Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report

Value Our Shared Heritage

Shape Places Where All Have the Opportunity to Thrive

Inform Decisions for Sustainable Growth

A Message from Governor Wes Moore

I am pleased to present the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report for the Maryland Department of Planning.

We are building a state with a dynamic economy, unleashing a new wave of dynamism by harnessing the great assets we already have – and getting them moving in the same direction. I want Maryland to be the headquarters of the 21st century, with an economy on the leading edge of innovation, with businesses ready to dominate, and with a labor force ready to drive growth.

The Maryland Department of Planning is committed to providing guidance, resources, and partnership necessary to make this Maryland's decade. We are data driven and heart led in our approach to innovation and the Department of Planning is essential in these efforts.

I am pleased to present the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report for the Maryland Department of Planning.

Sincerely,

Wes Moore
Governor

A Message from the Secretary

Maryland is expected to add one million in population by 2050 based on the State Data & Analysis Center projections. How will Maryland grow its communities in a sustainable manner that provides economic benefit for all and enhances the value of our unique natural systems? Sustainable growth must be adaptive and resilient to an unprecedented pace of transformation that is being driven by fast changing markets, climate change, demographic shifts, commuting patterns, and other factors impacting where people live, how they work and the shape of places they occupy. To meet these challenges and optimize the opportunities ahead, the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) must evolve as an agency to fully support other agencies and our localities for the sustainable growth of Maryland.

To do this, we are forming stronger partnerships with universities, non-government organizations, and other state agencies to serve as the State's source for socio-economic data, analysis and projections. Our planners are shifting engagement with local communities to be more proactive in the advancement of best practices through enhanced education programs and training. Our geospatial analysis and mapping team is working to enhance scenario planning and visualization capacity and expanding the use of tools that inform decision making for the future. Our new approach to reviews and reporting will engage multiple disciplines across agencies and sectors to ensure all factors are balanced in the assessment and quantifiable outcomes are reported. Finally, our work to value and uplift Maryland's heritage through the preservation and appropriate redevelopment of buildings, places, and landscapes will remain core to MDP and its role in advancing sustainable growth.

As a result, MDP's role in state government is shifting to one of informing, leading, and visualizing a future for all of Maryland that shapes communities where all have the opportunity to thrive and places that are loved and treasured by Marylanders.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Flora, AICP, LEED ND / BD+C
Secretary

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Introduction

The Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) 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 and public sectors. Our work reflects the priorities and direction of the Moore-Miller administration, including a focus on efficiency while emphasizing flexibility, and collaboration with local jurisdictions to promote economic development and environmental stewardship.

MDP serves the state and local jurisdictions with 134 budgeted positions, and is organized into three divisions – Operations, Regional Planning and Placemaking Services, and the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT).

Operations is responsible for the administrative support for the department, including the department's budget, financial matters, information technology, procurement, and logistics.

A new division to MDP in FY23 is **External Affairs**. This unit was developed to meet the growing need for the department to be more engaged in the legislative process at all levels of government. Additionally, External Affairs focuses on developing partnerships with non-governmental organizations and entities to further the mission of MDP and facilitate the goals of our strategic plan. The Communications division is also within this unit. 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 **Regional Planning and Placemaking Services**, MDP typically completes more than 200 technical assistance projects for counties and municipalities every year. The department provides support in reviewing or drafting dozens of comprehensive plans or ordinances for local governments. 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. MDP also ensures that proposed financial and nonfinancial assistance projects within Maryland are consistent with state and local laws, regulations, and guidelines.

Maryland Department of Planning staff with Governor Wes Moore at the Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum

Maryland Department of Planning

Senior Management Team
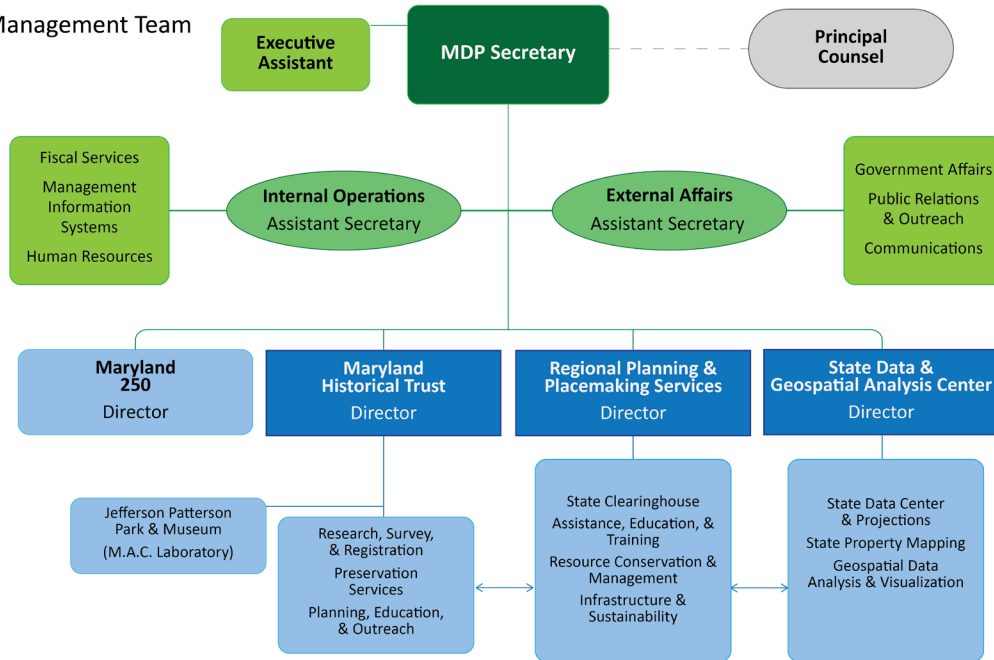
MHT is dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past and serves as Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). It provides direct assistance to a broad base of local, state, and federal stakeholders in the identification, protection, and enhancement of historic and cultural resources. MHT administers a variety of historic preservation grant, loan, and tax credit programs, including the Historic Revitalization Tax Credit, which leverages private investment in the rehabilitation of both commercial and residential historic properties. MHT also administers and oversees the operation of the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JPPM) in Calvert County, which includes the Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Laboratory.

MDP works with Maryland's jurisdictions to enhance the built environment to improve communities. We work with communities to help shape a vision for their future that continues to protect and preserve the natural environment. We view the cultural, historic, and natural resources of our communities as catalysts that strengthen and renew economic and community development and growth.

We appreciate the diversity of Maryland's people and geography and recognize that successful solutions require balancing the concerns of various interests and stakeholders. It is our responsibility to provide guidance for the direction of state resources most efficiently across jurisdictional 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.

Internal Operations

In addition to the continued focus on the governor's customer service initiative and promise, MDP's Operations Division is focused on all departmental budgetary matters as well as agency-wide technical and operational assistance. The unit accesses the resources necessary to further the mission of each program and provides recommendations for future funding and budget allocations.

This division supports all facets of the department, from financial services, information technology and procurement, to logistics, legislative relations on budget matters, and human resources.

The prior administration made a commitment to move all state agencies from the State Office Building in midtown Baltimore to other areas within the city's central business district. After a selection process, the agency is moving to 120 East Baltimore Street in early 2024. The Operations division worked closely with the Department of General Services to ensure that all elements of the move transition smoothly, including furniture selection from the Maryland Correctional Enterprises to support work training for qualifying members of the state's incarcerated population.

A key factor in the second half of FY23 was a mandate from the new administration to fill vacant positions that have remained unfilled. MDP began meeting with a key group of stakeholders from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to expedite the process. As the liaison to the Human Resources enterprise model, vacancies continue to be in focus and the operation unit is working with DBM staff to make strides in reducing vacancy rates.

The fiscal unit is responsible for compliance with all applicable state and federal fiscal laws, rules, regulations, and policies. The Operations unit establishes and maintains effective internal control structures to prevent, detect, and deter errors, fraud, and abuse. The unit also ensures economic and efficient operations, maintains accurate and complete financial records, provides payroll services, and prepares and develops budget and fiscal year closeout submissions.

The Information Technology unit provides technical support and cyber security to the agency and ensures all employees are equipped with the necessary hardware and software to fulfill their duties.

Once new departmental leadership was established in January 2023, the office began holding monthly staff meetings. This became a critical part of the planning process for a new strategic plan implemented by the department. Staff participated in multiple exercises to assist in identifying key issues of importance to be included in the plan, which led to a staff-wide retreat at the end of the fiscal year where team-building and collaboration led to the creation of a new strategic plan. Governor Moore joined MDP, MHT, and JPPM staff to share his vision on the importance of being mission driven and strategically centered to accomplish the state's goals and priorities. Additionally, this event also served to honor dozens of staff members who had reached important milestones in their years of service to the state of Maryland.

External Affairs

In March 2023, an External Affairs unit was created within MDP. External Affairs has two primary areas of focus – Communications and Government Affairs. External Affairs focuses on direct and peripheral relationships to allow the department to accomplish its goal of being a greater resource to state, federal, and local government entities as well as non-government organizations, and serve as an important partner for initiatives furthering the goals of Governor Moore's administration. It also serves as the point of contact for press inquiries, Public Information Act requests, and other interactions with external entities.

Communications

Communications supports the agency by highlighting the work of MDP throughout the state. It uses social media platforms, our three websites, and constituent subscriber-based email communication to provide information about initiatives and programs, including the department's work on-the-ground, Maryland Heritage Areas, the Patuxent River Wade-In, and MHT's Historic Revitalization Tax Credit program, among others.

Through our social media channels, Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), and LinkedIn, we promote the agency's work, internal and external events, strategic and data-driven webinars, job openings, and more. In FY23, MDP staff posted 470 messages, made 29,676 impressions, and attained 10,193 followers across all social media platforms.

Digital Communications

GovDelivery Email Broadcast

379 Constituent Emails Broadcast	4.2 million Subscriber Recipients	25.7% Email Open Rate	40,000+ Subscription Growth	230,271 Subscribers

Planning.Maryland.gov Website

265,292 Website Users	460,160 Engaged Sessions	696,841 Pages Viewed	7,795 Files Downloaded

We sent 379 constituent emails through our GovDelivery subscriber-based engagement system. These were sent to more than 4.2 million recipients and received an open rate of 25.7 percent. Our subscribers grew by almost 40,000 to a total of 230,271 subscriptions to end FY23.

Our website boasted 265,292 users in FY23 in 460,160 engaged website sessions. This resulted in 696,841 pages viewed and 7,795 files downloaded on Planning.Maryland.gov.

Communications processed and completed 13 Public Information Act requests over FY23. All requests complied with the 30-day requirement to complete requests.These satisfied requests involved 144 in total responsive records.

Public Information Act Requests

13
Public Information
Act Requests from
Constituents

13
Complied
with 30-Day
Requirement

144
Responsive
Records
Delivered

Government Affairs

Though MDP has engaged in legislative matters in the past, 2023 brought with it a fresh approach to our government affairs efforts. During the 2023 session of the Maryland General Assembly, MDP provided oral and/or written testimony on six legislative matters in the House and Senate, and 41 legislative fiscal and operational impact reviews – 18 of which were passed. Overall, MDP monitored 151 bills on matters of interest to the department. Further, the new Secretary of Planning personally met with 22 members of the General Assembly. These meetings revealed a general lack of understanding of the work of MDP and served to enlighten key members of the legislative body as to the significant resources the department provides to a multitude of stakeholders. This served as the foundation for additional outreach from bill sponsors as to ways in which MDP could play a greater role in various programs, commissions and regulatory matters.

In late FY23, MDP hired a Government Affairs Specialist who is facilitating an enhanced legislative agenda for the department in the years ahead. This position also serves to support legislative measures proposed by other state agencies that have mutually beneficial outcomes for MDP's strategies and mission. Further, the Assistant Secretary for External Affairs and the Government Affairs Specialist joined the Governor's Federal Investment Team (FIT) to collaborate with state agencies to pursue grants and ensure Marylanders get their share of funding available through federal grant program opportunities.

Regional Planning & Placemaking Services

The Regional Planning and Placemaking Services Division is the core of the agency's planning-related functions. The division's personnel are organized into four units, which include Assistance, Education, and Training, Infrastructure and Sustainability, Resource Conservation and Management, and the State Clearinghouse.

Assistance, Education, and Training

Comprehensive Plan Review and Policy Guidance

Regional Planning and Placemaking Services provided significant technical and policy assistance to local governments implementing state planning laws. Regional planning staff completed reviews of 10 local comprehensive plans and amendments in FY23. In addition, they reviewed 33 municipal annexations, and 55 county water and sewer plan (WSP) amendments.

MDP assists local governments with comprehensive plan review to protect natural landscapes and further sustainability.

Local Technical Assistance

The core function of Assistance, Education, and Training is to provide technical assistance to jurisdictions either by helping them navigate federal and state regulations or connecting them to the resources that smaller municipalities cannot deploy. Some examples of technical assistance provided in FY23 include:

La Plata, Charles County: Staff collaborated closely with La Plata on local planning needs, educational development, and planning commission engagement. This included technical support and review of two Priority Funding Area (PFA) exceptions for recently annexed properties to ensure access to safe and healthy water and wastewater and engaging in an affordable housing discussion with city staff, the planning commission, and the Department of Housing and Community Development. La Plata and the Maryland Planning Commissioners Association (MPCA) co-hosted a regional MPCA workshop in the winter of 2023, which drew planning staff and commissioners from throughout the Southern Maryland region. Workshop topics included zoning and growth, affordable housing planning, and a group discussion about the challenges and successes of Southern Maryland planning commissions. MDP's Southern Maryland Regional Planner partnered with the La Plata Planning Director throughout FY23 on the development of a citizen planning academy curriculum for the town that will be used as part of a train the trainer program on the same topic that MDP is developing. Finally, the Assistance and Training Manager partnered with the La Plata Planning Director and Charles County Planning staff to develop and conduct a session on municipal annexations at the 2023 Maryland Municipal League Summer Conference.

Town of Sharpsburg, Washington County: Staff provided technical assistance to the Town of Sharpsburg planner on ordinance language for 5G cell towers. Staff conducted research on Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations regarding this new technology and shared it with the town planner. The town was appreciative of the assistance, sharing it with the Mayor, Council, and town attorney. The town planner agreed to update MDP staff with the town's progress toward a 5G ordinance. Encouraged by MDP's assistance on the 5G issue, a few months later the town planner once again contacted MDP's Western Maryland Regional Office seeking guidance, this time regarding regulations for yard sales and similar uses in residential districts. MDP and Sharpsburg staff discussed time frames and permitting for yard sales and went over how to possibly address these uses in different zoning districts. For smaller towns such as Sharpsburg, MDP's assistance on ordinance issues that may be minor details for larger jurisdictions is essential for community and economic development, as well as interjurisdictional coordination.

Howard County: Even high capacity jurisdictions like Howard County seek the assistance of MDP. Throughout FY23, the Central Maryland Regional Planner, the Planner Supervisor for the Maryland Capital Region, and the Local Assistance and Training Manager aided the county with an update to its comprehensive plan in an effort branded HoCo By Design. MDP staff met with Howard County staff in summer, 2022 to discuss their existing general plan policy that all lands within the public sewer area should be coterminous with the PFA boundary, which informed the county's development of Hoco By Design. The discussion centered on PFA eligibility for several specific properties. MDP staff also explained how, as the county moved through the HoCo By Design planning process and into the zoning ordinance rewrite, they could adjust their floating zone(s) to require a minimum density requirement of PFA designations to better support alignment with the public sewer area. In fall, 2022 and winter, 2023, MDP staff reviewed and provided feedback on working chapters of HoCo By Design, culminating in a full review of the draft document in February 2023. Howard is a charter county and not required to submit draft plans to MDP for review. Their months-long engagement with the department on this effort demonstrates MDP's position as planning authority in Maryland.

Frederick County: MDP has been developing an updated generalized zoning map layer since 2020, including multiple rounds of local government review and feedback. During the final review in FY23, Frederick County expressed concern that our generalized zoning map misrepresented potential residential density in its agriculturally zoned areas, stating that zoning alone did not account for the intentional density limitations of the county's subdivision ordinance. In response,

MDP held multiple meetings with county planners and coordinated a scope for a realized density analysis, completed by the county, that would inform the appropriate generalized zoning category for the county's agricultural areas. Following submission of the analysis, MDP concurred that the county's agriculturally zoned land should not be shown as "Low Density Residential" and at a minimum should be classified as "Rural Medium Density Residential". The analysis demonstrated that the average lot size of newly created lots over the past 10 years has been greater than 10 acres per lot. This process highlighted that proactive outreach by MDP, combined with a positive collaborative approach with Maryland jurisdictions, can contribute to higher quality analytical products.

Town of Millington, Kent County: In winter, 2023, the Town of Millington concurrently submitted annexation resolutions and Sustainable Communities boundary modification requests, to MDP and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) respectively, for review. The town wished to annex a property and develop the former elementary school site into a mix of commercial, senior residential, and community service uses. Following annexation, the town intended to pursue state assistance available through the Sustainable Communities designation to support the redevelopment project. The Upper Eastern Shore Regional Planner noted that the annexation resolution did not propose a zoning designation for the property, which would hinder its ability to designate it as a PFA, which is a prerequisite for Sustainable Communities designation. The Regional Planner coordinated with DHCD and Millington staff to determine the most appropriate zoning designation and modify the annexation and boundary modification submission documents accordingly. As a result of these efforts, the annexed land was successfully added to the town's Sustainable Community boundary and is now eligible for state revitalization funding.

Town of Princess Anne, Somerset County: MDP's Lower Eastern Shore (LES) Office guided the Town of Princess Anne through a series of local planning and community development processes in FY23. These included overseeing the completion and submission of the town's Sustainable Communities Five-Year Renewal application and attending a Town Commissioners meeting to present the final document. LES staff also assisted the town with the preparation of a new zoning map to incorporate annexations and rezonings. In addition to these projects, LES staff educated Princess Anne staff and officials on Critical Area permit review procedures, zoning analysis, and environmental assessments for grant funded projects. Princess Anne significantly struggles to maintain staff. While the LES Office is in the process of extracting itself from the intense technical assistance described here, during FY23 it stepped up to support a Maryland jurisdiction in dire need.

The Crisfield Seafood Workers Mural both honors the workers essential to the industry and supports tourism to this Somerset County city. MDP's Assistance, Education, and Training unit collaborates with counties and municipalities to help preserve their local heritage and way of life, which is essential to furthering sustainable growth and a unique sense of place.

Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is a regional economic development agency and is partially funded by MDP. The program is directed through the Office of the Governor and coordinated and managed by the MDP Secretary, who serves as the Governor's alternate to the ARC. The program manager, who handles the day-to-day operations, works out of MDP's Western Maryland Regional Office, along with additional program support staff. The program manager works closely with the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland, Inc. and Maryland's Local Development District (LDD). The program manager and LDD meet regularly with potential applicants to provide information to ensure complete applications, confirm eligibility under ARC code, and ensure projects are consistent with both the state of Maryland priorities, and ARC goals and strategies.

In The Numbers Federal FY23
Appalachian Regional Commission

A.R.C. in Maryland

23 Supported Projects

$4.3 million Invsted by A.R.C.

$9.6 million Leveraged Investment

This adds up to:

Jobs created and retained, workers/students trained or educated, Increased economic development and quality of life for 252,000 residents.

*Federal fiscal year October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

Results from Targeted Investment Priorities for FY23

Economic Development

We are addressing the unique challenges of the region, collaborating and leveraging investment for economic development.

- **Allegany County Multimodal Transportation Study**
  Funds are being used to develop a Multimodal Transportation Study and Strategic Plan for Allegany County. Like many rural communities, Allegany County has limited transportation options for those who do not have access to a reliable vehicle. Poor access to transportation is linked with decreased income and higher rates of unemployment. The goal of this study is to identify reliable and sustainable transportation strategies to support long-term, stable employment and economic mobility for residents and economic development opportunities in the county.

- **Garrett County Arts Council (GCAC) Feasibility Study and Business Plan**
  Funding assisted the GCAC's $MART ART program to expand the outreach of arts programming in the region. The program offers classes, events, and workshops in visual arts, performing arts, literary arts and culinary arts, and helps local artists connect with audiences online and sell their work. The business plan will help develop a strategy for providing technical assistance and resources to help overcome the lack of skills in digital platforms, production, marketing and business acumen necessary for expanding successful creative entrepreneurship. This project will help Garrett County plan around their art, music, cuisine, history and cultural heritage, and develop tourism ecosystems that will create job opportunities and in the local community.

Infrastructure

MDP staff focused on leveraging resources and collaborating with partners to improve infrastructure throughout the rural region.

- **Funkstown Sanitary Sewer Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Rehabilitation**
  Funding will support the repair of roughly 1,100 linear feet of deteriorated vitrified clay gravity pipe. The project will significantly reduce the chances of an overflow event at the WWTP, which will protect the local environment, and will reduce exfiltration of sewage to groundwater, which will protect public health. It will also create cost savings due to the reduced amount of wastewater treated.

- **Garrett College IT Infrastructure**
  Funding is being used to allow the continuation of a comprehensive technology infrastructure upgrade that addresses critical campus-wide technology framework needs, dramatically augmenting the technology-based computing resources that are accessible for all students and community members. This continuation will focus on two elements: implementation of cloud-based controllers for enhanced broadband connectivity and replacement of antiquated desktop computers in three locations across campus. Collectively, the components of this project expand system access, reliability, and better position the college for the new technology expectations.

- **Evergreen Heritage Center (EHC) Broadband Infrastructure**
  Funds are supporting the EHC's smart outdoor classroom by improving the center's equipment and broadband services. Due to its remote location, the center was only able to support the needs of its student and teacher visitors by using mobile hotspots which struggled to keep up with the demand of the various science projects being conducted. The updates will allow EHC to support improved educational programming to their visiting students in Allegany County maximizing the STEM-focused learning. EHC collaborates with Allegany County Public Schools to support grade-level-wide elementary, middle, and high school field trips to the EHC campus that explore a variety of earth science and biology projects.

Recovery Ecosystem

Clinical care, access to employment, housing, and transportation are essential to empower those struggling with a disorder. Staff prioritize projects that help fill the gaps in the recovery ecosystem.

- **Hagerstown Goodwill Industries Inc. (HGI) – Hagerstown Health Hub: Grocery Store Initiative**
  HGI and Meritus Health are partnering to expand and strengthen community systems that will help local citizens obtain and sustain jobs, while addressing the issue of food insecurity for the surrounding underserved community. ARC funds will be utilized to purchase the necessary equipment to operate a grocery store, including refrigeration units, an HVAC system, and shelving/fixtures for product display. HGI will implement a workforce development training program. This program will provide job skills training and grocery store certification for participants. Approximately 75% of those trained will be formerly incarcerated or justice-involved individuals.

The design for "The Market on Prospect," the Hagerstown Health Hub: Grocery Store Initiative project of Hagerstown Goodwill Industries.

Education and Workforce development

MDP staff prioritize projects that prepare students for jobs in the 21st century, expanding partnerships among schools, colleges, and businesses in order to support workforce development and improve workforce readiness for all job seekers.

- **Garrett College Adventure Education Center (AEC)**
  Funds were used to support the development and implementation of the AEC. The center is an employment site for summer and winter apprenticeship programs where youth and young adults gain valuable work skills in the outdoor industry field. AEC will provide valuable retail shop point-of-sale service training for youth during the summer months and will focus on other winter-based equipment management programs during the winter months.

- **Frostburg State University (FSU) Outdoor Recreation Economy Institute (FOREI)**
  Funding supported Phase 1 of the FSU FOREI project, including the development of the regional hub and research related to the economic impacts of the outdoor recreation sector on the region's economy. FOREI will be established and recognized as a formal administrative and academic unit of Frostburg State University. The program will include a paid apprenticeship for students, establishment of an education and workforce development board, hands-on outdoor experiences with various partners (hiking, biking, paddling), and program specific certifications. Additionally the project will include developing a coordinated education and workforce development partnership between FSU, the region's community colleges, and K-12 institutions to support the placement of educated and skilled workers.

We remain focused on our long term economic development goals for the region and have expanded our outreach and technical assistance to local governments. With the influx of additional state and federal funding, we are working closely with stakeholders and local governments to address the unique challenges of the region, to identify funding and assistance for priorities and to ensure completion of infrastructure and other projects that assist in long term sustainable economic development.

Shaping and empowering leaders

ARC supports our future community leaders and builds upon our existing leadership and community capacity working with ARC's Academies and Institutes. Each year we are proud to sponsor middle school, high school, and college students to participate in ARC's STEM education, entrepreneurship development, and applied research programs.

We are also proud to select and sponsor participants in the Appalachian Leadership Institute. The institute provides a comprehensive leadership and economic development training opportunity for our local leaders who are passionate about helping their communities thrive. Following an extensive training curriculum, future fellows are empowered and encouraged to take action to positively impact the future of Appalachia.

Riley Palmer, a sophomore student, performs a store inventory check at the retail shop of the Garrett College Outdoor Leadership Adventure Center

Education and Training

The Assistance, Education, and Training unit coordinates MDP's educational efforts, both locally and statewide. Staff is responsible for MDP's newsletter, Planning Practice Monthly, along with posting available training, conferences, webinars, and funding on the website. In FY23, MDP published 11 newsletters and multiple single blog posts. With Planning Practice Monthly, the department continued communicating the statewide planning efforts of other state agencies and local planning departments. Topics included: Compatible Use Website and Handbook development; affordable and fair housing planning; state funding sources; environmental justice; local government annual reporting; Maryland Department of Transportation's (MDOT) connected and automated vehicle and electric vehicle programs; Maryland Planning Commissioners Association (MPCA) events and resource development; updates to the Water Resources Models & Guidelines; the Walktober 2022 webinar series; MSDC data releases; MDP's Brownfield Technical Assistance program; and local spotlights of best planning practices in the Montgomery County, Sykesville, Thurmont, and Queen Anne's County.

Maryland Planning Commissioners Association: Staff maintained its assistance to MPCA in implementing the strategic plan. The MPCA conducted regional workshops in Denton (July 2022) and La Plata (January 2023), which included presentations from local planning staff, the Local Assistance and Training Manager, and multiple MDP staff members. Staff also assisted MPCA in conducting its 39th annual fall conference in Frederick County, "Planning for Challenges on the Horizon!," with 102 attendees. The conference program included sessions on the past 30 years of planning in Maryland, water resources planning, comprehensive plan consistency, affordable housing, and redeveloping empty houses of worship. The conference also included the MPCA annual meeting, recognitions of impactful citizen planners, and a keynote address by Montgomery County's Multimodal Transportation Planner Coordinator. Staff also oversaw the online Planning Commissioner Training Course and hosted hybrid courses in October and June, totaling 203 new certificates of completion.

In The Numbers FY23
Planning Practice

Planning Practice Monthly Newsletter

13,714 Subscribers

33% Growth in FY23 Subscribers

275,877 Recipients

This adds up to:
Connecting, informing, and serving local officials, planners, and partners.

The Maryland Zoning CheckUp: Staff completed the first of its kind Maryland Zoning CheckUp (CheckUp) in FY23. The CheckUp is designed to help jurisdictions maintain and ensure consistency across planning and zoning documents. Specifically, it is designed as a zoning code performance guide to assist planning boards or planning commissions in small and rural jurisdictions. MDP coordinated a webinar on the CheckUp in December 2022 in partnership with the Mid Atlantic Planning Collaboration. The CheckUp is a voluntary tool that provides step-by-step guidance to reviewers through a series of prompts, questions, answers, and recommendations that streamline the review process so jurisdictions can ensure their zoning regulations are performing as intended. The CheckUp includes zoning maintenance resources on a variety of zoning topics.

Compatible Use Website and Handbook: MDP published the Maryland Military and Community Compatible Use Website and Handbook. These tools are designed to support mutually beneficial and compatible land use and development between Maryland's jurisdictions and military installations. The website and handbook are the result of the culmination of a two-year collaboration between MDP, the Maryland Department of Commerce (Commerce), and a stakeholder advisory group to develop guidance, resources, and examples supporting mutually beneficial development for Maryland's communities and military installations. They organize and supply extensive resources and guidance on the military in Maryland, the military planning framework, local government planning tools to support compatible development, state and federal resources to improve compatibility and resiliency, and case studies of best practices around the state.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: In response to 2021's HB 90, MDP and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) partnered to develop guidance for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH), which is now required in the comprehensive plan housing elements for non charter counties and municipalities. In January, 2023, MDP published an HB 90 webpage to help jurisdictions incorporate the new fair housing requirements into their comprehensive plan housing elements. The webpage summarizes the bill, describes the history of AFFH, and organizes available resources and suggestions into five categories: 1) Defining and Explaining AFFH; 2) Fair Housing Data and Mapping Resources; 3) Community Engagement and Jurisdiction Self-Reflection; 4) Analysis of Fair Housing; and 5) Fair Housing Goals, Policies, Actions, and Best Practices. MDP also supported DHCD in its development of an AFFH survey for a report it needs to complete in response to HB 90.

MDP's Assistance, Education, and Training unit provides guidance to local planning in developing the housing elements in their comprehensive plans

Infrastructure and Sustainability

The infrastructure and development unit is a small but dedicated team focused on providing planning assistance and geospatial resources to facilitate informed decision making around shared investments in placemaking, transportation, housing, public schools, sustainability, economic development, and vibrant communities. In FY23 the unit brought on a new Manager of Infrastructure and Sustainability with more than 30 years of planning and public policy experience

Interagency Commission for School Construction

MDP continues to be one of three state agencies supporting the Interagency Commission for School Construction (IAC), the nine-member commission that oversees Maryland's $285 million investment in K-12 school facilities. Staff works closely with the executive director, the Maryland Department of General Services (DGS), the Maryland State Department of Education, and the 25 Local Education Agencies (LEA) across the state throughout the annual planning cycle that results in the allocation of these state dollars to local projects.

A major function of the Infrastructure and Sustainability unit to work with the Public School Construction program.

Each year the process begins as MDP coordinates with local facility planners to reconcile enrollment projections. These projections support the analysis and help to define local needs in each LEA's Educational Facilities Master Plan, which MDP reviews with its IAC partners and precedes the production of the annual Capital Improvement Program. During the CIP process, MDP provides assistance in determining the Priority Funding Area status of all new schools and major renovations that add school capacity.

In FY23, MDP continued to work closely with IAC staff on several initiatives designed to create objective measurements of facility conditions and other considerations that inform the need for future investment. As the capacity of the IAC has grown, MDP has continued to collaborate on a variety of data-driven applications, such as the Maryland School Facility Planning Resource application, now under development for internal agency use, and tools intended to improve the planning of school facilities so that the IAC can continue to allocate resources efficiently to the benefit of all students across the state.

Transportation Planning

To support various transportation planning efforts, MDP developed a variety of tools to assist MDOT, local communities, stakeholders, developers, property owners, and others in their planning and implementation efforts.

In FY23, MDP continued to maintain, update, and promote the Transit Station Area Profile Tool, which provides easy access to demographic, socioeconomic, employment, housing, land use and transportation information near rail transit stations to assist local governments' transportation planning and comprehensive plan update efforts.

MDP also continued to provide technical advice on various state, local, and regional transportation plans, programs, and project development or planning processes to promote multimodal transportation for all users, as well as the integration of transportation and land use planning to support state and local smart growth planning policies.

Staff reviewed and provided written comments on local, regional, and state transportation plans and programs such as local comprehensive plans and Maryland's 6-Year Consolidated Transportation Program. We also continued to support MDOT's efforts to develop the Statewide Transit Plan and update the State Freight Plan and the State Rail Plan. The Infrastructure and Sustainability unit supports major transit projects and studies such as the development of the RAISE Baltimore Transit Priority Project and the East-West Corridor Study.

Staff also participated in 12 major state transportation project studies such as the Chesapeake Bay Crossing Study Tier II National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes study, the US 219 project from Meyersdale, Pennsylvania to Old Salisbury Road, Maryland, and the I-495 Southside Express Lanes Study. MDP provides technical support and advice on matters pertaining to consistency between transportation investments and the Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and the Maryland Priority Funding Areas Act.

MDP continues to support multimodal initiatives at the state, regional, and local level through participation in various state and metropolitan planning organization transportation or related committees or workgroups such as the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council, the Maryland Autonomous and Connected Vehicle Working Group, the State Freight Advisory Commission, the Baltimore Region Transportation Board (BRTB), and the BRTB's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group. MDP also participates in Maryland's iMAP Technical Committee to advocate for a systemic, coordinated data development approach, and to share best practices in geospatial application development, particularly in transportation planning practices.

The Snapshot Maryland: Transportation Planning Dashboard is one of many online resources that MDP provides to assist planners in their work.

Smart Growth Information Clearinghouse

MDP continued to work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in FY23 to transition the Smart Growth Clearinghouse to a new format for supporting the work of the Smart Growth Network (smartgrowth.org), a national partnership of more than 40 organizations dedicated to promoting and implementing the principles of smart growth. MDP serves as a member of the Smart Growth Network Steering Committee.

MDP also continued to update the website during the transition and provides smart growth webinar programming that is popular among planners in Maryland and nationwide, as participants earn American Institute of Certified Planners continuing education credits for participation in the live programming.

MDP hosted 15 webinars in FY23, attracting a total attendance of 11,749 planners and local government officials throughout the country. The Clearinghouse's mailing list includes more than 33,700 planners and local officials nationwide and internationally.

Maryland's Power Plant Research Program

MDP serves on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Power Plant Research Program (PPRP) interagency committee, which reviews proposed energy-generating facilities in Maryland, while ensuring that demand for electricity is met at a reasonable cost and the state's valuable natural resources are protected.

MDP contacts local planning officials during the review process to ensure that communication among parties is ongoing and that major planning-related issues are being addressed. We remain attentive to local challenges, interests, and opportunities.

MDP will continue to review each case relative to local land use regulations. MDP also utilizes expertise from MHT to avoid potential adverse impacts to historic and cultural resources


The Annapolis Solar Park, constructed on a brownfield site at the former Annapolis City Landfill.

Reinvest Maryland

MDP continues to promote the Reinvest Maryland Toolkit (Reinvest Maryland 2.0). Reinvest Maryland is a guide to accelerating infill, redevelopment, and community revitalization at all levels of government to work together, strengthen collaborative efforts to support revitalization and reinvestment, and engage stakeholders in supporting Maryland's communities to improve the quality of life.

Staff continues to update the website, adding contact information for individual projects, as well as material and enhancing its functionality as state agencies and local jurisdictions continue to provide examples of the best practices to create vibrant places with a range of housing, employment, and transportation options. The site displays maps, links visitors to information about best practices, and includes a searchable toolbox of state programs supporting reinvestment.
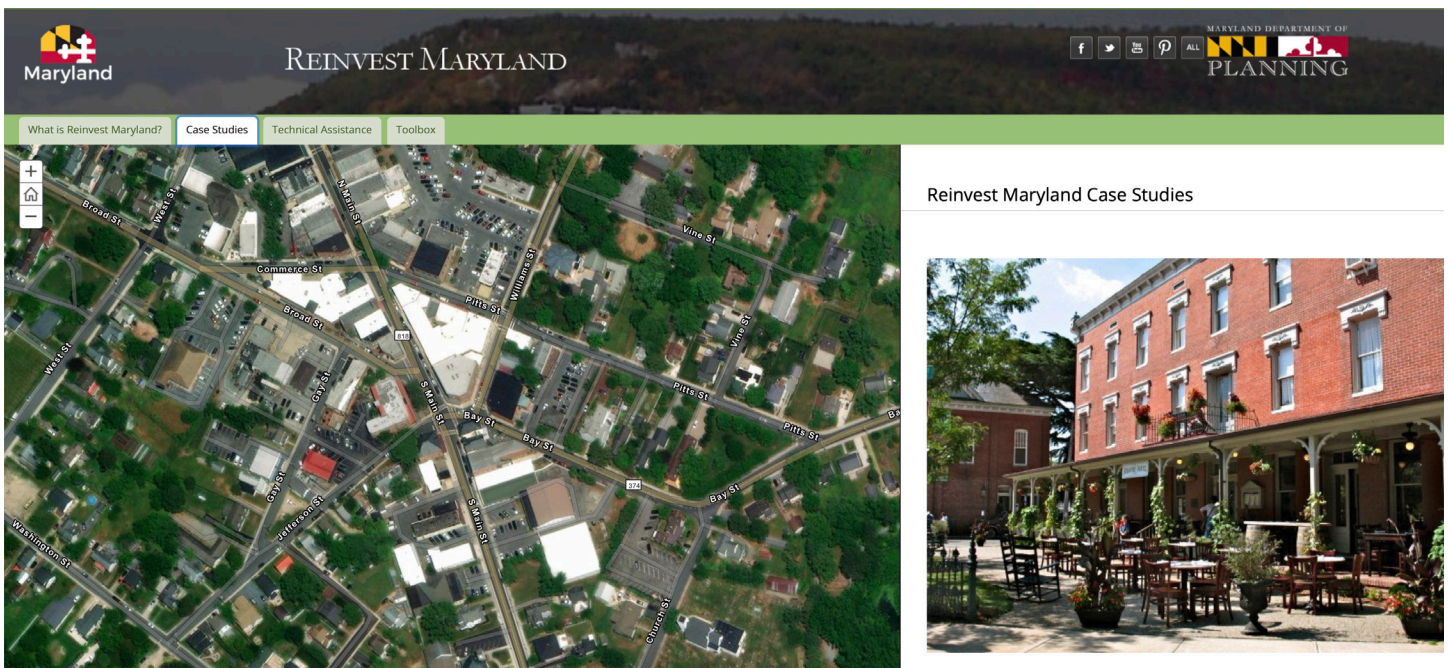
Reinvest Maryland is a guide to accelerating infill, redevelopment, and community revitalization

Resource Conservation and Management

Chesapeake Bay Restoration Planning

MDP provides long-term vision and local government perspective to the Maryland Chesapeake Bay Workgroup, which provides recommendations to Governor Moore's Bay Cabinet. In FY23, MDP supported the Bay Cabinet's work to implement Maryland's Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) and develop the annual Bay Restoration Spending Report. Also related to Bay restoration, MDP serves on the state's Soil Health Advisory Committee and the Board of the Maryland Water Monitoring Council.

In The Numbers FY23
Resource Conservation and Management

62
Reviews of Water and Sewer Plan Amendments and 5 Reviews of Water Resources Elements

10
Recertifications of Local Agricultural Preservation Programs

23
Application Reviews for Rural Legacy

26
Review Letters for Program Open Space

26
Reviews of Draft County Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plans

This adds up to:
Preserving and protecting the environment with a focus on restoration and protection of our treasured Chesapeake Bay.

In collaboration with MDE, MDP continued to provide monthly technical assistance opportunities, including webinars and meetings with local governments to provide an overview of the 2022 Water Resource Element (WRE) guidance and to answer questions. In addition, MDP set-up and facilitated an interagency workshop for Baltimore County to support the development of an updated WRE and secured free technical assistance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for three local utilities (Chesapeake Beach, Cambridge, and Crisfield) to integrate resiliency planning.

Land Preservation

To support state and local land conservation and preservation efforts, MDP, in coordination with DNR, completed quarterly updates to the Maryland Protected Lands Dashboard, which can be found here. To support the dashboard, MDP led an interagency team to identify new approaches for obtaining preservation data from local land trusts. Also, MDP participated in an interagency workgroup to develop a draft outline for a mandated plan to meet the new statewide land preservation goals established by the 2023 Maryland the Beautiful Act.

In FY23, MDP and DNR completed approvals of all county 5-year Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plans (LPPRP) and worked with DNR staff to set up one-on-one meetings (9 during the reporting period) with individual local jurisdictions to answer MDP and DNR questions prior to state approval of the local LPPRP..

In coordination with the DNR Forest Service, MDP completed and posted on its website (planning. maryland.gov/Pages/OurWork/envr-planning/forest/forestry-guidance.aspx) guidance for local governments on how to support Maryland's forestry industry through changes to local ordinances.

Brownfield Redevelopment Outreach

In cooperation with MDE, MDP continued its brownfield redevelopment assistance initiative by serving as a liaison to counties and municipalities interested in accessing technical and financial resources from federal and state agencies. In FY23, MDP established two advisory committees (community outreach, property owner outreach), continued to meet with a project planning committee, and completed the procurement process to select two consultants to support implementation of a 3-year, $300,000 EPA grant to provide free environmental site assessments for brownfields in Baltimore County's East Side. Using available grant funds, MDP attended the National Brownfields Conference in Oklahoma City to further develop positive working relationships with our MDE and local government partners, connect with government and non-governmental experts, and to expand program capacity through conference sessions. In addition, MDP continued to meet with local jurisdictions to identify priority brownfield redevelopment sites and methods for facilitating project implementation, obtained federal and state responses to local technical and regulatory questions, reached out to metropolitan planning organizations and tri-county councils, and held Maryland's second brownfield conference. More information on this initiative can be found on MDP's Brownfield Redevelopment Assistance Program webpage, which provides case studies of successful brownfield redevelopment projects in Maryland and connects local governments to technical and financial brownfield resources.

Resource Conservation and Management held its second statewide brownfield conference

State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance

The State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance (Clearinghouse) is Maryland's designated single point-of-contact to coordinate local government and state agency review of federal or state projects involving financial assistance or development. The review, which is mandated by federal and state executive orders, and state law and regulations, facilitates alignment of plans and policies between federal, state, and local governments. All projects and reviews can be accessed on MDP's website via the Intergovernmental Monitor.

In response to HB927/SB744, "Housing and Community Development – Affordable Housing – Excess Real Property," MDP continued its work leading an interagency team with the DGS and the DHCD to analyze the new law and to finalize an implementation protocol based on each agency's experience and available resources to evaluate the affordable housing potential of proposed excess real property. The law went into effect on October 1, 2022.

In The Numbers FY23
Maryland State Clearinghouse

Maryland State Clearinghouse Review

940
Project Reviews Coordinated

$2.36 billion
in Public Investment

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

Maryland InfoPortal

MDP continued its biannual updates of the Maryland InfoPortal tool (planning.maryland.gov/Pages/OurWork/Maryland-InfoPortal.aspx), which is the one-stop-shop for finding financial and nonfinancial assistance offered by state agencies. MDP hosts this digital catalog and coordinates the timeliness and accuracy of the information with a network of contacts.

Maryland Infoportal, hosted by MDP and managed by the State Clearinghouse, provides online access to a catalog of financial and nonfinancial assistance offered by Maryland state agencies

MARYLAND INFOPORTAL

Agency: - All Agencies -

Text: Enter Search Text

Eligibility:
- County Government
- For-Profit
- Individuals
- Municipalities/Towns
- Non-Profit
- Regional
- State Colleges
- State University
- State Government
- Other

Assistance (Financial):
- Direct Loan
- Direct Payment/Specified Use
- Direct Payment/Unrestricted Use
- Formula Grant
- Insurance
- Insured/Guaranteed Loan
- Loan
- Project Grant
- Tax Credit
- Other

Assistance (Non-financial):
- Regulatory Program
- Services
- Technical Assistance/Information
- Other

Interagency Coordination and Subcabinet Support

MDP leads and supports several multidisciplinary efforts, including support for several subcabinets, commissions, and executive orders.

Smart Growth Subcabinet: The Smart Growth Subcabinet (SGSC) has been reinvigorated under the Moore-Miller Administration. Starting in June, the SGSC is meeting monthly to establish an agenda for FY24, identifying policies, programs, and projects where SGSC agencies can collaborate to promote sustainable growth and neighborhood vitality throughout the state. In FY23, MDP staff working through the Smart Growth Coordinating Committee reviewed and provided feedback on 27 Sustainable Community renewal applications and threenew applications, and conducted site visits to and/or submitted comments on more than 300 neighborhood revitalization grant applications for projects with approximately $200 million in requested funds and $70 million of available funding.

Commerce Subcabinet: The Assistance, Education, and Training unit submitted bi-monthly reports for the Commerce Subcabinet's Regional Resources Workgroup. These reports, completed in collaboration with regional staff from other state agencies, included information on pending and progressing developments, local leadership updates, and opportunities for enhanced interagency collaboration benefitting five Maryland regions and the jurisdictions therein. The division manager compiled and presented the reports for each meeting of the Commerce Subcabinet. In the second half of the fiscal year, the division manager partnered with Commerce staff to update regional team rosters to reflect assignments under the Moore administration and assign new team leaders to Baltimore and Washington metropolitan regions.

Compatible Use Website and Handbook: In late FY20, Commerce was awarded a U.S. Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment grant to develop an Energy Siting Study and Compatible Use Website and Handbook that will support mutually beneficial development between Maryland's jurisdictions and military installations. MDP staff assisted Commerce with formulating the grant application. In FY23, MDP led the compatible use effort in collaboration with Commerce, a vendor team, and a stakeholder advisory group composed of local planners and Maryland military representatives. MDP published the website and handbook, consisting of 114 pages of new content that will help Maryland jurisdictions and neighboring military installations better coordinate planning and economic/community development efforts. The website includes Maryland Case studies, comprehensive planning guidance, descriptions of supportive resources, and a calendar of military and defense community events and news. By using the website and handbook resources, military and community partners will be able to preserve the mission and vital economic impact of the installations while also facilitating the advancement of county and municipal objectives.

Transportation Coordination: In FY23, MDP continued to coordinate with local planning agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, and MDOT on transportation data collection, transit-oriented development (TOD) designations, multi-modal promotion, project development, and plan preparation.

Climate Change Commission Support: As a member of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change (MCCC), MDP participates on the Adaptation and Resiliency Working Group, providing constructive feedback on this commission's procedures, work plans, and policy recommendations. Throughout FY23, MDP worked with DNR to lead an interagency workgroup to develop a draft Maryland wetland adaptation strategy. MDP also provided its annual report on greenhouse gases prevented through compact development in Maryland, partnered with DNR to assist jurisdictions with nuisance flood planning, participated in the Maryland Resiliency Partnership to support Maryland Flood Awareness Month, maintained the department's solar facility siting guidance webpage, participated in multiple interagency workgroups to contribute to DNR's draft statewide adaptation plan, and continued to lead an interagency team to facilitate implementation of Maryland's Plan to Adapt to Saltwater Intrusion and Salinization. MDP initiated the required 5-year update of the plan, coordinating with subject matter experts to obtain the latest state of the science and recommendations concerning this issue.

Patuxent River Commission Support: MDP participates in and serves as lead staff for the Patuxent River Commission. In March 2023, MDP facilitated a funding forum for the Town of Eagle Harbor, which provided town officials the opportunity to ask questions of state and nonprofit financial assistance representatives regarding a list of priority resiliency and environmental justice projects. MDP also secured training for Commission members on the Watershed Resources Registry to facilitate informed discussions at Commission meetings.

Project Green Classrooms Support: MDP participates in Steering Committee and Leadership Committee meetings to facilitate implementation of the Project Green Classrooms initiative, a multi-agency effort to promote outdoor activities and environmental education through schools, in communities, and on public lands to benefit Maryland's youth.

Critical Area Commission Support: MDP participates on the Critical Area Commission as one of 29 members (and one of seven state agencies) to support implementation of the Maryland Critical Area law and to encourage approaches that respect local government autonomy and provide adequate flexibility.

Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) Support: To facilitate state and local efforts to support Maryland's agricultural industry and land conservation and preservation efforts, MDP participates as one of four state agencies on the board as one of 13 members.

The Resource and Conservation and Management unit works closely with our state partners in preserving productive farmland in Maryland.

State Data and Geospatial Analysis Center

The State Data and Geospatial Analysis Center division uses analytical tools and processes to provide the public, local and state officials, and decision makers timely and accurate data and analysis. This section includes three units: Geospatial Data Analysis and Visualization; State Data Center and Projections; and State Property Mapping.

Geospatial Data Analysis and Visualization

Foundational Data Updates

Municipal Annexations: In FY23, MDP staff mapped 31 new annexations in 11 municipalities following community approval and submission of the appropriate documentation. A majority of annexations (71%) resulted in priority funding areas (PFA). Once mapped, data and applications were updated with these new annexations.

Protected Lands Database: Data about the location of lands conserved and preserved under public ownership or easement are gathered from state and local agencies and private conservation organizations, aligned to MdProperty View digital parcels, and then integrated into a single GIS dataset. The data enables MDP to complete analyses that support local planning efforts and create custom maps showing the distribution of protected lands. Staff continues to maintain an interactive land conservation and preservation dashboard, initially developed in FY19, the Maryland Protected Lands Dashboard, which can be found here.

Statewide Sewer Service Area Update and Amendments: MDP works with all counties and municipalities to collect sewer service area data. Staff updated state sewer service data to reflect 43 amendments approved by MDE in FY23 from 14 different counties and updated all of Anne Arundel County based on their MDE-approved Master Plan for Water Supply and Sewerage Systems 2022 plan. MDP is the sole state agency that updates and maintains a statewide sewer service area database.

MALPF Updates: Under an agreement with the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), MDP updated GIS polygons for new MALPF easements and produced maps in PDF format for use at Board of Public Works meetings. The unit then integrated settled easements into MDP's Protected Lands Database in support of GIS analyses. A statewide MALPF map was submitted to MDA for their annual report.

Generalized Zoning Update: MDP staff continued a new update to one of the functional data layers that provides the only statewide comparative map of all 24 jurisdictions' zoning maps. After extensive coordination with local governments, MDP expects this update to be completed in late 2023.

Site Constraint Update: MDP also developed a model that incorporates steep slope, tidal, and non-tidal wetland buffers, stream buffers, flood plains, protected lands, and open space to be used to reduce the developable area for planning purposes. This product will be completed pending quality control and comparison with existing data.

Statewide Land Use Map Update: MDP continued its update to the statewide generalized land use map by incorporating the recently released 2017/18 high-resolution land use/land cover data produced by the Chesapeake Conservancy in support of the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program. The statewide land use map is envisioned to show generalized locations of developed land, including varying densities of residential land as well as commercial, industrial, institutional, other developed, and undeveloped resource land. MDP resumed work on this project and is finalizing a draft for local jurisdictions to review beginning fall, 2023.

Local and State Targeted Growth and Conservation Areas: Local and state targeted growth and conservation areas are locations for coordinated planning, management and resource allocation. The purpose of these areas is to identify where and how local and state governments, as well as the private sector, can work together to achieve common goals. The primary users of this application are the Department of Budget and Management's Capital Budget Division and the state agencies that submit capital budget proposals. MDP updates these layers on an annual basis based on updates to several datasets.
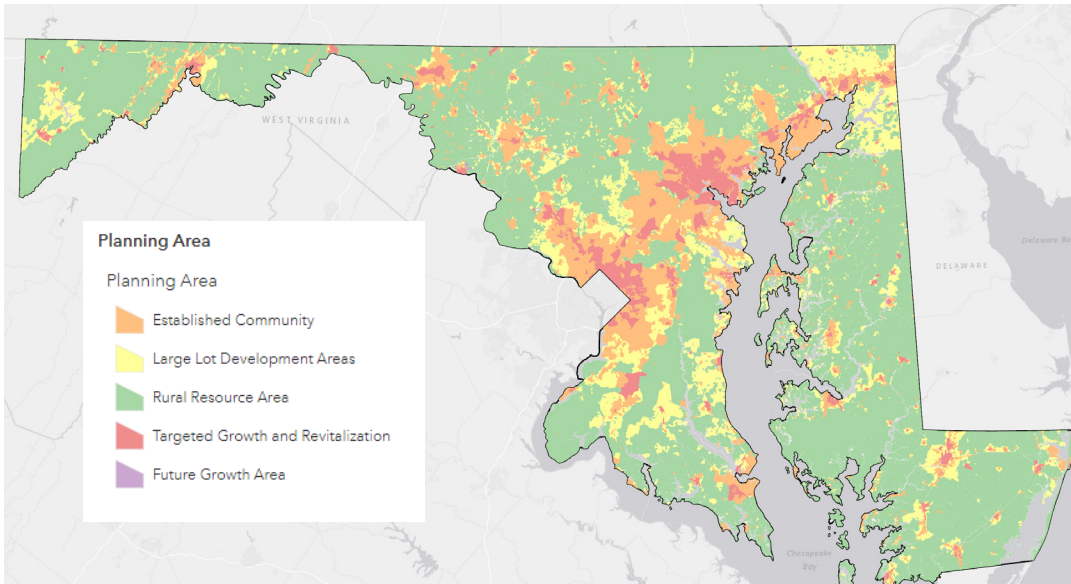
The Geospatial Data Analysis and Visualization unit maintains the state's Growth & Conservation map, illustrating the state's areas for targeted growth and those for conservation

Analysis

Bay Restoration Fund Analysis: As a statutory member of the Bay Restoration Fund Advisory Committee, MDP attends quarterly meetings and advises the committee with the best available information and data analysis in the annual Bay Restoration Fund Advisory Committee status report. MDP reports on the impact that an Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) upgraded wastewater treatment facility may have on growth in the municipalities and counties in which the facility is located. Growth is measured before and after ENR upgrades within existing and planned sewer service area boundaries and PFAs using GIS mapping software. These findings help assess changes in growth patterns, the capacity of the upgraded facility to meet the demands of current and future users, and possible changes in development patterns that could be influenced by upgrades.

Annual Rural Legacy Submission Analysis: In FY23, MDP completed an annual review and evaluation of Rural Legacy funding applications under a Memorandum of Understanding with DNR to further the goals of conserving and preserving large, contiguous tracts of land that enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry, and environmental protection.

MDP finalized changes to the Rural Legacy application process in cooperation with DNR, including revisions to the instructions and requirements for applicants to submit geospatial data. These revisions will help streamline the review process.

In addition to the analysis, MDP provided data comparing the amount of protected lands in each Rural Legacy Area by county. This included all Rural Legacy Areas, not just those that applied for funding this year.

Chesapeake Bay Program Support: MDP serves on the Chesapeake Bay Program's Land Use Workgroup, which oversees the development and review of high-resolution land use land cover data to inform watershed modeling. MDP coordinated state agency reviews of the final high-resolution land use land cover data and draft hyper-resolution hydrography data, and helped the Land Use Workgroup document state use cases for the land use land cover data.

The Chesapeake Bay is a vital resource for Maryland's commercial fishing and crabbing industry, recreation, and environmental health. Planning Data & Research contributes to the analysis capability of the state.

Growth Tier Map Reviews: MDP reviews growth tier maps under Section 1-505 of the land use article and offers jurisdictions technical assistance with tier map updates upon request. MDP initiated three formal tier map reviews and provided technical assistance to one additional jurisdiction. MDP also updated its GIS models to facilitate future tier map reviews.

Support for the Forestry Technical Study: The Maryland General Assembly enacted House Bill 991 in 2021, requiring a Technical Study of Changes in Maryland's Forest Cover and Tree Canopy in consultation with MDP among other state agencies and entities. The Geospatial Data and Analysis unit participated on the study's advisory committee and contributed data and feedback for the study, which was released in November, 2022.

Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation Easements
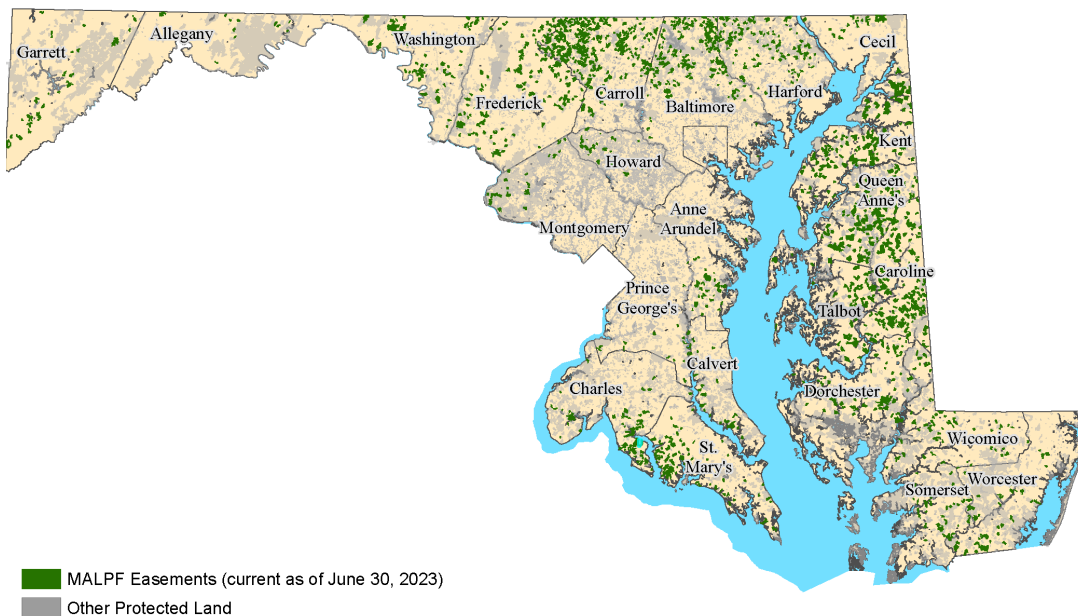
Geospatial staff integrated settled easements into MDP's protected lands database to create the statewide MALPF map

MALPF Easements (current as of June 30, 2023)
Other Protected Land

State Data Center and Projections

Data Publication and Availability

Maryland State Data Center (MSDC) maintains more than 90 datasets, including population and household projections, school enrollment, median income estimates, and statistics on retail establishments and farms. They are posted on the Maryland Open Data Portal, and are foundational to the analyses conducted by public and private sector data users throughout the state. Every year the MSDC updates and revises these databases.

MSDC maintains a library of demographic, economic, and agricultural statistics through its website (planning.maryland.gov/MSDC). Through this digital venue, MSDC makes its research and analysis accessible to the public.

Statewide Public School Enrollment Projections

In FY23, MSDC prepared the 2023-2032 public school enrollment projections report, which projects public school enrollments by grade for all 23 counties and Baltimore City. The historical and projected school enrollment data are presented in tables, charts, graphs and a dashboard. MSDC's enrollment projections anticipate actual enrollment. The 2022 projections were within 0.3% of the actual enrollment.

Population Estimates

MSDC prepared the 2022 annual U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimate of national and state-by-state analyses. As part of the Maryland population estimates analysis, MDP staff also prepared and made available demographic estimates of the resident population for Maryland's cities and counties, including detailed summary tables by age, race, and sex.

Employment Projections by Industry

MDP staff prepared and posted a new set of employment projections by industry sector for Maryland and its 24 jurisdictions. The new set of projections are based on data from 2010 to 2020 and the horizon for the projections is 2050.

2020 Census andTechnical Assistance

The U.S. Census Bureau releases data products from the 2020 Census on a rolling basis. The data products were prepared for the following geographies- United States, state, county, municipalities, census designated places, congressional districts, Senate and Delegate legislative districts, precincts (voting districts), census tracts, block groups, and blocks. Due to differential privacy, certain detailed characteristics were not made available at smaller geographies.

Redistricting Data and Mapping Assistance

MSDC provided customized legislative maps and detailed precinct boundary maps to elected officials and the general public. In FY23, MSDC prepared approximately 40 customized maps, and responded to several redistricting requests from jurisdictions throughout the state.

Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics

In May, 2023 the Demographic Profiles and Demographic and Housing Characteristics Files (DHC) were released for all geographies. Data profiles were created and made available on the MSDC website displaying population totals by single-year of age by sex, five-year age cohorts by sex, median ages, major race breakdowns, households and household relationships, housing units, occupancy, and tenure.

Group Quarters Analysis

MDP joined with the US Census Bureau to improve the count of persons living in group quarters. Group quarters are places where people live or stay that are owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. People living in group quarters are usually not related, and include such locations as college residence halls, nursing facilities, military barracks, correctional facilities, and workers' dormitories.

State Data Center staff has been working with local jurisdictions to verify and update their Group Quarters (GQ) population facilities and counts. The end result of the GQ update not only will improve State Data Center's population estimates and projections efforts, but also contribute to the US Census Bureau's efforts in improving the American Community Survey estimates program.

Post Census Group Quarters Review

The 2020 Post-Census Group Quarters Review (PCGQR) is a new program enabling governmental units to request the U.S. Census Bureau review group quarters population counts believed to be inaccurately tabulated during the 2020 Census.

Anne Arundel County government, in coordination with MDP's State Data Center staff, submitted a PCGQR request to correct the April 1, 2020 count of group quarters in Anne Arundel County. MDP determined the Census Bureau misidentified housing types located within the U. S. Naval Academy, and did not add persons living in specified group quarter units to the Anne Arundel County group quarters population total. The result of this review was to add more than 4,000 residents to the official Anne Arundel County court and therefore the overall Maryland total population count.

Housing Sales and Residential Development Data

MDP staff prepared residential sales summary reports showing residential sales and median sales value by type of residence. Data are summarized for areas inside and outside Priority Funding Areas for all jurisdictions.

The Maryland State Data Center also collects monthly and annual reports on new housing units authorized for construction by building permits. Data on new residential units and buildings include housing unit type single family units, buildings with two units, three and four unit buildings and buildings with five or more units.

These data are updated monthly and published for the entire state, 24 jurisdictions, permit issuing places, and county groups (including specified development areas, and State Planning Regions).

Annual, monthly,and comparative year to date reports are available online for 1999 through 2022.

Localized Economic Analyses

In support of the Transportation Oriented Development project, a comprehensive database was developed to help identify the socioeconomic characteristics of the population within a half-mile radius of each transit and train station in Maryland.

Staff updated federal statistics on jobs and income, prepared rankings and analyzed growth trends. The analysis included personal income by major source and earnings by major industry as well as wages and salaries by major industry.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

MDP Staff received Metropolitan Statistical Area delineations for Maryland from the US Census Bureau in July 2023. Metropolitan or micropolitan statistical areas identify areas containing a substantial population core, and adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Mapping products were made available on the Maryland State Data Center website displaying metropolitan, micropolitan statistical areas and principal cities within Maryland.

Annual State Data Center Conference

MSDC hosted its annual meeting and workshop for affiliates and census data users in October 2022. Staff from the US Census Bureau presented on 2020 Census Disclosure Avoidance System and Racial and Ethnic Diversity Data.

State Property Mapping

Statewide Parcel Data Management

In FY23, MDP's State Property Mapping unit assembled parcel boundary files from local government sources with parcel boundaries, then linked the files to property assessment data for use in GIS and online applications hosted by MDP and other state agencies. This data is also available as a free download from MDP's website and, in the case of the *FINDER* Quantum product, is bundled with free open source GIS desktop software and a customized project file.

Additionally, quarterly updates of Assessment data fields linked to the most recent update of parcel points and polygons are available for download. These parcel point and polygon downloads, intended as an interim update to MDP's *MdProperty View* and *FINDER* Quantum products, are available by individual counties and Baltimore City, or by a statewide file.

In The Numbers FY23
State Property Mapping

Data Download Products			Online Parcel Map Visits		This adds up to:
1,103 MdProperty View files	**227** FINDER Quantum files	**1,917** Parcel Point and Polygon downloads	**143,029** FINDER Online pageviews	**13,837** FINDER Online Mobile pageviews	Citizens and businesses having important data available when they need it.

Tax Map Product Updates and Enhancements

The State Property Mapping unit performed updates and maintenance of the state's tax assessment maps, which are made available in paper or digital image format. They are also used in GIS applications such as MDP's downloadable data products, including MdProperty View and FINDER Quantum, and as image and map services on MD iMAP, the state's GIS data portal. In FY23, MDP produced updated tax assessment maps for Calvert, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Harford, Somerset, Washington, Wicomico, and Worcester counties.

FINDER Online is Planning's online property information and parcel mapping application. Tax maps, property information, and aerial imagery combine to make a robust database of Maryland's 2.2 million parcels.

Maryland Historical Trust

In FY23, the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) 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

Maryland Heritage Areas Program

Governed by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) and administered by MHT, the Maryland Heritage Areas Program provides targeted financial and technical assistance within 13 locally-designated heritage areas, each of which represents unique aspects of Maryland's historic, natural, and cultural character. In FY23, Maryland's Heritage Areas continued to grow, adding new places and partner organizations that offer additional resources, engaging stories, and meaningful heritage perspectives through boundary amendments to the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, Southern Maryland National Heritage Area, Montgomery County Heritage Area, Beach to Bay Heritage Area, and the Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area.

In The Numbers FY23
Maryland Hertiage Areas

Heritage Areas Program

| 140 Grant Applications | $6.4 million Funds Requested | 109 Projects Awarded | $5.1 million in Funded Projects | $13.3 million Leveraged Investment |

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

In FY23, nonprofits and local jurisdictions submitted 140 grant applications, requesting more than $6.4 million for heritage tourism projects and activities. MHAA awarded $5.1 million to 109 projects that foster economic development through heritage tourism, leveraging $13.3 million in non-state matching support. Eighty capital and non-capital projects comprised $3,438,082 of the total project grants awarded. MHAA grants also helped support the operations of the 13 heritage area management entities (totaling $1,252,833) as well as 11 block grants (totaling $275,000) and five grants for marketing (totaling $134,085.00). The block grants provide funding for smaller non-capital heritage tourism grants (or "mini-grants," typically under $5,000), which heritage area management entities can distribute within their districts.

Statewide Preservation Plan

In 2019, the National Park Service (NPS) approved PreserveMaryland II, Maryland's statewide preservation plan, which serves as a guidance document for agencies, organizations, and individuals engaged in historic preservation and cultural heritage activities in Maryland. The plan has five goals: 1) connect with broader audiences; 2) improve the framework for preservation; 3) expand and update documentation; 4) build capacity and strengthen networks; and 5) collaborate toward shared objectives. Highlights of progress toward these goals in FY23 include:

- In FY23, MHT greatly increased its capacity to connect with broader audiences by establishing and recruiting for its first outreach coordinator position. This staffer regularly produces new social media content and campaigns, in addition to updating all MHT materials and supporting the development of new program outreach and the MHT Roadshow. MHT programs hosted more than 20 workshops during FY23, both virtually and in-person. MHT Staff were also involved in public outreach events hosted by other organizations, like Preservation Maryland's pop-up events. *(Goal 1)*

- PreserveMaryland II recognizes the need to improve accessibility to state funding programs for cultural heritage and historic preservation, with an emphasis on racial equity. In FY23, MHAA completed the first phase of a racial equity analysis of its grant program in a process led by a working group formed of external stakeholders, many of whom were affiliated with the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture. The consultant-facilitated process resulted in ten recommendations for future phases of work, including proposed metrics to record and evaluate progress and additional analysis of the structure and framework of the program's decision-making. *(Goal 2)*

- Many of PreserveMaryland II's strategies to expand and update documentation address gaps in our data related to marginalized communities. In FY23, MHT supported the documentation of sites related to African American Civil Rights in Baltimore City, which resulted in the listings of the Lillie Carroll Jackson House and Congressman Parren J. Mitchell House to the National Register of Historic Places, as well as architectural research on select dwellings of enslaved workers around the state. Funding from NPS' Underrepresented Community grants supported the Civil Rights research as well as a project to document Asian American heritage in Baltimore City and the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC, which launched in FY23. *(Goal 3)*

- In FY23, MHT began work on the statewide preservation plan update, which involves collaboration with partners to convene groups by region and topic. This work helped illuminate where training and information-sharing networks need to be repaired post-pandemic and where new offerings may be needed in the coming years. In the spring of 2023, MHT held focus group meetings for Preservation Planners (with the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions), on Documenting Community Cultural Heritage (with the National Park Service-Chesapeake Bay Office), and on Culture, Climate, and Resiliency (with Preservation Maryland). Additional meetings around the state are planned in FY24. *(Goal 4)*

- For many years, senior staff from MHT have coordinated with DGS to ensure that necessary renovations to the Annapolis State House exterior and grounds were conducted in a manner that protects the integrity of this nationally significant historic site. The State House Dome restoration was completed in time for the inauguration of Governor Wes Moore in January 2023. Final work included a new fire suppression system, storage of architectural details for future study, new shingles and slate, updated paint, and repairs to the original woodwork. MHT archaeologists also continued to collaborate with DNR on research on state-owned property, including a project on Ice Age Paleoindian campsites in Seneca Creek State Park, assisted by members of the Archeological Society of Maryland. *(Goal 5)*

Local Government Assistance

The Certified Local Government (CLG) Program, administered by NPS and MHT, recognizes the 22 counties and municipalities in Maryland that have made a special commitment to preservation. MHT awards 10% of its annual allocation from the NPS' Historic Preservation Fund to CLG projects and educational opportunities each year. The program received five competitive project applications requesting more than $115,000 and 12 education and training applications requesting more than $30,000. Four project grants and 12 grants to support CLG education and training, totaling $106,052, were awarded in FY23.

Weather It Together Program

The statewide *Weather It Together* program is aimed at protecting historic places, archaeological sites, and cultural landscapes from the effects of natural hazards, such as flooding, wind, and coastal erosion. Although the program no longer has dedicated staff, in FY23, MHT contributed to Flood Awareness Month (coordinated by MDE), provided assistance to The Nature Conservancy in a community planning project to help protect Crisfield from sea-level rise, and provided comments to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on their climate change policy. Staff continued to participate in quarterly meetings of the Eastern Shore Climate Adaptation Partnership, the interagency Coast Smart Council, and the Adaptation and Resiliency Working Group of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change. Staff also attended the biennial National Adaptation Forum on October 25-27 in Baltimore City, an interdisciplinary gathering that provides up-to-date information and strategies for climate adaptation, using case studies from around the country.

Lloyd Street Synagogue in Baltimore City, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a recipient of one MHT's FY23 Historic Preservation Capital Grants

Office of Research, Survey, and Registration

Research and Survey

MHT architectural historians conducted site visits to assist property owners, state agencies, and preservation partners on architectural projects, including **Indian Range** (Anne Arundel County); **Justice's Delight**, a rare post-and-plank house dated to 1763-64 (Carroll County); a tenant house associated with the Sellman Farm (Anne Arundel County); **Fair Hill Inn** (Cecil County), where staff assisted DNR with documentation; **Spocott**, an early frame dwelling in the Neck District (Dorchester County); the **Danner-Lawrence-Matthews Farm**, which has a rare, German-influenced Liegander Stuhl roof framing system (Frederick County); the **Lemuel Wallace House** near the Black community of Parker's Creek (Calvert County); **Mt. Moriah Baptist Church**, a 19th-century, stone African American church (Washington County); **Boston**, a tenant farm with an early 19th-century frame house (Dorchester County); the **Maples Farm Complex** (Washington County); **St. Mary's Catholic Church** in Newport, which has an early stenciled ceiling (Charles County); **Richland Farm**, where staff assisted Howard County with documentation; and the **Dellenger House** (Washington County), where staff assisted NPS with architectural investigation. Staff hosted a fieldwork and documentation day for MHT staff at the **Strawbridge Shrine property** (Carroll County), a site associated with early leaders of the Methodist faith, which produced measured drawings for several contributing buildings and structures. The Architectural Survey Data Analysis project – a comprehensive review of all records for standing structures included in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties – continued, with partial analysis of Caroline, Talbot, Dorchester, Harford, Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, and Washington counties.

MHT archaeologists conducted research at **Piscataway Park** (Prince George's County), where they performed a remote sensing survey; **Mount Calvert** (Prince George's County), where staff conducted a ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey to aid Prince George's County archaeologists managing the park's 17th- and early-18th-century cultural resources; **Indian Creek Natural Resource Management Area** (Charles County), helping DNR manage cultural resources related to Camp Stanton, a recruitment camp for U.S. Colored Troops during the Civil War; the **Old Treasury Building** (Anne Arundel County), which was experiencing water infiltration issues; **Brice House** (Anne Arundel County), where staff collected GPR data along the building's back façade; and **Fort Frederick State Park** (Washington County), where MHT excavated shovel test pits to better define this resource. In addition to conducting survey and documentation activities on state and federal lands, MHT archaeologists also worked on numerous projects on privately owned properties, in some cases partnering with local municipalities or sister state agencies. MHT archaeologists also assisted with investigations and advised on projects, including the Coast Guard's Unified Command responding to the grounded freighter Ever Forward; National Geographic's Drain the Ocean on proposals for films in Maryland; log canoe sites at Caney Creek and Buzzard Island Creek (Calvert County); ship surveys at Assateague State Park (Worcester County), the Potomac River, and Arundel-on-the-Bay (Anne Arundel County); Barwick's Ordinary (Caroline County); the Stout-Teague Site (Calvert County); and the Hurt Ossuary (Talbot County).

In FY23, the Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program provided $293,000 to assist local governments and nonprofits with research, planning, and outreach activities, including archaeological projects. In FY23, staff added 335 standing structures and survey districts, as well as 97 updates, to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) – totaling more than 15,959 acres. Staff also added 115 terrestrial archaeological sites to MIHP, as well as 75 terrestrial and two maritime site updates.

National Register of Historic Places

As Maryland's federally-designated SHPO, MHT nominates Maryland properties to the National Register of Historic Properties, maintained by NPS. Properties newly listed in FY23 include: Odenton Masonic Lodge No. 209 (Prince George's County, listed 7/25/2022), Medicine Hill (Dorchester County, listed 7/25/2022), Baltimore Federal Savings & Loan Association (Baltimore City, listed 11/22/2022), Etowah (Anne Arundel County, listed 12/19/2022), Lillie Carroll Jackson House (Baltimore City, listed 4/13/2023), and Congressman Parren J. Mitchell House (Baltimore City, listed 6/30/2023). Additional documentation for the Brunswick Historic District in Frederick County was listed on June 23, 2023.

Cultural Resources Information System

MHT provides access to a wide variety of research and documentation materials to a diverse audience. Cultural resource professionals, including architectural historians and archaeologists, use MHT's library in Crownsville each year to research historic and cultural properties. In FY23, the MHT library accessioned 150 archaeological survey reports, covering 3887 acres. The MHT library intern scanned and cataloged the extensive architectural drawing collection, which comprises nearly 3000 drawings of historic structures across the state. Library staff also digitized about 90% of the state's archaeological site forms, which are available to account holders for download in Medusa, the state's cultural resource information system. Throughout FY23, GIS staff continued to electronically map and enter into databases new MIHP entries.

The Ambassador Theater, a former movie theater and dance hall in Baltimore, is an outstanding example of Streamline Moderne-style architecture. It was listed on the listed on the National Register of Historic Places in February 2023.

Military Monuments and Roadside Markers

In FY23, MHT procured the services of a conservator to make minor repairs to two plaques in Cecil County and one monument in Washington County. Also in FY23, MHT received a one-time appropriation of $150,000 in the state budget for comprehensive surface treatment of approximately 45 bronze and copper monuments statewide. Work is scheduled to begin on both projects in September, 2023. In FY23, MHT installed five new markers including Joseph C. Parks (Charles County), Havre De Grace Colored High School (Harford County), Fair Housing in the Suburbs (Montgomery County), Garrett County Pilgrimage (Garrett County), and Lakeland (Prince George's County).

The Cambridge Memorial Fountain in Long Wharf Park, Cambridge, MD, built in 1938, is an ongoing conservation project of MHT.

Office of Preservation Services
Project Review and Compliance

In FY23, MHT reviewed more than 5,115 public undertakings through Section 106 consultation to assess the effects of those projects on cultural resources and formally evaluated 267 associated historic and cultural properties for their eligibility in MIHP. Consultation resulted in 20 formal agreement documents to resolve the adverse effects of projects on significant cultural resources. Staff closely coordinated with various stakeholders, including governmental agencies, local governments, business entities, consultants, interested organizations, and the public, to facilitate the successful completion of the historic preservation review process.

Capital Grants

MHT provided $1 million in capital grants to 14 projects under the 2023 African American Heritage Preservation Program. The program received 49 eligible project proposals requesting nearly $4.2 million. For FY23, the Historic Preservation Capital Grant Program received a $600,000 appropriation. A total of $4,000 remained from FY22 to re-award in FY23, due to previously approved projects declining grant funds. Of the 56 applications requesting approximately $4.1 million, MHT's Board and the Secretary of MDP approved seven projects for funding.


Located in the Colonial Annapolis Historic District across from the Maryland State House, the Randall House is a significant example of Queen Anne and Eastlake architecture styles. Randall House is a recipient of Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credits.

Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit Program

Maryland's Historic Revitalization Tax Credit Program has helped restore thousands of homes and commercial buildings that contribute to the distinct character, and economic vibrancy of Maryland's towns, cities, and rural areas. For FY23, 24 applicants sought more than $39.3 million in tax credits for construction projects with an estimated cost exceeding $210 million. MHT awarded more than $19 million in commercial tax credits for FY23, expected to leverage more than $92 million of private investment for 19 projects. In FY23, the small commercial tax credit was not active and no new applications were approved, as a result of the program being fully subscribed in FY22. The Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit Program approved 123 proposed residential projects worth an estimated $1.13 million in tax credits in FY23.

In The Numbers FY23
Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credits

Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit Program

24
Tax Credit Applications

$39.3 million
Tax Credits Requested

$19 million
in Funded Tax Credits

$92 million
Leveraged Investment
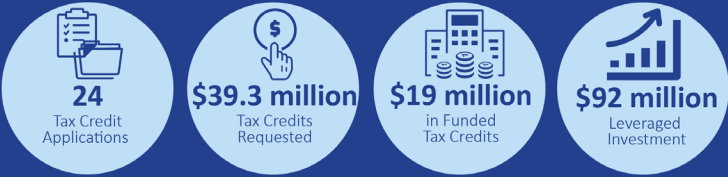
This adds up to:
Increased private investment Increased private investment in our future. in our future.

Historic Preservation Easement Program

Historic preservation easements, which require that proposed changes to a property go through review and approval by the easement holder, provide the highest form of protection for historic properties. In FY23, MHT acquired five new easements and modified three existing agreements. MHT currently holds a statewide easement portfolio of more than 700 easements on more than 900 properties, encompassing more than 7,600 acres. Most of these easements provide perpetual protection. To provide guidance and advice about ongoing or proposed projects, in FY23 staff members in the program traveled across the state to participate in 64 meetings and site visits in 13 counties and Baltimore City.

Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory, also known as the Druid Hill Park Conservatory, in Baltimore City will be undertaking a restoration of the Palm House

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

A 560-acre park located on the Patuxent River in rural Calvert County, JPPM is home to more than 70 archaeological sites, as well as historic houses and outbuildings, museum spaces, the Maryland Archaeology Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab), and recreational facilities. The park's mission is to connect people to the past and support the preservation of Maryland's cultural and natural resources. JPPM engages with local and regional audiences through exhibit spaces, interpretive trails, and cultural events including festivals, summer camps for K-12 students, workshops, and other activities hosted onsite throughout the year. This programming takes advantage of the park's rich archaeological, historical, scientific, and ecological resources. In FY23, JPPM continued to see a high demand for outdoor visitation leading to more than 130,000 people using the site for programs, tours, special events, and general usage.

Among its many public educational and workshop programs, shown here is a blacksmithing workshop hosted by JPPM for Boy Scouts

Educational Programs and Events

Throughout the year, JPPM offers a range of educational programming, primarily geared toward K-12 students, as well as summer camps, workshops, story times, and fee-based educational programming that appeal to children and adults. During a tour of the park, JPPM introduced Calvert County School Superintendent Dr. Andraé Townsel, Delegate Todd Morgan, and Councilpersons John Grasso and Todd Ireland to its school programs. In FY23, JPPM hosted several weeklong, day-long summer camps that included Archaeology Camp, Native Skills Camp, River Life Camp, Imagine If Camp, and Survival Camp. CHESPAX, the Calvert County Public Schools' (CCPS) environmental education program, organized most of the school field trips at JPPM. This partnership with CCPS brings every 6th and 8th grader to JPPM for an interactive field trip, including a new 8th-grade field trip introduced in FY23. Several homeschool groups also visited JPPM throughout the year, participating in the programs Icky History, Native Life, Colonial Life, and similar themes.

In addition to school programs, JPPM shared a wide array of in-person workshops with the public, with topics including how to make stone tools, fiber weaving, leather containers, basket weaving, fishing in canoes, flintknapping, historical cooking, and colonial blacksmithing. JPPM's monthly village days run from May through October. This program focuses on the Eastern Woodland Tribes before 1600 CE.

Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab

In FY23, the MAC Lab began work on an NPS African American Civil Rights grant to study the historic Wallville community. This African American rural community once existed on a stretch of land that includes the current site of JPPM. The project has included several public meetings, outreach to the descendant community, fieldwork associated with the community, genealogical research into community families, and the collection of oral histories relevant to the project.

Recent work on the Woodland Trail, coupled with documentary research conducted by MAC Lab staff, led to the discovery and identification of the site of an 18th-century tobacco barn and slave garden. In FY23, MAC Lab staff conserved a wide variety of artifacts from clients throughout the country, including components of the SS Pomona, ship and warehouse timbers from Alexandria (Virginia), three muskets from Bull Run (Virginia), the Ark cannon from St. Mary's County, the Spotswood cannon from the College of William and Mary (Virginia), many artifacts from the I-95 Expansion and the West River Shipyard (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), several window panes from Mount Vernon (Virginia), three conjure bottles from New Orleans, timbers from Blackbeard's Queen Anne's Revenge, and a rough lock from Deadwood, South Dakota.

MAC Lab staff and volunteers shovel testing the Edward Rawling site, one of five sites to be studied archaeologically during the Wallville project.

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Operating Principles and Priorities of the Moore/Miller Administration

Integrate These Into the Work of MDP

OPERATING PRINCIPLES

We are a government committed to...

1. Leveraging capital of all kinds.
2. Rebuilding to meet the needs of residents.
3. Being data-driven and heart-led.
4. Governing through partnership.
5. Defending the rights, freedoms, and dignity of all Marylanders.

Wes Moore
Governor

Aruna Miller
Lt. Governor

PRIORITIES

Leave no one behind by...

1. Ending child poverty in the State of Maryland.
2. Bolstering the wellbeing of Marylanders by ensuring world-class health systems for all.
3. Advancing infrastructure to connect all Marylanders to opportunities and each other.
4. Ensuring that all of those who want to live in Maryland can do so.
5. Creating a safer Maryland by interrupting violence and preventing crime. (And protecting the state)
6. Making Maryland the greenest state in the country.
7. Increasing Maryland's economic competitiveness.
8. Setting Maryland's students up for success.
9. Connecting Marylanders to jobs.
10. Making Maryland a state of service.

Secretary Rebecca L. Flora, AICP, Maryland Department of Planning
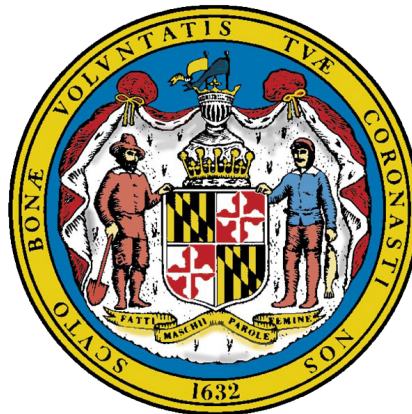
This card was created within MDP and distributed to all staff members to provide a daily reminder to incorporate the Administration's principles and priorities into their work

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

Wes Moore, Governor   Rebecca L. Flora, AICP, LEED ND / BD+C, Secretary
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor   Kristin Fleckenstein, Deputy Secretary