At Board of Public Works, Comptroller Lierman Notes Projects to Save Energy and Improve Climate

Solar power project in St. Mary's County to save fire department $18,000 and plans to develop decarbonization plan will improve state's climate

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (February 28, 2024) — The Maryland Board of Public Works (BPW) today approved more than $230 million for 59 initiatives and projects across Maryland.

Among the items, was a $200,000 grant to the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department in St. Mary's County. **Comptroller Brooke Lierman** highlighted the solar power system project which will accommodate 100% of the department's electrical usage at fire stations in California and Leonardtown. The system would lower the department's utility bill by $18,000 annually and reduce its carbon footprint.

"I'd like to acknowledge and extend my appreciation to Delegate Brian Crosby, (D-29B St. Mary's County), for submitting a letter of support for the project and sponsoring the bond initiative last year," Comptroller Lierman said.

Comptroller Lierman also noted a request from the Department of General Services to award three firms a contract to develop decarbonization plans for state-owned buildings and facilities.

"These plans are necessary to meet our state's climate goals," Comptroller Lierman said. "They will help the State of Maryland transition our buildings to efficient, clean, and cost-saving electricity to meet our state Climate goals."

"This is a huge step forward. We pass important legislation and then it actually has to be implemented and this is one of those steps to implement it."

After thanking the Office of Sustainability, the Comptroller said there is "a lot more work to do and we keep moving forward."

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