Governor Martin O'Malley Receives Prestigious "Climate Leadership Award" from the Chesapeake Climate Action Network

BALTIMORE, MD (November 4, 2009) – On behalf of its 80,000 supporters across the region, the Chesapeake Climate Action Network today named Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley as recipient of its highest annual prize. The "Maryland Climate Leadership Award" is presented to the Governor for his critical leadership in helping to pass the historic Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act in Maryland earlier this year.

"I'm humbled by this recognition, and recognize that one person's actions toward a healthier, more sustainable environment – while helpful – would not be nearly as impactful as the actions of a group of caring and committed individuals fighting for the future of our planet," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "In many ways, the challenge of global warming represents one of the greatest public health challenges of our time. I am honored to have served alongside those courageous advocates who work on the grassroots level, and who give meaning to what we do as public servants."

CCAN also announced climate leadership awards today for student activists, community leaders, and a leading Maryland environmental foundation.

The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Act -- SB 278/HB 315 -- mandates the strongest economy-wide reduction in global warming pollution of any climate bill in the country. The law requires the state to cut greenhouse gas emissions 25 percent below 2006 levels by 2020 and directs the Maryland Department of the Environment to craft a plan and a timeline to achieve that goal. With this bill, Maryland joined six other states in enacting a legally binding goal for emissions reductions.

"In signing the bill in May 2009, Governor O'Malley culminated years of sustained effort from citizens, business leaders, environmental groups, and religious and health organizations," said Mike Tidwell, Executive Director of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. "With global warming accelerating, it's more important than ever to recognize true global warming champions like Governor O'Malley."

The Maryland Department of the Environment anticipates that the transition to a low carbon economy will provide a \$2 billion boost to the state through energy efficiency, conservation and new green jobs by 2020. A study by the International Center for Sustainable Development estimated the state's plan would create up to 326,000 jobs over the next 20 years. The bill went into effect October 1, 2009.

Dr. Donald Boesch, President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES), and Keith Campbell, founder of the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment, also received "Maryland Climate Leadership Awards" from CCAN today. Dr. Boesch was a key leader of the Governor's Commission on Climate Change and helped craft the Maryland Climate Action Plan, which became the basis for the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act. The Campbell Foundation is a distinguished leader in supporting environmental sustainability causes across Maryland.

The Chesapeake Climate Action Network also presented "Certificates of Excellence" to the Maryland Student Climate

Coalition and the Baltimore Climate Action Network for their outstanding work to curb global warming in Maryland at a grassroots level.

CCAN's "Maryland Climate Leadership Award" is presented annually to individuals and organizations in Maryland who have exhibited exceptional leadership in fighting global warming through clean, efficient energy. Prior recipients of this award include U.S. Congressman Chris Van Hollen, Maryland State Senator Paul Pinsky, Maryland House Majority Leader Kumar Barve, and the Town Creek Foundation.

The Chesapeake Climate Action Network is the oldest and largest grassroots organization in Maryland dedicated exclusively to raising awareness about the impacts and solutions associated with global warming in the Chesapeake Bay region. For nearly a decade, CCAN has been at the center of the fight for clean energy and wise climate policy in Maryland. Working with partners across the state, CCAN has played a central role in Maryland's adoption of such policies as the Renewable Electricity Standard (2004), the Healthy Air Act (2006), the Clean Cars Act (2007), and the historic Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act (2009).



Governor Martin O'Malley Launches Economic Update Online Series

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 5, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley delivered the first in a series of Maryland Economic Updates today to provide a status update on Maryland's economy. The Governor's Economic Update focused on such economic indicators as rising real estate sales, an unemployment rate consistently below the national average, and companies throughout Maryland announcing the hiring of additional staff.

The Economic Updates launches today as Governor O'Malley addresses tourism and hospitality professionals and the Maryland Travel and Tourism Summit. This evening, Governor O'Malley will outline the State's efforts to strengthen the small business community at the Maryland Chamber of Commerce Business Policy Conference.

Governor O'Malley's weekly economic updates can be viewed here.

"We learned this week that our national economy grew by three and a half percent in the third quarter, with economists now saying that things are moving in the right direction. This is encouraging news, yet all of us agree that we're not out of the woods yet," Governor O'Malley said in his online message. "While there is an emerging consensus that things are getting better we still have a ways to go. The good news is that the strengths, the potential, and the assets of innovation are right here, in Maryland."

The economic updates will include Maryland's latest economic news, including information on the State's unemployment rate, job growth and the local real estate market. The Governor will also highlight news on Maryland's businesses, including mergers, expansions, contracts and awards.

Governor O'Malley also noted this week's news that Black & Decker and Stanley Works will enter into a \$4.5 billion merger. The Governor has directed Maryland economic officials to work with any and all impacted workers as the Department of Business and Economic Development remains engaged to ensure the Black & Decker power toll division remains in Towson.

"As we work to restore business confidence in Maryland, it is vital that we continue to tell Maryland's positive economic story and keep our finger on the pulse of the business community," said Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) Secretary Christian S. Johansson. "Governor O'Malley's weekly webcasts will complement DBED's ongoing efforts to inform our stakeholders about the things we are doing to grow business in Maryland."

Maryland's September unemployment rate of 7.2 percent is more than 25 percent lower than the U.S. unemployment rate, ranking the State with the 15th lowest unemployment rate in the nation. Year over year, Maryland had the sixth best rate of job change among the states, ranking high in professional and business service jobs, and leading the nation in the creation of computer systems design and related services jobs, adding 4,000 over the year. In addition, Maryland gained 1,400 construction jobs from August 2009 to September 2009, the first gain in 18 consecutive months of declines.

DBED currently has three publications dedicated to informing Maryland's business community on a variety of business and economic issues – *Business Pulse*, which features updates on Maryland employers and the State's myriad resources; *Economic Pulse*, which shares timely analysis and reports on Maryland's monthly economic indicators; and *Global Pulse*, which features Maryland-related international investment and trade news. To subscribe to any of these publications, users can visit www.choosemaryland.org.

Governor O'Malley's weekly economic updates can be viewed here.

Governor Martin O'Malley Addresses Statewide Travel and Tourism Summit; Launches 'Green' Travel Program

OCEAN CITY, MD (November 5, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley addressed more than 300 tourism and hospitality professionals today at the 29th Annual Maryland Travel and Tourism Summit in Ocean City. During his remarks, Governor O'Malley presented several awards to industry stakeholders and launched the Maryland Green Travel Program, designed to attract so-called eco-tourists while creating a more sustainable future for all Marylanders.

"We're so proud to live in our great state, known as 'America in Miniature' since Maryland offers so much for visitors to enjoy," said Governor O'Malley. "We know that when it comes to growing smarter and more sustainably as a state, our choices are all connected. So as we work toward a more sustainable future, we can extend these principles to our travel and tourism industry with our new Maryland Green Travel Program."

The Maryland Green Travel Program is a voluntary program that helps businesses find more environmentally sustainable ways of doing business, providing tips and resources to reduce waste, conserve energy and water, and better manage the environment. In turn, participants in the program share successful strategies for greening their business, and the results they've achieved. As part of this program, Maryland will launch a section of visitmaryland.com that will promote businesses that incorporate sustainability into their business practices.

Tourism is Maryland's fourth largest industry and has an economic impact on Maryland by creating jobs, generating tax revenue, and increasing business income. In 2007, tourist spending produced an estimated \$13.6 billion, generating almost 141,000 jobs and \$1.7 billion in State and local tax revenue. Maryland is outperforming national trends in travel and tourism, illustrated by an increase in tax revenue from the tourism industry, increased jobs data, and an increased demand for lodging. In 2008, Maryland welcomed 28 million visitors, up from 27.2 million in 2007.

Governor O'Malley also distributed the 2009 Maryland Tourism Awards to several industry stakeholders, noting each recipient's contributions to the State in areas including green tourism, cultural heritage tourism and volunteerism, and elevating Maryland as a tourism destination. The Maryland Tourism Awards are open to all individuals, private businesses and non-profit organizations offering a tourism product or service in Maryland.

Green/Sustainable Tourism Award: The recipients of this award have embraced sustainable tourism through

innovations in building construction, purchasing from local companies and promoting green practices not only to their employees but to their guests.

- Black Ankle Vineyards: An award-winning winery in Mt. Airy, Black Ankle Vineyards designed its tasting room almost exclusively with materials found, grown or harvested at its location. In addition, the tasting room is now 100% wind-powered. The winery opened to the public in fall 2008.
- Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Baltimore Downtown/ Inner Harbor: Baltimore's first LEED certified hotel has made green practices an integral part of its operation. It has implemented a variety of procedures that promote sustainability, especially for energy efficiency, waste and pollution minimization and environmental purchasing.

Visit Maryland Award: The major goal of the Maryland Office of Tourism is to increase tourism revenue from its visitors. The recipients of this award have demonstrated creativity and consistency in promotional efforts to showcase Maryland.

- *Host our Coast*: An interactive promotional campaign on the Eastern Shore, Host our Coast is a collaborative effort by a variety of entities: Delmarva Low-Impact Tourism Experiences, Worcester County Tourism, University of Maryland Eastern Shore's Rural Development, the town of Berlin, Full City Media, and Southern Delaware Tourism.
- *Maryland Life*: A bi-monthly magazine based in Frederick, Maryland Life has demonstrated outstanding investment and performance in improving Maryland's image as a travel destination. Each full-color issue presents the state as an enticing place where residents or visitors can live, work, play and explore.

Cultural Heritage Tourism Award: The recipient of this award is recognized for outstanding investments and contributions in stewardship and development of Maryland's cultural heritage product and engagement in regional and statewide tourism initiatives.

• John Brown 150th Anniversary Quad-State Committee: This unique committee represents a four-state effort to commemorate the 150th anniversary of John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry, which many consider to be the start of the Civil War. A new web site, preservation of sites, and interpretive markers help to tell the story of "the spark that became the inferno of the Civil War."

Tourism Volunteer Award: Recognizes outstanding volunteer service to Maryland's tourism industry regionally or statewide by a corporation, government, non-profit agency or individual.

• *The Pathfinders*: These dedicated volunteers welcomed many of the more than 20 million yearly passengers who come through BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport. They provide airport information, travel tips, and suggested itineraries 365 days a year.

Economic Engine Award: Awarded for job creation; positive impact to the region and state; and exemplary contributions to Maryland's tourism industry, the recipients of this award have ramped up their performance while significantly contributing revenue for the state.

• Charles and Prince George's counties: Each of these counties saw increases in tourism tax revenue in fiscal 2009, driven in part by the opening of two new attractions—Regency Furniture Stadium and National Harbor, respectively.

Governor Martin O'Malley Outlines Strategy to Strengthen Small Business Community

Governor delivers 10 point strategy in an address before the Maryland Chamber of Commerce

CAMBRIDGE, MD (November 5, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley will address business leaders at the Maryland Chamber of Commerce Business Policy Conference tonight where he will outline the State's efforts to strengthen Maryland's small business community during these difficult economic times. The Governor's remarks will come on the same day he addressed travel and hospitality professionals at the Maryland Travel and Tourism Summit.

"If we're going to turn the corner from recovery to prosperity, we need all of you, and we must continue to recognize that our progress as a State depends on the prosperity of small businesses," Governor O'Malley will say before the Maryland Chamber of Commerce. "If we want a strong, growing middle class, we must have strong family-owned businesses. And to have strong businesses, we must strive to improve public safety and public education and to expand opportunity to more people rather than fewer."

The Governor's remarks come as he releases the <u>first in a series of economic web</u> <u>updates</u> on the state of Maryland's economy, outlining both statistical and anecdotal evidence of an economic recovery, including rising real estate sales, an unemployment rate consistently below the national average, and companies throughout Maryland that are hiring additional staff. Maryland remains one of only six states that continues to defend a Triple A Bond rating, and is home to America's number one public school system and one of the most highly skilled

Governor O'Malley will outline a Ten Point Strategy today to strengthen small business in Maryland:

workforces in the nation.

- 1. Create Maryland's first ever Commission for Small Business, built upon the positive momentum of the Small Business Task Force created in July, giving the small business community a permanent sear at the table.
- 2. Expand assistance to Maryland businesses through the Health Insurance Partnership, fulfilling our capacity to serve 1,500 businesses and 10,000 Marylanders with access to quality, affordable health insurance through employment at a Maryland small business.
- 3. Create one, uniform loan application for any small business applying for state financing and streamline the state's permitting requirements to further reduce the red tape for Maryland small businesses.

- 4. Match President Obama's commitment to waive borrowing fees for SBA loans on the state level, including fees for the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority, which has financed 26 businesses since July of 2007, providing nearly \$5 million in assistance and helping these businesses create and retain 400 jobs.
- 5. Work with our Congressional delegation to secure greater capital from the federal government for our small businesses.
- 6. Expand our efforts to advance Minority Business Enterprise, further enhancing the unprecedented efforts of the O'Malley-Brown Administration, which has set the highest MBE goal for state agencies in the nation, achieving 22% MBE participation across state government in FY09 and awarding \$346 million to African American firms a 30% increase from the previous year.
- 7. Set aside a percentage of certain state contracts for small business through the Small Business Reserve Program, extending the program six more years, allowing Maryland small businesses to navigate the bidding process without being overwhelmed by the bidding power of large corporations.
- 8. Through our Federal Facilities Task Force, work with the federal government to open up federal procurement and contracting opportunities for more Maryland businesses.
- 9. Work with the business community to finds ways to do an even better job providing skills training and promoting career readiness in our schools, particularly as it relates to things like Career and Technology Education (CTE) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education.
- 10. Work with the business community to find a sustainable solution to the unemployment insurance challenges facing Maryland small businesses.

An as-prepared version of Governor O'Malley's remarks <u>can be found here</u>, and today's Economic Update <u>can be found here</u>.



CSX Becomes First Transportation Provider to Join Maryland Green Registry

CAMBRIDGE, MD (November 5, 2009) – CSX today was recognized as the first transportation provider to join the Maryland Green Registry, a voluntary self-certification program that promotes and recognizes sustainable practices by organizations throughout the state.

The Maryland Green Registry includes organizations that complete a best practices profile covering environmental management and leadership, waste reduction, energy and water conservation, transportation, and green building design. The selection was announced by Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley at a Maryland Chamber of Commerce Business Policy Dinner in Cambridge, Maryland.

"Maryland businesses like CSX already know that even relatively simple steps to reduce our impact on the environment save money and create a healthier workplace," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "The Maryland Green Registry provides an opportunity for these organizations to share their stories and inspire others to take steps to protect our air, land, and water, including the Chesapeake Bay. We're fortunate to have more than 80 organizations in our State who have agreed to come forward and participate – including CSX – and we hope to have hundreds more organizations join us."

"Environmental sustainability is fundamental to CSX's management principles and good business practices," said Michael Ward, Chairman, President and CEO of CSX. "CSX is proud to join the Maryland Green Registry, and we look forward to working with other participants to build a greener future for Maryland, where CSX has a long and proud history."

CSX was selected for the Maryland Green Registry due to its overall commitment to environmental sustainability. CSX recently announced a plan to reduce C02 emissions by 2.4 million tons - the equivalent of taking 441,000 cars off the road each year, or burning 5,598,000 fewer barrels of oil.

Trains can move a ton of freight more than 436 miles on a single gallon of fuel, making rail transportation three times more fuel-efficient than highway transportation. Efficient use of fuel reduces greenhouse gas emissions. According to the EPA, freight railroads account for just 2% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions from transportation sources and well under 1% of total greenhouse gas emissions.

CSX is also a sponsor of the National Gateway. The National Gateway is a public-private partnership that proposes a state-of-the-art rail corridor linking the East Coast's international deepwater ports and major consumption markets with the population and manufacturing centers of the Midwest. The National Gateway will deliver over \$2 billion of public benefits to Maryland by creating over 10,000 jobs, increasing the market access potential for the Port of Baltimore by 114%, eliminating over 2 million tons of CO2 emissions, reducing highway congestion and shifting 1.6 billion freight truck miles to rail.

CSX has partnered with the EPA as the railroad industry's charter member in the SmartWay Transport Partnership and the first transportation company to join the EPA's Climate Leaders Program, leading voluntary improvements in greenhouse gas emissions.

CSX Corporation, based in Jacksonville, Fla., is a leading transportation company providing rail, intermodal and rail-to-truck transload services. The company's transportation network spans approximately 21,000 miles with service to 23 eastern states and the District of Columbia, and connects to more than 70 ocean, river and lake ports. More information about CSX Corporation and its subsidiaries is available at the company's web site, www.csx.com.

Contact:

CSXBob Sullivan
1 (877) 835-5279

Governor Martin O'Malley Issues Executive Order to Aid in H1N1 (Swine) Flu Response

Governor launches online flu update series for Maryland public

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 6, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley signed an executive order today that will permit state and local jurisdictions to utilize emergency medical personnel and other licensed medical professionals who volunteer to join Maryland's statewide H1N1 (Swine) Flu response effort should their services be needed. Under the order, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, cardiac rescue technicians and other medical professionals could be enlisted to give the H1N1 (Swine) flu vaccine to the general public if needed.

"We are doing everything in our power to make sure we are prepared to vaccinate every Maryland child and adult who needs and wants this vaccine when supplies allow," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "This flu is a disease that we all must take seriously. Daily vaccine shipments are getting larger and we hope that by the end of November we'll have enough on hand to make the H1N1 vaccine available to anyone who wants it. As the vaccine availability expands, Maryland will be ready to meet the demand."

Today's executive order comes as Governor O'Malley launches the first in a series of web updates on H1N1 (Swine) Flu today, including a status update on the spread of the disease and an urge of patience for Marylanders still waiting to receive a vaccination. To date, state officials have ordered 100% of the vaccines available to Maryland distributors, more than 707,000 doses.

Governor O'Malley's H1N1 (Swine) Flu update can be viewed here.

Currently, emergency medical personnel are allowed limited legal authority to vaccinate each other, not the general public. In addition to certain first responders, Executive Order 01.01.2009.15 gives the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) the authority to enlist the aid of other licensed medical professionals to administer the H1N1 (Swine) flu vaccine as long as they have the training and experience to do so safely and effectively.

"This forward-leaning action gives Maryland more tools we can now call upon to protect our families in a timely, safe and effective manner," said John M. Colmers, DHMH Secretary. "Should we see the need and opportunity, Maryland's first responders and medical professionals in every community may be adding 'flu fighter' to a long list of public service accomplishments where they work and live."

In Maryland, the five major target groups for H1N1 (Swine) Flu Vaccine equal about 2.9 million people. These groups include pregnant women, parents and caregivers for children younger than six months, healthcare and emergency services personnel, people ages 6 months through 24 years, and people aged 25 through 64 who have certain chronic health conditions. H1N1 vaccine is available now, but many Marylanders have grown frustrated with delayed shipments and the slower-than-expected federal distribution.

Good personal hygiene can reduce the risk of illness frequently washing of hands, cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and staying home if you develop flu-like symptoms.

Complications and death from flu-related illness are more common among those with serious underlying health conditions. If you have a flu-like illness and begin to experience emergency warning signs, contact your health care provider as soon as possible. Emergency warning signs include:

In Children

• Bluish skin color (for fair tones) and grayish skin color (for darker tones)

- Not drinking enough fluids
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough
- Fever with a rash

In Adults

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness or confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting

Governor O'Malley's H1N1 (Swine) Flu update can be viewed here.



Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on National Unemployment Surpassing Ten Percent

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 6, 2009) –Governor Martin O'Malley issued this statement today following the announcement that national unemployment has surpassed ten percent:

"Today's 10.2 percent national unemployment rate is another signal that, while many economic indicators show signs of improvement, we are not nearly out of the woods. Not as a state, and not as a nation.

"I know that Marylanders are frustrated with the pace of this recovery, and I share in that frustration. Last night, I shared with Maryland's business community our strategy to strengthen small businesses in Maryland. If we're going to turn the corner from recovery to prosperity, we must continue to recognize that our progress as a State depends on the prosperity of small businesses, businesses that employ more than 1.2 million people in the State of Maryland.

"Maryland is fortunate to have consistently held unemployment well below the national average at 7.2 percent. For all the challenges we're facing as a country, there are plenty of reasons why we in Maryland are in a better position than our counterparts in other States to transition from recovery to prosperity. We are home to one of America's most highly skilled workforces, the nation's top public school system, countless world class institutions and federal facilities, and we remain one of only six states to defend a Triple A bond rating."

Last night, Governor O'Malley outlined a ten point strategy before the Maryland Chamber of Commerce to strengthen small business in Maryland. The Governor's **full remarks can be found here**.



Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Federal Grant to Expand Broadband in Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 6, 2009) –Governor Martin O'Malley issued this statement today following the announcement that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has awarded a \$2 million to the State of Maryland. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds will expand access to broadband and provide for improved data collection and broadband mapping.

"I want to thank the entire Maryland Congressional delegation for these funds, which will not only expand access to broadband throughout our state, but will in turn expand economic development, create jobs, increase our capacity to provide public safety and health services, and improve the strength of our small business community and our family-owned farms.

"These funds will allow for better, more accurate mapping of broadband in Maryland, which is consistent with our efforts to track Maryland's progress using innovative, GIS mapping technology.

"This is a major step toward improving the quality of life for our residents, and we are thankful to the U.S. Department of Commerce and the NTIA for this grant."



Mid-Atlantic Governors Commit to Offshore Wind Partnership

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 10, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley, Governor Tim Kaine of Virginia and Governor Jack Markell of Delaware agreed today on a tri-state partnership for the deployment of off shore wind energy in the Mid-Atlantic coastal region. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) creates a formal partnership that will build on the region's significant offshore wind resources to generate clean, renewable energy and a sustainable market that will bring new economic opportunities.

"Today marks another important step towards a clean energy future for our families and workers. The opportunity for renewable energy generation through off shore wind is outstanding," remarked Maryland's Governor Martin O'Malley. "Our states share many common resources and opportunities. This collaboration will allow us to take full advantage of these opportunities and pool our collective abilities for not only a *Smart, Green and Growing* Maryland, but a cleaner and more sustainable region as well."

"With our extensive coastline and highly-educated workforce, Virginia is particularly well-suited to explore offshore wind energy opportunities," said Virginia Governor Timothy M. Kaine. "In these tough economic times, it's more important than ever that we invest in renewable energy sources that will create jobs and provide cleaner, more affordable energy for our families and communities. One of the best things we can do to lift ourselves out of a challenging economy today is to invest in a greener, cleaner tomorrow."

"With the only power purchase agreement in place for offshore wind in the United States, Delaware is poised to be the first state in the nation to develop an offshore wind farm, bringing clean power to the region and creating hundreds of jobs," said Governor Jack Markell. "This agreement will help us leverage the resources and energy of our three state governments to help our region become the true powerhouse for this important source of renewable, reliable alternative energy."

Through the MOU, the Mid-Atlantic States will focus on leveraging resources and information to bring offshore wind energy to the region, which in turn, will create green jobs for our workers and clean energy alternatives for our families and businesses. Immediate tasks under the MOU are to identify common transmission strategies for offshore wind energy deployment in the region, discuss ways to encourage sustainable market demand for this renewable resource and work collaboratively in pursuing federal energy policies which help advance offshore wind in the Mid-Atlantic area.

The MOU also calls for examination of ways to coordinate regional supply chain facilities to secure supply, deployment, and operations and maintenance functions to support offshore wind energy facilities. Collaboration on strategies to utilize academic institutions to create standards and opportunities for training and workforce development will also be developed.

This coordinated effort will provide benefits for each state individually by efficiently targeting areas of common interest to the region. Moreover, this effort will greatly facilitate our regional engagement with federal entities such as the Minerals Management Service, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Department of Defense.

Governor Martin O'Malley Urges Congressional Delegation to Increase Small Business Lending

Governor's online economic update focuses on strengthening Maryland small businesses

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 12, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley released the second in a series of weekly online economic updates, where he focused on the need to strengthen Maryland's small business community, which employs 1.2 million people in the State. During the address, Governor O'Malley acknowledged having sent a letter to members of Maryland's Congressional delegation this week urging them to support efforts to use existing TARP funds to increase small business lending.

Governor O'Malley's economic update for this week can be viewed here.

"TARP funds have been used successfully to help high profile banks that serve Wall Street. It's time that our federal partners recycle those funds back into the economy by supporting small businesses that serve Main Street," said Governor O'Malley in the online economic update. "Your state government continues to do all we can to engage our private sector, expand opportunity throughout Maryland, and strengthen the ranks of our middle class including our family owned businesses."

The Governor also noted the recent merger announcement between Black & Decker and Stanley Works, resulting in the moving of Black & Decker's corporate headquarters out of Maryland. The Governor spoke this week with John Lundgren, Stanley Works CEO, who assured the Governor that Black & Decker's power tool division would remain in Maryland along with the jobs it supports.

Finally, in the wake of national unemployment topping 10 percent, the Governor reiterated the State's pledge to expand opportunity to small businesses, illustrated by a <u>ten point strategy the Governor presented</u> before the Maryland Chamber of Commerce last week. Maryland unemployment rate of 7.2 percent has remained consistently below the national average.

Governor O'Malley's economic update for this week can be viewed here.



Lockheed Martin IS&GS Opens New NexGen Cyber Innovation and Technology Center

State of Maryland issues proclamation for Cyber Security Awareness Day and Center

today announced the opening of its NexGen Cyber Innovation and Technology Center, a world-class research and development center for customer and partner collaboration located in Gaithersburg, Maryland. This cyber solution center is the newest addition to the Lockheed Martin portfolio of innovation, collaboration, and testing facilities. In support of the NexGen dedication ceremony, the Maryland Governor's office issued a proclamation declaring November 12th Cyber Security Awareness Day.

Speaking at the dedication ceremony today were Bob Stevens, Lockheed Martin Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer; Linda Gooden, Executive Vice President, Lockheed Martin Information Systems and Global Services; Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley; Congressman Chris Van Hollen (D-Md); Art Coviello, Executive Vice President, EMC and President, RSA, the Security Division of EMC and other notable government officials and technology industry executives.

"Our new NexGen cyber center will foster innovation and collaboration to preserve our customers' missions and address the worldwide cyber security challenges," said Linda Gooden, Executive Vice President, Lockheed Martin Information Systems and Global Services.

The 25,000 square foot facility is designed complete with a global cyber innovation range to solve technology challenges in real-time while simulating customer environments. NexGen leverages partner and Lockheed Martin technologies to create rapid prototypes to speed the innovation of solution delivery while providing seamless security. Features of the center include: seven collaboration areas, a green IT data center, cloud computing platforms, telepresence and high definition video teleconferencing, and site connectivity to other Lockheed Martin facilities around the globe.

"Threats such as identity theft, network viruses, loss of sensitive information and other malicious activity are part of the ever evolving world of cyber information and communications," said Governor O'Malley. "As public servants, our most solemn obligation is to protect the safety of the citizens we serve, and that includes protection from cyber threats. All Marylanders have an obligation to protect themselves as well, as we address this modern security threat as One Maryland."

"I am so proud that more than ever before, Maryland truly is home to America's cyber security efforts," said U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. "Cyber security is a growing national security threat, and one I take very seriously.

The NexGen Cyber Innovation and Technology Center will unite federal and private efforts to protect our nation from despicable and dangerous cyber criminals and spies. It also means new high-tech, high-paying jobs that will stay right here in Maryland."

"In this digital age, the strength of the country's cyber infrastructure is a matter of economic and national security. Any weak point in that security threatens the state of the entire system. The NexGen Cyber Innovation and Technology Center will help create cyber solutions for challenges we face both today and in the future," said Congressman Van Hollen (D-Md).

The newly constructed center will serve as a global security asset to protect Lockheed Martin customers' missions and address the greater cyber security challenges worldwide. Partnering to help customers meet their defining moments, the company has made significant progress to ensure delivery of the highest quality cyber security solutions and protection for its customers' most critical assets.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin is a global security company that employs about 140,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services. The corporation reported 2008 sales of \$42.7 billion.

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Governor Martin O'Malley Issues Online Flu Update

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 13, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley issued the second in a series of online H1N1 (Swine) Flu web updates on H1N1 (Swine) Flu today, including a status update on the spread of the disease and an update on the seasonal flu and H1N1 vaccines. To date, state officials have ordered 100% of the H1N1 vaccinations available to Maryland distributors, more than 750,000 doses.

"By now, all of us have seen the national news that the pace of vaccine production has been slower than anticipated," said Governor O'Malley. "But our state distribution system is strong, and we are getting the vaccine out as soon as it comes in. It is our belief that by the end of this month to have over a million doses in state and by the end of the year, to have enough on hand to make it available to anyone who wants it."

Governor O'Malley's H1N1 (Swine) Flu update can be viewed here.

This week, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention six more deaths associated with H1N1 (Swine) Flu in Maryland. All of the deaths have occurred over the last four weeks and involve adults with underlying health conditions.

Maryland is one of 46 states reporting geographically widespread influenza activity as virtually every indicator reveals the spread of H1N1 (Swine) flu is on the rise across the state. Since June 1, 2009, DHMH has reported 321 hospitalizations due to H1N1 (Swine) Flu-related illness to the CDC.

Since May 2009, DHMH has reported to the CDC 664 hospitalizations due to H1N1 (Swine) Flu-related illness.

Symptoms of influenza include fever, cough, and sore throat. Additional symptoms may include chills, headache, fatigue, vomiting, diarrhea or shortness of breath.

Good personal hygiene can reduce the risk of illness frequently washing of hands, cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and staying home if you develop flu-like symptoms.

Complications and death from flu-related illness are more common among those with serious underlying health conditions. If you have a flu-like illness and begin to experience emergency warning signs, contact your health care provider as soon as possible. Emergency warning signs include:

In Children

- Bluish skin color (for fair tones) and grayish skin color (for darker tones)
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough
- Fever with a rash

In Adults

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness or confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting

Governor O'Malley's H1N1 (Swine) Flu update can be viewed here.

Governor Martin O'Malley Proclaims November 16 through 20 "Maryland Hunger Awareness Week"

Celebrates one year milestone in Partnership to End Childhood Hunger

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 13, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley today celebrated the one year anniversary of the Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland by having lunch with kids at Annapolis Child Care, and proclaimed the week of November 16 through 20 as "Maryland Hunger Awareness Week," to coincide with National Hunger Awareness Week. Last year, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley and Share Our Strength®, a national nonprofit organization, announced a Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland.

"Especially during these tough times, together, we must ensure that no child goes without the basic nourishment needed to thrive. Ending childhood hunger is an issue which transcends politics," said Governor O'Malley. "It's an issue that speaks to who we are as a people, to what kind of society we choose to be in the tough times when our shared efforts matter most, to what kind of society we choose to leave for future generations. When a child goes hungry anywhere in Maryland – it impacts us all. It's all connected."

"Share Our Strength is grateful that Governor O'Malley has vowed to become the first governor in the nation to end childhood hunger in his state," said Bill Shore, founder and executive director of Share Our Strength. "In just one year, the Partnership has ensured more kids in need receive school breakfast, summer meals and food stamps."

There are more than 152,000 children in Maryland living below poverty. Thousands more, though not poor by the federal definition, do not get enough to eat because Maryland is a high-cost state and nutritious food is too expensive for many households.

The Partnership will help reach children at risk of hunger in Maryland by increasing participation in highly effective but under-utilized federal food and nutrition programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (food stamps), the Summer Food Service Program, School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. The Partnership will bring additional federal funds to the State of Maryland in order to increase enrollment and participation in existing programs.

Last year, the Partnership set a number of goals to increase participation in programs that help reach Maryland children in need. During the 2009 school year, the Partnership's goal was to increase by 20 percent the number of licensed childcare facilities participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, which provides nutritious meals and snacks each day as

part of their programs. In school year 2008 to 2009, an additional 28 centers participated.

In 2009, the Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland hoped to increase the number of students who participate in the Summer Meals program by at least three percent. This summer, over 2.5 million meals were served under this program, representing an 11% increase in participation. In addition in May 2009, Maryland saw a 23.5% increase in the Food Supplement Program, reaching 117,881 more households in Maryland.

Last year, only 14.48 percent of Maryland's school children received school breakfast each year. In School Year 2008 – 2009, an average of 131,632 breakfasts were served, serving an additional 8,735 children in Maryland schools every day, compared to the previous school year, a 7% increase compared to last year.



In addition, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) was added to the Partnership goal in June 2009. WIC's goal is to increase the total number of persons participating in the WIC Program by 5%. This would result in an additional 7,199 persons enrolled, for a total of 151,179 eligible participants enrolled in the WIC program. As of October 2009, WIC has 149,426 participants enrolled, or 3,593 added since July 09. They have reached 98.6% of their goal in just 4 short months.

The Annapolis Child Care Center serves children ages two to five for 35 percent less than a traditional day care center. Forty-three percent of the center's families qualify for free or reduced meals, 26 percent receive DSS vouchers and 100 percent have made a commitment to their child's school readiness by making sure they are in a licensed, nurturing, and challenging program.

Governor O'Malley has assigned the Governor's Office for Children as the lead state agency in the Partnership. It is working with Share Our Strength®, the State Departments of Education, Human Resources, and Health and Mental Hygiene, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other key public and private organizations across the state.

The Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland includes a strong coalition of organizations and agencies on the national and local levels, representing the private and public sectors, including the school systems, the Maryland Food Bank, Advocates for Children and Youth, and MD Hunger Solutions/Food Research and Action Center to implement the action plan to end childhood hunger in Maryland.

About Share Our Strength®

Share Our Strength® is a national organization working to ensure no child in America grows up hungry. We weave together a net of community groups, activists and food programs to catch children at risk of hunger, and ensure they have nutritious food where they live, learn and play. We work with the culinary industry to create engaging, pioneering programs like Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation®, Share Our Strength's Great American Bake Sale®, Share Our Strength's A Tasteful Pursuit®, Share Our Strength's Great American Dine OutTM, and Share Our Strength's Operation Frontline®. For more information, please visit Strength.org.



Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Childhood Hunger

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 17, 2009) —Governor Martin O'Malley released this statement today following <u>a report</u> <u>by the U.S. Department of Agriculture</u> that found 17 million U.S. households experienced a food shortage in 2008, a 31 percent increase since 2007. This means that about one-third of households experiencing a food shortage probably experienced hunger in 2008, even with the availability of federal nutrition assistance.

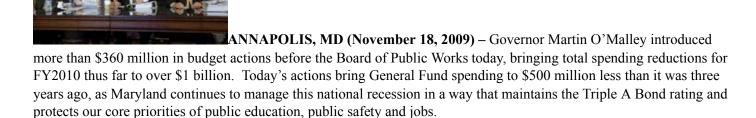
"This week is 'Hunger Awareness Week' in Maryland, and we're taking steps to become the first state in the nation to end childhood hunger by 2015. Maryland is one of a few states that has school breakfast, lunch and supper programs for our students. And since the creation of the Partnership to End Childhood Hunger a year ago, we've increased the Food Supplement Program participation by nearly 25 percent and increased Summer Food Service Program meals from 2 million in 2008 to 2.5 million this past summer.

Working together, we can continue to ensure that our children are receiving the nutrition they need to live stronger, healthier lives."



Governor Martin O'Malley Brings FY2010 Spending Reductions to Over \$1 Billion

Budget actions maintain Triple A bond rating; Protect public education, public safety, and jobs



A complete list of budget actions is available here.

A summary of total budget actions is available here.

"These have not been easy decisions, but they have been necessary decisions to balance our State's budget, and get our state through this recession more quickly and stronger than other states," said Governor O'Malley. "Our citizens expect and deserve a government that works, and in spite of the most severe recession in a generation we've been working to reform our State government to make more efficient and effective."

In the past three years, the O'Malley-Brown Administration has implemented \$4.6 billion in budget cuts and spending reductions, including the elimination of more than 3,300 state positions.

Governor O'Malley once again held public education harmless in this round of budget cuts, noting Maryland's nationally ranked number one public schools and the need to invest in our schools even in difficult times. General Fund support for K-12 education in FY2010 will exceed FY07 spending by almost \$700 million.

Of the FY2010 budget actions, six of every ten dollars have come from reforming state agencies. Among today reductions were efforts to continue reforming our State government to make it more efficient and effective, including the suspension of non-essential vehicle purchases and reducing out-of-state travel for state employees. In addition, the State Highway Administration will reduce operating hours for five of 12 SHA-operated rest areas. An additional rest area will close during the winter months, and the rest area at US 219 at Keyser's Ridge will close permanently.

Additionally, Governor O'Malley introduced \$11 million in savings from efforts to ensure that only people who are eligible for Medicaid receive Medicaid services, and by scaling back unnecessary services; \$500,000 in savings from negotiating lower prices with venders; and \$3 million in savings from streamlining operations and consolidating functions across our government.

With today's reductions, the O'Malley-Brown Administration maintains its commitment to fiscal responsibility by preserving the Rainy Day Fund at the mandated five percent of General Fund Revenues. Maryland remains one of only seven states to defend the coveted Triple A bond rating certified by all three bond rating agencies. In reaffirming this top ranked status, Standard & Poor's wrote in October that Maryland "has proactively responded to [a] recent structural

budget imbalance." And the rating agency Fitch noted that "the state has taken prompt and repeated action to preserve operating balance...."



Governor Martin O'Malley Applauds Expansion of Maryland Biotech Company

Governor's online economic update focuses on Emergent BioSolutions expansion, foreclosure prevention

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 19, 2009) – Governor Martin O'Malley released this week's online economic update, where he focused on the expansion of Emergent BioSolutions, a Maryland-based biopharmaceutical company, which will open a 60,000 square foot bioprocessing center in Each Baltimore to expand and increase production capacity on the groundbreaking vaccines that they produce. The expansion is expected to result in up to 125 jobs over the next five years.

Governor O'Malley's economic update for this week can be viewed here.

"This expansion will not only ensure more high-paying, highly skilled jobs for the area, but it further illustrates Maryland's place as a global hub for the life sciences industry," said Governor O'Malley in the online economic update. "Our unique assets, including countless federal facilities in and around our State, the nation's number one public school system, and our world class workforce will help bring Maryland through this national recession more quickly than other states."

The Governor also noted positive news in Maryland's real estate market. Baltimore area home sales reportedly jumped a record 36 percent last month, an increase many economists attribute to the federal first time homebuyer tax credit, representing the largest annual increase since the tracking of these figures began in the late 1990s. In addition, the Governor noted the more than 21,000 loan modifications that have been processed for Maryland homeowners, more than in Virginia and the District of Columbia combined.

Governor O'Malley's economic update for this week can be viewed here.



Governor O'Malley Announces 50-Year Contract with Ports America to Operate Port of Baltimore's Seagirt Marine Terminal

Agreement will provide 5,700 new jobs for Baltimore area

50-foot berth will be constructed that will bring more cargo and larger ships to Maryland

Agreement will bring over \$1.3 billion to the state over the next 50 years and will generate \$15.7 million in new taxes per year

announced a 50-year agreement between the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) and Ports America Chesapeake that will allow the MPA to lease its 200-acre Seagirt Marine Terminal to Ports America. In return, Ports America has agreed to construct a 50-foot berth for the Port of Baltimore that is expected to result in increased business opportunities and larger vessels that will be able to dock at the Port. The partnership between the MPA and Ports America is expected to produce 5,700 new jobs, while the total investment and revenue from this agreement to the State of Maryland has the potential to reach more than \$1.3 billion over the life of the agreement and will generate \$15.7 million per year in new taxes for Maryland. The agreement must be submitted to the Board of Public Works for approval.

"This public-private partnership is about three things: jobs, jobs, and more jobs," said Governor O'Malley. "These challenging economic times call for new ways of doing business. We welcome an internationally respected partner in the maritime field for this unique long-term joint venture. With this agreement, we are able to secure the Port's long-term future with a 50-foot berth, apply an immediate influx of capital for system preservation of roads, tunnels, and bridges, and provide an extended revenue stream to the State."

Once the agreement is finalized, Ports America will be responsible for running the daily operations of the Seagirt Marine Terminal, as well as investing in a new 50-foot berth, cranes, and other infrastructure at Seagirt. Ports America will make an annual payment and provide ongoing revenues to the MPA during the life of the agreement. The State of Maryland would continue to own Seagirt.

"On behalf of the Maryland delegation, I want to congratulate Governor O'Malley for securing this long-term business

partnership at the Port of Baltimore. Today's announcement is good news for Maryland and for jobs, jobs, jobs. The Port of Baltimore is a major economic engine for Maryland and America. That's why I'm proud to fight every year after year to put money in the federal checkbook to keep it safe, secure and growing. This new business partnership is a coup for Maryland's economy, our Port and the lives and livelihood that depend on it," said Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, Chair of the Maryland delegation.

Of the 5,700 new jobs that will result from this agreement, 3,000 jobs will be one-time construction jobs over the next three years for Port and Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA) highway improvements. Another 2,700 permanent direct, indirect and induced jobs will come from the increased and sustainable container business that the Port will see upon completion of the 50-foot berth in 2014.

Under the agreement, the MdTA, as the current owner of Seagirt, will receive an immediate payment in excess of \$100 million to pay for needed system preservation of its roads, tunnel, and bridge facilities. It also is projected that this agreement will generate \$15.7 million per year in new taxes for the State.

Ports America is the current operator of the Seagirt Marine Terminal and has operated the facility since Seagirt opened in 1990. Ports America has also run operations at the Dundalk Marine Terminal since

"Ports America Chesapeake has been an important part of Maryland's maritime tradition since 1921," said Ports America Chesapeake Chairman Christopher Lee. "We are looking forward to building on this foundation, as we and the Maryland Port Administration partner together in this key initiative, under the leadership of Governor O'Malley, to implement the critical infrastructure required to maintain the Port of Baltimore's competitiveness and importance to the Maryland economy and high quality and sustainable employment for many years to come."

In addition to full control over daily operations of Seagirt and the obligation to design and build the 50-foot berth within MPA's required standards, Ports America receives:

- A known future base payment for 50 years and all net revenues;
- The right to move and consolidate all current container business to Seagirt;
- Control over timing and nature of system preservation costs as long as standards are met;
- Funding capital obligations allow Ports America to invest in new technology as it sees fit.

"Here in Maryland, difficult economic times also open the door for new business opportunities and exciting partnerships," said Lt. Governor Anthony Brown. "This new partnership between the Maryland Port Administration and Ports America will not only strengthen the Port of Baltimore and increase its competitiveness in maritime commerce, but it will increase state revenue and generate more than 5,700 new jobs for Marylanders. Together, under Governor O'Malley's proactive leadership, we can continue to build upon the Port's success and expand opportunity to more Marylanders, creating a stronger tomorrow for the families of our great State."

With the development of a 50-foot berth, the Port of Baltimore will become only the second port on the East Coast with a 50-foot berth and 50-foot channel. When the Panama Canal expansion project is

completed in 2014, it is expected that a greater and larger number of ships will travel to East Coast ports to reach their customers quicker and less expensively than their current route of going to West Coast ports and sending products by rail to markets throughout the country. Without a 50-foot berth, those larger ships would not have enough water depth to dock and bring additional business to the Port of Baltimore. The cost to develop the 50-foot berth and four cranes is approximately \$105.5 million.

The Port of Baltimore employs about 16,500 workers. Out of about 360 U.S. ports, Baltimore is ranked number one for handling roll on/roll off cargo; trucks; imported forest products; and imported gypsum, sugar and iron ore. The Port of Baltimore is ranked 14th nationally for total foreign cargo tonnage and 12th for total dollar value of cargo. The Port is responsible for about \$3.6 billion in personal wage and salary income. Activities at the Port of Baltimore generate about \$388 million in state and local taxes.

As a result of its outstanding work to increase U.S. exports, the MPA, which oversees the public terminals at the Port of Baltimore, was honored in 2007 with the Presidential "E" award. The award was created in 1961 to recognize persons, firms, or organizations that contribute significantly to increase U.S. exports. The MPA, which also won the "E" award in 1964, is only the 23rd port organization out of 360 total ports in the U.S. to win the highly acclaimed recognition. It is only the fourth port to win the award twice



Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley Supporting Proposed Negro League Baseball Museum in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, MD (November 20, 2009) –Governor Martin O'Malley issued this statement today in support of a proposed Negro League Baseball Museum along the Pennsylvania Avenue corridor in Baltimore.

"Establishing the Negro League Baseball Museum along Pennsylvania Avenue is an appropriate way to honor the history of the Negro League, the Baltimore Elite Giants, and the area of Baltimore it will occupy. Planting this seed of revitalization in the heart Pennsylvania Avenue will help spark a rebirth of an area long known for its rich cultural history and entertainment.

"Reinforcing initiatives like the tours along the new Pennsylvania Avenue Heritage Trail and plans to rehabilitate PS 103 to honor Thurgood Marshall and Baltimore's rich civil rights history will result in an even greater critical mass in the area surrounding a Negro League Baseball Museum."



Governor Martin O'Malley's Weekly Economic Update Focuses on Job Creation

Economic Update from Port of Baltimore Highlights Growing Maryland Companies

[View Video Update]

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 24, 2009) – In his weekly economic update released today, Governor O'Malley focused on efforts to strengthen and grow Maryland's middle class by creating new jobs and expanding economic opportunities for Maryland's small businesses and families.

Governor O'Malley's economic update for this week can be viewed here.

"Our great challenge – and our great opportunity – is to make the connections that create jobs, fuel innovation, and drive progress," said Governor O'Malley. "During this Thanksgiving week, we are starting to see signs of job growth and economic recovery even as we continue to focus on growing our economy, promoting innovation, and creating new jobs in our state."

Last week, Governor O'Malley announced a 50-year agreement between the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) and Ports America Chesapeake that will allow the MPA to lease its 200-acre Seagirt Marine Terminal to Ports America. The agreement is expected to produce 5,700 new jobs and the total investment and revenue to the State of Maryland has the potential to reach more than \$1.3 billion and generate \$15.7 million per year in new taxes for Maryland.

In October, Maryland employers actually added 1,500 jobs marking the third positive month of job creation in Maryland over the last six months.

Governor O'Malley's economic update for this week can be viewed here.

The Governor also highlighted two growing Maryland businesses. Chesapeake Shipbuilding will add up to 125 new jobs and expand its property along the Wicomico River. The company has been a Salisbury institution for more than 30 years, and is currently expanding and hiring more Marylanders to occupy its facility. And electronics retailer Hhgregg, Inc. just signed a lease to occupy an abandoned Circuit City distribution center in southeastern Prince George's County, bringing 100 jobs to the 400,000 sq. ft. facility. Hhgregg, Inc. plans to aggressively expand in the region, including opening up to 45 new stores.



St. Charles, Maryland to become International Model Green City

SAINT—
CHARLES
MARYLAND

ST. CHARLES, MD (November 30, 2009) – American Community Properties Trust (ACPT) (NYSE Amex: APO) launched an initiative today that will make St. Charles, Maryland, its flagship 9,100 acre planned community in Charles County, the most comprehensive smart green community development project in the United States today. The project includes 4,000 undeveloped acres in the planned community, as well as retrofitting more than 12,000 existing homes and four million square feet of existing commercial space in St. Charles.

"Our vision is to make St. Charles the international model for 21st century smart green and growing communities," said Steve Griessel, CEO of the Maryland-based land development and property management company. "The transformational effect that will occur from our efforts will double St. Charles in size but actually lower today's carbon footprint and water usage for the community. This transformation will enable 40 percent of Charles County's population to live on approximately 2 percent of its land mass, making St. Charles truly a smart, green, and growing community," said Griessel.

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley attended the launch event. "In Maryland, we are focused on New Ideas for New Jobs – connecting the challenges and opportunities of a workforce that leads in science, security and skills. Our goal is for St. Charles to serve as a model of a 21st century city – a green, healthy city that also has a viable, thriving economy, and a city that truly embodies the deep connection between healing our planet and creating a strong economy and good-paying jobs for generations of Marylanders to come," said Governor O'Malley. "It is an honor to be here today in the great city of St. Charles, with ACPT, to announce the creation of a Green City. As part of the innovative Green City initiative, St. Charles will represent a model for cities around the world, making vital connections between the creation of new jobs and a thriving economy, and the health of our planet."

Griessel outlined a plan that will include:

- Dedicating the balance of 4,000 acres of fully entitled land zoned for 11,000 new homes and over 5 million square feet of commercial, schools and community centers to be a smart green and growing community.
- Undertaking a massive retrofitting program for the existing businesses and nearly 40,000 residents to enhance energy and water efficiency.
- Creating 20,000 jobs through a Green Jobs Opportunity Zone, including 1,000 new jobs in the next 3 years towards of Maryland's goal to create 100,000 green jobs statewide.
- Designing and building desirable, quality homes, apartments and commercial buildings that cost less and perform better
- Making St. Charles an international living laboratory for new technologies, products and services and share the results of programs with the world
- Working with universities and colleges to create a green campus, research and development park, and incubator
- Building the largest combination of clean energy infrastructure in the United States, including a 640 megawatt natural gas powered power plant, a 75-acre solar farm generating 10 megawatts, geothermal well fields for heating and cooling buildings, and a biomass gasification technology plant potentially incorporating methane from the

Charles County landfill to produce additional renewable electricity

To make the project a reality, Mr. Griessel announced memorandums of understanding that ACPT has with the Charles County Government, SMECO, the College of Southern Maryland, and local and national businesses. Mr. Griessel announced several initiatives that will be taking place as the "green city" project gets underway, including:

- Competitive Power Ventures (CPV), a Maryland based firm, has agreed to purchase land to construct a 75-acre 10-megawatt solar farm in St. Charles, the largest in the mid-Atlantic region..
- With IBM, ACPT will be seeking to create a common technology platform for the entire community that enables greater productivity, higher rates of conservation, improved public safety, and creates a greater sense of community.
- ACPT will develop its next neighborhood, a 625-mixed-unit community called Homefield, according to LEED standards for neighborhood design, and all homes, townhomes and apartments in the neighborhood will be built to LEED specifications as well. (LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a rating system for green building and development designed by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).
- The Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) has requested Maryland Public Service Commission approval to install and test 1,000 smart meters at existing homes and businesses in St. Charles. In addition, SMECO and St. Charles have begun installing programmable thermostats, part of what it calls its Cool Sentry program, at up to 2,500 apartments in St. Charles. The program helps the electricity company manage energy loads during peak demand periods in the summer. ACPT and SMECO have agreed to work jointly to market these and other energy saving programs to homes, businesses, and homebuilders in St. Charles.
- ACPT will donate 98 acres in St. Charles to the Charles County Public Schools, for use for the county's next high school. The school will be a LEED certified building.
- ACPT will develop a summer farmer's market and other programs in conjunction with the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

"This is a great start, but there is so much more we will be doing," said Griessel. "With SMECO, we are testing LED lighting technology in our new community, Gleneagles. With the College of Southern Maryland, we will be working jointly to promote the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program. Charles County Public Schools is going to build a LEED certified high school on 98 acres we have donated. The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission is helping us bring farmers markets, community gardens, and agricultural education programs to the green city. And we will be leading this effort in our future headquarters, which is going to be a LEED gold interior certified building, said Griessel.

For additional information, please visit www.stcharlesgreen.com

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