

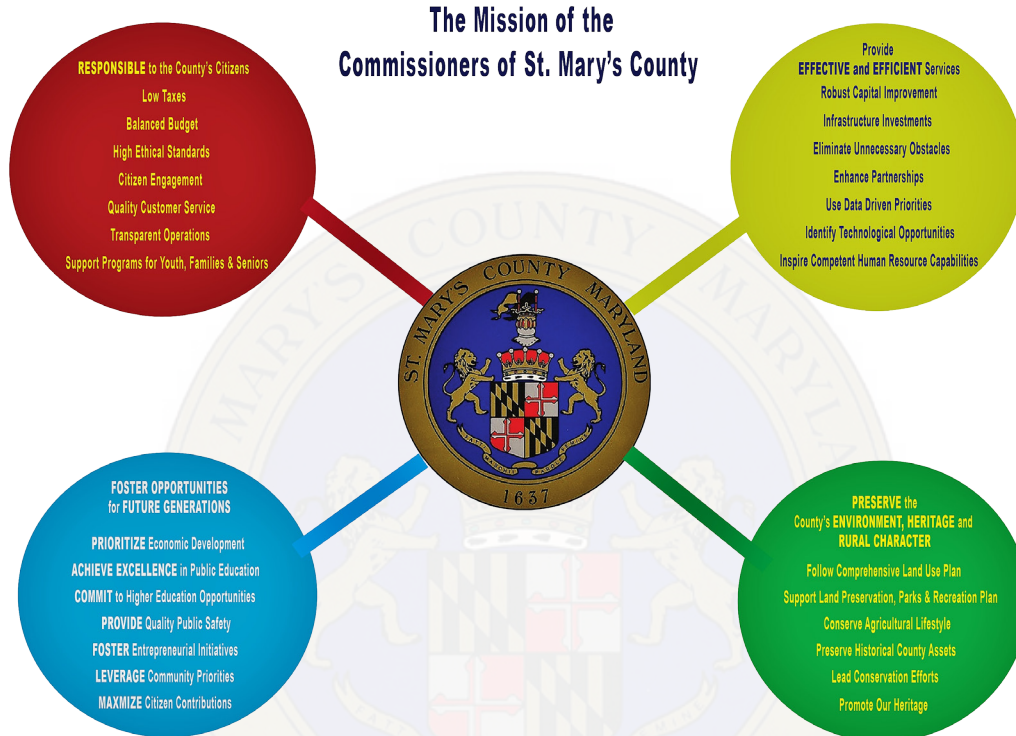


Commissioners of St. Mary's County State of the County Executive Summary September, 2018



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 approved a general fund budget of \$230.1 million, a 4% increase over FY2018, but is under budget. Real property tax revenues are estimated to grow by \$2.1 million. The constant yield tax rate remained at \$.8478 per \$100 of assessed value. Operating and capital budgets focus on commissioner priorities of public safety and education. Funding for the Sheriff's Office grows 4.8% over FY2018 to include promotional ranks, merit increases and increased medical care contracts for the Adult Detention Center. Funding for St. Mary's County Public Schools rises 2% to \$103.8 million. When State and other funding is combined, St. Mary's County Public Schools will receive a total of \$214.2 million in FY19. Highlights of the \$58.7 million Capital Improvement Plan budget include the completion of the FDR Blvd. project, Patuxent Park Neighborhood and \$14 million for public school safety and infrastructure projects.

Leonardtown Library and Garvey Senior Activity Center Replacement Facilities: Ground was broken on May 15 on the 48,000 square foot facility. Construction is expected to be complete by November 2019.

St. Mary's County Airport Master Plan: Final design of Lawrence Hayden Road relocation is complete. Work continues to connect a new taxiway to allow larger corporate aircraft to use the airport. Governor Hogan joined commissioners in cutting the ribbon was cut on the Techport @ the Airport business incubator in December 2017.

FDR Boulevard Extension: Work to extend the roadway, from First Colony to Kinnegad Drive, is nearly complete. Next phase, from Chancellors Run to Pegg Road, is expected to be completed by 2021.

Sheriff's District 4 Office: \$2.2 million project to enhance the Sheriff's presence along Great Mills Road will renovate the 6,060 square foot former Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad building. Project will be placed out for bid in Fall 2018 and be constructed by winter 2019.

Adult Detention Center Upgrades: The \$25 million renovation includes a 64 bed housing unit, medical services unit, central control room, pre-trial and laundry services, security and air conditioning.



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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 a total of 24,194 acres of land to be preserved through 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.

Water Quality & Nutrient Removal Project: \$1.5 million project to remove pollutants, protect streams from erosion and cover 80 acres of impervious areas at 13 Stormwater Management Facilities.

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.

Visitmarysmd Tourism Entity: Commissioners approved transition of Tourism to separate 501(c)(6) non-profit entity. Organization will receive county funding from accommodations tax revenues for 10 years. Executive Director hired in July 2018. Entity to be responsible for carrying out Tourism function to ensure sites, attractions, restaurants and lodging around the county offer visitors a top level experience.

Techport @ the Airport Business Incubator: The 6,000 square foot office and lab space at the St. Mary's County Regional Airport opened in 2018 and is managed by the University of Maryland. The incubator houses new and early-stage technology companies pursuing advancements in UAV technology and commercialization of Navy technologies.

Tax Incentives: Commissioners approved 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.

Dr. Rebecca Bridgett,
County Administrator

Bill Hunt, AICP
Director, Land Use & Growth Mgt.

Catherine Pratson,
Director, Human Resources

L. Jeannett Cudmore, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Tony Jones,
Communications Director

Arthur Shepherd,
Director, Recreation & Parks

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

Steve Walker,
Director, Emergency Services

Lori Jennings-Harris,
Director,
Aging & Human Services

Chris Kaselemis, AICP
Director,
Economic Development

David Weiskopf,
Acting County Attorney

Robert Kelly,
Chief Information Officer



Commissioners of St. Mary's County

**Seated: Todd B. Morgan, and President James Randy Guy
Standing: Tom Jarboe, John E. O'Connor and Michael L. Hewitt**

