



BROOKE'S BPW BRIEF



Breaking down the Board of Public Works

Meeting Date

July 19, 2023

Summary Figures

The BPW approved 76 items, representing a total State expenditure of \$356 million including:

- 9 items awarding \$9 million to prime certified small businesses
- 5 items awarding \$3 million to prime minority business enterprises
- 9 items awarded with established participation goals for minority business enterprises
- 3 items awarded with established participation goals for veteran-owned small business enterprises

PURPLE LINE



The BPW approved a request from the Maryland Transit Administration to extend a contract with **Purple Line Transit Partners LLC** (Riverdale, MD) for the **design, construction, financing, operation, and maintenance of the Purple Line Transit Project**. The extension modification provides the vendor with interim relief for delayed work being completed by MTA. Relief includes: **payment of \$148 million and a 10-month extension to the Revenue Service Availability Deadline**.

The project is now five years behind schedule and \$3.8 billion over budget, with an expected open date of May 2027. Key challenges include: lawsuits over the environmental impact assessment, the key builder quit in 2020, inflation and labor shortages. The project is now more than 50% complete. Construction is actively advancing along the 16-miles from New Carrollton to Bethesda at 60 active construction sites with approximately 700 workers.

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE



The BPW approved **\$2 million in capital grant funding for Chesapeake Health Care to acquire property in Berlin, MD** (Worcester County). The grantee is a **Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)**. This grant will allow them to expand their capacity to provide affordable, culturally competent patient and family centered health care to residents of the lower eastern shore. FQHCs are federally funded nonprofit health centers or clinics that serve medically underserved areas and populations regardless of patients' insurance status or ability to pay.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT GRANTS



The BPW approved annual **operation and maintenance grants for FY '24 to the owners of 50 wastewater treatment plans** – including many county and municipal governments - totaling \$11 million. To qualify for grant funding, wastewater treatment plants must be operating at the **enhanced nutrient removal level, reducing the levels of nitrogen and phosphorus discharged into the Chesapeake Bay**. The Maryland Department of the Environment recommends approximately \$30,000 in grant funding for every million gallons of wastewater treated per day. A selection of recipients includes: the City of Cumberland (\$494,274), the City of Cambridge (\$264,384), and the City of Bowie (\$126,828).