

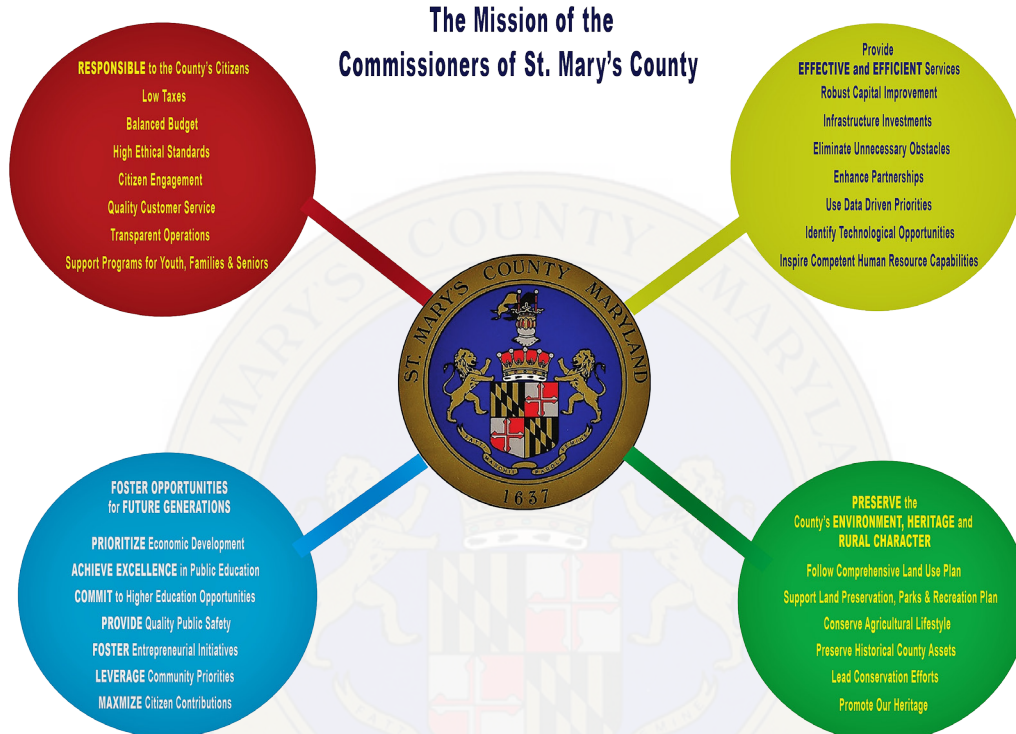


Commissioners of St. Mary's County State of the County Executive Summary September, 2017



The Mission of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County will be responsible to the county's citizens; Provide Effective and Efficient Services; Preserve the county's Environment, Heritage and Rural Character and Foster Opportunities for Future Generations. Commissioner objectives are based on the following criteria:



Responsible and Accountable to the County's Citizens

Budget: The commissioners have approved a general fund budget of \$221.3 million, a .4% decrease over FY2017. Real property taxes are reduced by over \$566,000 as the constant yield tax rate was reduced to \$.8478 per \$100 of assessed value. Operating and capital budgets are focused on commissioner priorities of public safety and education. Funding for the Sheriff's Office is increased by 4.7% over FY2017 to include five new positions, increased overtime and promotional ranks. Funding for St. Mary's County Public Schools rises 2.5% to \$102.1 million. When State and other funding is combined, St. Mary's County Public Schools will receive a total of \$210.3 million in FY2018. Highlights of the \$50.2 million Capital Improvement Plan budget include the replacement Leonardtown Library and Garvey Senior Activity Center facilities, FDR Boulevard and \$7.2 million for public school projects.

Leonardtown Library and Garvey Senior Activity Center Replacement Facilities: Commissioners approved the final design of the 48,000 square foot facility.

St. Mary's County Airport Master Plan: Final design of Lawrence Hayden Road relocation is complete. Work continued to extend the current runway. Six of eleven new hangar structures are complete, including new R&D space, business development and a technology business incubator.

FDR Boulevard Extension: Work on construction of FDR Boulevard, from Old Rolling Road to Kinnegad Drive, began this summer. Expected completion is Fall 2018.

Sheriff's District 4 Office: \$2.2 million project to enhance the Sheriff's presence along the Great Mills Road corridor will renovate the 6,060 square foot former Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad building. Space will be used for processing, meeting and conference rooms, three holding cells, interview rooms, a roll call and training room, evidence bay and storage.

Adult Detention Center Upgrades: Design funding is now in place to proceed with a \$25 million renovation. Upgrades include a 64 bed housing unit, medical services unit, central control room, pre-trial and laundry services, security and air conditioning. Pending a State grant award, construction should begin in FY2019.



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Preserve the County's Environment, Heritage and Rural Character

Preservation: Programs such as Rural Legacy Areas, Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Program (MALPF) and the Navy's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) have allowed the county to preserve over 817 acres of land conservation easements in support of local agriculture.

Snow Hill Farm: Commissioners approved the purchase of 163 acres along the Patuxent River. The new park area includes over 1,500 feet of shoreline, picnic areas, beach access and natural resource areas. Purchase made in partnership with Maryland Natural Resources, Project Open Space and the Navy's REPI program.

Lancaster Park Improvements: Construction on two new multi-purpose athletic fields, parking and a new entrance along Willows Road was completed in Spring 2017.

Water Quality & Nutrient Removal Project: 13 Stormwater Management Facilities, not providing sufficient water quality treatment, will be retrofitted.

Rural Legacy: Commissioners have applied to expand the Mattapany Rural Legacy area to allow more property owners to be compensated for easements in order to limit future development of their properties.

Foster Opportunities for Future Generations

Economic Development: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to build an Innovation Driven Economy to diversify and broaden the local economy was approved. Industries targeted for growth include unmanned systems, advanced manufacturing, cyber security, agriculture and aquaculture.

Technology Business Incubator: The 6,000 square foot office and lab space at the St. Mary's County Regional Airport will house new and early-stage technology companies pursuing advancements in UAV technology and commercialization of Navy technologies.

Tax Incentives: Commissioners approved tax incentives to support new and expanding businesses that create 10 or more jobs in industries such as additive and advanced manufacturing, cyber security, unmanned and autonomous systems and aquaculture.

Development Review Process: Commissioners examined the county's development review process to increase efficiencies in the building process which offers a road map for improvement.

Tourism and Hospitality Master Plan (THMP): Commissioners approved the THMP. Stakeholders focused on ensuring that sites, attractions, restaurants and lodging resources around the county offer visitors a top level experience.

Dr. Rebecca Bridgett,
County Administrator

Bill Hunt, AICP
Director
Land Use & Growth Management

Robert Kelly,
Chief Information
Officer

L. Jeannett Cudmore, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Tony Jones,
Public Information Officer

Catherine Pratson,
Director
Human Resources

John Deatrck, P.E., AICP, LEED BD+C
Director
Public Works and Transportation

Arthur Shepherd,
Director
Recreation and Parks

Lori Jennings-Harris,
Director
Aging & Human Services

Chris Kaselemis, AICP
Director
Economic Development

George Sparling,
County Attorney



Commissioners of St. Mary's County
Seated: Todd B. Morgan, and President Randy Guy
Standing: Tom Jarboe, John E. O'Connor and Michael L. Hewitt

