Brooke E. LiermanComptroller of Maryland



News Release

Board of Public Works Approves \$545 Million for Projects Across Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 19, 2025) — Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman joined Governor Wes Moore and Treasurer Dereck E. Davis today for a meeting of the Maryland Board of Public Works. During the meeting, the Board voted to debar five individuals and companies from conducting future business with the State of Maryland.

Board of Public Works General Counsel Rachel Hershey explained that the debarments were mandatory, following convictions for bribery-related offenses. Those individuals will be added to a publicly <u>accessible list of debarred individuals</u> and companies on the Board's website.

"I think it is important to uphold and strengthen the integrity of the procurement practice by holding those accountable," Comptroller Lierman said. "I look forward to working with you and the [Maryland Attorney General's] office to make sure that those are held accountable and we are not extending tax dollars to them."

The Board of Public Works also discussed a more than \$203 million sole-source contract with Motorola Solutions. Both Treasurer Davis and Comptroller Lierman expressed concerns about the company's ability to meet the state's aspirational Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) goals for the Maryland First Public Safety Radio System, which is used statewide by first responders.

Maryland Secretary of Information Technology Katie Olson Savage explained that the sole-source maintenance contract would allow Motorola to continue maintaining the public safety wireless communication system, which utilizes proprietary technology. She also explained that under the original 2010 contract, Motorola met a 20% MBE participation goal, and the contract presented on Wednesday only covers the maintenance and emergency repair of the communication system.

Secretary Savage shared that after the item was pulled from the November 5 meeting agenda, Motorola and the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) worked to double the original MBE participation goal by adding an additional MBE subcontractor. Motorola has also hired an employee to help grow a network of MBE subcontractors certified to maintain Motorola systems.

Treasurer Davis noted that Motorola only increased its MBE goal on the maintenance contract to 6% from 2.8% after he and Comptroller Lierman highlighted the matter in meetings with DoIT.

Comptroller Lierman added, "I look forward to hearing from Motorola six months from now, a year from now, on what their new employee has done to identify, grow, and develop MBE partners across the state. That is important for Motorola. It's important for the state, and it is important for our economy, adding insurance that we are growing the pool of MBEs who can do this work, which means better value for the citizens and residents of Maryland."

In all, the Board of Public Works approved 84 items, representing a total State expenditure of \$545,303,979.92, including:

- Grant agreements for 13 recipients for 24 projects located in 6 counties and Baltimore City with a total value of \$24,932,000.
- Six items awarding \$2,874,999 to prime certified small business primes.
- One item awarding \$335,549.99 to a certified minority business enterprise prime.
- One item awarding \$335,549.99 to an Employment Works Program provider.
- 14 items awarded with established participation goals for minority business enterprises.
- Four items awarded with established participation goals for veteran-owned small business enterprises.

The next meeting of the Board of Public Works will be held on December 3, 2025.

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