

CALVERT COUNTY MARYLAND

**PROGRESS
REPORT
2016**



2014-2018
Board of County
Commissioners



This progress report marks the halfway point of this Board of County Commissioners' term that coincides with challenging times for local government. Despite the obstacles, we made significant advancements and look forward to brighter horizons.

We achieved several goals over the past two years with strong support from the community and county staff. Our budget process is more open to public input and scrutiny. New initiatives are in place to spur economic growth. We maintained county services and supported our stellar public education system in the face of severe budget constraints.

The next two years promise to be an exciting time for Calvert County. We appreciate your engagement with the important issues facing county government and encourage your participation as we work in service for this place we call home.

Calvert County Board of County Commissioners

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Tom Hejl, Vice President

Mike Hart

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Steven R. Weems

December 2016

Calvert County Board of County Commissioners

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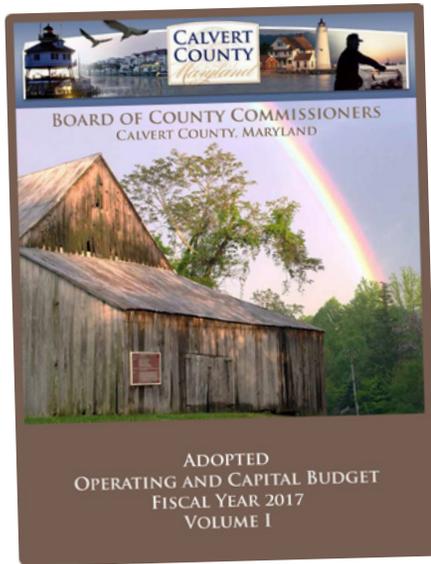
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FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Fiscal responsibility and transparency are top priorities for the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Since taking office in 2014, we have continued to steer the county through a tough fiscal stretch marked by a growing budget deficit, new obligations imposed by the state for several years and a slow recovery from a prolonged recession.

To meet these challenges, we cut operating budgets, postponed needed purchases, reduced staff through attrition and held the line on hiring new employees through a soft hiring freeze. In 2016, we also implemented a new service-based budget to help us scrutinize our spending and create additional transparency. This budget provides citizens with additional details on the dollars spent for all county services and functions.

Statewide, counties also absorbed a 90 percent cut in state highway user revenues which, for Calvert County, was and continues to be a loss of approximately \$5.2 million annually. Additionally, there has been a phased-in shift of school system employee retirement benefit costs from the state to the counties which will reach



 The full Fiscal Year 2017 budget document is available online at www.co.cal.md.us/Budget.

approximately \$5.3 million dollars for Calvert County in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017.



In 2016 Calvert County earned **AAA ratings** from all three major rating agencies for the first time in county history.

While we were able to present a balanced budget each year, the \$246.8 million FY 2017 budget was an increase of \$7.9 million over FY 2016. This increase is composed of:

- Approximately \$2 million in additional funding for paving in order to maintain our roads in good condition;
- \$1.5 million to replace aging vehicles and equipment that had been deferred during the height of the recession;
- \$1.2 million for a pay increase for employees;
- \$1 million for snow removal; and,
- \$2.5 million to cover increased costs of pensions and insurance.

Fulfilling our commitment to maintain our infrastructure and the high-quality services Calvert County citizens deserve, we enacted modest increases to our local property and income tax rates to address an \$8.9 million deficit.

The local income tax rate increased from 2.8 percent to 3 percent, marking the first income tax rate increase in 13 years. The new 3 percent rate places Calvert County near the state average and in line regionally with Charles and St. Mary's counties. The property tax increase takes the rate from \$.892 to \$.952 per one hundred dollars of assessed value. Real property taxes have not been raised in Calvert County for 29 years, or since 1987. Under the new rate, Calvert County's real property taxes are the ninth lowest among Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City. Real property tax is the largest revenue source in the FY 2017 budget posing a \$7.8 million increase over FY 2016.

 **COUNTY FINANCES**
FISCAL YEAR 2017

 **\$246.8 MILLION**
GENERAL FUND BUDGET

GENERAL FUND REVENUE
59.5% REAL PROPERTY TAXES
32.4% INCOME TAXES

 **\$121.2 MILLION**
PUBLIC EDUCATION ALLOCATION
49.1% OF GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



A NATIONAL EXAMPLE OF EXCELLENCE

Department of Finance & Budget Grants Coordinator **Rachel Griffith** tracked expenses incurred as a result of Winter Storm Jonas in January 2016. The reimbursement package she prepared for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was lauded by the agency as the best they had seen and highlighted as an example of “best practices” for other jurisdictions around the country to follow. Thanks to Rachel, Calvert County received \$330,000 in federal monies, the maximum reimbursement possible.

Strong Educational Partnership

Almost half of the FY 2017 budget funds the operation of our public school system. We continue to foster a strong partnership with the Board of Education (BOE) for the good of our children, our community and effective financial planning. The current budget allocates \$109.4 million state-required “maintenance of effort” funding along with \$5.3

million for pensions and \$6.5 million to cover the principal and interest on the debt incurred to build new schools. Public education is allocated \$121.2 million or 49.1 percent of your tax dollars.

In fact, our single largest Capital Improvement Project investment in 2017 will be \$15.8 million to begin the \$82 million replacement of Northern High School—a project that is being funded equally by Calvert County and the state of Maryland. The new multi-story modern facility will provide state-of-the-art equipment and accommodations for more than 1,400 students.

In addition, Calvert County contributed \$4.5 million in both FY 2016 and FY 2017 for College of Southern Maryland operations, representing 1.84 percent of the 2017 General Fund.

ACHIEVEMENTS

✓ The Calvert County Department of Finance & Budget received the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** for the 16th year from the Government Finance Officers Association in 2016.

Conservative Management Practices

The county’s sound financial approach helped earn top bond ratings from three independent credit ratings agencies -- Fitch Ratings, Standard & Poor’s Rating Services and Moody’s Investors Services. All three agencies gave Calvert County AAA ratings in July 2016, the first time in the county’s history that it has received top ratings from all agencies.

The bond ratings reflect the county’s financial strength, much like credit scores rank borrowers. Better bond ratings lead to lower interest rates on the bonds counties use to finance projects such as schools, roads and other capital improvements. The high ratings save Calvert County’s citizens millions of dollars in interest payments.



The Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator Terry Shannon celebrated the start of the 2016-2017 school year with Superintendent Daniel D. Curry.

PUBLIC SAFETY
2015

35,366
TOTAL EMERGENCY CALLS

6 SECONDS
AVERAGE ANSWER TIME

11,503
FIRE/EMS INCIDENTS

PUBLIC SAFETY

Calvert County is one of the safest counties in the state, proving that the collaborative effort of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, the Calvert County Department of Public Safety and our communities remains strong. Our violent crime rate in the calendar year 2013 was the lowest since 1976 and it remained low through the 2015 reporting period.

Since this board took office, public safety funding has steadily increased, with \$30.9 million allocated in FY 2017.



County staff participates in the CALVEX nuclear response drill.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Following a \$21.4 million contract award to Motorola Solutions Inc. in early 2016, work is underway to provide the Calvert County Sheriff's Office and the fire departments and rescue squads with a new **800 megahertz digital communications system**. The 1,100 new mobile radios will replace the county's 20-year-old system and enable first responders to better communicate with other county, state and federal agencies when a multi-jurisdictional response is required. The new system will replace five existing towers and add radio technology in five additional locations.

Funded by a \$350,000 Homeland Security Grant and a \$125,000 Hazard Mitigation Grant, the county completed construction of a **backup Emergency**

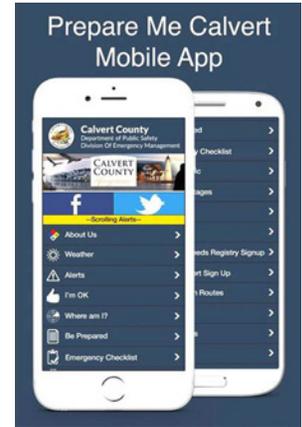


More than **550 volunteers** provide county **fire/rescue/EMS services**.

Operations Center (EOC) for Public Safety to provide an alternative facility should the primary EOC become unavailable.

The Emergency Management Division led the county's successful participation in a **multi-jurisdictional drill** that tested the region's response to the unlikely event of an emergency at Exelon's Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant. The CALVEX drill is executed every two years in conjunction with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, the FBI, St. Mary's and Dorchester counties' officials and state and local law enforcement agencies.

Calvert County's **fire/rescue/emergency medical services (EMS)** remain the last 100-percent volunteer system in Maryland with more than 550 active volunteers providing 24-hour-a-day service. A new EMS specialist position was added in late 2014 to coordinate the county's EMS activities and to serve as liaison with various state and local organizations. Important improvements were made to our volunteers' Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP), reducing minimum qualification and increasing benefit amounts for additional years of service. We continue to work closely with Calvert County Public Schools to strengthen the volunteer ranks by expanding the Career and Technology Academy's fire/rescue/EMS recruit program. In 2016, the program enrolled a record 22 recruits.



The Prepare Me Calvert mobile application puts local emergency information within easy reach.



AUTOMATION INNOVATION

Calvert County Department of Technology Services staffers **Aimee O'Connor**, **Erick Pate** and **Lionell Sewell**, along with **Kirsti Uunila** of the Department of Community Planning and Building, created a system to efficiently capture information about structures and landscapes for the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties. The work was previously written and sketched by hand. The team developed a smartphone/tablet application to collect geolocation information, attach site photos and produce printable forms for submittal to the Maryland Historical Trust.

✓ We funded nearly \$2.2 million for new fire/rescue/EMS apparatus in FY 2016 and budgeted for additional \$3.6 million in new apparatus in FY 2017.

✓ A new safety and risk management program position was created to focus on employee occupational and personal safety. By establishing this position, Calvert County Government saved \$54,000 in insurance premiums.

✓ The Prepare Me Calvert mobile app was launched Sept. 1, 2015. It puts critical, real-time information at users' fingertips in the event of a regional emergency and helps residents and families stay prepared and in touch. The app is available for iOS (Apple) and Android devices for free.

✓ A public safety field reporting software application was added to the Sheriff's Office laptops in 2015 allowing deputies to write and file their field reports from their cruisers.

✓ A county-wide universal security camera system was installed in government buildings and along various roadways. The county Emergency Management Division utilizes the cameras to monitor traffic flow and check on road infrastructure during severe weather.

✓ In an effort to keep prescription drugs out of our landfills or from getting into the wrong hands, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with the Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse (CAASA), provides a drop box for citizens to discard old and unused prescriptions at its Prince Frederick



In an effort to improve safety in school zones, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a new ordinance in 2015 establishing the Calvert County Safety for Students Program. Automated mobile speed cameras at six school locations will help local law enforcement keep our students safe, traffic calm and address dangerous speeding. The cameras are located near Huntingtown, Mt. Harmony and Windy Hill elementary schools; Northern, Windy Hill and Mill Creek middle schools; and Northern and Patuxent high schools.

headquarters around the clock. Each year, citizens turn in more prescriptions:

- 2014: 734 pounds
- 2015: 806 pounds
- 2016: 1,516 pounds

✓ CAASA continues to award \$3,500 in mini-grants raised from fundraisers to educate our youth on the dangers of substance abuse. Grant recipients include non-profit organizations and school-sponsored programs that touch every Calvert County student.



A county partnership helped residents safely dispose of more than 3,000 pounds of unused medications in less than three years.

FOSTERING COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

We are committed to providing a wide range of public programs through collaborative local and state partnerships to meet every resident's needs. Sometimes those needs are heartbreaking, as when deplorable living conditions at the Hallowing Point Trailer Park came to light in January 2014. The Department of Community Resources played an integral part in mobilizing multiple government and community organizations to secure emergency shelter, food, health care and housing assistance for the families impacted.



PARKS AND RECREATION
2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR

SERVED MORE THAN

22,300
RESIDENTS



OFFERED NEARLY
2,500
PROGRAMS

In addition, we strive to promote individual well-being, stronger families and communities by funding recreational opportunities for residents of all ages, incomes and abilities.



Chesapeake Hills Golf Course now features a course for the popular sport of FootGolf.

our residents reserved community center, golf course and pool community spaces more than 4,000 times for their civic meetings and parties.

Services for All Ages

✓ The last of the 21 million baby boomers turned 50 at the end of 2014 and the demand on services was felt everywhere, including Calvert County. The county's three senior centers **expanded fitness programs** at each of their fitness centers which served 773 residents in 2015 and 921 residents in 2016.

✓ An expansion of the **Southern Pines Senior Center dining room** was completed with funding through a \$131,000 block grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and \$40,000 from Calvert County.

✓ A new **aging services case manager** position for the Office on Aging was created in 2016. This position will be responsible for oversight of court-appointed guardianship residents.

✓ In the 2015-2016 school year the **Division of Parks and Recreation** offered nearly 2,500 programs—an increase of 600 programs over the last six years—to serve more than 22,300 citizens who registered. In the same time period, open gyms, area special events and drop-in programs were utilized by more than 32,000 residents and



A new playground is one of several improvements made at Hallowing Point Park.

✓ The construction of a practice **ball field at Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park** brought the total number of county ball fields, including those maintained at our schools, to 67.

✓ A new **playground** was built at the Hallowing Point Park and upgrades were made to parking lot and entrance lights to improve pedestrian safety at night.

✓ A **FootGolf course** opened at the Chesapeake Hills Golf Course in May 2016. This new course consists of 18 American FootGolf League certified holes, with two sets of tees to match any skill level. The \$3,625 investment was recouped within four months.

Keeping You Connected

✓ Commuters got a welcome holiday gift late December 2014 when the new **Dunkirk Park and Ride commuter lot** opened behind the Dunkirk Medical Center at 10839 Town Center Blvd. With 500 parking spaces, the new lot doubled the parking spaces available to county commuters.



The commissioners celebrated the opening of the Dunkirk Park and Ride lot.



EQUAL RIGHTS CRUSADER

Harriet Elizabeth Brown was a Calvert County resident and teacher who won a lawsuit in 1937 demanding that all teachers, regardless of race, color or where they taught, receive the same compensation for the same work. To honor her courageous and landmark legal battle, the Board of County Commissioners named a new Prince Frederick community center after her. The county purchased the building on Dares Beach Road in 2015 and dedicated it as the Harriet E. Brown Community Center the following March.

- ✓ Three **electric car charging stations** were opened in the county in the last two years at the following locations: Dunkirk Park and Ride, behind the Community Resources Building in Prince Frederick and at the Calvert Library Southern Branch in Solomons.



SHE'S A NATURAL

Calvert County Natural Resources Division Naturalist **Tania Gale** has a passion for sharing Calvert County's natural and cultural history with visitors. Her dedication earned her the 2016 Robert Finton Outdoor Educator of the Year Award from the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education.

Working for You

- ✓ The county secured a \$95,000 grant from the Maryland Energy Administration in May 2016 to **reduce energy consumption** and utilize renewable energy sources. The funding also supports a comprehensive energy audit currently underway in all county buildings with a goal of reducing energy consumption by 15 percent. The grant money will also be used to retrofit the lighting at the Calvert County Detention Center.

- ✓ In addition, **renovations** were completed to the south wing of the Circuit Courthouse including:

- The addition of a first-floor court room
- A new circuit court judges' chambers
- New court support offices
- An expanded law library
- Lobby/waiting area, jury room and holding cell renovations
- New restroom



A county-wide energy audit will help reduce energy use at county facilities by 15 percent.

County's rural character. Part of the \$5 million is a \$1.8 million Maryland Rural Legacy grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Land Management

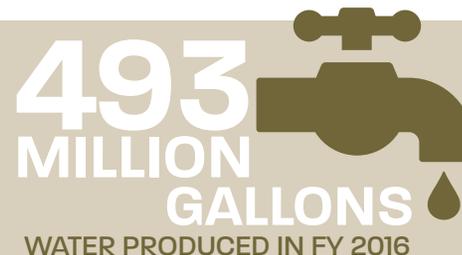
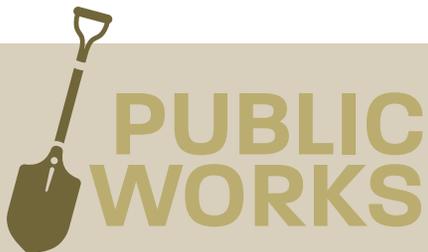
- ✓ The Department of Community Planning and Building (CPB) developed three area **flood mitigation plans** (Cove Point, Broomes Island and Breezy Point/Neeld Estate) with two grants from CoastSmart, a federal program administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

- ✓ Through CoastSmart, county staff obtained acceptance into the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) **Community Rating System program**, lowering Calvert County homeowner insurance premiums by 10 percent for countywide savings of \$37,700.

- ✓ CPB received a \$75,000 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to design and complete three **storm water retrofit projects** in the Hall Creek watershed helping with runoff in the Cavalier and Arbor Green neighborhoods. These efforts are part of the Watershed Implementation Plan aimed at reducing nitrogen, phosphorous and sediments entering the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

BALANCING GROWTH AND RURAL CHARACTER

The Calvert County Government Fiscal Year 2017 budget provides more than \$5 million for land preservation, reinforcing our commitment to maintain Calvert



Roadway Improvements

Proper maintenance of Calvert County's roadways is vital to our quality of life and safety. In 2016, the Highway Maintenance Division staff headed out the door to execute tree trimming, drain repairs, pothole repairs or road sign replacements, on average, 550 times each month – an increase over the division's 389 monthly job tickets in 2015.

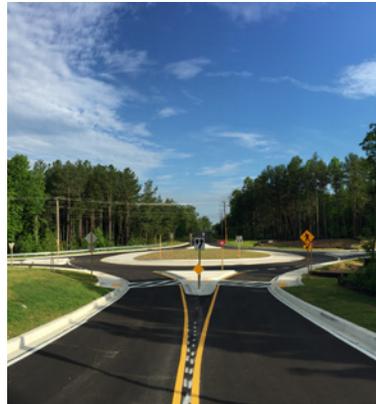
Other large road projects include:

✓ **Dowell Road:** Phase 1 of a three-part road widening project is complete. Upgrades include enhancing motorist, bicyclist and pedestrian safety by creating a two-way center lane from H.G. Trueman Road to Annmarie Garden; widening lanes to accommodate bike riders using the "share the road" concept; new sidewalks for enhanced pedestrian safety; and improving drainage with new curbs, gutters and storm water management facilities.

✓ **Armory Road roundabout:** This \$4.4 million road improvement project was completed in 2015 to move traffic more efficiently.

✓ **Town Square Drive:** This \$20,000 median improvement project in the Lusby Town Center improved aesthetics with brick landscaping.

✓ **Williams Road:** The widening, roundabout and traffic signal installation on Williams Road at the College of Southern Maryland was a \$2.2 million improvement project to facilitate increased traffic to the College



The Williams Road roundabout in Prince Frederick.

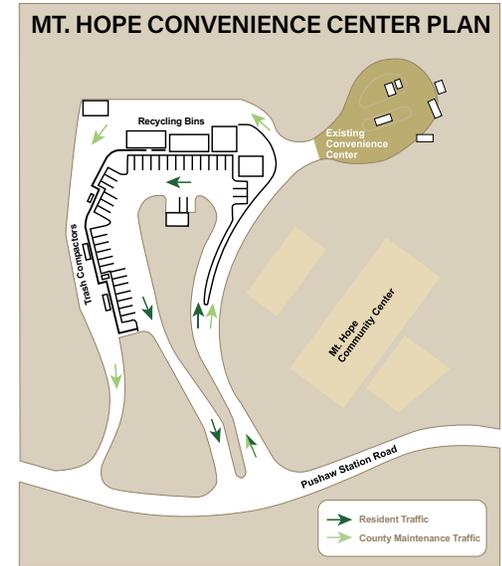
of Southern Maryland Prince Frederick Campus, the College Station subdivision and the Bartow Elementary School.

✓ **Karylbrook Dam:** The three-month, \$275,000 improvement project to address deterioration and aging issues surrounding the Lake Karylbrook Dam in Chesapeake Beach began in fall of 2016. Work includes clearing trees on the dam slope embankments, slip-lining the existing spillway and pond riser pipe and construction of stone channels.

Solid Waste and Recycling

✓ The new Mt. Hope Convenience Center is expected to be completed by January 2017. The new two-level layout allows cars to move through the center in a continuous loop on the upper level while solid waste and recycling staff manage and move the refuse containers on the lower level to allow for continuous operations of the center. The \$2.4 million improvement will be the model used for a future Appeal Convenience Center improvement project.

✓ Effective Aug. 2, 2015, the Appeal Convenience Center **expanded its Sunday hours** and is now open at 10 a.m., instead of noon, and remains open until 7 p.m.



Mt. Hope Convenience Center improvements include new traffic patterns for greater efficiency.



BATTLING THE BLIZZARD

Winter Storm Jonas dumped 24 inches of snow on the area in January 2016. County employees rose to the challenge in a multi-departmental effort to clear roads and assist residents in need. Highway Maintenance crews operated more than 100 pieces of equipment around the clock during the event and spread 3,000 tons of salt across 900 lane miles of roads. Laborer/Operator **Sylvester Parran** became a celebrity when the Calvert County Government Facebook page featured him during the storm response.

✓ The Calvert County Solid Waste Division held its **first annual recycling awards program** in 2016 to recognize individuals, businesses and government agencies for their recycling ingenuity. The county commissioners congratulated the winners at a ceremony where the winners' best practices were celebrated and shared.



The commissioners recognized **11 local businesses, schools and organizations** at the first Calvert County Recycling Awards program July 26, 2016.

Water and Sewer Achievements

- ✓ A new \$2.2 million **sewer pumping station** was installed in the Calvert Industrial Park replacing a 40-year-old system.
- ✓ A nearly \$750,000 project upgrading the **pumping station at Huntingtown High School** and tying it into the pumping station at the Marley Run subdivision was completed.
- ✓ Crews completed an \$840,000 **water main extension** at Stafford Road in Prince Frederick that extended public water service to the Calvert County Detention Center and installed important infrastructure for Prince Frederick.
- ✓ A \$3.9 million **well and water tower** was built in Prince Frederick next to Calvert High School, adding 217,000 gallons of daily production capacity and 750,000 gallons of water storage capacity to support future requirements and improve fire service.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

Economic vitality is critical to our quality of life and the superb public services we've all come to expect in Calvert County. We continue to listen closely to the business community, make significant process improvements and have passed several text amendments designed to ease the regulatory burdens associated with business creation and expansion in Calvert County.



Patuxent Business Park is the county's first commerce zone featuring tax credits for new or expanded projects.

Regulatory Reform

The board voted in October 2016 to designate the Patuxent Business Park in Lusby as **the county's first commerce zone**, authorizing real property tax relief for new businesses that seek to open or expand in the park. Businesses constructing new premises or expanding existing premises after June 1, 2016 automatically qualify for a real property tax credit beginning at 50 percent for the first five years. The credit goes to 25 percent for years six and seven, then to 15 percent for years eight through 10 before expiring.

We also made significant headway in the development of the **Prince Frederick Town Center** by reducing and/or removing zoning restrictions to provide greater flexibility for development in the New Town and Village districts.

2015 **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

4,879
BUILDING PERMITS PROCESSED

16,769
INSPECTIONS COMPLETED

270,000
SQUARE FEET
COMMERCIAL FLOOR AREA INCREASE
FISCAL YEAR 2014 TO 2015

WE'RE OPEN!
111
NEW BUSINESSES FROM 2014 TO 2015

Additional steps taken to assist business development include:

☑ Changing **administrative variances for commercial properties** that include a reduction in setbacks, a decrease in required parking spaces or an increase in sign height in any zoning district, including Town Centers

☑ Changing several **Transferable Development Rights (TDR) requirements** that direct growth toward town centers where roads, water and sewer systems can better support more intense use

☑ Allowing indoor commercial recreation (indoor sports activities), fitness centers and performing arts (dance, voice, theater or music) **uses in industrially zoned areas**

☑ Allowing **boat dealerships** in Light Industrial (I-1) Zoning Districts

☑ Allowing **non-farm breweries, distilleries and wineries** as home occupations. Changes also allow non-farm breweries, wineries and distilleries to be located in the Light Industrial (I-1), Rural Commercial (RC), Marine Commercial (MC) and Employment Center (EC) zoning districts.

☑ Allowing **animal shelters** in the Light Industrial (I-1) Zoning Districts

☑ Reducing the Economic Development Incentive Fund **job creation requirement** from 25 new jobs to 10 new jobs



The March 2015 groundbreaking for the Dominion Cove Point LNG liquefaction project marked the start of the state's largest economic development project.



Commercial capital investment increased by \$81.4 million between fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

We Are Open for Business

In March 2015, Calvert County drew international attention when we joined Dominion Cove Point leadership, international business partners and Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan in celebrating the groundbreaking for the \$3.8 billion Dominion Cove Point LNG Liquefaction project. Dubbed one of the state's most important economic development projects, Cove Point is part of what has been called America's "natural gas revolution."

In February 2016, Dominion Cove Point announced it would construct a 50,000-square-foot warehouse and office facility at Patuxent Business Park, establishing the first facility built at the site since its inception 20 years ago. This project is currently underway.

We launched a new mobile-friendly economic development website,

Ecalvert.com, featuring content tailored to local businesspersons, entrepreneurs, site selectors, prospective businesses and individuals interested in the county's business climate.

A new interactive "What's Going Where" map on the county government website lets the public see where county commercial projects are happening in real time.



The Ecalvert.com economic development website is a resource for local businesses and for those looking to locate in the county.



SOCIAL SERVICE SAVVY

Community Resources Coordinator **Jennifer Moreland** of the Calvert County Family Network is a whiz at finding funding for local social service programs. Her work helped support the Calvert County Health Department's child safety awareness campaign that provided 25 low-income families with portable cribs and a "Kids and Care" program that provided residents with safety information. For her efforts she was named Calvert County's 2015 Employee of the Year. Moreland's success continued this year when she landed nearly \$250,000 from the Governor's Office for two programs targeting populations at risk for mental health and substance use.





County staff promotes sites like Flag Ponds Nature Park as part of a tourism program that draws more than 430,000 visitors annually.

A new, full-time Agricultural Marketing Specialist position was created to focus on promotion and program development of agriculture and agri-businesses in Calvert County.

Catch Our Drift

More and more visitors continue to enjoy Calvert County as a favorite destination. In 2015 Calvert County welcomed 436,672 visitors at 13 tourist attractions, a 7.4 percent increase over 2014. A study on the impact of tourism in Maryland, released in October 2016, showed Calvert County tourism industry sales grew by 8 percent to \$3.7 million in FY 2016 up from \$3.4 million in FY 2015.

At the Calvert Marine Museum, FY 2016 proved to be the most successful year in the museum's history. Following a \$2.1 million renovation and the opening of the River to Bay exhibit, annual attendance soared to 84,800, a new record that does not include the visitors who attended the Waterside Concert Series.

ON THE HORIZON

PROTECTING NEEDY ANIMALS

The county is active in a public/private partnership to lease a facility for a new animal shelter in Prince Frederick with an option to purchase the building at a later date. The shelter will be between 8,000 and 14,000 square feet and employ up to 10 full-time positions. Upon completion, we will end our investment in the Tri-County Animal Shelter in Hughesville.

PLOTTING OUR ECONOMIC GOALS

Staff is updating the county's economic development strategic plan to focus on economic objectives for the next five years. The plan will provide a common direction to build a diverse economy, support a robust business base and attract and empower a skilled workforce.

CHARTING THE COUNTY'S FUTURE

County planners began the two-year process of updating the county's Comprehensive Plan and rewriting the Zoning Ordinance in 2016 by holding seven public meetings and analyzing information from an ongoing online survey. Public input is vital in this process as we plan for the county's future in areas such as transportation, economic development, public safety, recreation, natural resources, housing and more.



Visit www.co.cal.md.us/FutureCalvert to learn about the county's comprehensive plan update process and voice your opinions about the county's future.



CALVERT COUNTY GOVERNMENT



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