

News Release

Comptroller Lierman Announces Agency's Taxpayer Services Division on Track for Move to Baltimore City in January 2024

Comptroller affirms vote for settlement; applauds Western Maryland infrastructure improvements at Board of Public Works meeting

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 29, 2023) — Today, the Maryland Board of Public Works (BPW) considered 88 items as part of its routine agenda, authorizing more than \$275.6 million in state expenditures. During the meeting, Comptroller Brooke Lierman provided comments on the following agenda items:

On a request from the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Comptroller Brooke Lierman voted to approve a payment of \$45,000 to Malik Shakur to settle a lawsuit stemming from an alleged incident at North Branch Correctional Institution, near Cumberland, in 2019.

Calling on her own experiences as an attorney, Comptroller Lierman emphasized, “we have a duty not to violate the rights or harm citizens we represent, including the ones we care for in the Department of Corrections. When we do, I believe as a state, we should not be immune from rectifying the issue that we caused. We do that through payments.”

Also during Wednesday's meeting, Comptroller Lierman announced the agency is on track to move from State Center to Baltimore's Central Business District at 7 St. Paul Street, beginning with the [Taxpayer Services Division](#) operations in Baltimore. Taxpayer Services will be open ahead of the start of tax season on January 2, 2024.

The Comptroller praised the efforts of Deputy Chief of Staff Emily Gontrum and coordination with the Departments of General Services and Budget and Management.

“We were a little bit of a guinea pig on figuring out how we move agencies in a coordinated way. So, I'm excited to share that we're on track to be the first agency to officially relocate from State Center to Baltimore Central Business District, starting with our Taxpayer Services Division on January 2, 2024. This endeavor didn't come without its challengers, and we overcame them.”

The Comptroller also recognized the Baltimore Street Revitalization Project in Cumberland, praising the transformation of the city's downtown corridor.

More information can be found at <https://bpw.maryland.gov/>

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