

News Release

Comptroller Lierman Begins Memorial Day Weekend with Tour of Worcester County

Comptroller visits local businesses and tours housing development project in Ocean City

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (May 24, 2024) — Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman continued her Take a Look with Brooke tour today, with visits to businesses in Worcester County.

In Ocean City, Comptroller Lierman toured the site of the former Phillips Crab House, which is now undergoing renovations to provide housing for temporary and seasonal workers and students. Housing affordability remains a concern for Maryland residents, including individuals who live and work in Worcester County. Between 2019 and 2022, data found in the Comptroller's 2024 State of the Economy report shows that housing costs in Worcester County increased by 51%, while housing inventory decreased by 70%.



Comptroller Brooke Lierman tours Phillips Crab House housing renovation with developer Mike Ramadan (left) and Delegate Wayne Harman

Alleviating housing supply and affordability issues is important for towns like Ocean City because it helps attract and retain a workforce that will fill tourism, manufacturing, and other positions that support the local economy.

“Seeing new and transformative uses of old buildings into different types of housing is so essential to building a stronger economy now and over the long term,” Comptroller Lierman said while reflecting on the project. “A big piece of the cost of living in Maryland is making sure that we have housing that everyone can afford, so seeing models like this is really encouraging.”



Comptroller Lierman outside of the former Phillips Crab House in Ocean City.

Comptroller Lierman also visited several businesses along the Ocean City Boardwalk.



Comptroller Lierman (center) with Delegate Wayne Harman (left) and Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan (right)



Comptroller Lierman visits Fisher's Popcorn on the Ocean City Boardwalk.

Comptroller Lierman also visited the Gudelsky Family Medical Center - Ocean Pines in Berlin. This facility provides a range of outpatient health services for Atlantic General Hospital, with the goal of reducing emergency room visits and increasing access to health services for residents. Services offered include pediatric services, family care, an on-site pharmacy, and an imaging center.



Comptroller Lierman tours the departments within the Gudelsky Family Medical Center - Ocean Pines.

[View Worcester County Tour Gallery](#)

Media Contacts

Robyne McCullough
rmccullough@marylandtaxes.gov
410-980-0139 (cell)

Barbara Sauers
bsauers@marylandtaxes.gov
410-212-9414 (cell)

Office Location

Goldstein Treasury Building 80 Calvert St. Annapolis, MD 21401



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