



BROOKE'S BPW BRIEF

Breaking down the Board of Public Works

Meeting Date
August 23, 2023

TRANSIT CORRIDOR PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The BPW approved a request from the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) to award two, five-year contracts for assistance with planning and project development for MTA's multi-modal **transit corridor projects**. All awardees are firms based in Maryland. They will provide program management services, preliminary engineering, traffic and environmental planning, and more for several projects, including: **Central Regional Transit Plan Corridors, Southern Maryland Rapid Transit, and the Red Line** - a 14-mile East to West transit rail line serving Baltimore City and County.

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The BPW approved a request from **Maryland Higher Education Commission** to grant \$13 million in capital funding for the demolition of the existing Athletic and Fitness Center and construction of two new buildings to house the **Mathematics and Athletics departments at Howard Community College**. The new building complex will achieve a minimum of LEED Silver certification and will include sustainable features such as: high efficiency electrical and HVAC systems, stormwater management and a highly efficient means for removal and placement of site soils.

Summary Figures

The BPW approved 103 items, representing a total State expenditure of \$167 million including:

- 7 items awarding \$4.4 million to prime certified small businesses
- 2 items awarding \$1 million to prime minority business enterprises
- 8 items awarded with established participation goals for minority business enterprises
- 1 item awarding \$465,802 to Employment Works Program providers
- 5 items awarded with established participation goals for veteran-owned small business enterprises

SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE KIT TESTING

The BPW approved a request from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to award STACS DNA (Ottawa, CN) a contract to provide **an application to manage and track sexual assault evidence kits statewide**.

After the passage of the Sexual Assault Victims Resource Act of 2017, the **Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding Committee** was created and identified several policy issues in this space, including **inadequate tracking of sexual assault evidence from collection through testing and retention**. The Committee applied for and received a federal grant which has been used to 1) inventory the State's backlog of untested sexual assault evidence, 2) test older kits, 3) develop a victim notification portal, and finally - 4) procure a system to track evidence - the item approved today.