



**COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY 2019
STATE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE REPORT**





Responsible and Accountable to the County's Citizens

Budget: In June, the Commissioners approved a general fund budget of \$253 million, a 10% increase over FY2019. The property tax rate remained at \$.8478 per \$100 of assessed value. The approved income tax rate is 3.17%. Operating and capital budgets focused on Commissioner priorities of: public safety, education, and infrastructure.

Sheriff's Office: Non-grant funding for the Sheriff's Office increased by 7.2% to include new positions; new vehicles; operational impacts for the Adult Detention and Rehabilitation Center Expansion and Renovation project; District 4 Sheriff's Office; and funding for promotional ranks.

Public Schools: Funding for St. Mary's County Public Schools increased by 2.3% to \$106.2 million, nearly 3 million dollars over the Maintenance of Effort required calculation. Education is a priority-reflecting 46% of the county non-grant recurring revenue.

County Government: St. Mary's County Departments received new positions, new vehicles and increased funding for Public Safety technology upgrades and maintenance. The implementation of a three-year phase-in compensation study began in fiscal year 2020. Residents will also notice Commissioner approved enhancements to the St. Mary's County Transit System.

Capital Improvement Projects: Highlights of the \$81.7 million Capital Improvement Program include the Adult Detention Rehabilitation Center addition, monies set aside for Agriculture Land Preservation, Airport Improvements, development of an Animal Shelter, Asphalt Overlays throughout the county, the Computer Aided Dispatch Replacement Project, Culvert Replacement/Drainage Improvements in many areas, an additional phase of the FDR Boulevard project, approval for Multi-Purpose Synthetic/Turf Fields, development of a North County Farmers Market, Patuxent Park Neighborhood Preservation Project, Recreation Facility and Park Improvements, Radio System Upgrades, Rural Legacy Program, St. Clement's Island Museum Renovations and \$13.5 million exclusively for public school projects.



Provide High Quality, Cost Effective and Efficient Services

Preservation: Over 25,000 acres have been preserved with Rural Legacy Areas, Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Program (MALPF), the Navy's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI), Maryland Historic and Environmental Trust, and the Transferable Development Rights programs.

Water Quality & Nutrient Removal Project: This project provides the basic planning and implementation funding necessary for the federally mandated National Pollution Discharge Elimination System.

St. Jerome's Creek Jetties: St. Mary's County continues to partner with the State and Army Corps of Engineers on the \$10 million project to create a permanent solution to shoaling of the inlet channel.

St. Clement's Island Museum Renovations: The \$1.4M multi-phase project will address museum building renovations, overflow parking, public access, health and safety issues as well as update exhibit and interpretive spaces.

Patuxent Park Neighborhood Preservation Project: This \$15M project includes infrastructure improvements (sidewalks, curb & gutter, storm drainage, sewer and water maintenance, street improvements), preservation and revitalization efforts in the subdivision.



Foster Opportunities for Future Generations

Recreation & Park Improvements: New athletic field lighting for Chancellors Run Regional and Baggett Parks; pavilion roof replacements; paving park roads and parking areas; replacement playgrounds and tennis courts; Wicomico Shores Golf Course improvements; Carver Recreational Center improvements; restroom improvements; and Three Notch Trail asphalt overlay is included in this \$3.3M multi-year project.

Architect & Engineering Funding: Approved for Snow Hill Park, Shannon Farm Property, Myrtle Point Park, Sports Complex, and Recreation/Community Center. The Commissioners are exploring a partnership with YMCA. Construction funding was secured for Lexington Manor Passive Park.

Multi-Purpose Synthetic/Turf Fields: Commissioners approved three multi-purpose synthetic turf fields in FY2020 for Chaptico Park, Chancellors Run Park, and John G. Lancaster Park for \$3.4M. The fields will provide safe year-round play for soccer, lacrosse, field hockey and football teams.

North County Farmers Market and Regional Agriculture Center: A multi-use site that will accommodate a value-added market, a new produce market and a trail extension linking the market site, parking and public restroom facilities. In addition, the County received a \$1M grant to develop a Regional Agriculture Center which will include a meat processing center to be located on the 47-acre site currently in use as the Charlotte Hall Transfer Station.



Preserve our Environment, Heritage and Rural Character

Leonardtown Library and Garvey Senior Activity Center Replacement Facilities: Ground was broken May 15, 2018 on the 48,000 square foot facility costing \$21.5M. Anticipated construction completion Dec 2019; move-in Feb 2020.

St. Mary's County Airport Master Plan: The \$26M airport improvements project includes relocation for taxiway and expanded apron awarded. Airport Road relocation and Lawrence Hayden Road under construction. FY2020 funding supports site preparation for runway extension and hangar construction; terminal renovation and County hangar construction.

FDR Boulevard Extension: Work on construction of FDR Boulevard, Phase 1C culvert installation underway with completion expected Fall 2019.

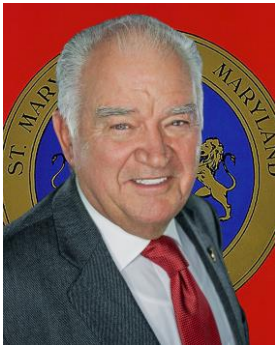
St. Mary's County District 4 Sheriff's Office: This \$4.5M project enhances the Sheriff's presence along Great Mills Road renovating the 6,060 square foot former Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad building. Space will be used for processing, meeting and conference rooms, three holding cells, interview rooms, a roll call and more. Completion date: March 2020.

Adult Detention and Rehabilitation Center Expansion and Renovation Project: \$28.5M renovation includes a 64-bed housing unit, medical services unit, central control room, HVAC and security. Construction begins Fall 2019; anticipated completion date June 2022.

Animal Shelter: This \$5.5M project proposes a design/build for a stand-alone Animal Shelter on FDR Blvd.

Radio System Upgrades/Computer-Aided Dispatch Replacement/Enhancement: Enhancements planned for school and government building safety enhancement; equipment replacement; software upgrade; and expansion of system capacity is included in the \$2.1M project.

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY



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MISSION STATEMENT:

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.

