

News Release

Comptroller Lierman Releases Transition Team Report

Recommendations from Transition Team based on principles of transparency, diversity, equity, inclusion and resilience

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (February 27, 2023) - Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman today released a robust Transition Report, concluding the efforts of the Comptroller's Transition Team that began shortly after she was elected last November. Comptroller Lierman tasked the team with creating a blueprint of recommended changes for the Office of the Comptroller.

"The Transition Team's Report represents a new starting point for our agency," Comptroller Lierman said. "As the 34th Comptroller of Maryland, I am dedicated to working with our new executive leadership team, all Comptroller employees and partners across the state to reimagine how the Comptroller's Office can build communities that are more equitable, more resilient and more prosperous."

The Comptroller's Transition Team comprised of more than 100 Marylanders, including advocates, thought leaders, business owners and elected officials. Additionally, online feedback from more than 100 members of the public was incorporated into the document, shaping the report's final recommendations.

The three honorary chairs of the Transition Team included former Comptroller Peter Franchot, Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks and Secretary of State Susan Lee. The working chairs included former Treasurer Nancy Kopp; Del. Joseline Peña-Melnyk, District 21, Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties; and Candace Dodson-Reed, vice president of the University of Maryland Baltimore County. The Comptroller's Research Director Dani DiPietro served as transition coordinator. Under their direction, the Transition Team was divided into six workgroups designed to reflect the key functions the Comptroller's Office. The topic areas for recommendations included:

- Data and Innovation

- Tax Administration and Customer Engagement
- Pensions and Investment
- Procurement and the Board of Public Works
- Local Government Engagement
- Public Engagement

The Comptroller's Transition Report identifies opportunities for the Comptroller's Office to be a more effective advocate for Maryland's taxpayers, businesses and key stakeholders, with a focus on the following key areas:

- Modernizing technology across the Comptroller's Office so that it becomes easier to collect and analyze data, manage risk, administer taxes and process payments.
- Building active partnerships with local government, non-profits, small businesses and Maryland residents to ensure the Comptroller's Office is accessible and communicating proactively.
- Improving transparency and accountability appropriate to the diverse range of the Comptroller's responsibilities by building public-facing dashboards and other publicly available tools to track key metrics.
- Improving public engagement and customer service by updating the Comptroller of Maryland website, tax forms and other forms of communication to 21st century standards, with a focus on translation services to address the needs of Maryland's diverse communities.
- Prioritizing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) within the agency and ensuring that DEIA is a central tenant in all policies, processes, decisions and communications.
- Identifying and creating opportunities for the Comptroller's Office to be a leader in climate resiliency – both internally and through the Comptroller's external impact on state procurement and spending, investments, and community engagement.
- Attracting and retaining a highly skilled, diverse workforce in Maryland, while developing a pipeline and ecosystem for future members of the workforce.

The full Transition Report and more specific recommendations can be read online [here](#).

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Co-Chairs and Consultants

Data and Innovation Chairs

Honorable Andrew Cassilly, Ben Seigel, Terry Speigner and Dipak Thakker

Tax Administration and Customer Engagement Chairs

Sharonne Bonardi, Honorable Richard Madaleno and Robin McKinney

Pension and Investment Chairs

Sheila Morgan-Johnson, Patrick Moran and the Honorable Andrew Serafini

Procurement and the Board of Public Works Chairs

Veronica Cool, Robert Dashiell, Ash Shetty and Eben Smith

Local Government Engagement Chairs

Theresa Kuhns and Michael Sanderson

Public Engagement Chairs

Al Delia, Dannielle Glaros, Laura Gutierrez and Doncella Wilson

DEIA Consultants

Dr. Valorie Sanders and Dr. Jasmine Lee

Climate Resilience Consultants

William Baker, Joanne Throwe, Jenn Aiosa

Transition Coordinator

Dani DiPietro

MEDIA CONTACTS: Adam Abadir: aabadir@marylandtaxes.gov

667-408-0768 (cell)

Barbara Sauers: bsauers@marylandtaxes.gov

410-212-9414 (cell)

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