



BROOKE'S BPW BRIEF



Breaking down the Board of Public Works

Meeting Date

March 13, 2024

HEALTHCARE FOR INCARCERATED RESIDENTS

The BPW approved a request 2-1 from the Dept. of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPCS) to extend contracts with YesCare (Brentwood, TN) and Centurion Group (Vienna, VA) **to provide physical and mental health services for incarcerated individuals statewide.**

Contracts for each of these organizations will be extended by 9 months at a cost of \$124.7 million and \$24.8 million, respectively. These extensions ensure continuity of care as DPCS prepares a new contract vehicle and seeks new vendors moving forward.

The Comptroller voted no on this agenda item, noting that YesCare - formerly Corizon - was not a business that deserved the unanimous support of the BPW.

MIDDLE BRANCH RESILIENCY INITIATIVE

The BPW approved a recommendation from the Wetlands Administrator to grant Baltimore City a State Tidal Wetlands license for a project that will **enhance** 4.3 acres of wetlands by removing Phragmites & planting with high marsh vegetation, and create 4.4 acres of **new** wetlands.

This project is the first of the **Middle Branch Resiliency Initiative**, which will protect shoreline, re-establish marshes, and improve stormwater management in the heart of Baltimore - to protect the City from flooding and erosion associated with sea level rise.

Summary Figures

The BPW approved 90 items, representing a total State expenditure of \$841.9 million including:

- 6 items awarding \$7.2 million to prime certified small businesses.
- 4 items awarding \$6.2 million to prime Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs).
- 9 items awarded with established participation goals for MBEs.
- 1 item awarding \$727,000 to Employment Works Providers
- 3 items awarded with established participation goals for Veteran-owned Small Business Enterprises (VSBE).

PURPLE LINE

The BPW approved a request from the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) 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 8-month extension provides the vendor with contractual relief for project delays related to utility work undertaken by MTA and **includes compensation payment of up to \$425 million.**

The Purple Line is currently over 65% complete and construction is actively advancing along the 16-mile route at 60 construction sites. However, the project is now 5 years behind schedule and \$4.3 billion over budget, with service expected to begin in late 2027. The MTA made several commitments prior to receiving approval for the contract modification, including (1) to maintain funding for other non-Purple Line MTA projects that are in the Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP), (2) to proactively address the safety concerns shared by residents in Montgomery County, and (3) to achieve the 22% federal Disadvantage Business Enterprise goal.