s Bay Cabinet. This year, as part of our Bay Cabinet responsibilities, we participated in the state’s Water Quality Trading Advisory Committee, which is developing Maryland’s nutrient trading policy to reduce overall costs to implement the Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

Maryland Commission on Climate Change – As a member of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, we participate on the Adaptation Working Group, providing constructive feedback on Commission procedures, work plans, and policy recommendations. Planning also provided its annual report to the Commission on greenhouse gases prevented through compact development in Maryland. Statistics provided by our Projections and State Data Center unit demonstrate that Maryland is achieving the percent of compact development needed to support the state’s 2020 greenhouse gas reduction goal.

Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership – Planning serves as Vice-Chair of the Healthy Watersheds Goal Implementation Team of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership to facilitate state and federal implementation of the Land Use and Healthy Watershed strategies of the 2014 Bay Agreement.

The Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission meets bi-monthly at locations around the state. Planning provides staffing and technical support to the Growth Commission and other state subcabinets and commissions.



Maryland State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance

The State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance (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.

In FY 2017, the Clearinghouse received and coordinated the review of 959 projects. The total dollar amount of funds requested from all funding sources (federal, state, local, and other) was over \$3 million. These projects and our letters can be viewed on Planning's website via the *Intergovernmental Monitor*. The Clearinghouse also provides information on grant availability and proposed rule changes to 1,041 followers on Twitter (@MDClearinghouse).

The Maryland InfoPortal, an online catalog of state programs managed by the Clearinghouse, provides Marylanders a single place to search for financial and non-financial assistance offered by 80 sponsoring agencies. The InfoPortal attracted approximately 2,000 visits this year.

The Clearinghouse receives many projects that promote economic development and add to the viability of Maryland while improving quality of life for our citizens. In addition to statutory project review, the Clearinghouse process is an opportunity to increase outreach to stakeholders and communities for feedback regarding consistency with local vision and planning.



Planning by The Numbers

Maryland State Clearinghouse Review
FY 2017

959 project reviews coordinated
\$3 billion in public investment

This adds up to:
Preventing conflicts with local plans when federal and state money is funding a project.

Secretary Peters and Robert McCord presented Customer Service Star certificates to 12 employees who demonstrated outstanding service in FY 2017. Pictured here are two of the 12 recipients, Barbara Wise and Virginia Hawkins.



Planning Data and Research

Geospatial Data and Analysis

BaltimoreLink Analysis

In partnership with Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), Planning staff wrapped up a nearly 18-month study of the *BaltimoreLink* transportation network. Staff performed multiple rounds of analysis over this time, assessing metrics of accessibility for all draft versions and the final adopted version of the *BaltimoreLink* network. The analysis incorporated community feedback and demonstrated how community feedback influenced design and function.

Cartographic Support to the Patuxent River Commission

Planning updated the mapping of the Patuxent River Commission's Patuxent Water Trail. Staff also developed a reference map for the Patuxent River Commission to utilize for tourism and marketing. The map details access sites and points of interest along the Patuxent Water Trail.

Sustainable Community Metrics

Planning completed Sustainable Community metrics for walkability by census blocks.

Housing and Transportation Data Update

The Geospatial Data and Analysis unit completed the Housing and Transportation Data Update based on recent Location Affordability Index Data from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



Support for the Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay Model

We collaborated with the Chesapeake Bay Program and Maryland's local governments by providing a statewide database of septic systems. The data is critical to the 2017 re-evaluation of watershed implementation plans to reduce nitrogen loads under the U.S. EPA's Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) regulations.

County Sewer Service Amendments

We updated State Sewer Service data to reflect hundreds of recent county Water and Sewer Plan amendments approved by the Department of the Environment. Planning is the sole state agency which updates and maintains a Statewide Sewer Service Area Database.



Secretary Wendi Peters joined St. Mary's County officials in commemorating the first landing of English colonists in Maryland at St. Clement's Island in 1634 as part of the county's 383rd Maryland Day celebration. Secretary Peters participated in the wreath-laying ceremony following with County Commission President James R. Guy.



Projections and State Data Center

Local Update of Census Addresses Support

The State Data Center worked with the U.S. Census Bureau to coordinate the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) outreach through promotions at various meetings and conferences. *See the featured article on the facing page.*

Statewide Public School Enrollment Projections

We prepared the annual report on public school enrollment projections for 2017-2026. The report provides projections of public school enrollments by grade for all the counties of Maryland and Baltimore City. Statistics on actual enrollment for 2006-2016 are also included in the report.

The public school enrollment projections utilize Planning's population projections by age and sex for each jurisdiction. The projections are used to derive school age population (persons 5-17 years of age) and projected births. These projections are then used in conjunction with a "grade succession" methodology to derive the ten-year, grade-specific enrollment projections. Our projections overall are within 0.5% of what occurs in the public school system statewide.

Census Boundary Updates

We reviewed and updated block boundaries for all 24 jurisdictions in Maryland based on suggestions from the U.S. Census Bureau and submitted the changes for the 2020 Census Update.

Population Estimates

We prepared tables, charts, and a write-up of population estimates for Maryland's municipalities through 2016. We also prepared detailed tables for age, race, and sex based on 2016 Census Estimates data for Maryland and its 24 jurisdictions.

Statewide Demographic Data and Analysis

We prepared an analysis report based on the Federal Housing Finance Agency's home price index with tables, charts, and a write-up for the U.S., Maryland, and its regions. Our work also included preparation of detailed tables and reports for the 2015 American Community Survey (one-year and five-year data), including comparison data with previous years ACS data. Data was compiled for Maryland and all of its jurisdictions (where available), including Congressional Districts, Places and Metro Areas.



Local Update of Census Addresses



The Projections and State Data Center unit, as Maryland's liaison with the U.S. Census Bureau, helps prepare for the decennial census. Since the 2010 Census, the Bureau has maintained and updated household addresses in preparation for the 2020 Census.

The Local Update of Census Addresses program, or LUCA, is the only opportunity for Maryland to review and update the Census Bureau's residential address list prior to the Census. The LUCA operation takes place between January and July of 2018. LUCA enables the Census to reach every Maryland address, laying the foundation for a complete count.

By law, the highest elected official of each county or municipality must decide whether to register for the LUCA operation and, if so, to undertake the review themselves or delegate it to a higher level of government. Planning stands ready to conduct reviews for any local government that requests its assistance. We reached out to and informed these individuals through meetings, email, and mailings in advance of the registration decision deadline. There is a vast difference in technology and capacity across the state and we are making sure that each jurisdiction is aware of the program and is prepared.

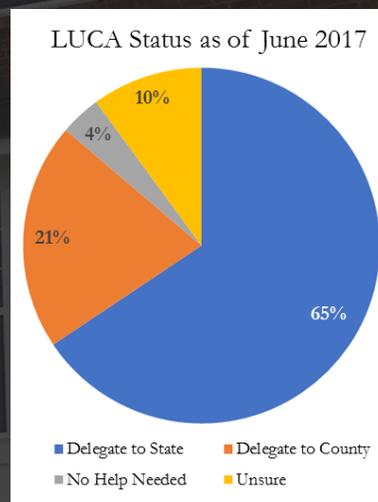
Planning surveyed every jurisdiction in Maryland (via postal mail and email) to collect information such as technical contact information and LUCA participation intent. We received responses from approximately 90% of the jurisdictions:

- 19 are unsure how they want to proceed and are interested in learning more about LUCA.
- 124 are delegating the LUCA responsibility to Planning.
- 39 are delegating this responsibility to their county.
- 7 do not anticipate needing support from the Planning department.
- 8 anticipate needing technical assistance, data, or QA/QC support.
- 29 have attended a LUCA promotional presentation but have not responded with their intent.
- 89 have not yet responded, 32 of which have been invited to a webinar or meeting, leaving 57 to focus on between now and the end of July.



Planning leveraged our presence at the Maryland Municipal League summer conference to promote awareness of LUCA to municipal leaders. We produced a PSA video featuring Lt. Governor Rutherford and Secretary Peters to underscore the importance of good addresses to ensure census success for Maryland. Our PSA attracted the attention of the Census Bureau as a solid proactive step. They were so impressed by how far along Planning was in the process that they expressed interest in using our effort as a nationwide model for public outreach.

Registration for LUCA ends on December 15, 2017, and local jurisdictions must declare their intention to register for LUCA participation and to coordinate their support needs with Planning. We are preparing to meet this challenge and coordinate the process.



Population Projections

We updated our population projections for age, race, and sex for Maryland and its 24 jurisdictions. The population projections are from 2010 to 2045 and are done in five-year intervals.

Work Area Profiles

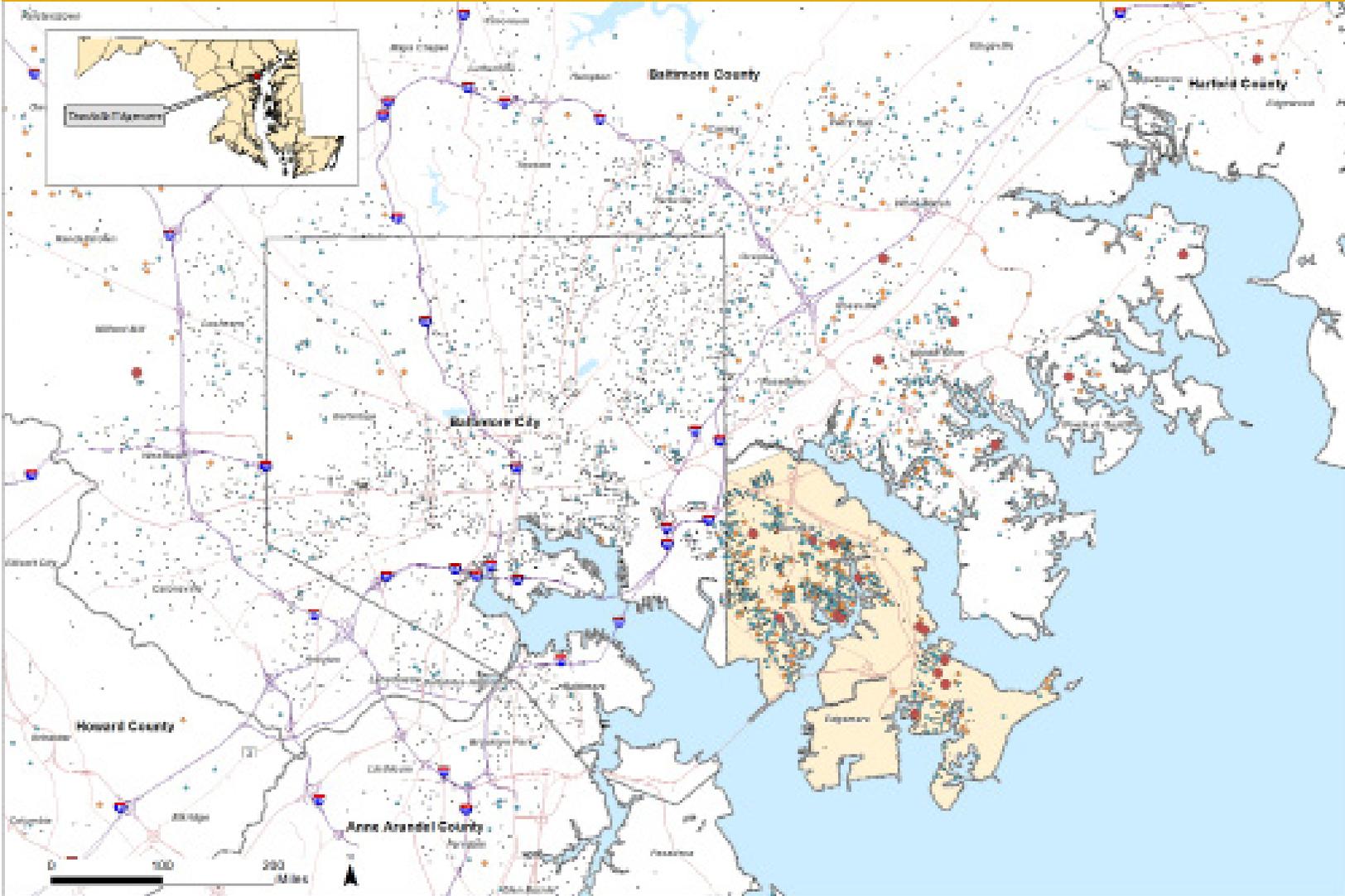
The State Data Center embarked on a project to study employment in the Dundalk/Edgemere area of Baltimore County. Using data from U.S. Census, we created a map that shows where the people live and commute who work in the area. The result is a map that represents the density of people who work in the Dundalk/Edgemere study area to where they reside in the region. Charts are included to show characteristics about the employment base. This includes jobs by type and industry, and educational attainment and age of workers. The Work Area Profile map was presented at the 2017 Governor's Business Summit in May. The State Data Center's ability to synthesize various demographic and employment data into a single infographic map drew the attention of many economic development and business leaders in attendance. *See the featured infographic on the facing page.*

Economic Data and Analysis

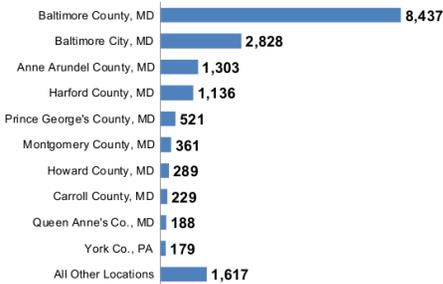
We prepared and updated data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) to do quarterly analysis, tables, and charts of state personal income estimates for the U.S. (all 50 states and the District of Columbia). Our analysis included personal income by major source and earnings by major industry, as well as wages and salaries by major industry for Maryland. We prepared a residential sales summary and affordability report, which illustrates the median residential sale value for all 24 jurisdictions in Maryland. Building permit data for single-family, multi-family, and all developments tabulated by monthly data was prepared and posted on the State Data Center website.

Secretary Peters and Erin Goodnough, Director, Planning Data and Research, discuss Planning's capabilities for providing data analysis to support economic development at the 2017 Governor's Business Summit.

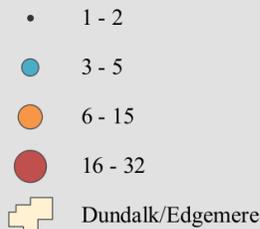




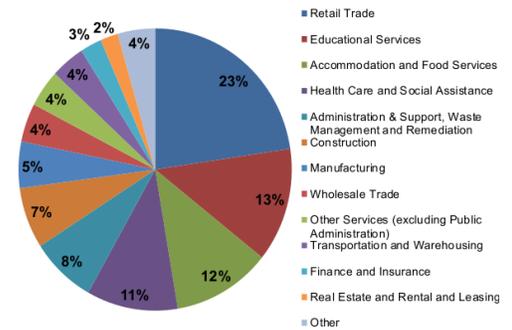
Where Workers Commute From who Work in Dundalk/Edgemere



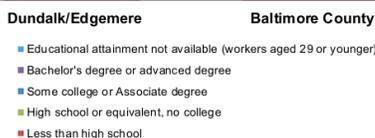
Workers in Dundalk/Edgemere by Location of Residence



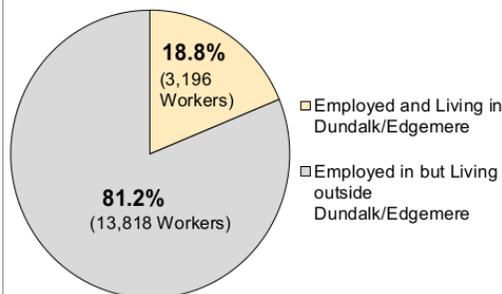
Industry Sector for Jobs Located in Dundalk/Edgemere



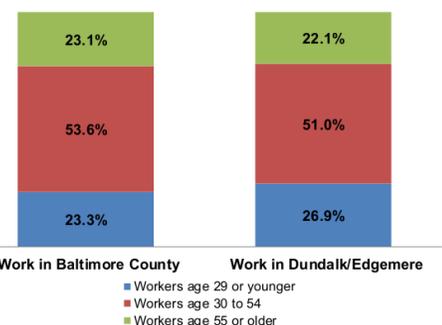
Worker Educational Attainment



Share of Workers Living Inside and Outside Dundalk/Edgemere



Age of Worker



Statewide Emergency Operations Support

The Department of Planning provides current and projected data and analysis on demographic, economic, housing, and social characteristics of the population in support of the State Emergency Operations Center. We provide technical assistance to federal and state agencies during emergency management response activities, and develop tactical and operational plans to support emergency management planning. During emergencies, the State Data Center monitors response activities to identify and locate historic properties and cultural resources that may be adversely impacted by the event, and provides data products, GIS support, and technical assistance to state agencies and local governments. After emergencies, the unit helps coordinate state resources and assistance programs to support local governments' efforts to manage and implement recovery, and review and prioritize federally sponsored hazard mitigation projects. Activities conducted during the year included the following:

- We assisted with the draft of the Cultural Resources State Coordinating Function (CRSCF) annex. The CRSCF is the primary coordinating organization that considers the impact of consequence management operations on cultural resources through preparedness planning and protection, response operations, and community planning and resiliency building following a consequence management incident. The annex is a component of the State of Maryland Consequence Management Operations Plan.
- For the Department of Human Resources, we prepared summary tables of population and housing characteristics for the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Areas. Charts for each specified geographic area and statistical tables displaying characteristics within geographic area and geographic area as a percent of total were also provided. In addition, we updated the shelter capacity planning database for Department of Human Resources Mass Care and Shelter Plan.

After incidents, such as the flooding in Ellicott City on July 30, 2016, Planning's emergency planner and historic preservation experts are activated to assist in the recovery phase. *See the featured Ellicott City success story on page 40.*



Property Mapping

Statewide Parcel Data Management

We assembled parcel boundary files from local government sources as well as parcel boundaries maintained and updated by the Property Mapping unit, then linked the files to property assessment data for use in geographic information systems (GIS) and online applications. This data is available as a free download from Planning's website and in the case of our *FINDER* Quantum product download, is bundled with free, open source GIS desktop software and a customized project file.

Tax Map Product Updates and Enhancements

The Property Mapping unit performed updates and maintenance of the state's Tax Assessment Maps, made available in paper or digital image format, as well as for use in geographic information systems such as Planning's downloadable data products including *MdProperty View* and *FINDER* Quantum, and as an image service on MD iMAP.

Online Application Enhancements

The *FINDER* Online web application was enhanced with updated aerial imagery, a topographic base map, and an option to view Tax Assessment Maps in alternate colors for enhanced display. *FINDER* Online provides free public access to property-related information as well as other planning and environmental data viewable over high-resolution aerial imagery.

Planning by The Numbers

Data Products Downloads
FY 2017

8,201 MdProperty View files

2,202 FINDER Quantum files

81,636 visits to FINDER Online

182,763 visits to Parcel Viewer

This adds up to:
Citizens and businesses having important data available when they need it.



Maryland Historical Trust

Planning by The Numbers

Heritage Areas Program
2017

125 grant applications
\$5.3 million requested

52 projects awarded
\$2.7 million funded
\$10.1 million leveraged

This adds up to:
Increased private investment
in our future.

Over the course of FY 2017, the Maryland Historical Trust (the Trust) administered a wide variety of research, protection, and financial assistance programs that helped aid state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and individuals undertake preservation-related activities.

Office of Planning, Education and Outreach

Heritage Areas Program

Governed by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and administered by the Maryland Historical Trust, the Maryland Heritage Areas Program provides targeted financial and technical assistance within thirteen locally designated Heritage Areas, each of which represents a unique aspect of Maryland's historic and cultural character. In FY 2017, 125 grant applications were submitted, totaling more than \$5.3 million in requests for heritage tourism projects and activities statewide. The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority awarded \$2.7 million to 52 projects that foster economic development through heritage tourism, leveraging \$10 million in matching support.

Left: Baltimore National Heritage Area Community Outreach at Rawlings Conservatory; *Right:* National Capital Trolley Museum, part of the Heritage Montgomery Heritage Area



Local Government Assistance

Staff provided technical assistance and guidance related to preservation planning and policies to local governments and non-profit groups throughout the state. As part of the Certified Local Government program which is administered in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS), the Trust awarded \$79,780 to eight of the 21 local government program participants. Funds supported preservation projects as well as education and training. Staff presented on preservation planning and policy in a variety of settings, including at Preservation Maryland's annual conference, the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions' annual symposium, and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions biennial Forum.

Weather It Together Program

Supported by a grant through the federal Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Fund, the statewide Weather It Together 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 multi-year program has produced trainings, model guidance, and educational materials to assist local governments, based on a planning framework promoted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Throughout 2017, staff offered one-on-one technical assistance to aid local governments ready to embark on hazard mitigation planning and stewarded \$280,000 in grants to projects that identify historic properties and archeological sites at risk to natural hazards and recommend mitigation actions to reduce that risk.



As part of the multi-agency Maryland Resiliency Partnership, staff participated in outreach to the Maryland Association of Counties, the Maryland Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers conference, and the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy's *Unsinkable Eastern Shore II: Rural America Responds to Climate Change*. In May 2017, the Trust hosted *Weather It Together: Protecting Maryland's Historic Buildings from Floods*, a day-long workshop that addressed hazard mitigation planning, disaster response and recovery, and mitigation options for historic properties prone to flooding.



Terrestrial Archeology Assistance and Public Programs

Secretary Wendi Peters and Secretary Ben Grumbles, Maryland Department of the Environment (*right*) presented Senator Bernie Fowler (*center*) a Governor's Citation for his 30 years of Patuxent River cleanup awareness. Since 1988, Senator Fowler has held the annual Patuxent River Wade-in to advocate for the health of the Patuxent River and Chesapeake Bay. The annual Bernie Fowler Patuxent Wade-In has been held at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum since 2010, after 22 years at Broomes Island one mile away.

Staff assisted five state agencies by issuing eight terrestrial archeology permits between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 for investigations on agency lands. 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 the Calvert County Department of Community Planning and Building and the Archeological Society of Maryland, the 2017 Field Session focused on a location on the shore of Battle Creek, a tributary of the Patuxent River, that was the site of Calverton, the second town established by the Colony. Calverton was the seat of government in Calvert County from 1668 through 1724, when it was largely abandoned. The British burned what remained of the town during the War of 1812. Today, the site is an open agricultural field threatened by severe coastal erosion. More than 50 volunteers participated in the 2017 Field Session, which lasted over eleven days.



Office of Research, Survey and Registration

Research and Survey

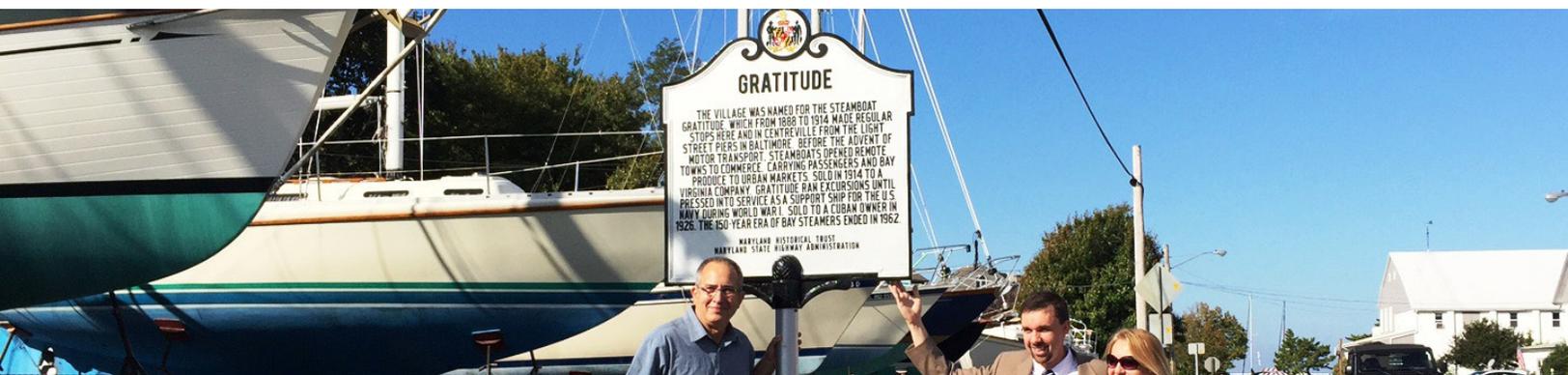
Through research and survey, the Trust helps identify important historic and cultural properties and develop a detailed record of their past and present appearance, history, and significance. In FY 2017, staff continued to administer six architectural grant programs and two archeological grant projects related to Hurricane Sandy, funded by the NPS, as well as deliverables for projects funded through the *Weather It Together* and Certified Local Government programs. Staff met with county preservation planners as part of continued outreach efforts to local governments. Planning also conducted numerous site visits to advise property owners and county preservation partners and assist in documentation throughout the state. Staff also updated materials and solicited applications for the Non-Capital Historic Preservation Grant program, which was funded by Governor Hogan for the first time since 2012.

Staff added 103 standing structures and survey districts, as well as 183 updates, to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties – totaling over 7,539 acres. Staff added 160 archeological sites, as well as 113 updates, to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties. One hundred twelve archeological survey reports were accessioned into the Maryland Historical Trust Library, covering 3,792 acres.

Military Monuments and Roadside Markers

In FY 2017, staff coordinated maintenance for twelve monuments on the Eastern Shore and initial treatment for one in Pomfret and one in Hagerstown. 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 2017, three markers were installed.

The Gratitude roadside marker, unveiled in the town of Rock Hall in Kent County, was one of three new markers erected in FY 2017. MHT, in conjunction with State Highway Administration, manages almost 800 Maryland roadside historical markers.



Geographic Information System

In May of 2017, the Trust launched an online version of Map-Based Medusa, the State's cultural resource information system. Medusa provides access to over 45,000 known architectural and 15,000 known archeological resources in Maryland. An important customer service innovation, Medusa allows the public to find historic property information quickly and easily, whenever and wherever they want, through an interactive tool based on geographic information systems (GIS). This new system revolutionizes the presentation of cultural resource information and conforms to the state's policy that open data be machine readable and released to the public in ways that make the data easy to find. Medusa enables digital access to this information in a variety of ways, including database fields, narrative documents, and photographs. Anyone can view an area of interest and access inventory forms, National Register nominations, determinations of eligibility, and detailed reports about historic and cultural resources. Consultants and staff can view a proposed project area and see all the known architectural and archeological resources. *See the featured article on the facing page.*

National Register of Historic Places

In FY 2017, the National Park Service added St. Brigid's School and Convent and Remington Historic District – both in Baltimore City – to the National Register of Historic Places. Through these listings, 1,207 Maryland properties are afforded the benefits and protections of National Register designation. NPS also designated Schifferstadt in Frederick County as a National Historic Landmark. The highest level of designation within the federal historic preservation program, National Historic Landmark status, is reserved for properties that possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Schifferstadt is the 74th Maryland property to be so recognized.

The National Park Service added the Remington Historic District in Baltimore City to its National Register of Historic Places.



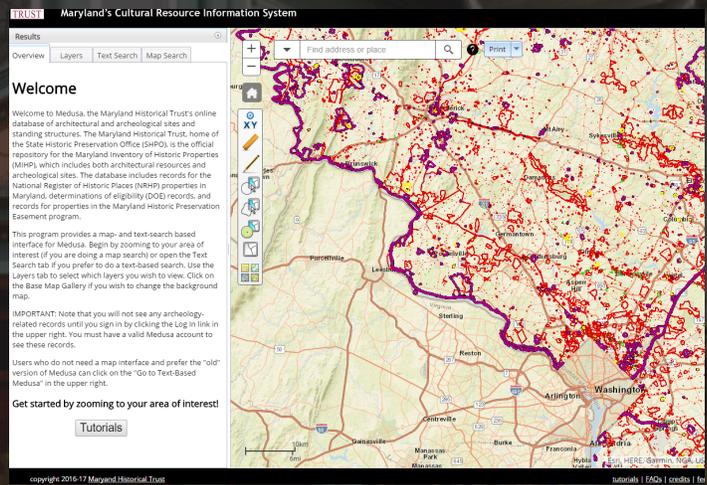
Map-Based Medusa Maryland's Digital Historic Resource Library Online



What historical treasures does a neighborhood or local village boast? What is the significance of sites memorialized by roadside marker's? To answer those questions, the Maryland Historical Trust (the Trust) has combined cutting edge mapping technology with some of Maryland's oldest cultural resources in its new online tool named Map-Based Medusa. From the Drayden African American Schoolhouse in St. Mary's County to the Harold Georg Farm outside of the Town of Accident in Garrett County, interested researchers can dig into endless information and documents detailing Maryland's rich historical and archeological legacy.

The Trust is a vital part of Planning and is the state agency dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past. Through research, conservation, and education, the Trust assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage.

Medusa, accessible on both desktop and handheld devices, allows users to search by keywords or by clicking on a cultural resource directly from the interactive map. It provides the researcher the ability to view only those map features – for example National Register of Historic Places or Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties – that they are interested in analyzing. Once a resource is selected, images and historical documents are readily accessible for download or to print. Medusa is not only handy for amateur historians, it is a powerful tool for local government staff and officials interested in preserving and accentuating their local cultural assets.



Planners use the term “placemaking” frequently to highlight efforts that develop a location's identity and draw. Cultures in Maryland have been placemaking for centuries.

Office of Preservation Services

Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program

The Maryland Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program, which includes competitive commercial, small commercial, and residential tax credits, has helped restore more than 4,501 homeowner and 673 commercial historic structures, preserving buildings that contribute to the distinct character and economic vibrancy of Maryland’s towns, cities, and rural areas. For the FY 2017 round of commercial tax credits, 14 applicants sought a total of \$23,923,450 in tax credits for construction projects having a total estimated cost of \$125,347,300. The Trust awarded more than \$9 million in tax credits for 2017, which is expected to leverage private investment of more than \$55 million. The Maryland Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program approved 14 proposed Small Commercial Tax Credit projects worth \$450,310.20 of credits in counties across the state and 184 proposed Homeowner Tax Credit projects worth an estimated \$1,938,395.80.

In FY 2017, program staff received over 298 new project applications, both federal and state, while continuing to finalize certifications on projects from past years. State applications are inclusive of the residential, competitive commercial and small commercial project designations. The completed Part III certified State tax credit projects for FY 2017 may be categorized as follows:

FY 2017 Completed State Rehabilitation Tax Credit Projects

	No. of Projects	Total Proposed Expenditure	Average Proposed Expenditure	Total Final Expenditure	Average Final Expenditure
Residential	132	\$8,645,213	\$65,494	\$8,705,336	\$65,949
Competitive Commercial	6	\$35,814,702	\$5,969,117	\$35,185,345	\$5,864,224
Small Commercial	2	\$179,950	\$89,975	\$201,307	\$100,653



Review and Compliance

In 2017, the Trust reviewed over 6,500 projects that include public funding pursuant to federal and state historic preservation legislation to assess the effects of those projects on cultural resources. Staff formally evaluated 274 resources identified within project areas for their eligibility in the National Register of Historic Places. Consultation resulted in 28 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 public, to facilitate the successful completion of the historic preservation review process. Staff provided multiple trainings on the Section 106 consultation process to federal and state agencies and their grant recipients including: NPS superintendents and staff from the National Capital Region, permit staff from the Corps of Engineers and the Department of the Environment, and recipients of state bond bill funds.



Constructed in 1937 at the end of the Great Depression, the Ramamciotti/ Professional Arts Building was the first major Art Deco style structure within the city of Hagerstown and remains the only example of the style in City Center. This building was built to give hope, through its design, to citizens of Hagerstown. The six story landmark features a remarkably intact storefront, interior floorplan, and facades. The Ramamciotti Building project was awarded 2017 Historic Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credits of \$190,000 to rehabilitate the historic plan and design of the building where it will once again serve Hagerstown as an office building with first floor retail space. *(Right: The building depicted in a postcard circa 1945; Left: Ramacciotti Building as it stands today)*



Ellicott City Success Story



Immediately after a flash flood decimated the historic district of Ellicott City on the evening of July 30, 2016, Trust staff mobilized quickly to assist. Staff reached out to sister agencies to loop into response and recovery operations and arrived on site within 48 hours of the flood to view the damage firsthand, including to properties in the National Register Historic District.

Field teams then spent a week and a half completing individual assessments of every historic property affected by the flood. Once finished, approximately 170 damage assessment forms were completed and over 1,500 photographs were taken. Through the Trust's participation in the Maryland Silver Jackets program, staff were invited to join engineers from the Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the site visit to evaluate potential flood mitigation options for historic buildings. Overall, the Trust spent more than 400 hours on flood assistance. As a result, Ellicott City's historic buildings have a better chance at recovery, and both the County and the Trust are better equipped to provide technical assistance and responses to questions from historic property owners about the rehabilitation of their buildings.



Grant and Loans

The Trust provided \$1 million in capital grants to 12 projects under the 2017 African American Heritage Preservation Program. The program received 37 eligible applications for a total funding request of approximately \$3,151,000. Staff continue to administer approximately 33 capital grants via the African American Heritage Preservation Program and approximately 16 capital loans, as well as a \$1.47 million grant from the NPS through the Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Fund.

Historic Preservation Easement Program

In FY 2017, the Trust acquired five new easements or modifications. The program now holds 703 easements on 852 properties, encompassing approximately 7,748 acres statewide. During the year, the Easement Committee reviewed approximately 131 requests from property owners/operators for changes to these easement properties, including full scale projects and minor alterations. Staff conducted 57 easement property inspections statewide.

Maryland Maritime Archeology Program

The Trust continues to play a significant role in the pending nomination of Mallows Bay Historic District, currently under consideration by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as the first new National Marine Sanctuary in more than 20 years. Staff collaborated on research supported by the NPS on sites threatened by coastal erosion and cooperated with the Institute of Maritime History to survey for the remains of an 18th century shipyard in the Potomac River. Staff oversaw completion of two of three NPS Maritime Heritage grants. Six new NPS applications were reviewed, in addition to Ocean Exploration and Research grant applications for the NOAA. Program staff provided over 15 presentations and lectures on various historical and archeological topics statewide, such as historic preservation law, ship architecture, the Battle of Kedges Strait, and the Ghost fleet at Mallows Bay. Staff also contributed to a Preservation Maryland podcast, worked with PBS and the College of Southern Maryland to offer previews of six WWI-focused films, and participated in public educational offerings by the Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society.



Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

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

Educational Programs and Events

In FY 2017, almost 85,000 people visited the park. In the fall of 2016, JPPM held its annual 1812 Fair and Re-enactment as well as the first annual JPPM 5K run/walk and a celebration of American Indian Heritage Day. In early June 2017, more than 3,500 people participated in the 32nd Annual Children's Day on the Farm. A week later, JPPM 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 Patuxent River.

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum's 32nd Annual Children's Day on the Farm drew more than 3,500 visitors. This annual event is a celebration of Southern Maryland's rich agricultural heritage that features attractions such as the antique Tractor Parade, and demonstrations, hands-on activities, pony rides, games, and live entertainment.

JPPM'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. As in years past, staff worked with students from Huntingtown High School on an archeology-based project. In addition, for a fourth year, the JPPM education department worked with students from Mill Creek Middle School in Lusby to produce short videos on themes related to Maryland history. In total, more than 3,300 children participated in educational programs in FY 2017.

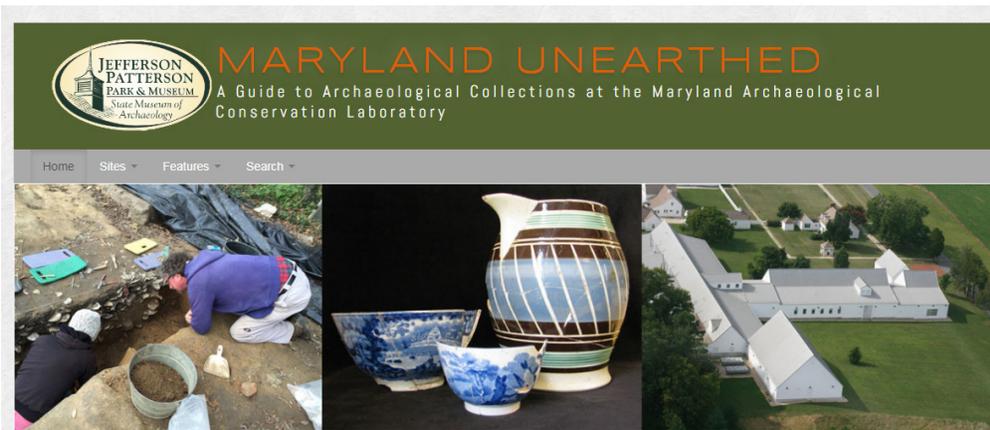


Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Lab at JPPM houses the state's archaeological collection, which includes over eight million objects collected over the past 100 years. In FY 2017, lab staff conserved artifacts from clients throughout the United States, including:

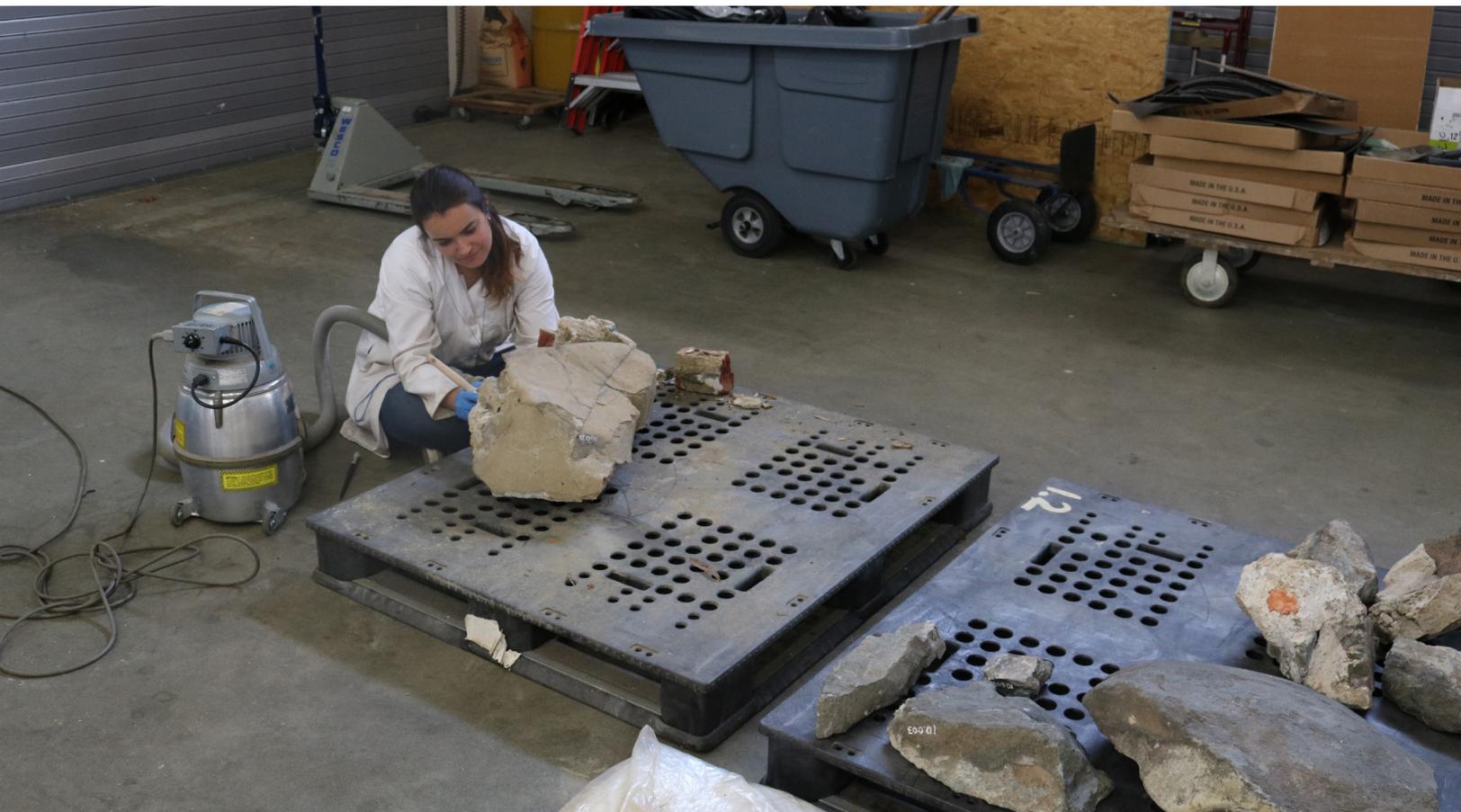
- Timbers from a 19th century coal barge that sank in Ohio and an 18th century shipwreck from the Nanticoke River,
- 13 cannon for the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia,
- Solder dot tin cans from Deadwood, South Dakota,
- A ship's bell from the battleship USS Delaware, and
- A felted wool stovepipe hat and wooden bottle molds from the I-95 project in Philadelphia.

Staff also cleaned and documented all of the Bald Friar petroglyphs. These petroglyphs, thought to be 500 to 1,000 years old, are prehistoric depictions which were carved into rock on several islands in the Susquehanna River channel below Bald Friar Falls. The creators of the glyphs are still a mystery today. With imminent inundation of the glyphs from construction of the Conowingo Dam, a Maryland Academy of Sciences team rescued many of the carvings in 1926, eventually being stored at three locations. In 2006, the portion of the petroglyphs that were stored at Druid Hill Park in Baltimore were relocated to the MAC Lab for curation.



Lab staff provided tours to 391 people and conducted outreach and activities in local schools. Staff completed a searchable database of the lab's collections through a grant funded by Maryland State Highway Administration. The new site is entitled "Maryland Unearthed: A Guide to Archaeological Collections at the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory" (<http://jefpat.org/mdunearth/>). As part of the Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum's Public Archaeology Program, 178 people contributed 674.75 hours digging at the Smith's St. Leonard site or processing artifacts in the lab. In the spring of 2017, the lab held two two-day workshops focused on artifact identification and field conservation strategies, which were open to any practicing professionals and graduate students in the field of archeology. Both workshops reached their full enrollment.

The MAC Lab's Julie Flynn working on the Bald Friar petroglyphs, moved to the lab in 2013.





Baltimore Planning Staff

THE CUSTOMER SERVICE PROMISE

The State of Maryland pledges to provide constituents, businesses, customers, and stakeholders with services in the following manner:

- **Friendly and Courteous:** We will be helpful and supportive and have a positive attitude and passion for what we do.
- **Timely and Responsive:** We will be proactive, take initiative, and anticipate your needs.
- **Accurate and Consistent:** We will always aim for 100% accuracy, and be consistent in how we interpret and implement state policies and procedures.
- **Accessible and Convenient:** We will continue to simplify and improve access to information and resources.
- **Truthful and Transparent:** We will advance a culture of honesty, clarity and trust.



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