



**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of County Commissioners
VIA: Julian M. Willis, County Administrator
FROM: Sheebah Smith, Deputy Director
DATE: December 21, 2023
SUBJECT: Economic Development Authority – 2023 Annual Report

Background

The Economic Development Authority (EDA) was created via legislation through the Maryland General Assembly to undertake and support economic development activities countywide. It was created for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, developing, improving, operating and managing economic properties in the county. The EDA oversees management and land sales at the Calvert County Industrial Park (CCIP) and the Patuxent Business Park (PBP). They also provide recommendations to the Maryland Department of Commerce and the Maryland Economic Development Corporation on potential land sales and incentives for PBP.

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2022

As of December 21, 2023, EDA investments total approximately \$2.3 million.

Purpose

In addition to the above, the EDA reviews requests for loans through the Calvert Economic Development Loan Fund (CEDLF) and oversees payments on active loans.

2023 Accomplishments

- Received a new CEDLF loan request in October 2023.
- Monitored payments on eight active CEDLF loans.
- Reviewed and approved updates to the financial process and EDA funding.
- Moved all meetings from online to hybrid to encourage more active participation.
- Received updates on PBP prospects and provided recommendations when appropriate.
- Worked with the Department of Public Works to direct improvements to the sign at the CCIP. In lieu of the businesses being advertised on the sign, an online directory was created to include all industrial park members.
- Collaborated with the Department of Public Works to work on the replat of the CCIP Forest Retention Area from over the existing Stormwater Management Facility. \$2500 cost to review and complete the replat process by COA was taken from the EDA Contracted Services Account.
- Worked with the Department of Public Works to facilitate the removal of unauthorized signage, ensuring the maintenance of aesthetics in the Calvert County Industrial Park.
- Introduced three new members to the EDA.
- Provided comments to Text Amendment Case No. 23-05 and No. 23-06 regarding the Solomons Town Center Zoning Ordinances.

Current Status

The EDA holds meetings on an as-needed basis. Meetings are led by Terri Wolfley, chair, and Dana Jones, vice chair. The EDA currently has nine members and no vacancies.

Future Goals

Continue to support economic development by providing recommendations on proposed loans, providing funding for projects when appropriate and executing tasks directed by or on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.