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Governor O'Malley Receives Proposed Congressional Redistricting Map

October 4th, 2011

Announces Start of Special Session on October 17th 2011

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 4, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued the following statement on the release of the proposed map by the Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee:

"I'd like to thank the members of the Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee for their hard work and diligence over the last several months in helping ensure an open and fair process that included citizens from every corner of the state. The Committee held numerous public hearings, listening to hours of testimony and reviewing submitted suggestions.

"The Committee's map will now be posted online for seven days to allow for public review and comment. I have been fully briefed and it is my intention to introduce a map that is substantially similar to the map submitted by the Committee. I encourage the members of the General Assembly and the public to prepare their comments based on the map that has been submitted in preparation for the start of Special Session on October 17th."

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley Congratulating Dr. Adam Riess for Receiving the Nobel Prize in Physics

October 4th, 2011

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 4, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued the following statement congratulating Dr. Adam Riess for receiving the Nobel Prize in physics:

"I'd like to congratulate Dr. Riess for being one of three recipients of the 2011 Nobel Prize in physics.

"For the second time in three years and the fourth in 10 years, a current member of the Johns Hopkins faculty has been awarded the Nobel Prize. Dr. Riess joins a proud tradition of scientists from Johns Hopkins who are making critical advances in their fields – to feed, fuel and heal our world.

"His contributions to astrophysics are remarkable and his continued quest for knowledge should serve as inspiration to the next generation of scientists and researchers, teaching us that you can reach for the stars and bring back a constellation. Dr. Riess is very deserving of this most prestigious honor and Marylanders should be proud to join him in celebrating this outstanding accomplishment."

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Governor and First Lady O'Malley Join Facebook and Time Warner's Cartoon Network for National Bullying Prevention Month Kick-Off

October 6th, 2011

Governor and First Lady join Facebook and Time Warner's Cartoon Network leadership and special guests to encourage students, parents, communities and schools to stand up against bullying

Governor and First Lady take the "Stop Bullying: Speak Up" pledge

GAMBRILLS, MD (October 6, 2011) –Governor Martin O'Malley and First Lady Judge Katie O'Malley today joined Facebook's Vice President of U.S. Public Policy Joel Kaplan and Cartoon Network President/COO Stuart Snyder, Interim State Superintendent Dr. Bernard Sadusky, Anne Arundel County Schools Superintendent Dr. Kevin Maxwell, and other officials and special guests for a National Bullying Prevention Month kick-off event at Arundel High School in Anne Arundel County, MD.

After a surprise introduction by Ali Sepasyar and Jackson Rogow, hosts of Cartoon Network's "Dude, What Would Happen," [the Governor and First Lady, before hundreds of parents, educators and students, took the "Stop Bullying: Speak Up" pledge](#). The Governor also challenged other governors across the nation and all Marylanders to take the pledge and become active in their communities against bullying.



"Maryland has become a leader in the fight against bullying with some of the most comprehensive laws in the nation, but it will take all of us –students, parents and family members, educators and community leaders –to stop the abuse," said **Governor O'Malley**. "Katie and I stand with Facebook and Time Warner's Cartoon Network to do everything we can to prevent bullying and help our children grow and learn with the support they deserve. We challenge Marylanders and all Americans to speak up and become involved in this initiative. Together, we can return to the work of building up our children's future."

As October is also Parental Involvement in Education Month, the Administration encourages all parents to take an active role in their children's lives by joining in efforts to prevent bullying. The Governor and First Lady also announced that on **October 17th at 7 p.m.**, Maryland families and children are encouraged to take time to take the pledge together and discuss the importance of bullying prevention.



"Martin and I encourage everyone to stand up to bullying in their schools and communities, said **First Lady Katie O'Malley**. "As parents, we know firsthand that with the Internet, social networks and cell phones, the face of bullying has changed. The abuse no longer stops at the school yard, but bullies now have access to their victims 24 hours a day and the results can last a lifetime. We applaud Facebook and Time Warner's Cartoon Network for their outstanding commitment to bullying prevention. We must do all we can to stand up against bullying. It starts

with each of us.”

[The O'Malley-Brown Administration joins Facebook and Time Warner's Cartoon Network in efforts to combat bullying](#), and applauds their efforts to address cyberbullying as a growing concern for youth.

“At Facebook, our mission is to give people the power to share and make the world more open and connected,” said **Joel Kaplan, Vice President-U.S. Public Policy**. “We believe we have a shared responsibility to educate both parents and teens about safety – and it’s a responsibility that we embrace. Together, we’ve launched the Stop Bullying: Speak Up Social Pledge app on Facebook. At its core, the pledge is a public statement to your friends, family, and the community around you. It says that you will take action if you see bullying occur, changing someone’s life in a meaningful way. I want to thank our hosts – Governor Martin O’Malley, the First Lady of Maryland, Katie O’Malley, my partner at Time Warner, Stu Snyder, and the many people who worked so hard to convene this event today.”

“It’s inspiring to see so many students taking the Stop Bullying: Speak Up pledge, and we thank Governor and First Lady O’Malley for their leadership,” said **Cartoon Network’s President and COO Stuart Snyder**. “At Cartoon Network, we believe we all have a role to play in stopping bullying, and it’s exciting to see so many students take an important first step with the governor here today.”

The Maryland State Department of Education and local education leaders have been instrumental in supporting efforts to combat bullying in Maryland.

“Students, teachers, principals, and parents tell me that bullying is a big problem that hasn’t gone away,” said **Interim State Superintendent of Schools Bernard Sadusky**. “School should be an oasis for learning and discovery. We need to curb this type of behavior in our schools, and with the help of stronger parental involvement and a project like this, we are taking a step in the right direction.”



Governor and Judge O'Malley are committed to addressing bullying in Maryland. Though Maryland is the seventh state to enact an anti-bullying law that protects all students, there are still many instances of bullying throughout communities and schools. In May, the Governor, First Lady and Lt. Governor participated in events during the second annual Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week in Maryland. The Governor and First Lady O'Malley recorded a PSA encouraging Marylanders to [stand up against bullying](#), and the First Lady also recorded [a video for the *It Gets Better* campaign](#) to give hope to LGBT youth and other young people facing bullying and harassment.

In 2005, Maryland passed the Safe Schools Reporting Act, which requires the development of

a form to be used by students, parents, and close family members to report incidents of bullying, harassment, or intimidation to school administrators. The O'Malley-Brown Administration aims to digitize these forms to make them more accessible and streamline the process for Marylanders to report bullying incidents. In the most recent legislative session, the General Assembly passed legislation requiring nonpublic schools that accept State funds to adopt a policy prohibiting bullying, harassment, and intimidation; additionally, the Task Force to Study the Creation of a Maryland Center for School Safety was established with an emphasis on school safety and violence.

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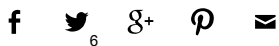
About Facebook

Founded in February 2004, Facebook's mission is to give people the power to share and make the world more open and connected. Anyone can sign up for Facebook and interact with the people they know in a trusted environment. Facebook is a privately held company and is headquartered in Palo Alto, Calif. Facebook® is a registered trademark of Facebook Inc. Other names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

About Cartoon Network

Cartoon Network (CartoonNetwork.com), currently seen in more than 99 million U.S. homes and 168 countries around the world, is Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.'s ad-supported cable service now available in HD offering the best in original, acquired and classic entertainment for youth and families. Nightly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. (ET, PT), Cartoon Network shares its channel space with Adult Swim, a late-night destination showcasing original and acquired animation for young adults 18-34.

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Governor Martin O'Malley Announces Federal Transit Administration Approval for Purple Line to Take Critical Next Step

October 7th, 2011

“Preliminary Engineering” phase makes way for region’s first light rail line

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 7, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has given its approval for the Purple Line to move forward and enter the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase. The Purple Line is a proposed 16-mile east-west light rail that will operate between Bethesda in Montgomery County to New Carrollton in Prince George's County with connection to four branches of the WMATA Metro system. FTA approval means that work on the project now moves to preparation of more detailed plans, schedules and cost estimates, as well as completion of environmental studies.

“In order to create jobs, a modern economy requires modern investments. The Federal Transit Administration’s approval today will help us continue to create jobs and expand rapid and reliable transportation in the Washington suburban region,” said Governor O'Malley. “The Purple Line will connect citizens to jobs and economic opportunities throughout the region. Today’s approval affirms that federal and state investments create jobs and promote economic growth. Together, with our federal partners, we can secure the future of transit in Maryland and continue to move the Purple Line forward.”

The FTA review of the Purple Line proposal focused on the project’s high daily ridership and many significant benefits as well as the State’s financial commitment and technical capacity to build and operate the project. By granting permission to begin preliminary engineering, the Purple Line becomes one of a small number of projects nationwide that are eligible for federal funding.

“Governor O'Malley and I have made public transportation one of our top priorities because we understand that Maryland cannot continue to move forward if we are buried in gridlock,” said Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett. “The Purple Line project will help us address many of the difficult challenges we face today and in the future.”

Support for the Purple Line project was also expressed by Prince George’s County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, and both County Councils, as well as the mayors of many towns, elected officials along the 16-mile corridor and the University of Maryland College Park.

Prince George’s **County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III** recently said, “The Purple line is a great way to make the wonderful and diverse communities of Prince George’s County more accessible to residents and visitors and it will help to create new jobs and commerce for our residents.”

As proposed, the Purple Line will connect major employment and activity centers in Bethesda,

Silver Spring, College Park and New Carrollton with residential and commercial areas located in between, including the Takoma-Langley Park community and Riverdale Park residents whose many transit dependent riders today are only served by buses. It will link both branches of Metro's Red Line at Bethesda and Silver Spring, the Green Line at College Park and the Orange Line at New Carrollton. The Purple Line will also connect all three MARC commuter rail lines, Amtrak and local bus services.

The 16-mile Purple Line will play a critical role in the economic vitality of the corridor, with a projected increase of over 27,000 jobs per year and nearly \$10 billion in additional federal, state, and local revenues through the life of the rail line. The MTA is establishing a workforce development task force to assist with the creation of a state wide policy towards providing training programs for employment opportunities along the rail line.

"Job creation and economic development rely on critical infrastructure, particularly public transit," said Senator Ben Cardin. "Moving the Purple Line into this next stage is an important step towards finally getting shovels in the ground and workers on the job so that thousands in Prince George's and Montgomery County, particularly federal employees, can stop wasting time, money and gas in gridlock. The lack of affordable, convenient transportation choices connecting busy Maryland communities with Metro, MARC and Amtrak, has been frustrating for individuals and businesses throughout our region. But that is now changing."

The Purple Line will be a pedestrian-friendly system with 21 stations that are projected to handle 60,000 riders a day by 2030. On the western end, it will operate along the former Georgetown Branch railroad right of way, currently an interim hiker-biker trail. The project will be built simultaneously with the construction of a permanent trail separated from the rail line with a landscaped buffer. Different than Metro, light rail is powered by an overhead wire, can operate at-grade and is compatible with pedestrians and automobile traffic.

"This approval is a critical step in making the Purple Line a reality and improving the transit system that is integral to the quality of life and economic well-being of the entire region," said 5th District Congressman Steny H. Hoyer. "I look forward to reviewing more detailed plans for this project and working with my colleagues at the Federal, State, and local level to ensure that we move forward on a fiscally responsible plan that provides the most benefit to residents of Maryland."

Congressman Chris Van Hollen of Maryland's 8th District added, "I am pleased that we've cleared an important hurdle in the effort to bring new transportation options and economic development to our region. As we move forward on this project, I also encourage the State to continue to work with local stakeholders in this engineering phase to protect the integrity of the Capital Crescent Trail and neighborhoods along the corridor."

"The FTA approval is a pivotal step towards redefining the scope of public transportation throughout our communities," said Congresswoman Edwards. "The Purple Line will bring long awaited environmental, transit, and economic development benefits to Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. Today, we are in a stronger position to secure additional federal funding, and I look forward to working with Governor O'Malley and the rest of the delegation to further develop the Purple Line and begin construction on my top transportation priority."

The Purple Line will largely run on the surface with one short tunnel section, one aerial section and several underpasses and overpasses of busy roadways. It will operate mainly in dedicated or exclusive lanes, allowing for fast, reliable transit operations. Purple Line riders will generally access the line on foot or by existing bus and rail services since it directly serves local communities.

The MTA will continue to work to address concerns raised by communities throughout the Preliminary Engineering process. Public outreach and agency coordination will continue to be an integral part of the development of the final environmental impact statement, providing opportunities for local residents and stakeholders to contribute to the planning and design of

the project. With appropriate approvals and funding, construction could start in 2015 and service on the Purple Line could begin in 2020.

Maryland's plans to create the next generation of transit in the state also include the Baltimore Red Line and the Corridor Cities Transitway. The Red Line is at a similar level of development, and received similar FTA approval earlier this summer. MTA is nearing completion of planning work for the Corridor Cities Transitway, and preparation of materials for FTA review will start later this year.

More information on the Purple Line can be found on the project website, www.purplelinemd.com

###

Purple Line Key Facts

- Length: 16.3 miles
 - ○ Surface – 13.7 miles
 - ○ Tunnel – 0.7 miles (East Silver Spring, Manchester Station to Arliss Street)
 - ○ Aerial – 1.9 miles (Kenilworth Road to MD 410 (Riverdale Road) and grade separated aerial crossings of Connecticut Avenue and Colesville Road)
- 21 stations
 - ○ 200-foot long station platforms
 - ○ Four connections to existing Metrorail system (Bethesda, Silver Spring, College Park, New Carrollton)
 - ○ No new park and ride lots
- Maintenance and Storage facilities
 - ○ Lyttonsville: on Brookville Road in Montgomery County
 - ○ Glenridge: on Veterans Parkway in Prince George's County
- Frequency of service
 - ○ 6 minutes peak headway
 - ○ 10 minutes off-peak headway
- One-way travel time-Bethesda to New Carrollton: 56 minutes
- 55 light rail vehicles
- Average daily ridership in 2030: 60,000
 - ○ 30% of riders will use Metrorail for part of their trip
 - ○ 20,000 new daily transit trips
- Capital cost \$1.9 billion (Year of Expenditure dollars)

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Governor Martin O'Malley Issues Executive Order Proclaiming Start of Special Session on October 17th

October 12th, 2011

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 12, 2011) – [Governor Martin O'Malley](#) today issued an [Executive Order](#) proclaiming and convening a [special session of the General Assembly](#) beginning [October 17, 2011](#). The Special Session is necessary to pass legislation establishing Maryland's congressional districts. Maryland must pass a Congressional redistricting plan prior to the beginning of the 2012 legislative session in order to conduct the Presidential Primary on April 3, 2012.

"Every 10 years we create electoral districts from which our congressional representatives are to be elected based on census data," said Governor O'Malley. "I look forward to working with Senate President Miller, House Speaker Busch and with the members of the General Assembly as we come together and work on passing legislation ensuring every citizen is fairly and accurately represented."

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State of Maryland Seeks Proposals for Renewable Energy Generated from Animal Waste

October 14th, 2011

Clean Bay Power Project will promote green energy and help reduce pollution to the Chesapeake Bay

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 13, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that the state is seeking proposals for the purchase of electricity generated from animal waste as part of the *Clean Bay Power* project to promote the use of renewable energy, reduce Maryland's contribution to agricultural runoff in the Chesapeake Bay, and encourage job creation.

The State's renewable energy portfolio standard requires that electric suppliers purchase 20 percent of their power from clean energy sources by 2022. Maryland is seeking to purchase electricity from manure based fuels in an effort to reduce the amount of nutrients, specifically nitrogen and phosphorus, which enter the Chesapeake Bay. These nutrients are partly responsible for the declining health of the Bay.



"Maryland is leading the nation's efforts in clean energy and sustainability, and our State's growing 'green' jobs sector is vital to our ability to create jobs and compete globally in the new economy," said Governor O'Malley. "It is only through a diverse, renewable fuel mix that we will be able to reach our aggressive goal of generating 20 percent renewable energy by 2022, create jobs through innovation, and protect our precious environment. With projects like *Clean Bay Power*, together, we can work toward a more sustainable future for our children and create

jobs in this changing new economy.”

The *Clean Bay Power* project is an effort by the Maryland Department of General Services, in coordination with the Maryland Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Environment, the Maryland Energy Administration, and the University System of Maryland. The successful supplier must have an electric generating capacity of up to 10MW from animal waste – such as poultry litter or livestock manure – and must be directly connected to the regional electricity grid. The selected supplier must begin providing electricity to the State by December 31, 2015.

“We are seeking to purchase our power from a variety of renewable resources for a better and more sustainable future,” said DGS Secretary Alvin Collins. “Obtaining electricity from poultry manure or animal waste helps Maryland government to reach its goal of generating 20 percent of its energy needs from renewable sources, all the while improving Bay water quality and support the agriculture industry.”

Energy solicited through this request for proposals is limited to projects consuming animal waste as their primary fuel and that also qualify under the current definition of a “Tier I” renewable energy resource under the Maryland renewable energy portfolio standard.

The *Clean Bay Power* request for proposals is advertised at the eMaryland Marketplace website: <https://ebidmarketplace.com>. Deadline for proposal submission is 2 p.m., November 30, 2011.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on the Release of the Proposed Congressional Redistricting Map

October 15th, 2011

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 15, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued the following statement on the release of the proposed Congressional redistricting map:

"After serious consideration and a review of all input from citizens across the State and discussions with members of our Congressional delegation and the General Assembly, I will be submitting a proposed map, substantially similar to the map developed by the Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee, for consideration during the start of Special Session on Monday.

"I'd like to thank the Committee for their hard work throughout this process, as well as the citizens who have submitted their comments and suggestions and all of the members of the General Assembly. I am looking forward to working with our legislature next week as we ensure that every citizen is fairly and accurately represented."

As the Governor indicated on October 3, the map that will be introduced Monday, October 17 is substantially similar to the map recommended by the Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee (GRAC). Minor changes involving the unification of communities, the retention of federal facilities, and marginally adjusting the percentage of people retained in certain districts were made to the Governor's map.

To view the Governor's map, [visit the Maryland Department of Planning's web site.](#)

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Governor O'Malley, Senate President Miller, House Speaker Busch Announce Legislative Hearings to Explore Job Creation Opportunities

October 17th, 2011

Transportation, Infrastructure and Job Creation Initiatives to be Discussed and Set Tone for 2012 Legislative Session;

Governor Announces 60 Day Review of State Regulations

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 17, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced a plan to spark job creation in Maryland and to build consensus for a comprehensive jobs package for the 2012 legislative session. Governor O'Malley, joined by Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. and House Speaker Michael E. Busch, announced legislative hearings to be held during Special Session to explore job creation opportunities in transportation and infrastructure upgrades and in streamlining government processes to make it easier to do business in Maryland.

"We will use the opportunity of the Special Session to address the single most pressing issue that we face as a State – job creation," said Governor O'Malley. "Since January, we've created nearly 15,000 jobs in our State. But all of us agree that in these tough economic times, we need to do more. The most important job we create is the next job."

[Governor O'Malley signed an Executive Order calling for a 60 day review by State agencies of current State regulations that can be reformed or eliminated to help spark job creation.](#) After the 60 day review period, the intent is to introduce a package of regulatory reforms to the General Assembly in January. Senate President Miller and Speaker Busch announced legislative hearings to be held on Tuesday, October 18 that will focus on Maryland's infrastructure and transportation needs and economic development and job creation opportunities.

"Our infrastructure is one of those areas where we have the largest investment deficit in our state," said Governor O'Malley. "Tackling Maryland's list of infrastructure needs will be a priority as we head into the 2012 legislative session."



"We have to take steps to support the technology and research jobs that will ensure that Maryland is the best place to get an education, do research, spin off ideas into the marketplace, and successfully build a company," said President Miller. "I look forward to working with Governor O'Malley and Speaker Busch to find the solutions that will create jobs and breathe new life into our state's economy."

"Our number one goal is to support the private sector and build business confidence to create new jobs in Maryland," said Speaker Busch. "Investing in transportation infrastructure and capital projects to get the construction industry back to work is an important step that government can make to stimulate the economy."

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Governor O'Malley, Senate President Miller, Speaker Busch Sign Senate Bill 1

October 20th, 2011

Special Session generates vital discussions on job creation, economic development and the State's infrastructure needs in preparation for the 2012 legislative session

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 20, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today joined Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., House Speaker Michael E. Busch, and Lieutenant Governor Anthony G. Brown to sign Senate Bill 1, emergency legislation creating new districts for congressional elections based on the 2010 census.



"To the people of Maryland, thank you for your voice, your input and your suggestions, and to all of the members of the General Assembly, thank you for giving fair, open and timely consideration and ultimately approval, to the recommendation of the Committee," said Governor O'Malley. "Over the course of Special Session, we were able to have vital and meaningful discussions about job creation and the importance of addressing our State's infrastructure deficit as we prepare for the 2012 legislative session. Together, we can move forward on creating jobs for our families, recognizing that the most important job we create is the next one."

During the Special Session, Lt. Governor Brown testified before a joint hearing of the Maryland House and Senate about the importance of investing in infrastructure projects to create jobs

and boost the economy. The hearing was the first of two held Tuesday to explore job creation opportunities through transportation and infrastructure projects and through streamlining government processes to make it easier to do business in Maryland.

"Special Session has provided an important opportunity to fulfill our Constitutional duty while advancing ideas for creating jobs and promoting sustainable economic growth in Maryland," said Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown, who testified before the General Assembly this week about the need to create jobs by investing in infrastructure projects. "Job creation remains our most pressing need, and I look forward to working closely with Governor O'Malley and the General Assembly to develop a jobs package that will invest in our infrastructure so we can put Marylanders back to work and build a brighter economic future."

On Monday, Governor O'Malley, joined by Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. and House Speaker Michael E. Busch, announced a plan to spark job creation in Maryland and to build consensus for a comprehensive jobs package for the 2012 legislative session through a series of joint legislative hearings. The Governor also signed an [Executive Order calling for a 60 day review by State agencies of current State regulations that can be reformed or eliminated to help spark job creation](#). Suggestions and comments on regulations can be made by visiting the [Maryland Made Easy web site](#).

"The Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee conducted a fair and open process, successfully balancing the interests of our citizens with the changes in our state's population," said President Miller. "I would like to offer my deep gratitude to Secretary Hitchcock for her leadership of the Committee, and my thanks to the Governor and the Speaker of the House for their leadership during the Special Session."

"I'd like to thank Governor O'Malley, President Miller, members of the Redistricting Advisory Committee and the House of Delegates for their work on the Congressional map," said Speaker Michael E. Busch. "This map reflects Census growth, public input from across the entire State, and maintains 70% of voters in their existing Congressional districts."

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« [Governor O'Malley, Senate President Miller, House Speaker Busch Announce Legislative Hearings to Explore Job Creation Opportunities](#)
[Governor O'Malley, Senate President Miller and House Speaker Busch Announce Retention of Bechtel Power Division, 1,250 Jobs in Frederick](#) »

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Governor O'Malley, Senate President Miller and House Speaker Busch Announce Retention of Bechtel Power Division, 1,250 Jobs in Frederick

October 20th, 2011

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 20, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today joined Maryland Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller and Maryland House Speaker Michael E. Busch to announce that the state's Legislative Policy Committee has approved a \$9.5 million conditional loan to Frederick-based Bechtel Power Corp. that will retain the company's operations and a minimum of 1,250 full-time jobs in the State through 2018. As a result of the loan, Bechtel Power – a global leader in the design and construction of energy sources and a subsidiary of California-based Bechtel Corp. – will consolidate its operations on its Frederick campus. In addition to preserving 1,250 high paying jobs, the deal will also support an additional 2,300 indirect jobs and generate more than \$11 million annually in state taxes.

"Our most important priority continues to be creating and retaining jobs – the kinds of high-wage, highly-skilled jobs that will sustain Maryland's economy for today and for decades to come," said Governor O'Malley. "Working with Bechtel's leadership to retain their operations here, we are preserving 1,250 jobs and ensuring that this innovative company continues to call Maryland home."

"The State of Maryland makes substantial investments in our public schools and institutions of higher education because we are committed to preparing our workforce for the challenges of the 21st century economy," said President Miller. "Bechtel recognizes that Maryland's workforce is among the most talented and innovative in the nation, and I am pleased they will continue to operate in Frederick County."

"Our number one job is supporting private sector investment and building private sector confidence in Maryland's economy," said Speaker Michael E. Busch. "The Sunny Day Fund was created for extraordinary economic development opportunities, like Bechtel. I am pleased that we can make this strategic investment in a growing area of our State to retain 1250 jobs."

"We are pleased to retain our Power business in Frederick. We first moved to Frederick in 1999 and have found it to be a welcome community to locate our Power business' headquarters," said Bill Dudley, Bechtel president and chief operating officer.

The loan funds will come from the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development's Economic Development Opportunities Program Fund, also known as the Sunny Day Fund. The approval of the Legislative Policy Committee is required before any funds can be disbursed.

Bechtel Corp. operates through five global business units that specialize in civil infrastructure; power generation; communications and transmission; mining and metals; oil, gas and chemicals; and government services. Since its founding in 1898, Bechtel has worked on more

than 22,000 projects in 140 countries on all seven continents. Bechtel's 65-year old Power Division has a portfolio of more than 400 fossil-fueled plants, 150 nuclear generating units, 50 waste-to-energy projects, 50 coal gasification projects, and a number of commercial applications for renewable energy.

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« [Governor O'Malley, Senate President Miller, Speaker Busch Sign Senate Bill 1 National Association Ranks Maryland as One of Top 10 States in Energy Efficiency](#) »

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National Association Ranks Maryland as One of Top 10 States in Energy Efficiency

October 21st, 2011

Maryland Also Ranks Among Most Improved States

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 21, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) has ranked Maryland one of the nation's most improved states for energy efficiency as well as 10th on a national energy scoreboard for 2011.

"We have set some of the most aggressive goals in America for decreasing energy consumption in Maryland and our efforts to save energy and reduce reliance on fossil fuels are beginning to bear fruit," Governor O'Malley said. "Making the investments in safe, clean, reliable and affordable energy can create thousands of jobs in Maryland and reducing our energy consumption saves money and improves our environment."



The ACEEE report also noted that Maryland was one of only a handful of states receiving top scores for greenhouse gas tailpipe emission standards and the integration of transportation and land use planning, also known as transit-oriented development.

Other Maryland energy efficiency and conservation projects include:

- Funding \$201 million dollars in energy efficiency work in state buildings in the past four years.
- Implementing a state-of-the art energy database for utilities consumed by Maryland state

government.

- Participating in Electricity Demand Response where homeowners and businesses voluntarily agree to reduce electricity consumption on hot summer days. Maryland ratepayers have received over \$40 million in net payments for program participation.

“It is our goal as a state to lead by example in the area of energy conservation and encouraging a green economy,” said Department of General Services Secretary Alvin C. Collins. “Maryland’s Department of General Services is working with other state agencies on 20 Energy Savings Performance Contracts which will provide guaranteed annual energy savings in excess of \$21 million.”

“As a result of Governor O’Malley’s vision in establishing one of the nation’s most aggressive energy efficiency goals, Marylanders have already saved over 900,000 MWh of electricity and over \$117 million since 2009, and our peak demand program has helped us avoid major blackouts during our record-setting summer heat wave,” said Malcolm Woolf, director of the Maryland Energy Administration.

To read the ACEEE 2011 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, please visit: <http://aceee.org/>

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Governor O'Malley Announces Replacement of Beltway Bridge Over Wilkens Avenue in Baltimore County

October 21st, 2011

Three transportation projects on the West Side of the Beltway will improve infrastructure, add \$45 million into Maryland's economy and support nearly 600 jobs

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 21, 2011) - Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that work is beginning on a \$13 million major construction project to replace the inner loop I-695 (Baltimore Beltway) Bridge over Wilkens Avenue (MD 372) in Baltimore County. Overall, the State has three major Beltway bridge projects now under construction on the West Side of the Beltway replacing structures that are more than 50 years old.

"To create jobs, a modern economy requires modern investments. That's why we are investing \$45 million into the Baltimore Beltway to support nearly 600 jobs for our families," said Governor O'Malley. "Our infrastructure is an area where we have the largest investment deficit in our State – and it's something that matters both for job creation today, and for what type of State we leave to the next generation. These bridge projects are a great example of how replacing our aging infrastructure creates jobs and builds a stronger transportation network."

In addition to replacing the I-695 inner loop bridge over Wilkens Avenue that was built in 1956, this project will accommodate any future widening of the Beltway's inner loop from three to four lanes. The project is expected to be complete summer 2013, weather permitting. The new inner loop bridge will have the same design and appearance as the outer loop bridge. The State Highway Administration (SHA) replaced the I-695 outer loop bridge over Wilkens Avenue in 2004, as part of the widening of the outer loop of I-695 to four lanes between MD 144 (Frederick Road) and I-95.

This bridge project is one of several bridges SHA is addressing under its aggressive system preservation program. Most of the bridges along I-695 are more than 50 years old, dating back to the original construction of the Baltimore Beltway. In addition to the Wilkens Bridge project, SHA now is managing two other major bridge projects on the west side of I-695 including: the Frederick Road Bridge over I-695 and the dual beltway bridges over Liberty Road (MD 26). More than 192,000 vehicles use this section of I-695 every day.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on September Jobs Report

October 21st, 2011

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 21, 2011) –Governor Martin O'Malley issued this statement following the U.S. Department of Labor's release of preliminary employment data for the month of September. The report shows that Maryland employers added 6,800 jobs. In the private sector alone, the State ended the month with 10,000 more jobs, the 3rd highest private sector growth rate in the nation. Maryland's unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 7.4 percent, and remains nearly 20 percent below the national rate of 9.1 percent.



"Job creation is our number one priority. In Maryland, after the strongest September job creation performance since 2005, we have added a total of 20,000 new jobs since January. Despite these positive trends, our unemployment rate, even though it remains one of the lowest in the nation, shows that we have far too many jobless Marylanders."

"One of the ways in which we can create jobs is by cutting bureaucratic red tape so that small businesses can create jobs and expand opportunity. That's why, earlier this week, I signed an Executive Order requiring all State agencies to conduct a 60-day review of State regulations to determine which we could reform or eliminate to spark faster job creation."

"To create jobs, a modern economy requires modern investments. While 95 percent of the jobs we have created this year are in the private sector, we have lost 3,600 jobs in local government on the year. We intend to bring a package of reforms to the General Assembly in January to make the investments in infrastructure, school construction, and other shovel-ready projects that are necessary to create jobs throughout our State. The most important job we create is the next one."

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Governor O'Malley Announces \$2.2 Million in S*T*O*P Violence Against Women Act Funding

October 31st, 2011

Over 50 organizations from across the state awarded federal funding to combat violence against women

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 31, 2011) – Governor Martin O'Malley, joined by U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown, Maryland Attorney General Doug Gansler, advocates, community leaders, families and friends of domestic violence victims, and other state and local officials, today announced \$2.2 million in awards to over 50 local organizations through the S*T*O*P (Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). These federal funds are formula grants allocated from the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women that will assist organizations throughout the state that work to help women who are the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence.



"The most important responsibilities we have in government are to create jobs and to protect the public's safety," said Governor O'Malley. "In Maryland, we have set the big goal to reduce violence against women and children 25 percent by the end of next year. Today's funding from the federal Violence Against Women Act is an important resource in achieving that goal, helping organizations and advocates from across the State who work on the front lines every day to combat domestic violence. Though we are seeing decreases in the number of domestic violence-related deaths on record, even one life lost is one too many. Together, with our

federal, state and local partners, we can continue to make progress in saving lives.”

The VAWA program is administered by the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) which provides funding to law enforcement, prosecution, the court system and non-profit, non-government victim service agencies. Recipients are encouraged to forge lasting partnerships between the criminal justice system and victim advocacy organizations, and to look beyond traditional resources by partnering with community and faith-based organizations to respond more vigorously to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking crimes.

Maryland's Congressional delegation has been integral in securing these funds for Maryland.

“I have absolutely no tolerance for domestic violence,” said Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), who authored the Violence Against Women Act and, as Chairwoman of the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Subcommittee, puts funds in the federal checkbook to fund federal VAWA efforts. “Maryland's STOP program has proven a valuable resource in the fight to curb domestic violence. I was proud to put funds in the federal checkbook to support this important program that gives counselors, law enforcement officers and health care personnel the resources to serve victims of domestic violence.”

“Nearly three in four Americans personally know someone who is or has been a victim of domestic violence, and these statistics permeate all socioeconomic, ethnic, racial, and religious groups in our nation,” said U.S. Senator Ben Cardin. “This funding will significantly enhance domestic violence prevention efforts and improve the criminal justice system's response to violence against women.”

Congressman Steny Hoyer added, “I have long supported efforts to equip organizations serving battered women and their children as well as the law enforcement community with the resources needed to support victims and prosecute perpetrators. I am proud to support the STOP program and the women and men leading the cause against family violence.”

Attorney General Doug Gansler chairs the Governor's Family Violence Council, established in 1995 to provide the Governor with timely and accurate information on family violence with recommendations that will reduce and eliminate abusive behaviors.

“These grants are critical to Maryland's continued efforts to fight domestic violence and to protect victims of domestic abuse,” said Attorney General Gansler. “We need these resources to enhance prosecution of domestic abusers and to support the professionals who help victims through the legal system with dignity, even as they recover physically and mentally from such abuse.”

Lt. Governor Brown is also a member of the Council, and [a steadfast advocate for ending domestic violence](#).

“Domestic violence is a tragedy that has impacted the lives of far too many, and those targeted by their abusers are not the only victims. The victims are also the families who share the pain of their loved ones, the communities that are shaken by these heinous acts, and our society as a whole,” said Lt. Governor Brown. “Addressing domestic violence is the collective responsibility of each and every one of us. These grants will help communities throughout Maryland provide critical support to victims and take another step towards eliminating this senseless crime.”

In Maryland, there were 38 domestic violence-related homicides in calendar years 2009 and 2010 combined. In fiscal year 2010, there were over 18,000 temporary and over 9,000 final protective orders filed in Maryland. According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, Maryland is ranked 17th in terms of call volume.

The O'Malley-Brown Administration remains committed to protecting Maryland's families by reducing the number of domestic violence incidents and homicides, and educating

communities about the effects of domestic violence. The Governor has set a strategic policy goal to reduce violent crimes committed against women and children by 25 percent by the end of 2012. Since taking office, the Administration has:

- Signed legislation that provides law enforcement officers, child protective services, social workers, and all who work to protect Maryland's child victims with the resources needed to maintain the viability of Child Advocacy Centers in Maryland.
- Signed legislation that authorizes a police officer to arrest a person without a warrant if the officer has probable cause to believe that the person has violated a condition of pre-trial or post-trial release to further protect the victims of crime.
- Passed legislation that enables judges to extend the duration of a protective order beyond the original expiration date if the judge finds by clear & convincing evidence that the Respondent has committed a subsequent act of domestic violence.
- Supported a change in Maryland law to allow for the removal of firearms from domestic abusers. Now, judges have the authority to order the surrender of firearms from Respondents who are the subject of Temporary Protective Orders & made it mandatory for Respondents in Permanent Protective Order cases to surrender all firearms.
- Supported a system to help track the number of arrests that are related to domestic violence to get an accurate handle on the scope of the problem so that necessary resources can be dedicated to assisting victims.

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