



BROOKE'S BPW BRIEF



Breaking down the Board of Public Works

Meeting Date

January 17, 2024

BUSINESS FACADE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS



The BPW approved a request from the Department of Housing and Community Development to grant **\$1.5 million in general obligation bond proceeds for 17 projects through the Business Facade Improvement Program.**

This funding will support projects on Liberty Road (Baltimore County), in Westminster (Carroll County), Old Ellicott City (Howard County), Hyattsville (Prince George's County), and Crisfield (Somerset County).

The Business Facade Improvement Program provides funding to improve the exteriors of businesses located in **Maryland Sustainable Communities** - geographic areas targeted for revitalization by local governments, as defined by the Sustainable Communities Act of 2010.

SOLO GIBBS PARK



The BPW approved a request from the Department of General Services to grant \$190,000 in capital funding to the Parks & People Foundation, Inc. They will **install equipment and make improvements at the Solo Gibbs playground in Baltimore's Sharp-Leadenhall neighborhood.** This project is part of the Solo Gibbs Master Plan, which was completed in 2020 by Baltimore City Recreation and Parks. Future plans include additional green space, a new recreation center, new basketball courts, and more.

Summary Figures

The BPW approved 60 items, representing a total State expenditure of \$265 million including:

- 4 items awarding \$3.7 million to prime certified small businesses.
- 3 items awarding \$2.2 million to prime Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs).
- 5 items awarded with established participation goals for MBEs.
- 1 item awarding \$803,800 to Employment Works Program providers.
- 1 item awarded with established participation goals for Veteran-owned Small Business Enterprises.
- Grant agreements for 17 projects in 7 counties and Baltimore City with a total value of \$8 million.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT (MDE) LEASE RENEWAL



The BPW approved a request from the Department of General Services (DGS) **to renew a lease with Montgomery Park, LLC (Baltimore, MD) for MDE's headquarters.** The 20 year lease includes 263,000 sq. ft of office and lab space. Rent is set at \$5.9 million annually with an escalation of 3.45% each year. As part of the lease, a **\$10 million renovation was negotiated which will convert the building to all-electric infrastructure and install solar panels.** The building will be the first in the State's leased inventory to be electrified. The Comptroller applauded the collaboration between DGS, MDE, and the landlord to prioritize sustainability and move the state towards achieving goals outlined in the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022.