



**“Making government more like your smartphone - smaller, faster, and with better customer service”**

**A new path forward to ....**

**Fiscal Responsibility**

Eliminating unfair taxation – First in Maryland to repeal the Rain Tax; redirected existing funding to meet storm water remediation requirements

Spending within our means – Reduced borrowing to smallest capital budget in 10 years; large capital projects deferred to halt rising debt and fund balance depletion from the prior administration

Keeping borrowing costs low – Realistic long term fiscal plan earned Triple-A bond rating from all three major bond rating agencies

Investing in our workforce – Merit increases for employees funded entirely through cost savings from employee retirement incentive

No tax increases in FY16 budget

**Efficiency**

Saving money by reducing leased space – nearly \$360,000/year in projected annual savings

Maximizing county-owned facilities

- Office of Information and Communication Technology relocated to modern and secure county-owned facility on Ady Rd.
- Some Department of Public Works functions moved to county-owned facilities at 212 S. Bond and 220 S. Main St.
- First floor at 220 redesigned, and will include moving in Human Resources, repositioning Treasury and Security for better access, and a new public meeting room

Outsourcing to better manage costs and service delivery

- Landfill and recycling operations outsourced to MES for anticipated savings in FY17
- Website outsourced, saving \$87,000 in year one of contract and approximately \$194,000 annually thereafter

Modernizing IT infrastructure with funding to move off of county government’s aging mainframe

Connecting to high speed broadband - HMAN project nearly complete, providing equal access for all county facilities, schools and libraries; funding provided to move off of mainframe

Streamlining service delivery - Department of Community Services functions collocated to improve service coordination

Eliminating redundancies – Chief of Staff position eliminated

Restructuring to support economic activity – Harford Transit placed under the Office of Economic Development to better serve commuters and enhance employment opportunities

Governing smarter/working harder – New Division of Efficiency and Innovation continuously exploring better ways of doing business

**MARYLAND’S NEW CENTER OF OPPORTUNITY**

410.638.3350 | 410.879.2038 | TTY Maryland Relay 711 | [www.harfordcountymd.gov](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov)

220 South Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland 21014

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## Innovation

### Using technology to enhance citizen engagement

- County's first-ever virtual town hall meeting gathered input on county budget;
- Launched the County's first online discussion platform for countywide master plan update: HarfordNEXT – A Master Plan for the Next Generation

### Improving convenience, transparency and service with new online applications

- Snow Plow Tracker: *Working till the plows come home!*
- Track-it! – online maps & information about proposed development projects
- Map-it! – accessible and searchable GIS databases
- Explore-it! - online story maps of county conservation and ag preservation programs
- You CLICK We FIX – reporting platform for citizens to request non-emergency county services

## Opportunity

Optimizing existing assets – Economic Development Office consolidated on MD Route 40 corridor near APG to enhance business activity

Strengthening local businesses – \$1.4 million in competitive grants awarded to spur tourism, funded with revenue from county's first hotel lodging fee; projects included saving historic Joesting-Gorsuch House

Facilitating business activity – New Permit Center streamlines approval process for zoning and building permits, licenses, and inspections; EnerGov processing system allows for citizens' online access portal

Preserving long term economic vitality – resolved water supply issue for Town of Bel Air with Mt. Soma reservoir

### Promoting workforce development

- Record funding provided for education, including teacher salary increases
- Appointed education liaison to build partnerships with our public schools and communities
- Craft the Code – created in partnership with Harford County Public Library, an innovative computer programming workshop for middle school girls

Promoting public safety – funding provided to support competitive salaries

## Service

### Strengthening families by fighting heroin

- First-ever county funding for heroin treatment; \$100K in FY 16 budget
- Focus on prevention - secured over \$560K in FY16 state grants for drug abuse awareness and prevention; town hall meeting on heroin to raise awareness; countywide middle school parent and student information sessions
- Project Healthy Delivery – initiated centralized treatment program for addicted, expectant mothers

### Giving back to the community

- Renewed partnership with United Way of Central Maryland
- "Project Patches" for veterans – repurposed and donated 300 security guard uniforms
- Leading by example - 2015 Run/Walk to End Homelessness; No Shave November

## **Transparency & Accountability**

Improving responsiveness - revived the Office of Governmental & Community Relations

Focusing on customer service – revitalized the Division of Citizens Affairs

Inviting citizen engagement - recreated Community Advisory Boards

Increasing public access to county information

- GIS databases published online
- Redesigned county website to facilitate citizen engagement

## **Leadership for Harford County's Future**

Comprehensive planning – Countywide master plan put back on its 10-year schedule

Securing state funding - \$225K to study potential improvements to the busy MD 924 Corridor

Promoting statewide economic development - appointed by Gov. Larry Hogan to Maryland Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO) Board of Directors

Raising Harford County's profile among Maryland's "Big 7" – elected to MACo Board of Directors

Championing first-responders – inducted into the Maryland State Firemen's Association Hall of Fame

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