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COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

May 7, 2019; 1:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, Easton, Maryland

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Corey W. Pack

Chuck F. Callahan

Frank Divilio

Pete Leshner

Laura E. Price

Reported by

Diane Houlihan

Page 2	Page 4
<p>1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: Okay. If you wouldn't mind</p> <p>4 joining us in an opening prayer followed by the</p> <p>5 Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p>6 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: Thank you. Hello, everyone.</p> <p>8 Thanks for coming out with us.</p> <p>9 Council has its agenda. Are there any</p> <p>10 additions, deletions, or corrections to the</p> <p>11 agenda? Hearing none, the chair moves that the</p> <p>12 agenda be accepted with unanimous consent.</p> <p>13 We also have minutes from our March 26th</p> <p>14 meeting. We do not have our April 9th meeting</p> <p>15 minutes ready for us to vote on tonight. So</p> <p>16 I'm going to ask that we do not consider those.</p> <p>17 But we have our March 26th meeting minutes. We</p> <p>18 had a chance to review those. Are there any</p> <p>19 additions, deletions, or corrections to those</p> <p>20 minutes? Hearing none, the chair asks that</p> <p>21 they also be accepted with unanimous consent.</p>	<p>1 MS. ADKINS: Wonderful.</p> <p>2 MR. PACK: Thank you.</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Proclamation, Talbot County</p> <p>4 Judy Center Partnership Recognition, May 2019.</p> <p>5 Whereas, in recognition of Talbot County</p> <p>6 Judy Center partnership in 2019, the Talbot</p> <p>7 County Council encourages all organizations and</p> <p>8 citizens to recognize the work of the programs</p> <p>9 and services within the Talbot County Judy</p> <p>10 Center partnership.</p> <p>11 And whereas, this effort will increase the</p> <p>12 public awareness of and focus public attention</p> <p>13 on the needs of young children and their</p> <p>14 families in our community, the necessity of</p> <p>15 supporting early childhood programs and</p> <p>16 services that meet these needs, and the</p> <p>17 significance of programs and services in our</p> <p>18 community that meet the needs of young</p> <p>19 children.</p> <p>20 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of</p> <p>21 Talbot County, do hereby recognize the Talbot</p>
Page 3	Page 5
<p>1 You should have received your</p> <p>2 disbursements for April the 30th and also May</p> <p>3 the 7th. You had a chance to go through those</p> <p>4 and speak to Ms. Lane about those. Are there</p> <p>5 any additions, deletions, or corrections to</p> <p>6 those disbursements? Hearing none, the chair</p> <p>7 moves that they also be accepted with unanimous</p> <p>8 consent. Thank you, Council.</p> <p>9 Moving on, you have a proclamation for</p> <p>10 recognition of the Judy Center Partnership.</p> <p>11 Who is here for that, for the Judy Center?</p> <p>12 Come on up please and give us your name.</p> <p>13 MS. ADKINS: Good afternoon. I'm Mary</p> <p>14 Adkins. I'm the Judy Center coordinator here</p> <p>15 in Talbot County. And thank you so much for</p> <p>16 this recognition and for having us here again</p> <p>17 today.</p> <p>18 MR. PACK: Have a seat. We're going to</p> <p>19 have Madam Secretary read the certificate, and</p> <p>20 then we're going to hear a little bit more from</p> <p>21 you. Okay.</p>	<p>1 County Judy Center partnership during the month</p> <p>2 of May 2019 and encourage government agencies,</p> <p>3 community based organizations, service groups,</p> <p>4 and private citizens to spread the message</p> <p>5 throughout our communities that young children</p> <p>6 and their specific needs are important in</p> <p>7 today's society.</p> <p>8 Given under our hands in the great seal of</p> <p>9 Talbot County this 7th day of May in the year</p> <p>10 of our Lord 2019.</p> <p>11 MR. PACK: Thank you, Madam Secretary.</p> <p>12 Is there a motion on the proclamation as</p> <p>13 read?</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.</p> <p>15 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>16 MR. LESHAR: Second.</p> <p>17 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Leshar. Any</p> <p>18 discussion on the proclamation?</p> <p>19 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call</p> <p>20 your roll.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p>

Page 6

1 MR. PACK: Aye.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 3 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 7 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 9 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 10 MR. PACK: Ms. Adkins, what's going on
 11 with the Judy Center?
 12 MS. ADKINS: Well, thank you once again
 13 for having us here. And I'll just do a little
 14 background if there are some folks that may not
 15 know what a Judy Center is and what we're all
 16 about.
 17 Actually Judy Centers come out of a law, a
 18 Maryland State law that was developed back in
 19 2000. Legislators were very concerned about
 20 the readiness skills of our young children and
 21 of those children entering kindergarten in the

Page 7

1 State of Maryland. And in fact, I think we
 2 were about 25 percent school readiness across
 3 the state, for the school readiness skills that
 4 we know that children need in order to be
 5 successful beginning in kindergarten.
 6 And we know what happens when children
 7 enter school and they're not successful. That
 8 carries on throughout their school career, as
 9 well as further on into their life.
 10 So they were concerned. And actually
 11 Steny Hoyer's wife, Judy Hoyer, where the name
 12 Judy Center came from, at the time was the
 13 early learning supervisor in Prince George's
 14 County. And she had always had a philosophy of
 15 wanting to provide comprehensive integrated
 16 services for children and their families and
 17 understood that children develop within the
 18 context of the family.
 19 So if you're going to do anything to
 20 impact that child, you need to do it within the
 21 family, helping to support that family so they

Page 8

1 can support their child, as well as supporting
 2 the programs who are working with those
 3 children.
 4 And so she created in Prince George's
 5 County the first what ended up being a Judy
 6 Center and brought in all the different
 7 agencies that families had to go to look for
 8 assistance for their child. So programs from
 9 the Health Department, from early intervention,
 10 adult education, anything, Social Services,
 11 anything that would impact that child's
 12 development and the family's success.
 13 And Judy developed breast cancer and
 14 passed away.
 15 And as the legislature discussed what they
 16 could do to impact school readiness scores in
 17 the State of Maryland, they worked with MSDE
 18 and came up with the idea of replicating this
 19 early learning center that Judy had created in
 20 Prince George's County. And so they developed
 21 the Judy P. Hoyer Early Education and

Page 9

1 Enhancement Act.
 2 And today there are 50 Judy Centers across
 3 the state. They are located either within or
 4 within the area of title one schools. So
 5 although there are no income regulations around
 6 families receiving services, which actually is
 7 pretty unheard of when we look at services for
 8 young families, usually there's a poverty
 9 indicator that the family must have. But the
 10 only indicator is that they live within the
 11 attendance area of the school that is a title
 12 one school and that they have a child from
 13 birth through kindergarten. So any child who
 14 is born into our community is actually a Judy
 15 Center child.
 16 And we attempt to reach those families
 17 actually during pregnancy or soon after birth,
 18 whenever it's possible so that we can begin to
 19 build those relationships.
 20 But Judy Centers are another place where
 21 families go. Judy Centers are more of a

Page 10

1 philosophy, a community philosophy around how
 2 we educate young children, how we improve
 3 conditions for their family, how we educate
 4 those who are working with young children, and
 5 how we use our money wisely. And I know all of
 6 you sitting there understand the difficulty
 7 around funding for services.
 8 So the intent of the Judy Center is for a
 9 community to determine what the need is. We
 10 look at what are we doing, where do we have
 11 issues, what kind of support do we need. So
 12 across the state, you'll tend to see language
 13 and literacy and math being the two areas, as
 14 well as social and emotional development, the
 15 three areas that children tend to be lacking in
 16 when we look at school readiness skills.
 17 But each community has the ability to pull
 18 together all of the programs from adult
 19 education, Social Services, health, education,
 20 early childhood services, early intervention,
 21 any one that has anything to do with children

Page 11

1 and families and look at what we're doing well
 2 and where our children need additional
 3 assistance.
 4 And we develop a plan based on that with
 5 measurable goals, and we follow results based
 6 accountability. And we have to prove that what
 7 we're doing makes a difference.
 8 So we have about 30 partners, and that's
 9 forever growing. Actually this week I just
 10 added three family day care centers. So people
 11 who have a business in their home, added them
 12 to our partnership. And I'll be working with
 13 them to go through the accreditation process
 14 that helps their programs be high quality
 15 because we know that's what makes a difference
 16 in the lives of young children.
 17 So we do things with our funding and we
 18 have in the past and I'm on the 20th year. I
 19 helped actually to write the grant and then was
 20 hired for the position when we first started
 21 our Judy Center in 2002. So we've been here

Page 12

1 for a long time.
 2 And we're constantly changing according to
 3 the needs of our families. When I first began,
 4 I think in Talbot County we were maybe
 5 four percent Hispanic families. And at Easton
 6 Elementary School, right now in the Dobson
 7 building, we're probably about 65 percent. So
 8 that's a huge change in the demographics and
 9 needs of families.
 10 So also when we look at families who have
 11 never finished school, so they don't have their
 12 high school diploma or GED.
 13 One of the things that helps to increase
 14 the family's economic development and to help
 15 them become stable economically, one of the
 16 things that we do is work with Chesapeake
 17 College to hold adult education classes. And
 18 they fund the adult education classes that's
 19 held on site at Easton Elementary School.
 20 But so many of our families could not take
 21 advantage of that because they have young

Page 13

1 children at home. So they're working all day,
 2 and they can't afford child care again for a
 3 child and you can't get assistance to do that
 4 anyway. So we use our funds to hire accredited
 5 child care providers, those who hold their own
 6 license but work for an accredited center. We
 7 pay for them out of our grant to provide child
 8 care on site with the parents there.
 9 And we do planning for the activity, and
 10 then there's a parent child together component,
 11 where the families then practice those new
 12 skills with their child before the end of the
 13 day.
 14 MR. PACK: So it sounds like the Judy
 15 Center has a number of initiatives that you're
 16 working with under one umbrella also with the
 17 schools, with the college --
 18 MS. ADKINS: Absolutely.
 19 MR. PACK: -- other agencies throughout
 20 the community.
 21 Is there a website that you want to give

Page 14

1 people they can go in to learn more about the
 2 Judy Center?
 3 MS. ADKINS: Sure.
 4 MR. PACK: What is that?
 5 MS. ADKINS: You can find us on Facebook.
 6 MR. PACK: Facebook. Oh, okay.
 7 MS. ADKINS: And if you go into -- you can
 8 just look on the web for Talbot County Judy
 9 Center partnership. It's kind of a complicated
 10 address to get to. If you just enter it, you
 11 can have lots of information.
 12 We'd love to have you visit and find out
 13 more. Our office is over at the Easton
 14 Elementary School Dobson building. And hear
 15 more about our initiatives.
 16 MR. PACK: Well, we're going to certainly
 17 put that out there on the airwaves for people
 18 to tap into Facebook and find out more about
 19 what the Judy Center here in Talbot County is
 20 up to.
 21 Thank you for coming out and accepting

Page 15

1 this proclamation, which Mr. Callahan is going
 2 to give to you now, if you wouldn't mind coming
 3 up.
 4 Is there anyone else in the audience you
 5 want to bring up with you?
 6 MS. ADKINS: Yes. I would like to bring
 7 some of my partners who were able to come.
 8 MR. PACK: Sure. Come forward.
 9 MS. ADKINS: Dr. Griffith, who is an
 10 incredible supporter of early childhood and
 11 community initiatives. And Liz Hazlett, who is
 12 our early learning coordinator and reading
 13 specialist. Dan Meyers is our Judy Center
 14 service coordinator. Colleen Brighton is my
 15 administrative assistant. We have Nicole Chase
 16 Powell from Healthy Families and Crystal Gail
 17 as well. Judy Gaston from Oral Health
 18 Development who works with our families.
 19 There's Christy Morrell, who is Critchlow
 20 Adkins Children Center and Imagination Library.
 21 And Denise Taylor Turner, who is project

Page 16

1 (inaudible) Steps through Chesapeake College.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Everybody.
 3 MS. ADKINS: Everybody come up.
 4 MR. PACK: Scott, you might as well come
 5 on up here, too.
 6 MS. ADKINS: Oh, Keisha. I'm sorry. I
 7 didn't even see you, I'm sorry. Keisha Turner,
 8 who is our --
 9 MS. TURNER: I'm trying to hide.
 10 MS. ADKINS: -- is our Head Start director
 11 here in Easton and in St. Michaels.
 12 MS. TURNER: I was really trying to hide.
 13 MS. ADKINS: And Susan Delean-Botkin, who
 14 is one of our board members. I would love if
 15 you would come up because she certainly has
 16 been a key supporter of early childhood on our
 17 Talbot County Public School Board.
 18 I think I got -- no, I did not. Dana, I
 19 didn't know you were going to make it. Please
 20 come up. Dana Newman, who is from Talbot
 21 County Free Library. Every other Friday during

Page 17

1 the school year, not in the summer, but we have
 2 a play group that Dana allows us to hold at the
 3 library. And we typically have 60 parents and
 4 infants and toddlers there every other Friday.
 5 We're looking at the Y to begin to use that
 6 space for some additional ones.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: You definitely got the
 8 heart of Talbot County here. That's for sure.
 9 So the Council is very appreciative of all you
 10 guys, all the hard work you put in. It's
 11 people like yourself that really give families
 12 and children opportunities to prosper and grow.
 13 So we really thank you for everything
 14 you're doing. We can't thank you enough.
 15 MS. ADKINS: Thank you.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Thanks. I appreciate it.
 17 MR. LESHAR: Thank you.
 18 MR. PACK: Thanks, everyone.
 19 Ms. Dilley, let me see what you can do
 20 with that.
 21 So next, Council, on your agenda you have

Page 18

1 a presentation by the Mid-Shore Behavioral
 2 Health. We have Ms. Kathy Dilley with us,
 3 executive director of the Mid-Shore Behavioral
 4 Health.
 5 How are you doing, Ms. Dilley? Have a
 6 seat.
 7 MS. DILLEY: I'm good. How are you?
 8 MR. PACK: Good. I'm surprised they
 9 didn't call you up, too.
 10 MS. DILLEY: Good afternoon.
 11 MR. PACK: Good afternoon.
 12 MS. DILLEY: So my name is Katie Dilley,
 13 and I'm the executive director at Mid-Shore
 14 Behavioral Health.
 15 And I have Johanna Norris with me. She is
 16 a behavioral health coordinator at our agency.
 17 Her primary focus and population is our adult
 18 population, but she also represents Talbot
 19 County in supporting activities here in the
 20 county. So she's joining me this afternoon.
 21 Thank you for having us.

Page 19

1 MR. PACK: Sure.
 2 MS. DILLEY: This is our annual
 3 presentation to you all in hopes of gaining
 4 your endorsement to continue to serve as the
 5 core service agency here in Talbot County. So
 6 we always like to start with just a statement
 7 of our mission and vision. So I'm going to go
 8 ahead and move onto that.
 9 The mission of Mid-Shore Behavioral Health
 10 is to continually improve the provision of
 11 behavioral health services for the residents of
 12 Dorchester, Caroline, Kent, Talbot, and Queen
 13 Anne's County through the effective
 14 coordination of care and collaboration with our
 15 consumers, their natural supports, our provider
 16 community, and the community at large.
 17 Our vision statement is a world behavioral
 18 health care delivery system that is clinically
 19 and culturally competent. This system will
 20 ensure access, have a community focus, be cost
 21 effective and integrated to serve our community

Page 20

1 as a whole.
 2 One of the reasons why we prioritize
 3 meeting with the Councils in all five counties
 4 during the month of May is that it is Mental
 5 Health Awareness Month. Mental Health
 6 Awareness Month has been an observed month
 7 since 1949.
 8 This is an interesting week to be able to
 9 present to you all because it's also Children's
 10 Mental Health Awareness Week, which is a
 11 priority in our office. We have spearheaded
 12 this year some regional activity to really
 13 bring awareness and community involvement for
 14 our children's Mental Health Matters campaign.
 15 I don't know if you had the ability to see
 16 the Star Democrat article not in this week's
 17 paper but last week's Sunday edition in the
 18 life section. We had a nice one-page spread on
 19 highlighting a couple of families in our region
 20 here that have navigated the behavioral health
 21 system and had some very positive outcomes, but

Page 21

1 also the opportunity to promote our community
 2 activity that's going to be held this Thursday,
 3 May 9th, here at the Avalon Theater.
 4 We are showing the film Angst, which is an
 5 indie documentary highlighting families and
 6 youth that have been impacted by anxiety. And
 7 so we welcome you all to join us if you are
 8 available. And if you can't come, we ask you
 9 to wear green. Green is the color of the
 10 acknowledge for Mental Health Awareness Month,
 11 as well as the child's mental health awareness
 12 campaign. That's why Johanna and I are
 13 sporting our green today.
 14 I did bring some flyers to hand out about
 15 the film. So I can leave these here. We're
 16 very enthusiastic about this. This is the
 17 first time we've been able to do a regional
 18 presentation to bring awareness for this week's
 19 campaign. So we're very excited.
 20 We have several of our schools in the
 21 region that have joined in the campaign. So

Page 22

1 we're happy to see that sort of on-boarding and
 2 support from our partners in the school system
 3 as well.
 4 We'd like to do sort of a general overview
 5 of some highlights of activity out of the
 6 agency for the year. The packet that we've
 7 offered you this afternoon has a snapshot of
 8 our programs that we monitor, as well as some
 9 of our fiscal growth that we've had over the
 10 last several years.
 11 So before we go into our year in review
 12 for fiscal year 2019, I do want to bring your
 13 attention. Our office has grown substantially
 14 since fiscal 17 from managing somewhere in the
 15 neighborhood of \$4.7 million to projected
 16 \$9.2 million for fiscal 20.
 17 A lot of the growth we can contribute to
 18 some of our advocacy to expanding our crisis
 19 response system here on the Eastern Shore, as
 20 well as our recent efforts to obtain dollars to
 21 (inaudible) the opioid crisis. So we're going

Page 23

1 to talk a little bit about that in detail, but
 2 just so you sort of have an understanding of
 3 what is contributing to our substantial growth.
 4 So Johanna and I are going to go over the
 5 year in review together.
 6 The first thing I wanted to bring your
 7 attention to is that effective in July of last
 8 year, we were able to secure additional dollars
 9 for our mobile crisis teams to go 24 hours a
 10 day seven days a week in capacity. That's an
 11 activity we've been working with them on to
 12 implement over the course of the year.
 13 Our mobile crisis teams are directly tied
 14 to our Eastern Shore operations center, which
 15 is our crisis response hotline. That is the
 16 real gateway to our crisis response system that
 17 not only serves Talbot County, but also the
 18 nine counties of the Eastern Shore.
 19 With the expanded funding, starting in
 20 January our hotline was able to go 24 hours a
 21 day here on the Eastern Shore. There was a

Page 24

1 period of time before that where the activity
 2 was supported overnight in Baltimore County.
 3 But now all of that is now housed here on the
 4 Eastern Shore, which is a big step in the right
 5 direction.
 6 And starting in February, we rolled out
 7 the first of three overnight mobile crisis
 8 teams. We now have two of the three overnight
 9 crisis teams available. So if you were to call
 10 the hotline and in need of crisis support, a
 11 lot of times those responses are also
 12 complemented with our law enforcement partners
 13 depending on the situation. But that is now
 14 available 24 hours a day.
 15 We also are working with implementing the
 16 handle with care model, which is a model that
 17 started in West Virginia and it's been very
 18 impactful with dealing with children that are
 19 facing adverse childhood experiences and that
 20 have been impacted or involved with law
 21 enforcement. The handle with care model is

Page 25

1 essentially a process where if police or
 2 emergency management are involved with a family
 3 that has young children or children in the
 4 school system at a particular household, there
 5 will be a message sent out that indicates that
 6 that child the next day would need to be
 7 handled with care.
 8 There's no confidential information
 9 revealed. It's just an indication for the
 10 teachers and the support staff to be mindful of
 11 the needs of the student the next day or in the
 12 subsequent days following an incident.
 13 This is a program that we hosted a
 14 training for back in March here on the Eastern
 15 Shore, and we're working with several of the
 16 five counties to try to get the model
 17 implemented in the school systems, which we've
 18 had some good positive progress with which
 19 we're very enthusiastic about.
 20 We're supporting our peer workforce by
 21 continuing to go after funding to support

Page 26

1 scholarships for our peer support specialist
 2 workforce. We were able to use \$10,000 this
 3 year to be managed by our Chesapeake Voyagers
 4 Wellness and Recovery Center here in Easton to
 5 offer funding to support interested peers with
 6 becoming certified and being part of our
 7 behavioral health services network. So it's a
 8 very nice initiative. This is our third year
 9 that we've been able to support this
 10 scholarship activity. So we're happy to
 11 continue to do that in this fiscal year.

12 Our office has been working intensively
 13 over the last year to evaluate what local
 14 systems management integration can look like
 15 with our local addiction authorities here in
 16 the midshore counties. So that is a project
 17 that we're working on collaboratively with all
 18 five health departments here in the region with
 19 the hope of having a more integrated regional
 20 approach to how we manage our system of care
 21 and meet the needs of our community because we

Page 27

1 recognize we can do a lot of good work as we
 2 continue to partner and do that together.

3 So I feel that probably within the next
 4 coming year we may have a special meeting where
 5 we'd like to present our plan you to all.

6 MR. PACK: Okay.

7 MS. DILLEY: But that's something we're in
 8 the planning phase of currently.

9 I touched on before our acquisition of
 10 expanded grant dollars to support our opioid
 11 crisis. We have been monitoring the Maryland
 12 opioid rapid response grant for the last two
 13 years. That grant closed on April 30th. And
 14 those funds were supporting crisis beds at our
 15 Whitsitt Center in Kent County.

16 We went after the State opioid response
 17 grant to continue the activity of the crisis
 18 beds at the AF Whitsitt Center. And not only
 19 continue to have access to those beds, but to
 20 expand on them. So we've gone from four crisis
 21 beds to seven crisis beds, which are now

Page 28

1 operating at a 24-hour-a-day admission process,
 2 which has been a great resource to the region.

3 MR. PACK: Are these the beds for the safe
 4 station?

5 MS. DILLEY: Well, depending on the safe
 6 station, where the location is. There's some
 7 beds in the lower shore that have just started
 8 operation. But the Whitsitt Center
 9 historically has been the primary spot.

10 MR. PACK: The safe station here in Talbot
 11 County?

12 MS. DILLEY: Yes.

13 MR. PACK: Okay.

14 MS. DILLEY: With the addition of the peer
 15 support response here in the county as well as
 16 in the neighboring counties, there's been a
 17 nice complement to making sure folks are being
 18 seen when they present to the emergency
 19 department. We have peers that are being
 20 dispatched to meet folks there to really
 21 capture them and encourage and support their

Page 29

1 transition into care or access to supportive
 2 resources. So that's been a real complementary
 3 process that's unfolded in the last couple of
 4 years.

5 But yes. The State opioid response funds
 6 will support those crisis bed activities.

7 Actually we've been able to grow them at the
 8 Whitsitt Center, which has been wonderful.

9 MR. PACK: Great.

10 MS. DILLEY: In addition to that, we have
 11 secured a significant amount of funding for
 12 bringing more safe stations to the Eastern
 13 Shore. So we are now partnering with Kent
 14 County, Queen Anne's County, Worcester, and
 15 Wicomico to bring safe stations to the Eastern
 16 Shore from top to bottom.

17 MR. PACK: That's good.

18 MS. DILLEY: So we're looking to develop
 19 sort of a safe station coalition of sorts so we
 20 can make sure that we're doing things that are
 21 complementary to the activities, as well as

Page 30

1 really leverage the dollars to help support
 2 marketing so folks are aware that they're
 3 available.
 4 MR. PACK: Right.
 5 MS. DILLEY: Each county's model is going
 6 to be a little bit different. We realize that
 7 the Eastern Shore is set up very differently
 8 than our partners over in Anne Arundel County
 9 that have had a lot of success with this
 10 initiative.
 11 So with that in mind, our priority has
 12 been creativity with access. So each county is
 13 going to look a little bit different in terms
 14 of how they're rolled out. And when they're
 15 all formalized, we will be putting a press
 16 release out so the community is well aware of
 17 how they can access safe stations in each of
 18 the counties that they're available, including
 19 Talbot, recognized for their activity here as
 20 well on the Eastern Shore.
 21 MR. PACK: And we did the same thing when

Page 31

1 we first rolled out the safe station March of
 2 last year here in Talbot County when Jen Corbin
 3 came over from Anne Arundel County to kind of
 4 be our adviser consultant, if you would.
 5 MS. DILLEY: She's fantastic.
 6 MR. PACK: So we knew off right that we
 7 could not adapt fully what they had done in
 8 Anne Arundel County. So we kind of had to
 9 scale it down to Talbot County and make sure
 10 that we were covering the needs here in the
 11 county.
 12 So I think that's a great approach. Kind
 13 of tailor it to what each county can handle.
 14 MS. DILLEY: Yes.
 15 MR. PACK: Manpower and those kinds of
 16 things as well.
 17 MS. DILLEY: And those are the things that
 18 we're looking at funding. I mean depending on
 19 the need, some counties have requested dollars
 20 to support additional emergency management
 21 staff to be really earmarked to be there to

Page 32

1 immediately respond as well as peers,
 2 clinicians.
 3 These dollars have supported clearly our
 4 transportation needs to get to them and get
 5 from a station safe to recovery center or even
 6 sort of a respite arrangement if someone is
 7 pending admission at site for treatment.
 8 It's a major project, but it's very
 9 exciting. It's been sort of very consuming for
 10 our whole team, as you can imagine. But good
 11 work, nonetheless.
 12 MR. PACK: Did anyone from your
 13 organization attend the CIT conference
 14 yesterday in Annapolis?
 15 MS. DILLEY: Yes.
 16 MR. PACK: I was there.
 17 MS. DILLEY: Bridgette Kealy is our crisis
 18 behavioral health coordinator who oversees the
 19 crisis response grants, including our crisis
 20 intervention team. Yes, she was there in
 21 attendance.

Page 33

1 MR. PACK: I didn't get a chance to meet
 2 her. Okay.
 3 MS. DILLEY: They spent quite a bit of
 4 their time talking about safe stations, which
 5 was great.
 6 It's really through the additional
 7 funding, it's really helped garner interest in
 8 bringing the activity on board. So we're happy
 9 to support that.
 10 MR. PACK: Okay. Good.
 11 MS. DILLEY: So I'll let Johanna continue
 12 with our highlights, and then we can review
 13 dollars if you like. We've also provided some
 14 data. So wherever you feel --
 15 MR. PACK: Let me just make an
 16 announcement real quick. We're five after
 17 two o'clock. We had a public hearing scheduled
 18 at two p.m. We're going to have to push that
 19 back probably to 2:20.
 20 We have one other matter after you're
 21 done.

Page 34

1 MS. DILLEY: Sure. No problem.
 2 MR. PACK: We're going to bring our
 3 airport manager up to just very briefly talk
 4 about matters with the former Black and Decker
 5 building.
 6 MS. DILLEY: Sure. No problem.
 7 MR. PACK: I said former.
 8 So anyway, you can go ahead and finish up
 9 and then we're going to bring Micah up.
 10 MS. DILLEY: No problem.
 11 MS. NORRIS: So quickly I'll just share
 12 that during fiscal year 19, Mid-Shore
 13 Behavioral Health brought in a SOAR case
 14 specialist. That is a person who is able to
 15 complete disability applications on behalf of
 16 individuals who meet certain criteria. It
 17 helps to expedite the process in order for them
 18 to have income so they can achieve things like
 19 housing and a more stable living environment.
 20 We've also partnered with Choptank
 21 Community Health in developing something called

Page 35

1 a warm handoff process. And that is specific
 2 to our region creating a model that's
 3 standardized. So it's a relationship between
 4 the primary care providers and behavioral
 5 health providers and developing that quality of
 6 transfer when these referrals need to be made.
 7 Of course, we continue to participate in
 8 the Out of the Darkness Suicide Awareness walks
 9 and the local drug and alcohol abuse Council,
 10 the Child Advocacy Center Advisory Board,
 11 Talbot Goes Purple, Shore Regional Health's
 12 Opioid Task Force, and Healthy Tilghman.
 13 Thank you.
 14 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 15 MS. DILLEY: And so there's a breakdown of
 16 our dollars. You can see our growth here
 17 listed from FY18 to 19.
 18 One thing I would like to highlight in
 19 addition to our State general fund awards and
 20 our federal awards that we've expanded is that
 21 Mid-Shore Behavioral Health is also the house

Page 36

1 to our five-county continuum of care program so
 2 that is our program that services our homeless
 3 population. So we manage dollars that come
 4 from the federal government and the Housing and
 5 Urban Development.
 6 But this year we also added on State
 7 dollars through our homeless solutions grant,
 8 which is a grant that comes through the
 9 Department of Housing and Community Development
 10 here in Maryland. That was a new award that we
 11 had never managed until this year. So it was a
 12 significant growth to almost the tune of
 13 800,000 additional dollars for housing and
 14 quick access to emergency sheltering here in
 15 our region. It's brought a lot of exciting
 16 opportunities to fund programs that are, as you
 17 can imagine, extremely valuable for the
 18 community here.
 19 And we're looking to expand those dollars
 20 this coming fiscal year to add on a case
 21 manager and supports for transitional aged

Page 37

1 youth that are facing homelessness. So we're
 2 pleased to see that the State has acknowledged
 3 that that population is a growing population
 4 that is facing homelessness and we need to
 5 prioritize getting ahead of that with some
 6 prevention and good care coordination. So this
 7 coming fiscal year we'll be able to add a case
 8 manager to support that activity for the
 9 region, which is very complementary.
 10 And we've, of course, captured some of our
 11 data of our public behavioral utilization in
 12 the last year. We are serving close to, let's
 13 see, I've got that statistic listed here.
 14 I know you're tight on time. We don't
 15 have to get into all the data.
 16 MR. PACK: That's okay.
 17 MS. DILLEY: There hasn't been a major
 18 fluctuation in how many folks we're serving
 19 here in the county.
 20 But if you had questions about the data,
 21 we would be happy to explore those or follow up

Page 38

1 as needed.

2 MR. PACK: So the number of individuals

3 served remained pretty constant?

4 MS. DILLEY: Yeah.

5 MR. PACK: Pretty stable. But the amount

6 of dollars that you're managing has certainly

7 increased.

8 MS. DILLEY: Certainly the amount of

9 dollars we're managing has increased

10 substantially. And that's for grant funded.

11 So those are services that are not in the

12 fee-for-service structure.

13 MR. PACK: The mobile crisis part was a

14 big component of it as well, being able to

15 provide 24-hour call center service. That was

16 a big key to it.

17 I know when Carol Masson came in and

18 talked with us some time ago about that, that

19 was one of the things that we were very

20 interested in getting that up and running for

21 24 hours.

Page 39

1 MS. DILLEY: Yes.

2 MR. PACK: So having those dollars

3 available to do that was I think a really

4 important asset to have.

5 MS. DILLEY: Yeah. We were able to expand

6 their annual award by almost \$900,000 just for

7 mobile crisis.

8 MR. PACK: There you go. That's a big

9 chunk of your increase.

10 MS. DILLEY: Substantial.

11 MR. PACK: Anything else you have for

12 Ms. Dilley, anyone?

13 Council, I'm looking for a motion for us

14 to agree to this letter of agreement.

15 Madam Secretary, I'm not going to have you

16 read this, unless Mr. Kupersmith says I have

17 to.

18 MR. KUPERSMITH: Either way.

19 MR. PACK: Either way. Is there a title

20 here that we can just have you read for the

21 record, maybe just the scope of the agreement,

Page 40

1 if you wouldn't mind just so we have something

2 for the record, the scope of agreement?

3 SECRETARY: Talbot County core service

4 agency letter of agreement for FY 22.

5 MR. LESHHER: I move that we sign the

6 agreement.

7 MR. PACK: Okay. We have a motion by

8 Mr. Leshher to sign the agreement.

9 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.

10 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Callahan. Is

11 there any further discussion on the agreement

12 or what we heard from Mid-Shore Behavioral

13 Health and all the great things that they're

14 doing? No, nothing further.

15 Madam Secretary, please call your roll.

16 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

17 MR. PACK: Aye.

18 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.

19 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.

20 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

21 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

Page 41

1 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.

2 MS. PRICE: Aye.

3 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshher.

4 MR. LESHHER: Aye.

5 MR. PACK: Thank you all very much.

6 MS. DILLEY: You're welcome. Thanks for

7 having us. Nice to see you all. I'm going to

8 leave these over here.

9 MR. PACK: That's fine.

10 Micah, you can make your way forward, sir.

11 Council, next on your agenda, we have a

12 request from the Easton Airport to submit

13 application to the Federal Aviation

14 Administration, FAA, and to the Maryland

15 Aviation Administration, MAA, for reimbursement

16 costs associated with the Talbot County

17 Business Center, better known, formerly known

18 as the Black and Decker facility.

19 And we have here Mr. Micah, our airport

20 manager. Micah, good to see you.

21 MR. RISHER: Thank you. Good afternoon,

Page 42

1 President Pack, Council.
 2 As we continue to move forward with our
 3 safety enhancements at our airport, the time
 4 has come to officially seek reimbursement from
 5 the FAA for the land acquisition phase one,
 6 which includes the former Black and Decker
 7 property.
 8 So what we're requesting is a little over
 9 five and a half million dollars from the FAA
 10 and about \$308,000 from the MAA to be
 11 reimbursed to Talbot County for that property.
 12 So I'd like to seek your approval to
 13 submit that application package.
 14 MR. PACK: Before we get that motion, once
 15 this takes place and those dollars are received
 16 by the Easton Airport from the FAA and the MAA,
 17 then the ownership of the Business Center now
 18 changes hands from Talbot County over to the
 19 airport, which is its own enterprise fund. Is
 20 that correct?
 21 MR. RISHER: That is absolutely correct.

Page 43

1 It's my understanding that as soon as we
 2 receive the first federal dollar, that would
 3 become airport property.
 4 MR. PACK: And the total amount that we
 5 are to receive is over some \$6 million; is that
 6 correct?
 7 MR. RISHER: It's \$6,171,900. So there's
 8 a remaining \$308,595 that we're not seeking
 9 reimbursement for. That would be the airport's
 10 portion that they will pay back to the county.
 11 That will complete the 6.1 million.
 12 MR. PACK: And as soon as we receive
 13 dollar one, that ownership changes hands?
 14 MR. RISHER: That's how I understand it.
 15 Yes, sir.
 16 MS. PRICE: And we have to start paying
 17 rent for our county things like our Sheriff and
 18 some other divisions that we have over there,
 19 start paying rent to the airport.
 20 MR. RISHER: We definitely have some
 21 dynamic issues to collaborate on. I think

Page 44

1 we'll make our way through it.
 2 MR. PACK: I don't see Ms. Vanhooser or
 3 Mr. Shoge in the audience. I'm sure once those
 4 funds are received by your office and by
 5 Ms. Lane's office, we have to start the
 6 discussion as far as how we make the tenants
 7 aware that there would be a change of
 8 ownership, change of landlord, so to speak, and
 9 those kind of things.
 10 MR. RISHER: Ms. Vanhooser and I, we've
 11 already had discussions, along with Mr. Moore.
 12 So we definitely have a team approach in place
 13 to manage that property.
 14 MR. PACK: I'm sure you guys have met
 15 several times about this because we knew this
 16 day was coming.
 17 So just to make the audience and those at
 18 home aware that this will bring about a change.
 19 We knew this was coming, as we have said to
 20 people over and over again. That building will
 21 come down.

Page 45

1 There will be capital expenses, as
 2 Ms. Price alluded to, when it comes to the
 3 Sheriff's Department and other associated
 4 county departments that are within that
 5 building. We're going to have to go look out
 6 to relocate them, either to lease or purchase
 7 of a new building space.
 8 MS. PRICE: I believe all of the leases
 9 that we have, none of them go any later than
 10 January 2022 I believe?
 11 MR. RISHER: That's correct.
 12 MS. PRICE: So all those tenants are aware
 13 that this was a short-term deal.
 14 MR. PACK: Oh, yeah. So the day is upon
 15 us, ladies and gentlemen.
 16 We're seeking a motion now, Council.
 17 MS. PRICE: I'll make that motion.
 18 MR. PACK: Motion is made by Ms. Price for
 19 the submission of the application for funds,
 20 both State and federal. Is there a second to
 21 the motion?

Page 46

1 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.
 2 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Callahan. Any
 3 further discussion of Mr. Risher or about what
 4 we're doing here?
 5 Madam Secretary, please call your roll.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 7 MR. PACK: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 9 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 10 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 12 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 13 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 15 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 16 MR. PACK: There we go. Thank you.
 17 MR. RISHER: Thank you very much.
 18 MR. PACK: So we're going to pick up our
 19 public hearing. I said 20 after, but we're a
 20 little early. So let's get ourself together
 21 here.

Page 47

1 This is going to be a public hearing on
 2 Bill 1409. Ms. Lane, are you coming forward on
 3 this or no?
 4 MS. LANE: Give a brief overview.
 5 MR. PACK: Madam Secretary, while she's
 6 making her way, if you wouldn't mind reading
 7 the title, please.
 8 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1409, a bill to
 9 amend Bill Number 1387, the 2018-2019 annual
 10 budget and appropriation ordinance, to make
 11 additional appropriations from unanticipated
 12 revenues to certain departments in the current
 13 expense budget, to amend the current expense
 14 budget through fourth quarter transfers and
 15 supplementary appropriations.
 16 MR. PACK: Thank you, Madam Secretary.
 17 Ms. Lane, I'll turn it over to you.
 18 MS. LANE: This bill is actually to amend
 19 the fiscal 19 budget, which is the budget that
 20 will end June 30th of this year. We can only
 21 make these amendments in the fourth quarter of

Page 48

1 the year. We're not allowed to under our
 2 charter to make these amendments prior to the
 3 fourth quarter.
 4 The amendments all impact the general fund
 5 appropriation budget. There's actually no
 6 change to the total budget. It will remain the
 7 same at its current level.
 8 So this is something we do every year at
 9 this time to try to take advantage of savings
 10 in certain areas and make sure we cover our
 11 expenditures that may be over our budget level
 12 in other areas.
 13 One of the things we are doing this year
 14 as we've done in prior years is allocating
 15 funds for capital outlay purchases so
 16 departments can purchase those in the current
 17 year rather than move those expenses into
 18 fiscal 20.
 19 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Lane.
 20 Mr. Leshner, you and Ms. Price were not
 21 here when we went through these items last time

Page 49

1 I believe.
 2 MS. PRICE: I was here.
 3 MR. PACK: Were you here?
 4 MS. PRICE: Yeah.
 5 MR. PACK: Were you both here?
 6 MS. PRICE: We were both here for this.
 7 MR. PACK: For these items dealing with
 8 1409? Okay, all right. I stand corrected
 9 then.
 10 Is there any of these items any member of
 11 Council wish to remark on or have any questions
 12 before we move forward?
 13 Okay. Since there's none, we're going to
 14 proceed then. This is Bill 1409 to amend Bill
 15 1387. And we're going to open up the public
 16 hearing. Again, this is on the current FY 19.
 17 This is not on FY 20. So if you signed this FY
 18 20, just hold back for a second. We're going
 19 to get to that in a moment.
 20 So dealing with Bill 1409. Mr. Callahan
 21 has my timer, yes?

Page 50

1 MR. CALLAHAN: Uh-huh.

2 MR. PACK: We'll start on the right side

3 on the room on Bill 1409. Anybody on that

4 bill? Second row, third?

5 I didn't go over the ground rules; did I?

6 You all know the ground rules, right? Come up,

7 give your name, your address. Okay.

8 Anyone on my left? Anyone on my right?

9 Okay, great.

10 I'm going to go ahead and close the public

11 hearing on Bill 1409. And this is not eligible

12 for vote tonight.

13 So let's move on to constant yield. And

14 Ms. Lane, I'll call you back up for that.

15 When will be the . . .

16 MS. MORRIS: May 21st.

17 SECRETARY: May 14th.

18 MR. PACK: May 21st.

19 MS. MORRIS: I stand corrected, Mr. Pack.

20 May 14th.

21 MR. PACK: May 14th. So Bill 1409 will be

Page 51

1 eligible for vote on May 14th, okay.

2 And now we're going to move on. This is

3 the constant yield portion of our current bill.

4 Ms. Lane, I'll turn it over to you.

5 MS. LANE: This is the hearing on the

6 constant yield. This public hearing is

7 required by State law.

8 The County Council in the fiscal 2020

9 proposed budget is proposing to adopt a real

10 property tax rate of 63.22 cents per \$100 of

11 assessed valuation for all properties located

12 outside the incorporated towns of the county.

13 This is 2.6 cents higher than the current real

14 property tax rate. And this rate is 2.75 cents

15 higher than the constant yield rate of 60.47

16 cents and will generate \$1,274,904 more in real

17 property tax revenues in fiscal 2020 from the

18 unincorporated area of the county.

19 Just for clarification, the constant yield

20 rate is the rate that we would set our real

21 property tax at to generate the same amount of

Page 52

1 revenues as we received in the current year.

2 Properties located within the incorporated

3 towns will again be granted a tax differential,

4 which will set their real property tax rates

5 between 6.01 cents and 13.3 cents lower than

6 the county tax rate.

7 The county real property tax rates within

8 the towns are higher than the constant yield

9 rates for the towns.

10 The County Council will not adopt the

11 fiscal 2020 tax rates today. The fiscal 2020

12 real property tax rate will be adopted as part

13 of the fiscal 2019-2020 budget and

14 appropriation ordinance currently scheduled to

15 be adapted on May 21, 2019.

16 MS. PRICE: Question. So as we get into

17 the budget and the budget that we proposed has

18 an education supplement of 1.8 cents.

19 MS. LANE: Yes.

20 MS. PRICE: And this is 2.6. So just so

21 people know what the constant yield rate is

Page 53

1 increasing to, would it be fair to say that

2 it's .8 cents higher and then the 1.8 is the

3 educational component?

4 MS. LANE: 1.8 cents of the education

5 component is included in that.

6 MS. PRICE: So if there was none of that,

7 what would the constant yield increase be?

8 .8 cents, .008?

9 MS. LANE: It would be .9 something cents

10 I think. It would be less than a penny.

11 MS. PRICE: Just under a penny. I think

12 it's important for people to understand with

13 the constant yield what that increase is. And

14 that would have netted us the same amount of

15 money and the educational supplement is

16 separate?

17 MS. LANE: Yes.

18 MS. PRICE: Okay.

19 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Lane.

20 So now I'm going to open the public

21 hearing on the constant yield. Ms. Lane just

Page 54

1 gave you those numbers. I hope you were
 2 following along with paper and pencil. Okay.
 3 Again, if you want to come to the table,
 4 give us your name, your address, and we'll be
 5 glad to hear from you. Three minutes if you're
 6 speaking for yourself, five minutes if you're
 7 speaking for a group. Please let us know that
 8 group that you're speaking for.
 9 On the first row anyone on the constant
 10 yield? Second row? Third row? Fourth row?
 11 Let's swing over to my right. Anyone on
 12 the constant yield? No. Okay.
 13 We're going to go ahead, Council, unless
 14 there's an objection, close --
 15 MS. PRICE: I have one more question of
 16 Ms. Lane.
 17 MR. PACK: Ms. Lane, you have one more
 18 question.
 19 MS. LANE: Yes.
 20 MS. PRICE: What is the causation to have
 21 to increase the rate to get the same amount?

Page 55

1 Is that lower assessable base in the county
 2 that causes us to have to raise the rate on the
 3 constant yield to get the same amount of
 4 revenues?
 5 MS. LANE: Our assessable base actually
 6 increased. So our constant rate is slightly
 7 lower than what our current --
 8 MS. PRICE: So we're allowed to bring
 9 in -- that's the CPIU or two percent, whichever
 10 is less?
 11 MS. LANE: It is. It's 1.9 percent this
 12 year.
 13 MS. PRICE: So we had to go up basically
 14 .9 something cents to capture the 1.9 percent
 15 we're allowed?
 16 MS. LANE: Yes.
 17 MS. PRICE: Got it. Everybody else got
 18 that, too, right?
 19 MR. PACK: Good?
 20 MS. PRICE: Uh-huh.
 21 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Lane.

Page 56

1 MS. LANE: Staying.
 2 MR. PACK: Yeah, you might as well just
 3 stay there.
 4 The constant yield will be considered for
 5 vote on May the 21st along with Bill 1410,
 6 which we're going to move into now.
 7 So Madam Secretary, if you wouldn't mind
 8 reading the title for Bill 1410, please.
 9 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1410, an act to
 10 establish the 2019-2020 annual budget and
 11 appropriation ordinance.
 12 MR. PACK: Okay. And we're going to let
 13 Ms. Lane get set up here for her slide
 14 presentation.
 15 MS. LANE: Yes.
 16 MR. PACK: If you want to dim the lights,
 17 Ms. Morris, that will be okay. Thank you.
 18 MS. LANE: Doesn't seem to be on. There
 19 it goes. Having a few technical difficulties.
 20 This is my slide?
 21 SECRETARY: Yeah.

Page 57

1 MS. LANE: Bill 1410 establishes the
 2 proposed budget for fiscal year 2020 for the
 3 Talbot County general fund, capital projects
 4 fund, development impact fund, the grants and
 5 special revenues fund, the recreation fund,
 6 which includes the Talbot County Community
 7 Center and the Hog Neck Golf Course, the
 8 sanitary districts, the Easton Airport, and
 9 Talbot Family Network.
 10 My comments this afternoon will focus
 11 primarily on the proposed fiscal 2020 general
 12 fund budget, with an emphasis on the major part
 13 of our general fund budget, which is education.
 14 The general fund is the operating fund of
 15 the county. All revenues and expenditures,
 16 except those required to be accounted for in
 17 other funds, are included in the general fund.
 18 Most county taxes and fees and most county
 19 services are included in the general fund.
 20 The proposed fiscal 2020 general fund
 21 budget totals \$91,913,000. The current fiscal

Page 58

1 year general fund budget for fiscal 19 is
 2 \$92,038,750.

3 The County Council received funding
 4 requests for operating and capital outlay
 5 expenditures of \$98,962,440, which is
 6 \$6.9 million more than the current fiscal 19
 7 budget and \$7 million less than the proposed
 8 fiscal 2020 budget.

9 The fiscal 2020 budget reflects a slight
 10 decrease from the current general fund budget,
 11 and this budget was funded in part with
 12 revenues of almost \$4 million from prior year
 13 fund balance, which is our savings.

14 Great effort was taken in the development
 15 of this budget, which maintains current
 16 services for our citizens while continuing to
 17 maintain two of the lowest property tax rates,
 18 property and income tax, in the state.

19 In order to fund expenses of the public
 20 school system, Talbot County Council has
 21 proposed to override the voter imposed property

Page 59

1 tax revenue cap. This is authorized by State
 2 law in order to fund education expenses only.
 3 This budget proposes to override the tax cap by
 4 \$1,345,500, which correlates to an increase of
 5 1.8 cents in the real property tax rate.

6 This chart shows the history of the use of
 7 the education supplement by the County Council
 8 to provide funding for the Talbot County Public
 9 School System.

10 In fiscal 2020, the County Council will
 11 have used this option for the fifth time to add
 12 funding for the Talbot County Public Schools.
 13 These five additions have increased tax payers
 14 revenues by 9.35 cents and have added
 15 \$6.9 million to the Talbot County Public
 16 School's budget, \$5 million just in the last
 17 five years.

18 This slide shows property tax rates for
 19 all the counties in the state. The other
 20 counties show their fiscal 19 property tax
 21 rates. Talbot County's rate is shown at our

Page 60

1 fiscal 20 proposed rate, which is 63.22 cents,
 2 which does include the 1.87 education
 3 supplement and is approximately 20 cents less
 4 than the next lowest property tax rate in the
 5 state at Worcester County.

6 MR. PACK: So with that slide, we can
 7 safely assume that some of those counties, if
 8 not many of them, probably will have an
 9 increase in their property tax as well.

10 MS. LANE: Some are definitely increasing.
 11 There are a few that have actually been trying
 12 to decrease over the years. So there is some
 13 variation from year to year.

14 I do know Dorchester is increasing theirs.
 15 They had announced that earlier.

16 MS. PRICE: Anne Arundel as well.

17 MS. LANE: Anne Arundel is one of the ones
 18 that has been trying to decrease their rate.

19 I know Baltimore County is proposing some
 20 increases, too.

21 MR. PACK: Okay.

Page 61

1 MS. LANE: The Talbot County -- I guess
 2 this slide is budget highlights. This
 3 particular slide will focus on Talbot County
 4 Public School's funding.

5 The Talbot County Public School's
 6 operating appropriation is \$936,330 above the
 7 required Maintenance of Effort level.
 8 Maintenance of Effort increased by \$907,897,
 9 which results in a total operating increase
 10 from the county to the public school system of
 11 \$1,844,227.

12 The county is also funding \$409,170 of
 13 expenditures that are not included in the
 14 Maintenance of Effort and/or the operating
 15 appropriation. Those specific items had been
 16 sent to the Maryland State Department of
 17 Education for approval. One item was approved,
 18 the others were denied. The county and the
 19 Board of Education have jointly submitted a
 20 request to have those items reviewed under
 21 appeal, and we are optimistic that, if not all,

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 some of those will be approved on our appeal 2 process. 3 We were very successful last year when we 4 did the appeal process. So we're optimistic 5 again this year. 6 In addition to the operating 7 appropriation, the county is also funding 8 3.7 million for debt service. Debt service has 9 increased by over a million dollars in the 10 fiscal 20 budget to pay for half of the annual 11 debt service on the Easton Elementary School. 12 The county's share of that school is 13 \$30 million. 14 MS. PRICE: Can I add one thing before you 15 move on from this slide? 16 Maintenance of Effort, again, I want to 17 clarify that it was around 936,000 to get the 18 same level of funding. But we're on an 19 escalator now of an additional two and a half 20 percent above their budget each and every year 21 regardless of the need. So Maintenance of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 County Public Schools will also receive 2 \$665,518 of State funding that was added by the 3 State legislature during their budget session, 4 which is the Kirwan funds. Those funds are 5 identified to assist the school system in 6 meeting some of the priorities outlined in the 7 Kirwan report. 8 And in addition, the State has also added 9 \$672,986 of regular State funding that was 10 included in the Talbot County Public School's 11 budget request. 12 So the expected total increase in State 13 funding to the Talbot County Public School 14 System is \$1.3 million above the fiscal 19 15 level. 16 And the fiscal 2020 capital budget, county 17 capital budget, does include an additional 18 \$11 million for the Easton Elementary School. 19 This is our final phase-in for funding for the 20 Easton Elementary School, bringing our total 21 contribution of \$30 million for this project</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 Effort really isn't make Maintenance of Effort 2 anymore. It's Maintenance of Effort plus an 3 additional almost million dollars. 4 So that terminology, since we have never 5 been on the escalator before, is really kind of 6 a misnomer. It's not the same effort. It's an 7 actual million dollars that is State mandated 8 plus whatever else the Council has 9 appropriated. 10 Correct? 11 MS. LANE: Yeah. The escalator may or may 12 not continue every year. It does depend on 13 assessments and income, but we do expect to see 14 the escalator in the foreseeable future. 15 MS. PRICE: Right. It's just not good 16 terminology anymore when you get hit on the 17 escalator piece. 18 MS. LANE: This county appropriation 19 increase of \$1.8 million to the Talbot County 20 Public Schools is a 4.63 percent increase from 21 the current year. And in addition, Talbot</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 that will be funded through long-term debt. 2 For the other side of our budget, our 3 highlights are from the county side, there are 4 no changes in the number of full-time positions 5 for county departments. There are salary scale 6 adjustments for Sheriff's Departments and 7 correctional officers to address recruitment 8 and retention issues. We have added one 9 part-time position for a housing coordinator. 10 And the budget does include a step 11 increase and a one percent cost of living 12 increase or cost of living adjustment for 13 full-time county employees. 14 As this chart shows, the majority of our 15 funding does go to education. 51.9 percent of 16 the budget goes to education. 49.8 percent, or 17 \$45.8 million, goes to the Talbot County Public 18 School System. We have 2.1 percent budgeted 19 for Chesapeake College. 20 The next largest expenditure of our budget 21 is in the public safety area. Public safety</p>

Page 66	Page 68
<p>1 includes the Sheriff's Department, the</p> <p>2 Department of Corrections, volunteer fire</p> <p>3 departments, and the Department of Emergency</p> <p>4 Services, which is the 911 Dispatch Center, and</p> <p>5 Emergency Medical Services, which is the</p> <p>6 county-funded paramedic and ambulance services</p> <p>7 which provides 24-hour service at five</p> <p>8 locations in the county. Public safety</p> <p>9 accounts for 23.4 percent, or \$21.5 million, of</p> <p>10 the fiscal 2020 proposed budget.</p> <p>11 This chart shows public school revenues</p> <p>12 for the current fiscal year, fiscal 2019. I do</p> <p>13 want to point out that all of this data came</p> <p>14 from the Department of Legislative Services. I</p> <p>15 did not compile this data.</p> <p>16 The first column shows the per pupil</p> <p>17 funding for each school system. As you can</p> <p>18 see, Talbot County in the purple is in the</p> <p>19 lower end of the spectrum, but Talbot County</p> <p>20 per pupil funding for the current fiscal year</p> <p>21 is more than the funding provided by Frederick</p>	<p>1 funding, and this is just county funding to the</p> <p>2 public school system, has increased by</p> <p>3 \$6.3 million. In the past four fiscal years,</p> <p>4 the Talbot County Public Schools has seen an</p> <p>5 increase of 16.1 percent in county funding for</p> <p>6 their support. That is a significant increase</p> <p>7 in four years.</p> <p>8 This chart shows the changes in enrollment</p> <p>9 and county funding from fiscal 2005 through</p> <p>10 fiscal 20. And I want to point out that this</p> <p>11 is just county funding to the public school</p> <p>12 system. It does not include debt service,</p> <p>13 which is millions of dollars in each of these</p> <p>14 years. Debt service is a county requirement</p> <p>15 and is not insignificant. It averages close to</p> <p>16 \$3 million or more each year through this time</p> <p>17 period.</p> <p>18 MS. PRICE: How much more next year,</p> <p>19 another million or more than that?</p> <p>20 MS. LANE: We're adding another million</p> <p>21 next year for half of the annual debt service</p>
Page 67	Page 69
<p>1 County, Queen Anne's County, and Harford</p> <p>2 County. And that's total funding. This is the</p> <p>3 per pupil funding, which is a key number.</p> <p>4 And Talbot is while again at the lower</p> <p>5 end, we're above three other school systems in</p> <p>6 funding per pupil for our school system.</p> <p>7 The next column shows the county funding</p> <p>8 for each local school system. And as you can</p> <p>9 see, Talbot County provides the second highest</p> <p>10 level of local funding for the school system in</p> <p>11 the state. Only Worcester County provides</p> <p>12 more. Talbot County provides 66 percent of the</p> <p>13 school funding for our public school system.</p> <p>14 Our third column shows the State funding.</p> <p>15 And conversely, Talbot County receives the</p> <p>16 second lowest appropriation from the State at</p> <p>17 28.5 percent.</p> <p>18 The question has to be asked who is not</p> <p>19 doing their share of supporting the Talbot</p> <p>20 County Public Schools; the county or the State?</p> <p>21 And in just the past four years, the</p>	<p>1 on the Easton Elementary School.</p> <p>2 MS. PRICE: But then this time next year</p> <p>3 when we're sitting here, that's only half. So</p> <p>4 there will be another half to add?</p> <p>5 MS. LANE: Yeah. It will probably be</p> <p>6 close to \$2 million for our share of debt</p> <p>7 service for the Easton Elementary School.</p> <p>8 MS. PRICE: Thank you.</p> <p>9 MS. LANE: So this chart shows enrollment</p> <p>10 and county funding through this whole spectrum.</p> <p>11 If you look at the spectrum from 2005 through</p> <p>12 2020, enrollment really hasn't gone up much. I</p> <p>13 believe 167 students or 169 students. But</p> <p>14 while our funding, though, has increased by</p> <p>15 over \$15 million.</p> <p>16 So if you look at the whole spectrum,</p> <p>17 we've had a 3.8 percent increase in enrollment</p> <p>18 but a 59.7 percent increase in funding. Now,</p> <p>19 clearly the dynamics from fiscal 2005 to fiscal</p> <p>20 20 and the needs of all the school systems is</p> <p>21 very different.</p>

Page 70

1 But if we look at just the last four
 2 fiscal years, again, our funding increased by
 3 16.1 percent, but our enrollment in the last
 4 four fiscal years, which in this case would be
 5 fiscal 15 for enrollment through fiscal 19, has
 6 only increased by 44 students. That's less
 7 than one percent, while we've had a
 8 16.1 percent increase in funding.

9 MR. PACK: And this data is coming from
 10 where?

11 MS. LANE: The enrollment data comes from
 12 MSDE, Maryland State Department of Education.
 13 It's the public school enrollment by race,
 14 ethnicity, and gender. Yeah. And that is
 15 their full enrollment, not just the certified
 16 enrollment that counts towards Maintenance of
 17 Effort.

18 So again, we're showing that county
 19 funding has increased significantly while
 20 enrollment really has stayed somewhat
 21 consistent year over year.

Page 71

1 This budget does allow for the
 2 continuation of county citizens at an adequate
 3 level, although I would say in some areas maybe
 4 we're getting to be less than adequate for the
 5 citizens of the county as well as the
 6 preservation of financial stability for the
 7 county.

8 If you look, this is a chart of our fund
 9 balance, which is our savings account, and this
 10 does not include our rainy day fund. That's
 11 still fully intact. But by using \$4 million to
 12 balance the current fiscal proposed 2020
 13 budget, we will have \$10.2 million available
 14 for the future, which is similar to where we
 15 were at the end of fiscal 2014.

16 We have increased our fund balance over
 17 the years. But now, as you can see, we are
 18 starting to eat into that fund balance in the
 19 last two years. Basically \$8 million is being
 20 used of our savings account.

21 Obviously, this does present

Page 72

1 sustainability issues for the future. So we do
 2 have to be cautious about how much of our fund
 3 balance we continue to spend to balance each
 4 budget going forward.

5 So far I've been discussing what has been
 6 included in the budget, but we have a number of
 7 things that are not included in the budget.
 8 This slide breaks them out by annual operating
 9 expense items as well as capital items.

10 First of all, we are not fully -- I would
 11 say our Sheriff's Office is not fully funded
 12 for the number of positions that he has
 13 identified that he needs. The sheriff has
 14 projected that he would need an additional
 15 \$360,000 to fund the positions that he needs
 16 right now.

17 Those positions were not requested in this
 18 budget. They are needed, but the sheriff's
 19 highest priority was retention of the current
 20 staffing. Which we know when we lose deputies,
 21 we are losing tens and tens of thousands of

Page 73

1 dollars every time a deputy goes to another
 2 jurisdiction. So retaining our current staff
 3 is our highest priority. That's going to be
 4 true in the sheriff's and the Department of
 5 Corrections.

6 We do not have 25-year retirement for law
 7 enforcement. We are the only county I believe
 8 on the shore that does not have that. The
 9 estimated cost to do that on an annual basis,
 10 the increase in retirement is \$425,000. We do
 11 not even have a number of what it would cost to
 12 do the buy-in to convert to this system. But
 13 we do expect that that number is very, very
 14 significant.

15 The State's Attorney Office has asked
 16 every year for additional personnel. That
 17 would be another \$83,000.

18 We have identified the need for an
 19 additional emergency medical services station
 20 for the northern part of the county. Just the
 21 operating expense for that new facility once it

Page 74

1 would be built is over \$600,000.
 2 Almost every county department has needs
 3 for additional county positions. That could be
 4 300,000 or more.
 5 Golf course has additional workforce needs
 6 of \$150,000.
 7 Full year debt service on the Easton
 8 Elementary School will be \$1.9 million. We
 9 only have a million of that in this budget.
 10 The impact of the minimum wage increasing
 11 to \$15 an hour will add another \$180,000 to our
 12 budget.
 13 Now, while that not all of these will be
 14 incorporated in the next year or two, those
 15 items that I've identified are over \$4 million
 16 of operating funds that would be ongoing year
 17 after year that are not in the county budget.
 18 MR. PACK: Okay.
 19 MS. LANE: And then when we go into
 20 capital items, this number is staggering. We
 21 have \$12 million as a potential expense for a

Page 75

1 new facility for the Sheriff's Office, which we
 2 know that time to build that facility is upon
 3 us. The former Black and Decker building is
 4 gone. It will have to be done.
 5 And then we have an EMS station. We have
 6 the one in the northern part of the county is
 7 1.2 million. An EMS relocation of a station to
 8 address response time concerns in the Bay
 9 Hundred area would be \$1.3 million. New
 10 facility --
 11 MS. PRICE: Angela?
 12 MS. LANE: Yes.
 13 MS. PRICE: Those two stations, the staff
 14 to staff those two stations is not even
 15 included in the numbers on the top. Correct?
 16 MS. LANE: The 610,000 would be the staff
 17 for the new station.
 18 MS. PRICE: Yup.
 19 MS. LANE: And obviously for the Bay
 20 Hundred area, we have staffing already there.
 21 So we would just need to build a new facility

Page 76

1 of approximately 1.3 million.
 2 MS. PRICE: Thank you.
 3 MS. LANE: New facility for the Health
 4 Department is estimated to be \$8 million.
 5 Roads Department equipment requests that
 6 have not been funded year after year are
 7 approximately \$2 million. And I would imagine
 8 that could go on for several years.
 9 Replacement of a 40-year-old irrigation
 10 system at the Hog Neck Golf Course is
 11 \$1.8 million.
 12 And purchase of agricultural land
 13 preservation easements that have been
 14 identified are \$5.9 million.
 15 So this would be capital items. Some of
 16 these are included in our capital budget for
 17 future years. None are in the current year.
 18 That's \$32.2 million. If the county were to
 19 just say we're going to borrow all these funds,
 20 the annual debt service on this would be an
 21 additional \$206 million of annual ongoing

Page 77

1 operating funds, which we do not have a revenue
 2 stream for.
 3 MS. PRICE: So then say 206 million
 4 divided by about 20 years, right, for the
 5 annual?
 6 MS. LANE: Yeah.
 7 MS. PRICE: That's 10 million a year.
 8 MS. LANE: Yeah. Eight, 9 million, yeah.
 9 We're getting up there that we have needs for.
 10 There obviously will be a second public
 11 hearing on the proposed budget this evening at
 12 seven p.m.
 13 MR. PACK: Right. So we're going to get
 14 the lights back on. Ms. Lane, we do thank you
 15 for that budget overview. This is the FY 20
 16 budget.
 17 We're going to move into our public
 18 hearing phase of this. What I'm going to do,
 19 we do have a sign-up sheet, Council. So I'm
 20 going to go ahead and work through these names
 21 first since these individuals took time to sign

Page 78

1 in. And then after that, we're going to open
 2 it up for the rest of the gallery to weigh in,
 3 if that's okay.

4 Again, if you come to the table, please
 5 give us your name, your address. And if you're
 6 speaking for yourself, we'll give you three
 7 minutes. If you're speaking for a group, we'll
 8 give you five minutes. And Mr. Callahan will
 9 keep record of that.

10 I'm just looking for my notepad. I didn't
 11 bring that with me. Okay.

12 We're going to start with the first person
 13 here is Larry Denton. He's at 30 Washington
 14 Street. Mr. Denton, would you come forward,
 15 please? Good evening.

16 MR. DENTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm
 17 Larry Denton. I'm the director of the Talbot
 18 Historical Society.

19 Some six years ago we discovered the
 20 photos of the county's history were
 21 deteriorating. These are examples of the

Page 79

1 deterioration. Once the photos come to this
 2 state, they're useless.

3 We discovered a process where we could
 4 digitize the photographs by scanning them. We
 5 got a major grant from the Mid-Shore Foundation
 6 to set up work stations and to pay people to
 7 actually do the scanning. When photos are
 8 scanned, they become really spectacular.

9 This is one of the early gas stations in
 10 Easton. Up until the early '60s, trains
 11 actually steamed right through downtown Easton.
 12 Here is a train approaching Easton. One of the
 13 great early hotels was the Hotel Avon, and here
 14 is a photo that we've saved showing that hotel.

15 Members of the Council, these pictures are
 16 worth a thousand words. They do tell the
 17 remarkable history of this county. The county
 18 government has supported us for the last four
 19 years. We are over 60 percent complete. We
 20 have about two more years to go.

21 We were devastated two weeks ago to

Page 80

1 receive word that the county would not support
 2 us this year. So I am here to appeal to you to
 3 help us get to the end of this process.

4 Mr. Chairman, when we get it complete,
 5 we're complete. These things are safe forever,
 6 and we will not come back to you for another
 7 nickel for the pictorial process.

8 You do have a noted historian on the
 9 Council. So I feel compelled.

10 MR. PACK: I thought you meant
 11 Mr. Callahan.

12 MR. CALLAHAN: You're looking at me.
 13 Everybody looks at me.

14 MR. PACK: You know everybody.

15 MR. DENTON: So I feel compelled to end my
 16 remarks with a quote from Abraham Lincoln. And
 17 Lincoln said toward the end of his life a
 18 country which does not value its past will do
 19 little worth remembering in the future.

20 Please help us. Please help us save the
 21 pictorial history of this county. Thank you.

Page 81

1 MR. PACK: Thank you, Mr. Denton.
 2 Next up we have Susan. Okay. How are
 3 you?

4 MS. DELEAN-BOTKIN: I'm fine. Thank you,
 5 Mr. Pack.

6 Hi. My name is Susan Delean-Botkin. I
 7 think I know most of you. I reside at 202
 8 Third Street in Oxford, and I have a business
 9 here in Easton, Family Care of Easton. I'm
 10 also on the Talbot County Board of Education,
 11 and my remarks are kind of slanted even though
 12 I present as a business person, to look at the
 13 county and its school system.

14 I just have a few remarks on the 2020
 15 proposed budget as both a resident, business
 16 owner, commercial residential property owner,
 17 employer, and tax payer.

18 When you make decisions on the future of
 19 Talbot County, I'm asking you to look at your
 20 return on investment.

21 As I looked at the budget that was

Page 82

1 presented today, as a business person, I am
 2 very concerned about the decrease in investment
 3 in our county. Investing an additional four
 4 cents per hundred for close to 5,000 children
 5 in our school system, plus 700 educators,
 6 administrators, bus drivers, and support staff,
 7 is a great plan for the future success of this
 8 county.

9 When I looked at the Sunday Star Democrat
 10 just this week, I was struck by the
 11 juxtaposition of our education system begging
 12 for money while the county is waging war on
 13 drugs. This may sound a little strange, but
 14 I'm sure you're aware of the decrease in drug
 15 use in counties that have strong school
 16 systems.

17 Are we aware of the correlation between
 18 high test scores and banned art programs? Are
 19 you aware that strong schools bring strong
 20 businesses and tax growth to a county? And I
 21 know we are aware of these.

Page 83

1 At the bottom of the same front page, very
 2 busy front page this last week, the Maryland
 3 secretary of commerce was talking about State
 4 and county shared goals and the future with the
 5 workforce system that is going to help our
 6 youth and our communities overall.

7 How are we going to do that if we keep
 8 restricting the very system that forms the base
 9 of our workforce, our public school system?

10 Investing an additional four cents,
 11 four cents per hundred in our county's schools
 12 and the entire county, is far more important
 13 than any other investment that we as a county
 14 can make for the long term.

15 We should never brag that we have the
 16 lowest taxes in this state unless we have the
 17 highest ranked school system, the best equipped
 18 and trained first responders, the safest roads,
 19 the strongest Health Department, and the lowest
 20 addiction rates in the state.

21 I will tell you for one, that I am willing

Page 84

1 to pay \$400. And I'll turn my check over now,
 2 because that will be my additional assessment
 3 on my properties. I have no problem doing that
 4 and most of the people I know have no problem
 5 in investing in our county. It's our future.

6 Thank you very much.

7 MR. PACK: Thank you, Susan.

8 I just have a K. Turner. I don't know
 9 whether that's Kathy or Kevin, but K. Turner.

10 No K. Turner, okay.

11 Ms. Newman, Dana.

12 MS. NEWMAN: I'm Dana Newman, and I'm
 13 speaking for the library. I live at 6295
 14 Bozman Neavitt Road in Neavitt, Maryland.

15 On behalf of the library, and I will speak
 16 for county employees as well, we really, really
 17 appreciate with deep gratitude the increases.
 18 I know every department is getting different
 19 increases, but the increases that you are
 20 contributing in the proposed budget. Those
 21 increases really speak highly to the wonderful

Page 85

1 service that all of our county employees and
 2 the library employees give to each and every
 3 resident every day.

4 I also want to thank you in particular for
 5 the increased proposed funding for the library
 6 computers. Without those computers, we have
 7 patrons who would not be able to do day-to-day
 8 normal business that you do on the computers,
 9 including getting jobs.

10 The other thing I wanted to say is that
 11 there is some increase, proposed increase in
 12 funding for library materials. We really
 13 appreciate that as our library materials are
 14 aging out. And we do need that to refresh our
 15 collection.

16 In particular, I would ask that sometime
 17 in the early fall that the library can open up
 18 dialogue with the County Council in regards to
 19 the importance of the expansion of the
 20 St. Michael's library.

21 And we would also like to invite you to an

Page 86	Page 88
<p>1 open house sometime in the fall as well, and we</p> <p>2 will be getting you that information.</p> <p>3 So again, thank you. We really, really</p> <p>4 appreciate the difficult job that you do every</p> <p>5 day. Thank you.</p> <p>6 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Newman.</p> <p>7 Chesapeake College, Mr. Coppersmith, how</p> <p>8 are you?</p> <p>9 MR. COPPERSMITH: Thank you. I'm joined</p> <p>10 today by my trustee, Reza Jafari. I'm going to</p> <p>11 be general and brief.</p> <p>12 President, members of the Council, I had</p> <p>13 significant exchanges with all of you, some</p> <p>14 fairly recently, others over the last 11</p> <p>15 months.</p> <p>16 I want to just thank the Council for</p> <p>17 support of Chesapeake College and it's</p> <p>18 leadership among our five counties in terms of</p> <p>19 our budget this year. And I just want to</p> <p>20 extend a special thanks to Andy Hollis for</p> <p>21 facilitating our all county meeting earlier</p>	<p>1 names on the list. So now I'm going to open it</p> <p>2 up for everyone else.</p> <p>3 I'm going to start on my left in the first</p> <p>4 row on 1410. No, okay. Second row, no. Third</p> <p>5 row, no. Yes. Come on up, yes.</p> <p>6 She says she gets nervous when she has to</p> <p>7 speak to us. She does well.</p> <p>8 MS. NEWCOMB: I really don't like it.</p> <p>9 Good afternoon. I'm Pamela (inaudible)</p> <p>10 Newcomb, 600 Windmill Road, Easton, Maryland.</p> <p>11 I am here to thank you on behalf of the</p> <p>12 Talbot County Commission on Aging. I'm</p> <p>13 co-chair. So thank you for giving us an</p> <p>14 allocation this year so we can continue to</p> <p>15 advocate on the aging adults in our community.</p> <p>16 And I am also here, other half, as the</p> <p>17 board president for Maryland Community For Life</p> <p>18 Talbot, as we heard about a lot recently. We</p> <p>19 appreciate being funded this year by the County</p> <p>20 Council. And I have a couple of quotes to just</p> <p>21 speak to how important our program is.</p>
Page 87	Page 89
<p>1 this semester in which we received approval for</p> <p>2 our budget overall.</p> <p>3 Again, I think it speaks well. I've had</p> <p>4 significant conversations with all of you</p> <p>5 recently. Council Member Price helped me</p> <p>6 understand the intricacies of the State budget</p> <p>7 situation, which I still don't understand very</p> <p>8 well. But she has a very good strong command</p> <p>9 of that and was very helpful in our Rotary</p> <p>10 presentation.</p> <p>11 But just I want to thank the community as</p> <p>12 well as you all as your leaders. Your support</p> <p>13 of Chesapeake College is much appreciated by me</p> <p>14 and the members of my campus, our staff,</p> <p>15 faculty, leadership, and students.</p> <p>16 And again, my address is 145 McKenny Lane,</p> <p>17 Centreville, Maryland. Thank you.</p> <p>18 MR. PACK: Thank you. Reza, good seeing</p> <p>19 you as well.</p> <p>20 MR. JAFARI: Good to see you.</p> <p>21 MR. PACK: Okay. I've gone through the</p>	<p>1 The service navigator was not at the</p> <p>2 office on Sunday. So I e-mailed her personal</p> <p>3 e-mail and she contacted me saying she would</p> <p>4 get in touch with my volunteer to see if she</p> <p>5 could take me to the tax place instead of the</p> <p>6 Y. She even said she would drive me herself if</p> <p>7 the volunteer couldn't. It made me fell</p> <p>8 relaxed and able to breathe easier about the</p> <p>9 whole thing. I was reassured that I would be</p> <p>10 able to do the important errand and not have to</p> <p>11 worry about it.</p> <p>12 Another person said the transportation has</p> <p>13 made a considerable difference for me just to</p> <p>14 feel free and independent about most of the</p> <p>15 things that I want to do.</p> <p>16 And third one about the handyman services.</p> <p>17 The volunteers have come out here to my house.</p> <p>18 They will come four times a month to do helpful</p> <p>19 things around the house for me. I think it was</p> <p>20 Jack who taped down my huge carpet and glued</p> <p>21 down the top of my porch post that I use to get</p>

Page 90

1 into the house. Now that I think about it, I
 2 do need to call and have an electrician come to
 3 fix some wiring for my bulbs.
 4 So we are making a difference and people
 5 are seeing the importance of it. So we really
 6 appreciate the funding.
 7 MR. PACK: Great. Thank you.
 8 MS. NEWCOMB: Thank you.
 9 MR. PACK: Good job.
 10 Next row.
 11 I'm going to swing over here to the right.
 12 First row, second row, third row? Mr. Chance,
 13 no.
 14 MR. CHANCE: Let the ladies go first.
 15 MR. PACK: That will be nice of you,
 16 Mr. Chance. Very gentlemanly of you.
 17 Ms. Brooks, good to see you. How are you?
 18 MS. BROOKS: I'm fine. Good afternoon,
 19 everyone.
 20 MR. PACK: Someone else with you, okay.
 21 MS. BROOKS: Yes. While she's coming

Page 91

1 forward, I'd just like to thank the Council for
 2 their continued support of our Brooklet's Place
 3 and the new Bay Hundred Senior Center.
 4 And my reason for being here today, first
 5 of all, is to thank you, but I'd also like to
 6 introduce you to the new manager of the Bay
 7 Hundred Senior Center. This is Ann DeMart.
 8 This is her first day on the job. We've been
 9 running from meeting to meeting all day long,
 10 but I wanted to make sure that you all got an
 11 opportunity to meet her.
 12 MR. PACK: Give me the last name again?
 13 Is it DeMart?
 14 MS. BROOKS: D-E, capital M, A-R-T.
 15 MS. DeMART: That is right.
 16 MR. PACK: Anything else you want to say
 17 about your budget?
 18 MS. BROOKS: I said thank you. Oh, yes.
 19 Thank you, thank you, thank you for the
 20 proposed budget, for giving us what we need to
 21 operate.

Page 92

1 I'd like to thank you also for the
 2 appropriation for the My Senior Center program.
 3 We are currently inputting information into
 4 that. We have completed our training. And
 5 it's going to be wonderful once we get that up
 6 and running.
 7 MR. PACK: And that's the computer system.
 8 MS. BROOKS: That's the computer system,
 9 yes.
 10 MR. PACK: In current budget.
 11 MS. BROOKS: Yes.
 12 MR. PACK: Ms. DeMart, thanks for coming
 13 out and welcome aboard. And we look forward to
 14 going down to visit the new YMCA Senior Center
 15 in St. Michael's. I think we have that
 16 schedule this month, May?
 17 MS. MORRIS: Hopefully, yes.
 18 MS. PRICE: I think we better absorb the
 19 thank yous this afternoon.
 20 MS. BROOKS: We definitely appreciate your
 21 support. I know we came to you asking for a

Page 93

1 lot more this year, but it's all necessary,
 2 especially with this new site. So thank you
 3 very much.
 4 MR. PACK: Thank you. Welcome aboard,
 5 Ms. DeMart.
 6 MS. DeMART: Thank you.
 7 MR. PACK: Mr. Chance. Chivalry is not
 8 lost. How you doing, Earl?
 9 MR. CHANCE: I feel like I'm back in
 10 school. I'm Earl Chance, Jr. from Cordova,
 11 Maryland. 11783 Kitty's Corner Road.
 12 Been with the fire company for 49 years.
 13 I am the president of Talbot County Firemen
 14 Association. I'm here to thank you for your
 15 effort. I'm also here for the EMS. Appreciate
 16 that. Especially the Sheriff's Department for
 17 their DARE program that they give to the youth.
 18 We are also hoping sooner or later that we
 19 will get an EMS up in the northern part because
 20 we really are slack on getting the ambulances
 21 out and everything at nighttime.

Page 94

1 The EMT classes and that are way down. So
 2 recruiting, retention has really been working.
 3 Trying to get people involved in that.
 4 So I am here just to thank you all for
 5 your effort that you have done for us. We're
 6 here to help support you all any way we can.
 7 Thank you.
 8 MR. PACK: Thank you, Earl.
 9 Anyone else on the next row? Ms. Adkins,
 10 you want to come back up and thank us again?
 11 MS. ADKINS: Sure. I wasn't planning on
 12 speaking, but I am Mary Adkins. I live at 7881
 13 Quaker Neck Road in Bozman.
 14 I've been a homeowner here in Talbot
 15 County, mother of three children, and now the
 16 grandparent of three and going on four
 17 grandchildren.
 18 Although I am employed through Talbot
 19 County Public Schools, my position is a grant
 20 funded position.
 21 I would just like to say that children in

Page 95

1 this country are entitled by law to one thing
 2 and one thing only. It's not to housing. You
 3 don't have to have housing for your child.
 4 It's not to three meals a day. It's not even
 5 to adequate health care. They're entitled to a
 6 free and an appropriate education.
 7 And I ask you to think about that word
 8 appropriate and what appropriate means to the
 9 future of this county. And when you make
 10 decisions about funding for our children, for
 11 our grandchildren, for the future of this
 12 county, you think about that right.
 13 It doesn't matter how much money you make
 14 or how much money you do make. You're entitled
 15 to the same education.
 16 I ask you to fully fund Talbot County
 17 Public Schools.
 18 And you know, I went before Council as a
 19 parent and now I'm still here as a grandparent.
 20 I hope I don't have to come back next year.
 21 Thank you.

Page 96

1 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 2 Anyone else on my left? Okay.
 3 If that will be all the comments for this
 4 portion of the public hearing an Bill 1410,
 5 then again, we're not closing the public
 6 hearing. We're going to pick this back up at
 7 seven p.m. this evening over at the Easton High
 8 School cafeteria. So for those who weren't
 9 prepared to speak at this point in time, you
 10 can come back at seven o'clock and we'll
 11 certainly listen to you at that point. Or for
 12 those who are at home and couldn't make it out,
 13 we'll again hear from you at seven o'clock
 14 tonight at Easton High School. Okay.
 15 So we're going to move on with our agenda
 16 with county manager's report.
 17 MR. HOLLIS: Council, we'll start with the
 18 Department of Public Works.
 19 MR. PACK: Mr. Hollis, why don't we wait
 20 for the room to clear so we can hear you.
 21 Okay.

Page 97

1 MR. HOLLIS: So we're requesting your
 2 approval to apply for grant funding through the
 3 National Fish and Wildlife Federation for
 4 planning and technical assistance for Harris
 5 Creek watershed to create a field inventory of
 6 roadside ditches and a methodology for
 7 prioritizing corrective action for the unstable
 8 ditches found. Project costs will not exceed
 9 50,000 and is 100 percent grant funded.
 10 Project will contribute to the sediment and
 11 nutrient load reductions required as part of
 12 the Talbot County Watershed Implementation
 13 Plan, our WIP plan.
 14 MR. CLARKE: And just so the Council
 15 knows, this is actually a continuation of what
 16 we've done with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation
 17 and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.
 18 And that we actually have developed a
 19 prioritization for ditches and whatnot. So
 20 we're now targeting this into the Harris Creek
 21 area.

Page 98

1 MR. PACK: To your request, if there's a
 2 motion to approve the grant submittal for
 3 \$50,000, no county funds, to the National Fish
 4 and Wildlife Federation?
 5 MR. LESHER: So moved.
 6 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Leshner.
 7 MS. PRICE: Second.
 8 MR. PACK: Second by Ms. Price. Any
 9 further discussion?
 10 Hearing none Madam Secretary, please call
 11 your roll.
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 13 MR. PACK: Aye.
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 15 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 18 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 19 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 21 MR. LESHER: Aye.

Page 99

1 MR. HOLLIS: Council, one of the
 2 highlights of my day. We're belatedly asking
 3 for your approval regarding the sewer design
 4 and utility easement for connecting the
 5 Community Center to the Easton wastewater
 6 system.
 7 The sewer design for the center will be
 8 awarded to Lane Engineering under our
 9 engineering contract in the amount of \$28,000.
 10 Includes elevation, field survey, sewer design,
 11 and easement plats. Funds will come from the
 12 capital project budget we have set up for this.
 13 MR. PACK: I may make this motion myself.
 14 MS. PRICE: Make a motion and say that
 15 maybe Mr. Hollis needs to get a little bit
 16 better life if this is the highlight of your
 17 day.
 18 MR. PACK: No. This is a super big deal.
 19 MS. PRICE: Yes, it is.
 20 MR. PACK: I know we had rolling delays
 21 and all that kind of stuff that's kind of

Page 100

1 tabled this for a while.
 2 Mr. Clarke, do you want to add anything
 3 else to my joy?
 4 MR. CLARKE: Just that the goal is to get
 5 it done by the end of the year, which I think
 6 is --
 7 MR. PACK: So you are adding more to my
 8 joy.
 9 MR. CLARKE: Doing everything I can.
 10 MR. PACK: That's what I like to hear.
 11 Add to my joy, get it done by the end of the
 12 year.
 13 MS. PRICE: We all ran for office because
 14 of the sewer lines.
 15 MR. PACK: So the chair is open for a
 16 motion on Bid 17-08. You made me laugh on
 17 that.
 18 MR. LESHER: Second.
 19 MR. PACK: Motion made by myself.
 20 Seconded about by Mr. Leshner. Can I do that?
 21 I did it anyway, didn't I. Any further

Page 101

1 discussion?
 2 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call
 3 the roll.
 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 5 MR. PACK: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 7 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 10 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 11 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 13 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 14 MR. HOLLIS: Thank you, Council. Thank
 15 you, Ray.
 16 Council, you received a memo from Sheriff
 17 Gamble requesting the county Finance Office
 18 once again serve as the single fiduciary for
 19 the Talbot County Drug Task Force seized funds.
 20 Ms. Lane, your finance director, is in support
 21 of the request. It is something we have done

Page 102

1 in the past and the sheriff is asking that we
 2 take it over again now.
 3 MR. PACK: This doesn't require anything
 4 additional from your office, Ms. Lane. You're
 5 just a pass-through for those funds that
 6 they --
 7 MS. LANE: Actually we will be receiving
 8 the funds as well as paying their bills. But
 9 again, this is something we've done in the past
 10 for the task force.
 11 MR. PACK: So it's no additional manpower
 12 from your end?
 13 MS. LANE: Oh, no. We can certainly
 14 absorb it.
 15 MR. PACK: All right. Chair would
 16 entertain a motion for the Finance Office to
 17 work as the fiduciary arm of the Talbot County
 18 Task Force.
 19 MR. LESHHER: So moved.
 20 MR. PACK: By Mr. Leshher.
 21 MS. PRICE: Seconded.

Page 103

1 MR. PACK: Seconded by Ms. Price. Any
 2 further discussion?
 3 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call
 4 your roll.
 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 6 MR. PACK: Aye.
 7 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 8 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 9 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 11 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 12 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 13 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshher.
 14 MR. LESHHER: Aye.
 15 MR. HOLLIS: Thank you, Council.
 16 Two letters of support we're asking for.
 17 The first comes from the St. Michael's
 18 Fire Department. They are making an
 19 application for community facilities grant from
 20 the USDA. It's for the purchase of ten sets of
 21 turnout gear and a drone. No county funds are

Page 104

1 required, simply a letter of support.
 2 MR. LESHHER: I'll move to issue the letter
 3 of support.
 4 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 5 MR. DIVILIO: Second.
 6 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Leshher. Seconded
 7 by Mr. Divilio. Any further discussion on the
 8 letter of support for the St. Michael's Fire
 9 Department?
 10 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call
 11 your roll.
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 13 MR. PACK: Aye.
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 15 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 18 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 19 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshher.
 21 MR. LESHHER: Aye.

Page 105

1 MR. HOLLIS: Council, the second request
 2 is rather perfunctory. It's regarding a letter
 3 of support from you for the application you're
 4 a part of already for the Reconnect program
 5 through USDA for expansion of broadband into
 6 underserved areas of the county.
 7 MS. PRICE: Can I say joyfully so moved?
 8 MR. PACK: Yes, you can.
 9 MR. LESHHER: Second.
 10 MS. PRICE: Joyful today.
 11 MR. PACK: Another one that is just making
 12 my day as well.
 13 So we have a motion by Ms. Price, seconded
 14 by Mr. Leshher. Any further discussion on this
 15 particular item?
 16 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call
 17 your roll.
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 19 MR. PACK: Aye.
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 21 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.

Page 106	Page 108
<p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>4 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.</p> <p>6 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>7 MR. HOLLIS: Thank you very much. That's</p> <p>8 all.</p> <p>9 MR. PACK: Okay. Council, we're going to</p> <p>10 move back into closed. Again, we're going to</p> <p>11 keep the public hearing open until later on</p> <p>12 this evening.</p> <p>13 If anybody wishes to say anything now or</p> <p>14 we're going to wait and make a closing comment</p> <p>15 later this evening, that will be fine as well.</p> <p>16 If not, let me go ahead and read my</p> <p>17 portion, then, if no one wishes to say</p> <p>18 anything.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Council comments.</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: That's what I'm saying, if you</p> <p>21 want to make comments now, you can. If not,</p>	<p>1 six p.m., with closed session beginning at</p> <p>2 two p.m.</p> <p>3 Therefore, is there a motion to recess</p> <p>4 this meeting and reconvene in closed session to</p> <p>5 for real estate, personnel, and legal matters</p> <p>6 and again reconvene at seven p.m. this evening</p> <p>7 at Easton High School and then again on May the</p> <p>8 14th as previously noted?</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.</p> <p>10 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>11 MS. PRICE: Second.</p> <p>12 MR. PACK: Seconded by Ms. Price.</p> <p>13 Madam Secretary, please call your roll.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p> <p>15 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> <p>16 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.</p> <p>17 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.</p> <p>18 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>20 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>21 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p>
Page 107	Page 109
<p>1 you're going to wait until tonight. Does</p> <p>2 anyone wish to have any Council comments at</p> <p>3 this time?</p> <p>4 And I know some of us may want to speak on</p> <p>5 the fact we lost a good friend.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: This weekend in Nick. So I'll</p> <p>8 save my comments for later tonight as well.</p> <p>9 So immediately following this meeting,</p> <p>10 Council will be reconvening in closed session</p> <p>11 to discuss real estate, legal, personnel, and</p> <p>12 other matters listed on the statement for</p> <p>13 closing the meeting, which is available for</p> <p>14 public review.</p> <p>15 The Council will reconvene later this</p> <p>16 evening, as I said, at seven p.m. at Easton</p> <p>17 High School cafeteria for the public hearing on</p> <p>18 Bill 1410, an act to establish the 2019-2020</p> <p>19 annual budget and appropriation ordinance.</p> <p>20 The County Council's next meeting will be</p> <p>21 held on Tuesday, May the 14th. That will be at</p>	<p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.</p> <p>2 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: Thank you.</p> <p>4 (Meeting concluded at: 3:15 p.m.)</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p>

1 STATE OF MARYLAND
2 I, Diane Houlihan, a Notary Public in and
for the State of Maryland, County of Anne Arundel,
3 do hereby certify that the within named, Talbot
County Council Audio, personally appeared before me
4 at the time and place herein set according to law,
was interrogated by counsel.

5
6 I further certify that the examination was
recorded stenographically by me and then transcribed
from my stenographic notes to the within printed
7 matter by means of computer-assisted transcription
in a true and accurate manner.

8
9 I further certify that the stipulations
contained herein were entered into by counsel in my
presence.

10
11 I further certify that I am not of counsel
to any of the parties, not an employee of counsel,
nor related to any of the parties, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of this action.

13 AS WITNESS my hand Notorial Seal this 10th
day of May, 2019, at Easton, MD.

14
15 

16
17 _____
Diane Houlihan
Notary Public

18
19
20 My commission expires September 16, 2021
21

0	19 34:12 35:17	24 23:9,20 24:14	59.7 69:18
008 53:8	47:19 49:16 58:1	28:1 38:15,21	6
1	58:6 59:20 64:14	66:7	6 43:5
1,274,904 51:16	70:5	25 7:2 73:6	6,171,900 43:7
1,345,500 59:4	1949 20:7	26th 2:13,17	6.01 52:5
1,844,227 61:11	1:30 1:7	28,000 99:9	6.1 43:11
1.2 75:7	2	28.5 67:17	6.3 68:3
1.3 64:14 75:9	2 69:6 76:7	2:20 33:19	6.9 58:6 59:15
76:1	2.1 65:18	3	60 17:3 79:19
1.8 52:18 53:2,4	2.6 51:13	3 68:16	60.47 51:15
59:5 63:19 76:11	2.6. 52:20	3.7 62:8	600 88:10
1.87 60:2	2.75 51:14	3.8 69:17	600,000 74:1
1.9 55:11,14 74:8	20 22:16 46:19	30 11:8 62:13	60s 79:10
10 77:7	48:18 49:17,18	64:21 78:13	610,000 75:16
10,000 26:2	60:1,3 62:10	300,000 74:4	6295 84:13
10.2 71:13	68:10 69:20 77:4	308,000 42:10	63.22 51:10 60:1
100 51:10 97:9	77:15	308,595 43:8	65 12:7
10th 110:13	2000 6:19	30th 3:2 27:13	66 67:12
11 64:18 86:14	2002 11:21	47:20	665,518 64:2
11783 93:11	2005 68:9 69:11	32.2 76:18	672,986 64:9
12 74:21	69:19	360,000 72:15	7
13.3 52:5	2014 71:15	3:15 109:4	7 1:7 58:7
1362 110:15	2018-2019 47:9	4	700 82:5
1387 47:9 49:15	2019 1:7 4:4,6 5:2	4 58:12 71:11	7881 94:12
1409 47:2,8 49:8	5:10 22:12 52:15	74:15	7th 3:3 5:9
49:14,20 50:3,11	66:12 110:13	4.63 63:20	8
50:21	2019-2020 52:13	4.7 22:15	8 53:2,8 71:19
1410 56:5,8,9 57:1	56:10 107:18	40 76:9	76:4
88:4 96:4 107:18	202 81:7	400 84:1	800,000 36:13
145 87:16	2020 51:8,17	409,170 61:12	83,000 73:17
14th 50:17,20,21	52:11,11 57:2,11	425,000 73:10	9
51:1 107:21 108:8	57:20 58:8,9	44 70:6	9 53:9 55:14 77:8
15 69:15 70:5	59:10 64:16 66:10	45.8 65:17	9.2 22:16
74:11	69:12 71:12 81:14	49 93:12	9.35 59:14
150,000 74:6	2021 110:20	49.8 65:16	900,000 39:6
16 110:20	2022 45:10	5	907,897 61:8
16.1 68:5 70:3,8	206 76:21 77:3	5 59:16	91,913,000 57:21
167 69:13	20th 11:18	5,000 82:4	911 66:4
169 69:13	21 52:15	5.9 76:14	92,038,750 58:2
17 22:14	21.5 66:9	50 9:2	936,000 62:17
17-08 100:16	21st 50:16,18 56:5	50,000 97:9 98:3	936,330 61:6
180,000 74:11	22 40:4	51.9 65:15	
	23.4 66:9		

98,962,440 58:5	activity 13:9 20:12	administrative	airport 34:3 41:12
9th 2:14 21:3	21:2 22:5 23:11	15:15	41:19 42:3,16,19
a	24:1 26:10 27:17	administrators	43:3,19 57:8
ability 10:17	30:19 33:8 37:8	82:6	airport's 43:9
20:15	actual 63:7	admission 28:1	airwaves 14:17
able 15:7 20:8	adapt 31:7	32:7	alcohol 35:9
21:17 23:8,20	adapted 52:15	adopt 51:9 52:10	allegiance 2:5,6
26:2,9 29:7 34:14	add 36:20 37:7	adopted 52:12	allocating 48:14
37:7 38:14 39:5	59:11 62:14 69:4	adult 8:10 10:18	allocation 88:14
85:7 89:8,10	74:11 100:2,11	12:17,18 18:17	allow 71:1
aboard 92:13 93:4	added 11:10,11	adults 88:15	allowed 48:1 55:8
abraham 80:16	36:6 59:14 64:2,8	advantage 12:21	55:15
absolutely 13:18	65:8	48:9	allows 17:2
42:21	addiction 26:15	adverse 24:19	alluded 45:2
absorb 92:18	83:20	adviser 31:4	ambulance 66:6
102:14	adding 68:20	advisory 35:10	ambulances 93:20
abuse 35:9	100:7	advocacy 22:18	amend 47:9,13,18
accepted 2:12,21	addition 28:14	35:10	49:14
3:7	29:10 35:19 62:6	advocate 88:15	amendments
accepting 14:21	63:21 64:8	af 27:18	47:21 48:2,4
access 19:20 27:19	additional 11:2	afford 13:2	amount 29:11
29:1 30:12,17	17:6 23:8 31:20	afternoon 3:13	38:5,8 43:4 51:21
36:14	33:6 36:13 47:11	18:10,11,20 22:7	53:14 54:21 55:3
account 71:9,20	62:19 63:3 64:17	41:21 57:10 88:9	99:9
accountability	72:14 73:16,19	90:18 92:19	andy 86:20
11:6	74:3,5 76:21 82:3	aged 36:21	angela 75:11
accounted 57:16	83:10 84:2 102:4	agencies 5:2 8:7	angst 21:4
accounts 66:9	102:11	13:19	ann 91:7
accreditation	additions 2:10,19	agency 18:16 19:5	annapolis 32:14
11:13	3:5 59:13	22:6 40:4	anne 30:8 31:3,8
accredited 13:4,6	address 14:10	agenda 2:9,11,12	60:16,17 110:2
accurate 110:7	50:7 54:4 65:7	17:21 41:11 96:15	anne's 19:13
achieve 34:18	75:8 78:5 87:16	aging 85:14 88:12	29:14 67:1
acknowledge	adequate 71:2,4	88:15	announced 60:15
21:10	95:5	ago 38:18 78:19	announcement
acknowledged	adjustment 65:12	79:21	33:16
37:2	adjustments 65:6	agree 39:14	annual 19:2 39:6
acquisition 27:9	adkins 3:13,14 4:1	agreement 39:14	47:9 56:10 62:10
42:5	6:10,12 13:18	39:21 40:2,4,6,8	68:21 72:8 73:9
act 9:1 56:9	14:3,5,7 15:6,9,20	40:11	76:20,21 77:5
107:18	16:3,6,10,13	agricultural 76:12	107:19
action 97:7 110:12	17:15 94:9,11,12	ahead 19:8 34:8	anxiety 21:6
activities 18:19	administration	37:5 50:10 54:13	anybody 50:3
29:6,21	41:14,15	77:20 106:16	106:13

<p>anymore 63:2,16 anyway 13:4 34:8 100:21 appeal 61:21 62:1 62:4 80:2 appeared 110:3 application 41:13 42:13 45:19 103:19 105:3 applications 34:15 apply 97:2 appreciate 17:16 84:17 85:13 86:4 88:19 90:6 92:20 93:15 appreciated 87:13 appreciative 17:9 approach 26:20 31:12 44:12 approaching 79:12 appropriate 95:6 95:8,8 appropriated 63:9 appropriation 47:10 48:5 52:14 56:11 61:6,15 62:7 63:18 67:16 92:2 107:19 appropriations 47:11,15 approval 42:12 61:17 87:1 97:2 99:3 approve 98:2 approved 61:17 62:1 approximately 60:3 76:1,7 april 2:14 3:2 27:13 area 9:4,11 51:18 65:21 75:9,20 97:21</p>	<p>areas 10:13,15 48:10,12 71:3 105:6 arm 102:17 arrangement 32:6 art 82:18 article 20:16 arundel 30:8 31:3 31:8 60:16,17 110:2 asked 67:18 73:15 asking 81:19 92:21 99:2 102:1 103:16 asks 2:20 assessable 55:1,5 assessed 51:11 assessment 84:2 assessments 63:13 asset 39:4 assist 64:5 assistance 8:8 11:3 13:3 97:4 assistant 15:15 assisted 110:7 associated 41:16 45:3 association 93:14 assume 60:7 attempt 9:16 attend 32:13 attendance 9:11 32:21 attention 4:12 22:13 23:7 attorney 73:15 audience 15:4 44:3,17 audio 110:3 authorities 26:15 authorized 59:1 available 21:8 24:9,14 30:3,18 39:3 71:13 107:13</p>	<p>avalon 21:3 averages 68:15 aviation 41:13,15 avon 79:13 award 36:10 39:6 awarded 99:8 awards 35:19,20 aware 30:2,16 44:7,18 45:12 82:14,17,19,21 awareness 4:12 20:5,6,10,13 21:10,11,18 35:8 aye 6:1,3,5,7,9 40:17,19,21 41:2 41:4 46:7,9,11,13 46:15 98:13,15,17 98:19,21 101:5,7 101:9,11,13 103:6 103:8,10,12,14 104:13,15,17,19 104:21 105:19,21 106:2,4,6 108:15 108:17,19,21 109:2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">b</p> <p>back 6:18 25:14 33:19 43:10 49:18 50:14 77:14 80:6 93:9 94:10 95:20 96:6,10 106:10 background 6:14 balance 58:13 71:9,12,16,18 72:3,3 baltimore 24:2 60:19 banned 82:18 base 55:1,5 83:8 based 5:3 11:4,5 basically 55:13 71:19 basis 73:9</p>	<p>bay 75:8,19 91:3,6 97:16 becoming 26:6 bed 29:6 beds 27:14,18,19 27:21,21 28:3,7 began 12:3 begging 82:11 beginning 7:5 108:1 behalf 34:15 84:15 88:11 behavioral 18:1,3 18:14,16 19:9,11 19:17 20:20 26:7 32:18 34:13 35:4 35:21 37:11 40:12 belatedly 99:2 believe 45:8,10 49:1 69:13 73:7 best 83:17 better 41:17 92:18 99:16 bid 100:16 big 24:4 38:14,16 39:8 99:18 bill 47:2,8,8,9,18 49:14,14,20 50:3 50:4,11,21 51:3 56:5,8,9 57:1 96:4 107:18 bills 102:8 birth 9:13,17 bit 3:20 23:1 30:6 30:13 33:3 99:15 black 34:4 41:18 42:6 75:3 board 16:14,17 33:8 35:10 61:19 81:10 88:17 boarding 22:1 born 9:14 borrow 76:19</p>
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<p>botkin 16:13 81:4 81:6</p> <p>bottom 29:16 83:1</p> <p>bozman 84:14 94:13</p> <p>brag 83:15</p> <p>breakdown 35:15</p> <p>breaks 72:8</p> <p>breast 8:13</p> <p>breathe 89:8</p> <p>bridgette 32:17</p> <p>brief 47:4 86:11</p> <p>briefly 34:3</p> <p>brighton 15:14</p> <p>bring 15:5,6 20:13 21:14,18 22:12 23:6 29:15 34:2,9 44:18 55:8 78:11 82:19</p> <p>bringing 29:12 33:8 64:20</p> <p>broadband 105:5</p> <p>brooklet's 91:2</p> <p>brooks 90:17,18 90:21 91:14,18 92:8,11,20</p> <p>brought 8:6 34:13 36:15</p> <p>budget 47:10,13 47:14,19,19 48:5 48:6,11 51:9 52:13,17,17 56:10 57:2,12,13,21 58:1,7,8,9,10,11 58:15 59:3,16 61:2 62:10,20 64:3,11,16,17 65:2,10,16,20 66:10 71:1,13 72:4,6,7,18 74:9 74:12,17 76:16 77:11,15,16 81:15 81:21 84:20 86:19 87:2,6 91:17,20</p>	<p>92:10 99:12 107:19</p> <p>budgeted 65:18</p> <p>build 9:19 75:2,21</p> <p>building 12:7 14:14 34:5 44:20 45:5,7 75:3</p> <p>built 74:1</p> <p>bulbs 90:3</p> <p>bus 82:6</p> <p>business 11:11 41:17 42:17 81:8 81:12,15 82:1 85:8</p> <p>businesses 82:20</p> <p>busy 83:2</p> <p>buy 73:12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">c</p> <p>cafeteria 96:8 107:17</p> <p>call 5:19 18:9 24:9 38:15 40:15 46:5 50:14 90:2 98:10 101:2 103:3 104:10 105:16 108:13</p> <p>callahan 1:15 5:14 5:15 6:4,5 15:1 16:2 17:7,16 40:9 40:10,20,21 46:1 46:2,10,11 49:20 50:1 78:8 80:11 80:12 98:16,17 101:8,9 103:9,10 104:16,17 106:1,2 106:19 107:6 108:9,10,18,19</p> <p>called 34:21</p> <p>campaign 20:14 21:12,19,21</p> <p>campus 87:14</p> <p>cancer 8:13</p> <p>cap 59:1,3</p>	<p>capacity 23:10</p> <p>capital 45:1 48:15 57:3 58:4 64:16 64:17 72:9 74:20 76:15,16 91:14 99:12</p> <p>capture 28:21 55:14</p> <p>captured 37:10</p> <p>care 11:10 13:2,5 13:8 19:14,18 24:16,21 25:7 26:20 29:1 35:4 36:1 37:6 81:9 95:5</p> <p>career 7:8</p> <p>carol 38:17</p> <p>caroline 19:12</p> <p>carpet 89:20</p> <p>carries 7:8</p> <p>case 34:13 36:20 37:7 70:4</p> <p>causation 54:20</p> <p>causes 55:2</p> <p>cautious 72:2</p> <p>center 3:10,11,14 4:4,6,10 5:1 6:11 6:15 7:12 8:6,19 9:15 10:8 11:21 13:6,15 14:2,9,19 15:13,20 23:14 26:4 27:15,18 28:8 29:8 32:5 35:10 38:15 41:17 42:17 57:7 66:4 91:3,7 92:2,14 99:5,7</p> <p>centers 6:17 9:2 9:20,21 11:10</p> <p>centreville 87:17</p> <p>cents 51:10,13,14 51:16 52:5,5,18 53:2,4,8,9 55:14 59:5,14 60:1,3</p>	<p>82:4 83:10,11</p> <p>certain 34:16 47:12 48:10</p> <p>certainly 14:16 16:15 38:6,8 96:11 102:13</p> <p>certificate 3:19</p> <p>certified 26:6 70:15</p> <p>certify 110:3,5,8 110:10</p> <p>chair 2:11,20 3:6 88:13 100:15 102:15</p> <p>chairman 78:16 80:4</p> <p>chambers 1:10</p> <p>chance 2:18 3:3 33:1 90:12,14,16 93:7,9,10</p> <p>change 12:8 44:7 44:8,18 48:6</p> <p>changes 42:18 43:13 65:4 68:8</p> <p>changing 12:2</p> <p>chart 59:6 65:14 66:11 68:8 69:9 71:8</p> <p>charter 48:2</p> <p>chase 15:15</p> <p>check 84:1</p> <p>chesapeake 12:16 16:1 26:3 65:19 86:7,17 87:13 97:16</p> <p>child 7:20 8:1,8 9:12,13,15 13:2,3 13:5,7,10,12 25:6 35:10 95:3</p> <p>child's 8:11 21:11</p> <p>childhood 4:15 10:20 15:10 16:16 24:19</p>
--	---	--	---

<p>children 4:13,19 5:5 6:20,21 7:4,6 7:16,17 8:3 10:2,4 10:15,21 11:2,16 13:1 15:20 17:12 24:18 25:3,3 82:4 94:15,21 95:10 children's 20:9,14 chivalry 93:7 choptank 34:20 christy 15:19 chuck 1:15 chunk 39:9 cit 32:13 citizens 4:8 5:4 58:16 71:2,5 clarification 51:19 clarify 62:17 clarke 97:14 100:2 100:4,9 classes 12:17,18 94:1 clear 96:20 clearly 32:3 69:19 clinically 19:18 clinicians 32:2 close 37:12 50:10 54:14 68:15 69:6 82:4 closed 27:13 106:10 107:10 108:1,4 closing 96:5 106:14 107:13 coalition 29:19 collaborate 43:21 collaboration 19:14 collaboratively 26:17 collection 85:15 colleen 15:14 college 12:17 13:17 16:1 65:19</p>	<p>86:7,17 87:13 color 21:9 column 66:16 67:7 67:14 come 3:12 6:17 15:7,8 16:3,4,15 16:20 21:8 36:3 42:4 44:21 50:6 54:3 78:4,14 79:1 80:6 88:5 89:17 89:18 90:2 94:10 95:20 96:10 99:11 comes 36:8 45:2 70:11 103:17 coming 2:8 14:21 15:2 27:4 36:20 37:7 44:16,19 47:2 70:9 90:21 92:12 command 87:8 comment 106:14 comments 57:10 96:3 106:19,21 107:2,8 commerce 83:3 commercial 81:16 commission 88:12 110:20 communities 5:5 83:6 community 4:14 4:18 5:3 9:14 10:1 10:9,17 13:20 15:11 19:16,16,20 19:21 20:13 21:1 26:21 30:16 34:21 36:9,18 57:6 87:11 88:15,17 99:5 103:19 company 93:12 compelled 80:9,15 competent 19:19 compile 66:15</p>	<p>complement 28:17 complementary 29:2,21 37:9 complemented 24:12 complete 34:15 43:11 79:19 80:4 80:5 completed 92:4 complicated 14:9 component 13:10 38:14 53:3,5 comprehensive 7:15 computer 92:7,8 110:7 computers 85:6,6 85:8 concerned 6:19 7:10 82:2 concerns 75:8 concluded 109:4 conditions 10:3 conference 32:13 confidential 25:8 connecting 99:4 consent 2:12,21 3:8 consider 2:16 considerable 89:13 considered 56:4 consistent 70:21 constant 38:3 50:13 51:3,6,15 51:19 52:8,21 53:7,13,21 54:9 54:12 55:3,6 56:4 constantly 12:2 consultant 31:4 consumers 19:15 consuming 32:9 contacted 89:3</p>	<p>contained 110:9 context 7:18 continually 19:10 continuation 71:2 97:15 continue 19:4 26:11 27:2,17,19 33:11 35:7 42:2 63:12 72:3 88:14 continued 91:2 continuing 25:21 58:16 continuum 36:1 contract 99:9 contribute 22:17 97:10 contributing 23:3 84:20 contribution 64:21 conversations 87:4 conversely 67:15 convert 73:12 coordination 19:14 37:6 coordinator 3:14 15:12,14 18:16 32:18 65:9 coppersmith 86:7 86:9 corbin 31:2 cordova 93:10 core 19:5 40:3 corey 1:14 corner 93:11 correct 42:20,21 43:6 45:11 63:10 75:15 corrected 49:8 50:19 correctional 65:7 corrections 2:10 2:19 3:5 66:2 73:5</p>
---	--	--	--

<p>corrective 97:7 correlates 59:4 correlation 82:17 cost 19:20 65:11 65:12 73:9,11 costs 41:16 97:8 council 1:1,4,10 1:13 2:9 3:8 4:7 4:20 17:9,21 35:9 39:13 41:11 42:1 45:16 49:11 51:8 52:10 54:13 58:3 58:20 59:7,10 63:8 77:19 79:15 80:9 85:18 86:12 86:16 87:5 88:20 91:1 95:18 96:17 97:14 99:1 101:14 101:16 103:15 105:1 106:9,19 107:2,10,15 110:3 council's 107:20 councils 20:3 counsel 110:4,9,10 110:11 counties 20:3 23:18 25:16 26:16 28:16 30:18 31:19 59:19,20 60:7 82:15 86:18 country 80:18 95:1 counts 70:16 county 1:1,1 3:15 4:3,5,7,9,20,21 5:1,9 7:14 8:5,20 12:4 14:8,19 16:17,21 17:8 18:19,20 19:5,13 23:17 24:2 27:15 28:11,15 29:14,14 30:8,12 31:2,3,8,9 31:11,13 36:1 37:19 40:3 41:16</p>	<p>42:11,18 43:10,17 45:4 51:8,12,18 52:6,7,10 55:1 57:3,6,15,18,18 58:3,20 59:7,8,10 59:12,15 60:5,19 61:1,3,5,10,12,18 62:7 63:18,19 64:1,10,13,16 65:3,5,13,17 66:6 66:8,18,19 67:1,1 67:2,7,9,11,12,15 67:20,20 68:1,4,5 68:9,11,14 69:10 70:18 71:2,5,7 73:7,20 74:2,3,17 75:6 76:18 79:17 79:17 80:1,21 81:10,13,19 82:3 82:8,12,20 83:4 83:12,13 84:5,16 85:1,18 86:21 88:12,19 93:13 94:15,19 95:9,12 95:16 96:16 97:12 98:3 101:17,19 102:17 103:21 105:6 107:20 110:2,3 county's 30:5 59:21 62:12 78:20 83:11 couple 20:19 29:3 88:20 course 23:12 35:7 37:10 57:7 74:5 76:10 cover 48:10 covering 31:10 cpiu 55:9 create 97:5 created 8:4,19 creating 35:2</p>	<p>creativity 30:12 creek 97:5,20 crisis 22:18,21 23:9,13,15,16 24:7,9,10 27:11 27:14,17,20,21 29:6 32:17,19,19 38:13 39:7 critchlow 15:19 criteria 34:16 crystal 15:16 culturally 19:19 current 47:12,13 48:7,16 49:16 51:3,13 52:1 55:7 57:21 58:6,10,15 63:21 66:12,20 71:12 72:19 73:2 76:17 92:10 currently 27:8 52:14 92:3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">d</p> <p>d 91:14 dan 15:13 dana 16:18,20 17:2 84:11,12 dare 93:17 darkness 35:8 data 33:14 37:11 37:15,20 66:13,15 70:9,11 day 5:9 11:10 13:1 13:13 23:10,21 24:14 25:6,11 28:1 44:16 45:14 71:10 85:3,7,7 86:5 91:8,9 95:4 99:2,17 105:12 110:13 days 23:10 25:12 deal 45:13 99:18 dealing 24:18 49:7 49:20</p>	<p>debt 62:8,8,11 65:1 68:12,14,21 69:6 74:7 76:20 decisions 81:18 95:10 decker 34:4 41:18 42:6 75:3 decrease 58:10 60:12,18 82:2,14 deep 84:17 definitely 17:7 43:20 44:12 60:10 92:20 delays 99:20 delean 16:13 81:4 81:6 deletions 2:10,19 3:5 delivery 19:18 demart 91:7,13,15 92:12 93:5,6 democrat 20:16 82:9 demographics 12:8 denied 61:18 denise 15:21 denton 78:13,14 78:16,17 80:15 81:1 department 8:9 28:19 36:9 45:3 61:16 66:1,2,3,14 70:12 73:4 74:2 76:4,5 83:19 84:18 93:16 96:18 103:18 104:9 departments 26:18 45:4 47:12 48:16 65:5,6 66:3 depend 63:12 depending 24:13 28:5 31:18</p>
--	--	--	---

deputies 72:20 deputy 73:1 design 99:3,7,10 detail 23:1 deteriorating 78:21 deterioration 79:1 determine 10:9 devastated 79:21 develop 7:17 11:4 29:18 developed 6:18 8:13,20 97:18 developing 34:21 35:5 development 8:12 10:14 12:14 15:18 36:5,9 57:4 58:14 dialogue 85:18 diane 1:21 110:2 110:16 difference 11:7,15 89:13 90:4 different 8:6 30:6 30:13 69:21 84:18 differential 52:3 differently 30:7 difficult 86:4 difficulties 56:19 difficulty 10:6 digitize 79:4 dilley 17:19 18:2,5 18:7,10,12,12 19:2 27:7 28:5,12 28:14 29:10,18 30:5 31:5,14,17 32:15,17 33:3,11 34:1,6,10 35:15 37:17 38:4,8 39:1 39:5,10,12 41:6 dim 56:16 diploma 12:12 direction 24:5	directly 23:13 director 16:10 18:3,13 78:17 101:20 disability 34:15 disbursements 3:2 3:6 discovered 78:19 79:3 discuss 107:11 discussed 8:15 discussing 72:5 discussion 5:18 40:11 44:6 46:3 98:9 101:1 103:2 104:7 105:14 discussions 44:11 dispatch 66:4 dispatched 28:20 districts 57:8 ditches 97:6,8,19 divided 77:4 divilio 1:16 6:2,3 40:18,19 46:8,9 98:14,15 101:6,7 103:7,8 104:5,7 104:14,15 105:20 105:21 108:16,17 divisions 43:18 dobson 12:6 14:14 documentary 21:5 doing 10:10 11:1,7 17:14 18:5 29:20 40:14 46:4 48:13 67:19 84:3 93:8 100:9 dollar 43:2,13 dollars 22:20 23:8 27:10 30:1 31:19 32:3 33:13 35:16 36:3,7,13,19 38:6 38:9 39:2 42:9,15 62:9 63:3,7 68:13 73:1	dorchester 19:12 60:14 downtown 79:11 dr 15:9 drive 89:6 drivers 82:6 drone 103:21 drug 35:9 82:14 101:19 drugs 82:13 dynamic 43:21 dynamics 69:19	edition 20:17 educate 10:2,3 education 8:10,21 10:19,19 12:17,18 52:18 53:4 57:13 59:2,7 60:2 61:17 61:19 65:15,16 70:12 81:10 82:11 95:6,15 educational 53:3 53:15 educators 82:5 effective 19:13,21 23:7 effort 4:11 58:14 61:7,8,14 62:16 63:1,1,2,6 70:17 93:15 94:5 efforts 22:20 eight 77:8 either 9:3 39:18 39:19 45:6 electrician 90:2 elementary 12:6 12:19 14:14 62:11 64:18,20 69:1,7 74:8 elevation 99:10 eligible 50:11 51:1 emergency 25:2 28:18 31:20 36:14 66:3,5 73:19 emotional 10:14 emphasis 57:12 employed 94:18 employee 110:11 employees 65:13 84:16 85:1,2 employer 81:17 ems 75:5,7 93:15 93:19 emt 94:1 encourage 5:2 28:21
		e	
		e 1:18 89:2,3 91:14 earl 93:8,10 94:8 earlier 60:15 86:21 early 4:15 7:13 8:9,19,21 10:20 10:20 15:10,12 16:16 46:20 79:9 79:10,13 85:17 earmarked 31:21 easement 99:4,11 easements 76:13 easier 89:8 eastern 22:19 23:14,18,21 24:4 25:14 29:12,15 30:7,20 easton 1:10 12:5 12:19 14:13 16:11 26:4 41:12 42:16 57:8 62:11 64:18 64:20 69:1,7 74:7 79:10,11,12 81:9 81:9 88:10 96:7 96:14 99:5 107:16 108:7 110:13 eat 71:18 economic 12:14 economically 12:15	

<p>encourages 4:7 ended 8:5 endorsement 19:4 enforcement 24:12,21 73:7 engineering 99:8 99:9 enhancement 9:1 enhancements 42:3 enrollment 68:8 69:9,12,17 70:3,5 70:11,13,15,16,20 ensure 19:20 enter 7:7 14:10 entered 110:9 entering 6:21 enterprise 42:19 entertain 102:16 enthusiastic 21:16 25:19 entire 83:12 entitled 95:1,5,14 environment 34:19 equipment 76:5 equipped 83:17 errand 89:10 escalator 62:19 63:5,11,14,17 especially 93:2,16 essentially 25:1 establish 56:10 107:18 establishes 57:1 estate 107:11 108:5 estimated 73:9 76:4 ethnicity 70:14 evaluate 26:13 evening 77:11 78:15 96:7 106:12 106:15 107:16</p>	<p>108:6 everybody 16:2,3 55:17 80:13,14 examination 110:5 examples 78:21 exceed 97:8 exchanges 86:13 excited 21:19 exciting 32:9 36:15 executive 18:3,13 expand 27:20 36:19 39:5 expanded 23:19 27:10 35:20 expanding 22:18 expansion 85:19 105:5 expect 63:13 73:13 expected 64:12 expedite 34:17 expenditure 65:20 expenditures 48:11 57:15 58:5 61:13 expense 47:13,13 72:9 73:21 74:21 expenses 45:1 48:17 58:19 59:2 experiences 24:19 expires 110:20 explore 37:21 extend 86:20 extremely 36:17</p> <hr/> <p>f</p> <hr/> <p>f 1:15 faa 41:14 42:5,9 42:16 facebook 14:5,6 14:18 facilitating 86:21</p>	<p>facilities 103:19 facility 41:18 73:21 75:1,2,10 75:21 76:3 facing 24:19 37:1 37:4 fact 7:1 107:5 faculty 87:15 fair 53:1 fairly 86:14 fall 85:17 86:1 families 4:14 7:16 8:7 9:6,8,16,21 11:1 12:3,5,9,10 12:20 13:11 15:16 15:18 17:11 20:19 21:5 family 7:18,21,21 9:9 10:3 11:10 25:2 57:9 81:9 family's 8:12 12:14 fantastic 31:5 far 44:6 72:5 83:12 february 24:6 federal 35:20 36:4 41:13 43:2 45:20 federation 97:3 98:4 fee 38:12 feel 27:3 33:14 80:9,15 89:14 93:9 fees 57:18 fell 89:7 fiduciary 101:18 102:17 field 97:5 99:10 fifth 59:11 film 21:4,15 final 64:19 finance 101:17,20 102:16</p>	<p>financial 71:6 find 14:5,12,18 fine 41:9 81:4 90:18 106:15 finish 34:8 finished 12:11 fire 66:2 93:12 103:18 104:8 firemen 93:13 first 8:5 11:20 12:3 21:17 23:6 24:7 31:1 43:2 54:9 66:16 72:10 77:21 78:12 83:18 88:3 90:12,14 91:4,8 103:17 fiscal 22:9,12,14 22:16 26:11 34:12 36:20 37:7 47:19 48:18 51:8,17 52:11,11,13 57:2 57:11,20,21 58:1 58:6,8,9 59:10,20 60:1 62:10 64:14 64:16 66:10,12,12 66:20 68:3,9,10 69:19,19 70:2,4,5 70:5 71:12,15 fish 97:3,17 98:3 five 20:3 25:16 26:18 33:16 36:1 42:9 54:6 59:13 59:17 66:7 78:8 86:18 fix 90:3 fluctuation 37:18 flyers 21:14 focus 4:12 18:17 19:20 57:10 61:3 folks 6:14 28:17 28:20 30:2 37:18 follow 11:5 37:21 followed 2:4</p>
--	--	--	---

following 25:12 54:2 107:9	funded 38:10 58:11 65:1 66:6 72:11 76:6 88:19 94:20 97:9	gateway 23:16	45:5 46:18 47:1
force 35:12 101:19 102:10,18	fund 10:7 11:17 23:19 25:21 26:5 29:11 31:18 33:7 58:3 59:8,12 61:4,12 62:7,18 64:2,9,13,19 65:15 66:17,20,21 67:2,3,6,7,10,13 67:14 68:1,1,5,9 68:11 69:10,14,18 70:2,8,19 85:5,12 90:6 95:10 97:2	gear 103:21	49:13,15,18 50:10
foreseeable 63:14	fundings 13:4 27:14 29:5 44:4 45:19 48:15 57:17 64:4 64:4 74:16 76:19 77:1 98:3 99:11 101:19 102:5,8 103:21	ged 12:12	51:2 53:20 54:13
forever 11:9 80:5	further 7:9 40:11 40:14 46:3 98:9 100:21 103:2 104:7 105:14 110:5,8,10	gender 70:14	56:6,12 72:4 73:3
formalized 30:15	future 63:14 71:14 72:1 76:17 80:19 81:18 82:7 83:4 84:5 95:9,11	general 22:4 35:19 48:4 57:3,11,13 57:14,17,19,20 58:1,10 86:11	76:19 77:13,17,18 77:20 78:1,12 83:5,7 86:10 88:1 88:3 90:11 92:5 92:14 94:16 96:6 96:15 106:9,10,14 107:1
former 34:4,7 42:6 75:3	fy 40:4 49:16,17 49:17 77:15	generate 51:16,21	92:14 94:16 96:6 96:15 106:9,10,14 107:1
formerly 41:17	fy18 35:17	gentlemanly 90:16	golf 57:7 74:5 76:10
forms 83:8	g	gentlemen 45:15	good 3:13 18:7,8 18:10,11 25:18 27:1 29:17 32:10 33:10 37:6 41:20 41:21 55:19 63:15 78:15 87:8,18,20 88:9 90:9,17,18 107:5
forward 15:8 41:10 42:2 47:2 49:12 72:4 78:14 91:1 92:13	gail 15:16	george's 7:13 8:4 8:20	government 5:2 36:4 79:18
found 97:8	gaining 19:3	getting 37:5 38:20 71:4 77:9 84:18 85:9 86:2 93:20	grandchildren 94:17 95:11
foundation 79:5 97:16,17	gallery 78:2	give 3:12 13:21 15:2 17:11 47:4 50:7 54:4 78:5,6,8 85:2 91:12 93:17	grandparent 94:16 95:19
four 12:5 27:20 67:21 68:3,7 70:1 70:4 79:18 82:3 83:10,11 89:18 94:16	gamble 101:17	given 5:8	grant 11:19 13:7 27:10,12,13,17 36:7,8 38:10 79:5 94:19 97:2,9 98:2 103:19
fourth 47:14,21 48:3 54:10	garner 33:7	giving 88:13 91:20	granted 52:3
frank 1:16	gas 79:9	glad 54:5	grants 32:19 57:4
frederick 66:21	gaston 15:17	glued 89:20	gratitude 84:17
free 16:21 89:14 95:6		go 3:3 8:7 9:21 11:13 14:1,7 19:7 22:11 23:4,9,20 25:21 34:8 39:8 45:5,9 46:16 50:5 50:10 54:13 55:13 65:15 74:19 76:8 77:20 79:20 90:14 106:16	great 5:8 28:2 29:9 31:12 33:5 40:13 50:9 58:14 79:13 82:7 90:7
friday 16:21 17:4		goals 11:5 83:4	green 21:9,9,13
friend 107:5		goes 35:11 56:19 65:16,17 73:1	griffith 15:9
front 83:1,2		going 2:16 3:18,20 6:10 7:19 14:16 15:1 16:19 19:7 21:2 22:21 23:4 30:5,13 33:18 34:2,9 39:15 41:7	ground 50:5,6
full 65:4,13 70:15 74:7			group 17:2 54:7,8 78:7
fully 31:7 71:11 72:10,11 95:16			
fund 12:18 35:19 36:16 42:19 48:4 57:3,4,4,5,5,12,13 57:14,14,17,19,20 58:1,10,13,19 59:2 71:8,10,16 71:18 72:2,15 95:16			

<p>groups 5:3 grow 17:12 29:7 growing 11:9 37:3 grown 22:13 growth 22:9,17 23:3 35:16 36:12 82:20 guess 61:1 guys 17:10 44:14</p>	<p>heard 40:12 88:18 hearing 2:11,20 3:6 5:19 33:17 46:19 47:1 49:16 50:11 51:5,6 53:21 77:11,18 96:4,6 98:10 101:2 103:3 104:10 105:16 106:11 107:17</p>	<p>historian 80:8 historical 78:18 historically 28:9 history 59:6 78:20 79:17 80:21 hit 63:16 hog 57:7 76:10 hold 12:17 13:5 17:2 49:18 hollis 86:20 96:17 96:19 97:1 99:1 99:15 101:14 103:15 105:1 106:7 home 11:11 13:1 44:18 96:12 homeless 36:2,7 homelessness 37:1 37:4 homeowner 94:14 hope 26:19 54:1 95:20 hopefully 92:17 hopes 19:3 hoping 93:18 hosted 25:13 hotel 79:13,14 hotels 79:13 hotline 23:15,20 24:10 houlihan 1:21 110:2,16 hour 28:1 38:15 66:7 74:11 hours 23:9,20 24:14 38:21 house 35:21 86:1 89:17,19 90:1 housed 24:3 household 25:4 housing 34:19 36:4,9,13 65:9 95:2,3</p>	<p>hoyer 7:11 8:21 hoyer's 7:11 huge 12:8 89:20 huh 50:1 55:20 hundred 75:9,20 82:4 83:11 91:3,7</p>
<p>h</p>	<p>heart 17:8 held 12:19 21:2 107:21 hello 2:7 help 12:14 30:1 80:3,20,20 83:5 94:6 helped 11:19 33:7 87:5 helpful 87:9 89:18 helping 7:21 helps 11:14 12:13 34:17 hi 81:6 hide 16:9,12 high 11:14 12:12 82:18 96:7,14 107:17 108:7 higher 51:13,15 52:8 53:2 highest 67:9 72:19 73:3 83:17 highlight 35:18 99:16 highlighting 20:19 21:5 highlights 22:5 33:12 61:2 65:3 99:2 highly 84:21 hire 13:4 hired 11:20 hispanic 12:5</p>	<p>i</p>	<p>idea 8:18 identified 64:5 72:13 73:18 74:15 76:14 imagination 15:20 imagine 32:10 36:17 76:7 immediately 32:1 107:9 impact 7:20 8:11 8:16 48:4 57:4 74:10 impacted 21:6 24:20 impactful 24:18 implement 23:12 implementation 97:12 implemented 25:17 implementing 24:15 importance 85:19 90:5 important 5:6 39:4 53:12 83:12 88:21 89:10 imposed 58:21 improve 10:2 19:10 inaudible 16:1 22:21 88:9 incident 25:12 include 60:2 64:17 65:10 68:12 71:10 included 53:5 57:17,19 61:13</p>

<p>64:10 72:6,7 75:15 76:16 includes 42:6 57:6 66:1 99:10 including 30:18 32:19 85:9 income 9:5 34:18 58:18 63:13 incorporated 51:12 52:2 74:14 increase 4:11 12:13 39:9 53:7 53:13 54:21 59:4 60:9 61:9 63:19 63:20 64:12 65:11 65:12 68:5,6 69:17,18 70:8 73:10 85:11,11 increased 38:7,9 55:6 59:13 61:8 62:9 68:2 69:14 70:2,6,19 71:16 85:5 increases 60:20 84:17,19,19,21 increasing 53:1 60:10,14 74:10 incredible 15:10 independent 89:14 indicates 25:5 indication 25:9 indicator 9:9,10 indie 21:5 individuals 34:16 38:2 77:21 infants 17:4 information 14:11 25:8 86:2 92:3 initiative 26:8 30:10 initiatives 13:15 14:15 15:11</p>	<p>inputting 92:3 insignificant 68:15 intact 71:11 integrated 7:15 19:21 26:19 integration 26:14 intensively 26:12 intent 10:8 interest 33:7 interested 26:5 38:20 110:12 interesting 20:8 interrogated 110:4 intervention 8:9 10:20 32:20 intricacies 87:6 introduce 91:6 inventory 97:5 investing 82:3 83:10 84:5 investment 81:20 82:2 83:13 invite 85:21 involved 24:20 25:2 94:3 involvement 20:13 irrigation 76:9 issue 104:2 issues 10:11 43:21 65:8 72:1 item 61:17 105:15 items 48:21 49:7 49:10 61:15,20 72:9,9 74:15,20 76:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">j</p> <p>jack 89:20 jafari 86:10 87:20 january 23:20 45:10 jen 31:2</p>	<p>job 86:4 90:9 91:8 jobs 85:9 johanna 18:15 21:12 23:4 33:11 join 21:7 joined 21:21 86:9 joining 2:4 18:20 jointly 61:19 joy 100:3,8,11 joyful 105:10 joyfully 105:7 jr 93:10 judy 3:10,11,14 4:4,6,9 5:1 6:11 6:15,17 7:11,12 8:5,13,19,21 9:2 9:14,20,21 10:8 11:21 13:14 14:2 14:8,19 15:13,17 july 23:7 june 47:20 jurisdiction 73:2 juxtaposition 82:11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">k</p> <p>k 84:8,9,10 kathy 18:2 84:9 katie 18:12 kealy 32:17 keep 78:9 83:7 106:11 keisha 16:6,7 kent 19:12 27:15 29:13 kevin 84:9 key 16:16 38:16 67:3 kind 10:11 14:9 31:3,8,12 44:9 63:5 81:11 99:21 99:21 kindergarten 6:21 7:5 9:13</p>	<p>kinds 31:15 kirwan 64:4,7 kitty's 93:11 knew 31:6 44:15 44:19 know 6:15 7:4,6 10:5 11:15 16:19 20:15 37:14 38:17 50:6 52:21 54:7 60:14,19 72:20 75:2 80:14 81:7 82:21 84:4,8,18 92:21 95:18 99:20 107:4 known 41:17,17 knows 97:15 kupersmith 39:16 39:18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">l</p> <p>lacking 10:15 ladies 45:15 90:14 land 42:5 76:12 landlord 44:8 lane 3:4 47:2,4,17 47:18 48:19 50:14 51:4,5 52:19 53:4 53:9,17,19,21 54:16,17,19 55:5 55:11,16,21 56:1 56:13,15,18 57:1 60:10,17 61:1 63:11,18 68:20 69:5,9 70:11 74:19 75:12,16,19 76:3 77:6,8,14 87:16 99:8 101:20 102:4,7,13 lane's 44:5 language 10:12 large 19:16 largest 65:20 larry 78:13,17 laugh 100:16</p>
--	---	--	--

<p>laura 1:18 law 6:17,18 24:12 24:20 51:7 59:2 73:6 95:1 110:4 leaders 87:12 leadership 86:18 87:15 learn 14:1 learning 7:13 8:19 15:12 lease 45:6 leases 45:8 leave 21:15 41:8 left 50:8 88:3 96:2 legal 107:11 108:5 legislative 66:14 legislators 6:19 legislature 8:15 64:3 lesher 1:17 5:16 5:17 6:8,9 17:17 40:5,8 41:3,4 46:14,15 48:20 98:5,6,20,21 100:18,20 101:12 101:13 102:19,20 103:13,14 104:2,6 104:20,21 105:9 105:14 106:5,6 109:1,2 letter 39:14 40:4 104:1,2,8 105:2 letters 103:16 level 48:7,11 61:7 62:18 64:15 67:10 71:3 leverage 30:1 library 15:20 16:21 17:3 84:13 84:15 85:2,5,12 85:13,17,20 license 13:6 life 7:9 20:18 80:17 88:17 99:16</p>	<p>lights 56:16 77:14 lincoln 80:16,17 lines 100:14 list 88:1 listed 35:17 37:13 107:12 listen 96:11 literacy 10:13 little 3:20 6:13 23:1 30:6,13 42:8 46:20 80:19 82:13 99:15 live 9:10 84:13 94:12 lives 11:16 living 34:19 65:11 65:12 liz 15:11 load 97:11 local 26:13,15 35:9 67:8,10 located 9:3 51:11 52:2 location 28:6 locations 66:8 long 12:1 65:1 83:14 91:9 look 8:7 9:7 10:10 10:16 11:1 12:10 14:8 26:14 30:13 45:5 69:11,16 70:1 71:8 81:12 81:19 92:13 looked 81:21 82:9 looking 17:5 29:18 31:18 36:19 39:13 78:10 80:12 looks 80:13 lord 5:10 lose 72:20 losing 72:21 lost 93:8 107:5 lot 22:17 24:11 27:1 30:9 36:15</p>	<p>88:18 93:1 lots 14:11 love 14:12 16:14 lower 28:7 52:5 55:1,7 66:19 67:4 lowest 58:17 60:4 67:16 83:16,19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">m</p> <p>m 91:14 maa 41:15 42:10 42:16 madam 3:19 5:11 5:19 39:15 40:15 46:5 47:5,16 56:7 98:10 101:2 103:3 104:10 105:16 108:13 mail 89:3 mailed 89:2 maintain 58:17 maintains 58:15 maintenance 61:7 61:8,14 62:16,21 63:1,2 70:16 major 32:8 37:17 57:12 79:5 majority 65:14 making 28:17 47:6 90:4 103:18 105:11 manage 26:20 36:3 44:13 managed 26:3 36:11 management 25:2 26:14 31:20 manager 34:3 36:21 37:8 41:20 91:6 manager's 96:16 managing 22:14 38:6,9 mandated 63:7</p>	<p>manner 110:7 manpower 31:15 102:11 march 2:13,17 25:14 31:1 marketing 30:2 mary 3:13 94:12 maryland 1:1,10 6:18 7:1 8:17 27:11 36:10 41:14 61:16 70:12 83:2 84:14 87:17 88:10 88:17 93:11 110:1 110:2 masson 38:17 materials 85:12 85:13 math 10:13 matter 33:20 95:13 110:7 matters 20:14 34:4 107:12 108:5 mckenny 87:16 md 110:13 meals 95:4 mean 31:18 means 95:8 110:7 meant 80:10 measurable 11:5 medical 66:5 73:19 meet 4:16,18 26:21 28:20 33:1 34:16 91:11 meeting 1:4 2:14 2:14,17 20:3 27:4 64:6 86:21 91:9,9 107:9,13,20 108:4 109:4 member 49:10 87:5 members 1:13 16:14 79:15 86:12 87:14</p>
--	--	---	---

<p>memo 101:16 mental 20:4,5,10 20:14 21:10,11 message 5:4 25:5 met 44:14 methodology 97:6 meyers 15:13 micah 34:9 41:10 41:19,20 michael's 85:20 92:15 103:17 104:8 michaels 16:11 mid 18:1,3,13 19:9 34:12 35:21 40:12 79:5 midshore 26:16 million 22:15,16 42:9 43:5,11 58:6 58:7,12 59:15,16 62:8,9,13 63:3,7 63:19 64:14,18,21 65:17 66:9 68:3 68:16,19,20 69:6 69:15 71:11,13,19 74:8,9,15,21 75:7 75:9 76:1,4,7,11 76:14,18,21 77:3 77:7,8 millions 68:13 mind 2:3 15:2 30:11 40:1 47:6 56:7 mindful 25:10 minimum 74:10 minutes 2:13,15 2:17,20 54:5,6 78:7,8 misnomer 63:6 mission 19:7,9 mobile 23:9,13 24:7 38:13 39:7 model 24:16,16,21 25:16 30:5 35:2</p>	<p>moment 49:19 money 10:5 53:15 82:12 95:13,14 monitor 22:8 monitoring 27:11 month 5:1 20:4,5 20:6,6 21:10 89:18 92:16 months 86:15 moore 44:11 morrell 15:19 morris 50:16,19 56:17 92:17 mother 94:15 motion 5:12 39:13 40:7 42:14 45:16 45:17,18,21 98:2 99:13,14 100:16 100:19 102:16 105:13 108:3 move 19:8 40:5 42:2 48:17 49:12 50:13 51:2 56:6 62:15 77:17 96:15 104:2 106:10 moved 5:14,15 98:5,6 102:19 104:6 105:7 108:9 108:10 moves 2:11 3:7 moving 3:9 msde 8:17 70:12</p>	<p>neavitt 84:14,14 necessary 93:1 necessity 4:14 neck 57:7 76:10 94:13 need 7:4,20 10:9 10:11 11:2 24:10 25:6 31:19 35:6 37:4 62:21 72:14 73:18 75:21 85:14 90:2 91:20 needed 38:1 72:18 needs 4:13,16,18 5:6 12:3,9 25:11 26:21 31:10 32:4 69:20 72:13,15 74:2,5 77:9 99:15 neighborhood 22:15 neighboring 28:16 nervous 88:6 netted 53:14 network 26:7 57:9 never 12:11 36:11 63:4 83:15 new 13:11 36:10 45:7 73:21 75:1,9 75:17,21 76:3 91:3,6 92:14 93:2 newcomb 88:8,10 90:8 newman 16:20 84:11,12,12 86:6 nice 20:18 26:8 28:17 41:7 90:15 nick 107:7 nickel 80:7 nicole 15:15 nighttime 93:21 nine 23:18 normal 85:8 norris 18:15 34:11 northern 73:20 75:6 93:19</p>	<p>notary 110:2,17 noted 80:8 108:8 notepad 78:10 notes 110:6 notorial 110:13 number 13:15 38:2 47:8,9 56:9 65:4 67:3 72:6,12 73:11,13 74:20 numbers 54:1 75:15 nutrient 97:11</p>
			o
			<p>o 21:9 o'clock 33:17 96:10,13 objection 54:14 observed 20:6 obtain 22:20 obviously 71:21 75:19 77:10 offer 26:5 offered 22:7 office 14:13 20:11 22:13 26:12 44:4 44:5 72:11 73:15 75:1 89:2 100:13 101:17 102:4,16 officers 65:7 officially 42:4 oh 14:6 16:6 45:14 91:18 102:13 okay 2:3 3:21 14:6 27:6 28:13 33:2 33:10 37:16 40:7 49:8,13 50:7,9 51:1 53:18 54:2 54:12 56:12,17 60:21 74:18 78:3 78:11 81:2 84:10 87:21 88:4 90:20 96:2,14,21 106:9 old 76:9</p>

<p>once 6:12 42:14 44:3 73:21 79:1 92:5 101:18 ones 17:6 60:17 ongoing 74:16 76:21 open 49:15 53:20 78:1 85:17 86:1 88:1 100:15 106:11 opening 2:4 operate 91:21 operating 28:1 57:14 58:4 61:6,9 61:14 62:6 72:8 73:21 74:16 77:1 operation 28:8 operations 23:14 opioid 22:21 27:10 27:12,16 29:5 35:12 opportunities 17:12 36:16 opportunity 21:1 91:11 optimistic 61:21 62:4 option 59:11 oral 15:17 order 7:4 34:17 58:19 59:2 ordinance 47:10 52:14 56:11 107:19 organization 32:13 organizations 4:7 5:3 ourself 46:20 outcome 110:12 outcomes 20:21 outlay 48:15 58:4 outlined 64:6</p>	<p>outside 51:12 overall 83:6 87:2 overnight 24:2,7,8 override 58:21 59:3 oversees 32:18 overview 22:4 47:4 77:15 owner 81:16,16 ownership 42:17 43:13 44:8 oxford 81:8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">p</p> <p>p 8:21 p.m. 1:7 33:18 77:12 96:7 107:16 108:1,2,6 109:4 pack 1:14 2:3,7 3:18 4:2 5:11,15 5:17,21 6:1,10 13:14,19 14:4,6 14:16 15:8 16:4 17:18 18:8,11 19:1 27:6 28:3,10 28:13 29:9,17 30:4,21 31:6,15 32:12,16 33:1,10 33:15 34:2,7 35:14 37:16 38:2 38:5,13 39:2,8,11 39:19 40:7,10,16 40:17 41:5,9 42:1 42:14 43:4,12 44:2,14 45:14,18 46:2,6,7,16,18 47:5,16 48:19 49:3,5,7 50:2,18 50:19,21 53:19 54:17 55:19,21 56:2,12,16 60:6 60:21 70:9 74:18 77:13 80:10,14 81:1,5 84:7 86:6 87:18,21 90:7,9</p>	<p>90:15,20 91:12,16 92:7,10,12 93:4,7 94:8 96:1,19 98:1 98:6,8,12,13 99:13,18,20 100:7 100:10,15,19 101:4,5 102:3,11 102:15,20 103:1,5 103:6 104:4,6,12 104:13 105:8,11 105:18,19 106:9 106:20 107:7 108:10,12,14,15 109:3 package 42:13 packet 22:6 page 20:18 83:1,2 pamela 88:9 paper 20:17 54:2 paramedic 66:6 parent 13:10 95:19 parents 13:8 17:3 part 26:6 38:13 52:12 57:12 58:11 65:9 73:20 75:6 93:19 97:11 105:4 participate 35:7 particular 25:4 61:3 85:4,16 105:15 parties 110:11,11 partner 27:2 partnered 34:20 partnering 29:13 partners 11:8 15:7 22:2 24:12 30:8 partnership 3:10 4:4,6,10 5:1 11:12 14:9 pass 102:5 passed 8:14 patrons 85:7</p>	<p>pay 13:7 43:10 62:10 79:6 84:1 payer 81:17 payers 59:13 paying 43:16,19 102:8 peer 25:20 26:1 28:14 peers 26:5 28:19 32:1 pencil 54:2 pending 32:7 penny 53:10,11 people 11:10 14:1 14:17 17:11 44:20 52:21 53:12 79:6 84:4 90:4 94:3 percent 7:2 12:5,7 55:9,11,14 62:20 63:20 65:11,15,16 65:18 66:9 67:12 67:17 68:5 69:17 69:18 70:3,7,8 79:19 97:9 perfunctory 105:2 period 24:1 68:17 person 34:14 78:12 81:12 82:1 89:12 personal 89:2 personally 110:3 personnel 73:16 107:11 108:5 pete 1:17 phase 27:8 42:5 64:19 77:18 philosophy 7:14 10:1,1 photo 79:14 photographs 79:4 photos 78:20 79:1 79:7 pick 46:18 96:6</p>
---	--	---	---

<p>pictorial 80:7,21 pictures 79:15 piece 63:17 place 9:20 42:15 44:12 89:5 91:2 110:4 plan 11:4 27:5 82:7 97:13,13 planning 13:9 27:8 94:11 97:4 plats 99:11 play 17:2 please 3:12 5:19 16:19 40:15 46:5 47:7 54:7 56:8 78:4,15 80:20,20 98:10 101:2 103:3 104:10 105:16 108:13 pleased 37:2 pledge 2:5,6 plus 63:2,8 82:5 point 66:13 68:10 96:9,11 police 25:1 population 18:17 18:18 36:3 37:3,3 porch 89:21 portion 43:10 51:3 96:4 106:17 position 11:20 65:9 94:19,20 positions 65:4 72:12,15,17 74:3 positive 20:21 25:18 possible 9:18 post 89:21 potential 74:21 poverty 9:8 powell 15:16 practice 13:11 prayer 2:4,6</p>	<p>pregnancy 9:17 prepared 96:9 presence 110:9 present 20:9 27:5 28:18 71:21 81:12 presentation 18:1 19:3 21:18 56:14 87:10 presented 82:1 preservation 71:6 76:13 president 42:1 86:12 88:17 93:13 press 30:15 pretty 9:7 38:3,5 prevention 37:6 previously 108:8 price 1:18 6:6,7 41:1,2 43:16 45:2 45:8,12,17,18 46:12,13 48:20 49:2,4,6 52:16,20 53:6,11,18 54:15 54:20 55:8,13,17 55:20 60:16 62:14 63:15 68:18 69:2 69:8 75:11,13,18 76:2 77:3,7 87:5 92:18 98:7,8,18 98:19 99:14,19 100:13 101:10,11 102:21 103:1,11 103:12 104:18,19 105:7,10,13 106:3 106:4 108:11,12 108:20,21 primarily 57:11 primary 18:17 28:9 35:4 prince 7:13 8:4,20 printed 110:6 prior 48:2,14 58:12</p>	<p>priorities 64:6 prioritization 97:19 prioritize 20:2 37:5 prioritizing 97:7 priority 20:11 30:11 72:19 73:3 private 5:4 probably 12:7 27:3 33:19 60:8 69:5 problem 34:1,6,10 84:3,4 proceed 49:14 proceedings 2:1 process 11:13 25:1 28:1 29:3 34:17 35:1 62:2,4 79:3 80:3,7 proclamation 3:9 4:3 5:12,18 15:1 program 25:13 36:1,2 88:21 92:2 93:17 105:4 programs 4:8,15 4:17 8:2,8 10:18 11:14 22:8 36:16 82:18 progress 25:18 project 15:21 26:16 32:8 64:21 97:8,10 99:12 projected 22:15 72:14 projects 57:3 promote 21:1 properties 51:11 52:2 84:3 property 42:7,11 43:3 44:13 51:10 51:14,17,21 52:4 52:7,12 58:17,18 58:21 59:5,18,20</p>	<p>60:4,9 81:16 proposed 51:9 52:17 57:2,11,20 58:7,21 60:1 66:10 71:12 77:11 81:15 84:20 85:5 85:11 91:20 proposes 59:3 proposing 51:9 60:19 prosper 17:12 prove 11:6 provide 7:15 13:7 38:15 59:8 provided 33:13 66:21 provider 19:15 providers 13:5 35:4,5 provides 66:7 67:9 67:11,12 provision 19:10 public 4:12,12 16:17 33:17 37:11 46:19 47:1 49:15 50:10 51:6 53:20 58:19 59:8,12,15 61:4,5,10 63:20 64:1,10,13 65:17 65:21,21 66:8,11 67:13,20 68:2,4 68:11 70:13 77:10 77:17 83:9 94:19 95:17 96:4,5,18 106:11 107:14,17 110:2,17 pull 10:17 pupil 66:16,20 67:3,6 purchase 45:6 48:16 76:12 103:20 purchases 48:15</p>
--	---	--	--

purple 35:11 66:18	reading 15:12 47:6 56:8	recreation 57:5	request 41:12 61:20 64:11 98:1 101:21 105:1
push 33:18	ready 2:15	recruiting 94:2	requested 31:19 72:17
put 14:17 17:10	real 23:16 29:2 33:16 51:9,13,16 51:20 52:4,7,12 59:5 107:11 108:5	recruitment 65:7	requesting 42:8 97:1 101:17
putting 30:15	realize 30:6	reductions 97:11	requests 58:4 76:5
q	really 16:12 17:11 17:13 20:12 28:20 30:1 31:21 33:6,7 39:3 63:1,5 69:12 70:20 79:8 84:16 84:16,21 85:12 86:3,3 88:8 90:5 93:20 94:2	referrals 35:6	require 102:3
quaker 94:13	reason 91:4	reflects 58:9	required 51:7 57:16 61:7 97:11 104:1
quality 11:14 35:5	reasons 20:2	refresh 85:14	requirement 68:14
quarter 47:14,21 48:3	reassured 89:9	regarding 99:3 105:2	reside 81:7
queen 19:12 29:14 67:1	receive 43:2,5,12 64:1 80:1	regardless 62:21	resident 81:15 85:3
question 52:16 54:15,18 67:18	received 3:1 42:15 44:4 52:1 58:3 87:1 101:16	regards 85:18	residential 81:16
questions 37:20 49:11	receives 67:15	region 20:19 21:21 26:18 28:2 35:2 36:15 37:9	residents 19:11
quick 33:16 36:14	receiving 9:6 102:7	regional 20:12 21:17 26:19 35:11	resource 28:2
quickly 34:11	recess 108:3	regular 64:9	resources 29:2
quite 33:3	recognition 3:10 3:16 4:4,5	regulations 9:5	respite 32:6
quote 80:16	recognize 4:8,21 27:1	reimbursed 42:11	respond 32:1
quotes 88:20	recognized 30:19	reimbursement 41:15 42:4 43:9	responders 83:18
r	reconnect 105:4	related 110:11	response 22:19 23:15,16 27:12,16 28:15 29:5 32:19 75:8
r 91:14	reconvene 107:15 108:4,6	relationship 35:3	responses 24:11
race 70:13	reconvening 107:10	relationships 9:19	rest 78:2
rainy 71:10	record 39:21 40:2 78:9	relaxed 89:8	restricting 83:8
raise 55:2	recorded 110:6	release 30:16	results 11:5 61:9
ran 100:13	recovery 26:4 32:5	relocate 45:6	retaining 73:2
ranked 83:17		relocation 75:7	retention 65:8 72:19 94:2
rapid 27:12		remain 48:6	retirement 73:6 73:10
rate 51:10,14,14 51:15,20,20 52:6 52:12,21 54:21 55:2,6 59:5,21 60:1,4,18		remained 38:3	return 81:20
rates 52:4,7,9,11 58:17 59:18,21 83:20		remaining 43:8	revealed 25:9
ray 101:15		remark 49:11	revenue 59:1 77:1
reach 9:16		remarkable 79:17	revenues 47:12 51:17 52:1 55:4 57:5,15 58:12 59:14 66:11
read 3:19 5:13 39:16,20 106:16		remarks 80:16 81:11,14	
readiness 6:20 7:2 7:3 8:16 10:16		remembering 80:19	
		rent 43:17,19	
		replacement 76:9	
		replicating 8:18	
		report 64:7 96:16	
		reported 1:20	
		represents 18:18	

<p>review 2:18 22:11 23:5 33:12 107:14 reviewed 61:20 reza 86:10 87:18 right 12:6 24:4 30:4 31:6 49:8 50:2,6,8 54:11 55:18 63:15 72:16 77:4,13 79:11 90:11 91:15 95:12 102:15 107:6 risher 41:21 42:21 43:7,14,20 44:10 45:11 46:3,17 road 84:14 88:10 93:11 94:13 roads 76:5 83:18 roadside 97:6 roll 5:20 40:15 46:5 98:11 101:3 103:4 104:11 105:17 108:13 rolled 24:6 30:14 31:1 rolling 99:20 room 50:3 96:20 rotary 87:9 row 50:4 54:9,10 54:10,10 88:4,4,5 90:10,12,12,12 94:9 rules 50:5,6 running 38:20 91:9 92:6</p>	<p>salary 65:5 sanitary 57:8 save 80:20 107:8 saved 79:14 savings 48:9 58:13 71:9,20 saying 89:3 106:20 says 39:16 88:6 scale 31:9 65:5 scanned 79:8 scanning 79:4,7 schedule 92:16 scheduled 33:17 52:14 scholarship 26:10 scholarships 26:1 school 7:2,3,7,8 8:16 9:11,12 10:16 12:6,11,12 12:19 14:14 16:17 17:1 22:2 25:4,17 58:20 59:9 61:10 62:11,12 64:5,13 64:18,20 65:18 66:11,17 67:5,6,8 67:10,13,13 68:2 68:11 69:1,7,20 70:13 74:8 81:13 82:5,15 83:9,17 93:10 96:8,14 107:17 108:7 school's 59:16 61:4,5 64:10 schools 9:4 13:17 21:20 59:12 63:20 64:1 67:20 68:4 82:19 83:11 94:19 95:17 scope 39:21 40:2 scores 8:16 82:18 scott 16:4 seal 5:8 110:13</p>	<p>seat 3:18 18:6 second 5:16 40:9 45:20 46:1 49:18 50:4 54:10 67:9 67:16 77:10 88:4 90:12 98:7,8 100:18 104:5 105:1,9 108:11 seconded 5:17 40:10 46:2 100:20 102:21 103:1 104:6 105:13 108:12 secretary 3:19 4:3 5:11,19,21 6:2,4,6 6:8 39:15 40:3,15 40:16,18,20 41:1 41:3 46:5,6,8,10 46:12,14 47:5,8 47:16 50:17 56:7 56:9,21 83:3 98:10,12,14,16,18 98:20 101:2,4,6,8 101:10,12 103:3,5 103:7,9,11,13 104:10,12,14,16 104:18,20 105:16 105:18,20 106:1,3 106:5 108:13,14 108:16,18,20 109:1 section 20:18 secure 23:8 secured 29:11 sediment 97:10 see 10:12 16:7 17:19 20:15 22:1 35:16 37:2,13 41:7,20 44:2 63:13 66:18 67:9 71:17 87:20 89:4 90:17 seeing 87:18 90:5</p>	<p>seek 42:4,12 seeking 43:8 45:16 seen 28:18 68:4 seized 101:19 semester 87:1 senior 91:3,7 92:2 92:14 sent 25:5 61:16 separate 53:16 september 110:20 serve 19:4,21 101:18 served 38:3 serves 23:17 service 5:3 15:14 19:5 38:12,15 40:3 62:8,8,11 66:7 68:12,14,21 69:7 74:7 76:20 85:1 89:1 services 4:9,16,17 7:16 8:10 9:6,7 10:7,19,20 19:11 26:7 36:2 38:11 57:19 58:16 66:4 66:5,6,14 73:19 89:16 serving 37:12,18 session 64:3 107:10 108:1,4 set 30:7 51:20 52:4 56:13 79:6 99:12 110:4 sets 103:20 seven 23:10 27:21 77:12 96:7,10,13 107:16 108:6 sewer 99:3,7,10 100:14 share 34:11 62:12 67:19 69:6 shared 83:4 sheet 77:19</p>
s			
<p>safe 28:3,5,10 29:12,15,19 30:17 31:1 32:5 33:4 80:5 safely 60:7 safest 83:18 safety 42:3 65:21 65:21 66:8</p>			

<p>sheltering 36:14 sheriff 43:17 72:13 101:16 102:1 sheriff's 45:3 65:6 66:1 72:11,18 73:4 75:1 93:16 shoge 44:3 shore 18:1,3,13 19:9 22:19 23:14 23:18,21 24:4 25:15 28:7 29:13 29:16 30:7,20 34:12 35:11,21 40:12 73:8 79:5 short 45:13 show 59:20 showing 21:4 70:18 79:14 shown 59:21 shows 59:6,18 65:14 66:11,16 67:7,14 68:8 69:9 side 50:2 65:2,3 sign 40:5,8 77:19 77:21 signature 110:15 signed 49:17 significance 4:17 significant 29:11 36:12 68:6 73:14 86:13 87:4 significantly 70:19 similar 71:14 simply 104:1 single 101:18 sir 41:10 43:15 site 12:19 13:8 32:7 93:2 sitting 10:6 69:3 situation 24:13 87:7</p>	<p>six 78:19 108:1 skills 6:20 7:3 10:16 13:12 slack 93:20 slanted 81:11 slide 56:13,20 59:18 60:6 61:2,3 62:15 72:8 slight 58:9 slightly 55:6 snapshot 22:7 soar 34:13 social 8:10 10:14 10:19 society 5:7 78:18 solutions 36:7 somewhat 70:20 soon 9:17 43:1,12 sooner 93:18 sorry 16:6,7 sort 22:1,4 23:2 29:19 32:6,9 sorts 29:19 sound 82:13 sounds 13:14 space 17:6 45:7 speak 3:4 44:8 84:15,21 88:7,21 96:9 107:4 speaking 54:6,7,8 78:6,7 84:13 94:12 speaks 87:3 spearheaded 20:11 special 27:4 57:5 86:20 specialist 15:13 26:1 34:14 specific 5:6 35:1 61:15 spectacular 79:8 spectrum 66:19 69:10,11,16</p>	<p>spend 72:3 spent 33:3 sporting 21:13 spot 28:9 spread 5:4 20:18 st 16:11 85:20 92:15 103:17 104:8 stability 71:6 stable 12:15 34:19 38:5 staff 25:10 31:21 73:2 75:13,14,16 82:6 87:14 staffing 72:20 75:20 staggering 74:20 stand 49:8 50:19 standardized 35:3 star 20:16 82:9 start 16:10 19:6 43:16,19 44:5 50:2 78:12 88:3 96:17 started 11:20 24:17 28:7 starting 23:19 24:6 71:18 state 6:18 7:1,3 8:17 9:3 10:12 27:16 29:5 35:19 36:6 37:2 45:20 51:7 58:18 59:1 59:19 60:5 61:16 63:7 64:2,3,8,9,12 67:11,14,16,20 70:12 79:2 83:3 83:16,20 87:6 110:1,2 state's 73:15 statement 19:6,17 107:12 station 28:4,6,10 29:19 31:1 32:5</p>	<p>73:19 75:5,7,17 stations 29:12,15 30:17 33:4 75:13 75:14 79:6,9 statistic 37:13 stay 56:3 stayed 70:20 staying 56:1 steamed 79:11 stenographic 110:6 stenographically 110:6 steny 7:11 step 24:4 65:10 steps 16:1 stipulations 110:8 strange 82:13 stream 77:2 street 78:14 81:8 strong 82:15,19 82:19 87:8 strongest 83:19 struck 82:10 structure 38:12 student 25:11 students 69:13,13 70:6 87:15 stuff 99:21 submission 45:19 submit 41:12 42:13 submittal 98:2 submitted 61:19 subsequent 25:12 substantial 23:3 39:10 substantially 22:13 38:10 success 8:12 30:9 82:7 successful 7:5,7 62:3</p>
--	---	---	---

<p>suicide 35:8 summer 17:1 sunday 20:17 82:9 89:2 super 99:18 supervisor 7:13 supplement 52:18 53:15 59:7 60:3 supplementary 47:15 support 7:21 8:1 10:11 22:2 24:10 25:10,21 26:1,5,9 27:10 28:15,21 29:6 30:1 31:20 33:9 37:8 68:6 80:1 82:6 86:17 87:12 91:2 92:21 94:6 101:20 103:16 104:1,3,8 105:3 supported 24:2 32:3 79:18 supporter 15:10 16:16 supporting 4:15 8:1 18:19 25:20 27:14 67:19 supportive 29:1 supports 19:15 36:21 sure 14:3 15:8 17:8 19:1 28:17 29:20 31:9 34:1,6 44:3,14 48:10 82:14 91:10 94:11 surprised 18:8 survey 99:10 susan 16:13 81:2,6 84:7 sustainability 72:1 swing 54:11 90:11</p>	<p>system 19:18,19 20:21 22:2,19 23:16 25:4 26:20 58:20 59:9 61:10 64:5,14 65:18 66:17 67:6,8,10 67:13 68:2,12 73:12 76:10 81:13 82:5,11 83:5,8,9 83:17 92:7,8 99:6 systems 25:17 26:14 67:5 69:20 82:16</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">t</p> <hr/> <p>t 91:14 table 54:3 78:4 tabled 100:1 tailor 31:13 take 12:20 48:9 89:5 102:2 taken 58:14 takes 42:15 talbot 1:1 3:15 4:3 4:5,6,9,21,21 5:9 12:4 14:8,19 16:17,20 17:8 18:18 19:5,12 23:17 28:10 30:19 31:2,9 35:11 40:3 41:16 42:11,18 57:3,6,9 58:20 59:8,12,15,21 61:1,3,5 63:19,21 64:10,13 65:17 66:18,19 67:4,9 67:12,15,19 68:4 78:17 81:10,19 88:12,18 93:13 94:14,18 95:16 97:12 101:19 102:17 110:3 talk 23:1 34:3 talked 38:18</p>	<p>talking 33:4 83:3 tap 14:18 taped 89:20 targeting 97:20 task 35:12 101:19 102:10,18 tax 51:10,14,17,21 52:3,4,6,7,11,12 58:17,18 59:1,3,5 59:13,18,20 60:4 60:9 81:17 82:20 89:5 taxes 57:18 83:16 taylor 15:21 teachers 25:10 team 32:10,20 44:12 teams 23:9,13 24:8,9 technical 56:19 97:4 tell 79:16 83:21 ten 103:20 tenants 44:6 45:12 tend 10:12,15 tens 72:21,21 term 45:13 65:1 83:14 terminology 63:4 63:16 terms 30:13 86:18 test 82:18 thank 2:7 3:8,15 4:2 5:11 6:12 14:21 17:13,14,15 17:17 18:21 35:13 35:14 41:5,21 46:16,17 47:16 48:19 53:19 55:21 56:17 69:8 76:2 77:14 78:16 80:21 81:1,4 84:6,7 85:4 86:3,5,6,9,16 87:11,17,18 88:11</p>	<p>88:13 90:7,8 91:1 91:5,18,19,19,19 92:1,19 93:2,4,6 93:14 94:4,7,8,10 95:21 96:1 101:14 101:14 103:15 104:4 106:7 109:3 thanks 2:8 17:16 17:18 41:6 86:20 92:12 theater 21:3 theirs 60:14 thing 23:6 30:21 35:18 62:14 85:10 89:9 95:1,2 things 11:17 12:13 12:16 29:20 31:16 31:17 34:18 38:19 40:13 43:17 44:9 48:13 72:7 80:5 89:15,19 think 7:1 12:4 16:18 31:12 39:3 43:21 53:10,11 81:7 87:3 89:19 90:1 92:15,18 95:7,12 100:5 third 26:8 50:4 54:10 67:14 81:8 88:4 89:16 90:12 thought 80:10 thousand 79:16 thousands 72:21 three 10:15 11:10 24:7,8 54:5 67:5 78:6 94:15,16 95:4 thursday 21:2 tied 23:13 tight 37:14 tilghman 35:12 time 7:12 12:1 21:17 24:1 33:4 37:14 38:18 42:3</p>
--	--	--	---

48:9,21 59:11 65:4,9,13 68:16 69:2 73:1 75:2,8 77:21 96:9 107:3 110:4 timer 49:21 times 24:11 44:15 89:18 title 9:4,11 39:19 47:7 56:8 today 3:17 9:2 21:13 52:11 82:1 86:10 91:4 105:10 today's 5:7 toddlers 17:4 tonight 2:15 50:12 96:14 107:1,8 top 29:16 75:15 89:21 total 43:4 48:6 61:9 64:12,20 67:2 totals 57:21 touch 89:4 touched 27:9 towns 51:12 52:3 52:8,9 train 79:12 trained 83:18 training 25:14 92:4 trains 79:10 transcribed 110:6 transcript 2:1 transcription 110:7 transfer 35:6 transfers 47:14 transition 29:1 transitional 36:21 transportation 32:4 89:12 treatment 32:7	true 73:4 110:7 trustee 86:10 try 25:16 48:9 trying 16:9,12 60:11,18 94:3 tuesday 107:21 tune 36:12 turn 47:17 51:4 84:1 turner 15:21 16:7 16:9,12 84:8,9,10 turnout 103:21 two 10:13 24:8 27:12 33:17,18 55:9 58:17 62:19 71:19 74:14 75:13 75:14 79:20,21 103:16 108:2 typically 17:3	useless 79:2 usually 9:8 utility 99:4 utilization 37:11 v valuable 36:17 valuation 51:11 value 80:18 vanhooser 44:2,10 variation 60:13 virginia 24:17 vision 19:7,17 visit 14:12 92:14 volunteer 66:2 89:4,7 volunteers 89:17 vote 2:15 50:12 51:1 56:5 voter 58:21 voyagers 26:3	way 39:18,19 41:10 44:1 47:6 94:1,6 110:11 we've 11:21 21:17 22:6,9 23:11 25:17 26:9 27:20 29:7 33:13 34:20 35:20 37:10 44:10 48:14 69:17 70:7 79:14 91:8 97:16 102:9 wear 21:9 web 14:8 website 13:21 week 11:9 20:8,10 23:10 82:10 83:2 week's 20:16,17 21:18 weekend 107:7 weeks 79:21 weigh 78:2 welcome 21:7 41:6 92:13 93:4 wellness 26:4 went 27:16 48:21 95:18 west 24:17 whatnot 97:19 whichever 55:9 whitsitt 27:15,18 28:8 29:8 wicomico 29:15 wife 7:11 wildlife 97:3,17 98:4 willing 83:21 windmill 88:10 wip 97:13 wiring 90:3 wisely 10:5 wish 49:11 107:2 wishes 106:13,17 witness 110:13
	u	w	
	uh 50:1 55:20 umbrella 13:16 unanimous 2:12 2:21 3:7 unanticipated 47:11 underserved 105:6 understand 10:6 43:14 53:12 87:6 87:7 understanding 23:2 43:1 understood 7:17 unfolded 29:3 unheard 9:7 unincorporated 51:18 unstable 97:7 urban 36:5 usda 103:20 105:5 use 10:5 13:4 17:5 26:2 59:6 82:15 89:21	w 1:14 wage 74:10 waging 82:12 wait 96:19 106:14 107:1 walks 35:8 want 13:21 15:5 22:12 54:3 56:16 62:16 66:13 68:10 85:4 86:16,19 87:11 89:15 91:16 94:10 100:2 106:21 107:4 wanted 23:6 85:10 91:10 wanting 7:15 war 82:12 warm 35:1 washington 78:13 wastewater 99:5 watershed 97:5,12	

wonderful 4:1 29:8 84:21 92:5	80:2 86:19 88:14 88:19 93:1 95:20
worcester 29:14 60:5 67:11	100:5,12
word 80:1 95:7	years 22:10 27:13 29:4 48:14 59:17
words 79:16	60:12 67:21 68:3
work 4:8 12:16 13:6 17:10 27:1 32:11 77:20 79:6 102:17	68:7,14 70:2,4 71:17,19 76:8,17 77:4 78:19 79:19 79:20 93:12
worked 8:17	yesterday 32:14
workforce 25:20 26:2 74:5 83:5,9	yield 50:13 51:3,6 51:15,19 52:8,21
working 8:2 10:4 11:12 13:1,16 23:11 24:15 25:15 26:12,17 94:2	53:7,13,21 54:10 54:12 55:3 56:4
works 15:18 96:18	ymca 92:14
world 19:17	young 4:13,18 5:5 6:20 9:8 10:2,4 11:16 12:21 25:3
worry 89:11	yous 92:19
worth 79:16 80:19	youth 21:6 37:1 83:6 93:17
write 11:19	yup 75:18
y	
y 17:5 89:6	
yeah 38:4 39:5 45:14 49:4 56:2 56:21 63:11 69:5 70:14 77:6,8,8	
year 5:9 11:18 17:1 20:12 22:6 22:11,12 23:5,8 23:12 26:3,8,11 26:13 27:4 31:2 34:12 36:6,11,20 37:7,12 47:20 48:1,8,13,17 52:1 55:12 57:2 58:1 58:12 60:13,13 62:3,5,20 63:12 63:21 66:12,20 68:16,18,21 69:2 70:21,21 73:6,16 74:7,14,16,17 76:6,6,9,17 77:7	