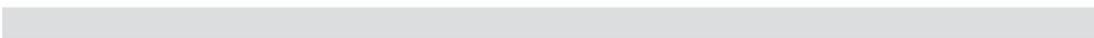# Maryland
Department of Planning

2005 Annual Report

Maryland Department of Planning

January, 2006

As Secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning, I am honored to work with local governments, the citizens of Maryland, and private enterprises to implement Governor Ehrlich's vision of creating solutions for better and smarter land use in our State and preserving its past as a legacy to the Marylanders of tomorrow. By working to implement and coordinate the fiscally responsible and innovative policies of the Governor, MDP takes a lead role in helping to preserve Maryland's resources, manage her economic and physical growth, and foster public awareness about the importance of planning.

The 2005 Maryland Department of Planning Annual Report provides an overview of the many programs that the dependable and highly professional staff of MDP performs. The principal goal of the Department for 2005 was to continue our commitment of enhancing the strong relationships we enjoy with local government entities, vital planning and private stakeholder groups, and other State agencies. As communities continue to evolve and grow, MDP collaborates with local governments to revitalize existing neighborhoods, optimize infrastructure spending, preserve farmland and historical treasures, create transportation solutions, and protect the Chesapeake Bay, thereby enhancing the quality of life in our communities and ensuring a great future for our State.

To fulfill MDP's charge of proactive assistance, in October and November, MDP, in partnership with the Maryland Department of the Environment, hosted four workshops throughout Maryland entitled Challenges of a Growing Maryland: Balancing Land Use and Environmental Decisions. The department also staffed a series of Regional Growth Summits for municipal and county elected officials and staff throughout the State, presenting information on regional growth trends and factors driving growth.

Additionally, big news in 2005 was the successful merger of Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) with Maryland Department of Planning. In October MHT officially became a part of the MDP family. In early 2005, MDP had the privilege of implementing the first of Governor Ehrlich's Priority Place designations, and throughout the year, MDP provided substantial program support to the Maryland Strategic Planning Military Council in preparation for the 2005 Base Relocation and Closure process.

These accomplishments are a few of the many programs and projects that MDP has administered in the past twelve months, detailed in this Annual Report. I encourage you to use this report to learn about MDP and the valuable services it provides to the State of Maryland and its communities.

Sincerely,

Audrey E. Scott
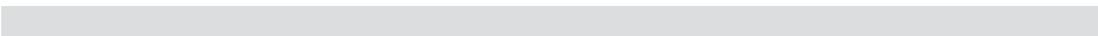
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Executive Summary

The 2005 Annual Report of the Maryland Department of Planning is an informational tool for Maryland State legislators and Maryland citizens and describes the scope and breadth of the work of the Department. The activities, programs and projects of MDP foster the goals of the State of Maryland and ascribe to the needs and prosperity of its citizens.

The most significant news of 2005 was the successful merger of the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) with the Maryland Department of Planning. In October, MHT, which includes the Division of Historical and Cultural Programs (HCP) and the Commission on African American History and Culture, officially became a part of MDP following a smooth transition process that began in July.

Early in 2005, MDP had the privilege of implementing the first of Governor Ehrlich's Priority Places designations. This program, created by executive order, focuses on interagency coordination and cooperation to encourage revitalization projects in established neighborhoods. Areas designated thus far are the Poppleton neighborhood in West Baltimore City and the Leonardtown Wharf development in St. Mary's County. Later in the year, Governor Ehrlich designated the cities of Hyattsville and Crisfield also Priority Places.

In conjunction with the Maryland Municipal League and Maryland Association of Counties, MDP staffed a series of Regional Growth Summits for municipal and county elected officials and staff throughout the State. The Department prepared and presented information on regional growth trends and factors that are driving growth.

In October and November, MDP, in proactive partnership with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), hosted four statewide workshops entitled *Challenges of a Growing Maryland: Balancing Land Use and Environmental Decisions.* MDE Secretary Kendal Philbrick and MDP Secretary Audrey Scott joined together, traveling throughout the State to present information to local government officials and core constituencies about planning. MDP and MDE's shared focus was on the critical need for earlier and preventive planning coordination in the State.

Working with Baltimore City and stakeholders in the surrounding neighborhoods, the Maryland Departments of Transportation, Planning and General Services developed a strategy to guide future development and redevelopment around State Center in Baltimore. The project entails Transit Oriented Development (TOD) of an underutilized 25-acre State-owned site that includes five buildings and 1,300 parking spaces.

Addressing the need for planned and affordable housing, and as a result of an October, 2005 Executive Order, MDP began managing the work of the Governor's Task Force on Work Force Housing. The Work Force Housing study will review the findings and recommendations of the Governor's Commission on Housing Policy. The Task Force is scheduled to complete its assignment by July, 2006 with a report to follow in September, 2006.

Building on MDP's work on Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) in 2004, the Department suggested and developed policy to assist the Maryland Strategic Planning Military Council in its efforts to prepare Maryland's federal military installations and communities for the 2005 BRAC process. This work helped lay a foundation to ensure a positive, long-term growth outcome for the State.

Finally and possibly most significantly, among its many and varied activities and programs, MDP continued to expand its capacity to assist local governments and constituents in effective and comprehensive land use planning. The span of these programs and projects is detailed in this Annual Report.

Assisting Local Governments And Communities

The Division helped local governments improve their planning and growth management, develop comprehensive plans and implementation ordinances and also directly assisted in implementation of projects related to economic and tourism development, resource protection and infrastructure development.

In 2005, the Local Planning Division provided a wide range of services to local governments that support State planning polices at the local level including the Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act, the Priority Funding Areas Act and the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas Act. The Department's regional offices in Centerville, Cumberland and Salisbury and the main office in Baltimore provided assistance to local governments, businesses, organizations and the general public.

Regional Growth Summits

Working with Maryland Municipal League and Maryland Association of Counties, the Local Planning Division coordinated five Regional Growth Summits held August 4, 2005 (Lower Eastern Shore Region), August 25, 2005 (Upper Eastern Shore), September 15, 2005 (Frederick and Carroll Counties), September 22, 2005 (Southern Maryland) and November 10, 2005 (Western Maryland). The growth summits represented a strong effort to bring elected and/or key appointed officials and representatives from planning entities and school boards together to discuss growth and its implications from a regional perspective.

At the Regional Growth Summits, the Department prepared and presented information on regional growth trends and factors that are driving development. The intent was to expand the discussion of growth beyond individual municipal or county boundaries to demonstrate how entire regions are impacted. Department staff utilized population projections and other information provided by the MDP's State Data Center to present generalized trends in each region.

In breakout sessions following the presentation, most of the small discussion groups identified their unique character, rural resources and small towns of each region as the areas most poised for development yet in need of preservation. They also identified strategies to preserve these endangered resources and cultural icons. Suggested actions included improved interjurisdictional coordination, improved zoning and design standards, better educational outreach to decision makers and clarification of State regulations. Participants noted the usefulness of personal meeting and networking with other officials and discussions on mutual growth-related issues facing each of the jurisdictions. An increased understanding of regional growth trends was achieved through MDP's presentation and supporting materials.

Technical Assistance

Regional staff from the Local Planning Division continued to provide a wide range of technical planning assistance on a daily basis to local jurisdictions. The three regional offices are located in Centerville, Salisbury and Cumberland. Often the focus of MDP's technical assistance concentrated on acting as a value added resource to towns that have no professional planning staff. The Upper Eastern Shore (UES), for example, is a growing area of the State whose jurisdictions depend on the MDP UES office in a wide variety of ways. Staff answered questions concerning planning principles and growth management issues and provided assistance in helping them address growth issues.

Continuing growth pressures required extensive annexation reviews in at least ten municipalities on the Upper Shore. The increasing significance of Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (APFOs), development impact fees and other growth management tools required MDP's Upper Shore regional staff to spend more time familiarizing municipal governments with the intricacies of the tools.

Presenting new planning commissioners, town managers, council members and other key figures with information on their duties and responsibilities is an ongoing and needed activity. As in past years, MDP was called upon to provide guidance and service for comprehensive plan and ordinance updates in towns throughout the region. A recent customer service survey conducted by the University of Baltimore revealed that local jurisdictions want MDP to provide this service.

The types of activities unique to assistance provided in 2005 included preparation of computer graphic visualizations of potential new main streets and downtown core revitalizations in the Town of Trappe. Staff also participated in a number of regional symposiums, seminars, workshops and training sessions focused on providing affordable work force housing.

Major projects included revisions and updates to comprehensive plans for Federalsburg and Town of Queen Anne. Preliminary work began on updating plans for Chesapeake City and Perryville. Staff also provided planning assistance to Elkton and Cecilton. Zoning ordinance amendments including map revisions were created for Sudlersville, Preston, Marydel and Betterton.

Staff performed numerous projects related to county water and sewer plan amendments and updates, especially where growth management concerns existed among municipalities that want to expand their public systems and counties that want to use those same plans to limit growth.

MDP provided site analysis and design assistance in several areas. For example, Leonardtown received a wide range of technical expertise and assistance from Local Planning Division staff over the past few years. This year, as the town has been designated a Priority Places recipient, staff continued working with Leonardtown staff and town consultants on a major multi-level redevelopment effort that will transform the formerly underutilized and abandoned waterfront area of Leonardtown into a major attraction in the county. MDP Local Planning staff assisted by regenerating and creating new conceptual drawings for two projects that signal the revitalization of a waterfront vacant since the 1980s.

The planned Leonardtown Wharf and Tudor Hall projects will site offices, shops, a restaurant, loft apartments, residences and a public park on Breton Bay. This endeavor will create an attractive waterfront destination with public access to the water. When the redevelopment is completed, Leonardtown will have an exciting new hub of activity where residents and visitors can go to shop, dine, canoe, bike and take part in other available activities afforded by the area's redevelopment.

Both waterfront projects will be within walking distance of the downtown business district, with Washington Street providing the link. Local Planning assistance staff is examining the possibility of adding streetscape design improvements that will turn this major thoroughfare into an attractive gateway to the newly redesigned waterfront.

Priority Places: Maryland's Vision for Smart Growth

Designations

In February 2005, Governor Ehrlich announced Priority Places designations for the Poppleton neighborhood (within the City of Baltimore) and Leonardtown. In April, 2005, the cities of Hyattsville and Crisfield also were designated Priority Places by the Governor.

Nominations of Priority Place Designations by Smart Growth Subcabinet

In October 2005, the Smart Growth Subcabinet began reviewing applications for 2006 Priority Places designations. The Subcabinet will make recommendations early next year. MDP has witnessed tremendous enthusiasm and excitement about this initiative from local officials and developers.

Work Plan for Current Priority Places

MDP continued to work with current Priority Places designees (Poppleton, Hyattsville, Leonardtown and Crisfield) to implement their work plans.

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

The Appalachian Regional Commission is a federal-state partnership that works to provide opportunity, sustain economic development and assure quality of life for the people of Appalachia. MDP and ARC Planning, Development, Technical and Financial Assistance developed or managed more than seventy projects throughout the region emphasizing self-sustaining economic development and job growth through consistency with State policies and the Appalachian Regional Commission Goals and Objectives identified within the Annual Appalachian Maryland Strategy State and the Appalachian Maryland Development Plan.

MDP, in partnership with the Appalachian Regional Commission, provided technical assistance and secured funds for Western Maryland industrial parks, transportation, water and sewage infrastructure, education projects and entrepreneurial initiatives by example.

Allegany County: In August 2005, the newest section of the Allegheny Highlands Trail of Maryland, opened. MDP has been one of the lead agencies in the Trail's planning, funding support and development that is expected to attract more than 150,000 visitors to the region. Further, Allegany County received an ARC grant for infrastructure improvements to the North Branch Industrial Park, enabling the County to retain an existing employer as well as to attract new businesses. ARC grants funded access roads for the Queen City Center brownfields redevelopment area in Cumberland and a streetscape for Broadway Street which accesses Frostburg's central business area.

Garrett County: MDP helped obtain an ARC grant that funded infrastructure and access roads in Garrett County's Keysers Ridge Business Park. The County obtained a commitment for 200 manufacturing jobs upon the Park's completion. In addition, the County's Department of Education initiated a high school computer engineering, math and science curriculum, funded in part by ARC.

Washington County: Washington County obtained funding through ARC to expand the Newgate Industrial Park and to fund an innovative program to increase enrollment in post-secondary education. These funds also funded the expansion of successful wireless communications through the Maryland Mountainside Kiosk Tourism Project.

Additional assistance: MDP and ARC provided assistance to the business development and Main Street Programs in Oakland, Frostburg and Cumberland. This aid directly impacts entrepreneurial development, job creation and revitalization efforts in each city.

Circuit Rider Assistance - Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas law

MDP staff often must re-write local Critical Area ordinances, particularly after county planners have conducted the State-mandated six-year review. In 2005, MDP staff conducted a number of these comprehensive ordinance reviews, and, subsequently, local governments adopted several. Additionally, regional offices amended many Critical Area ordinances to reflect legislative changes passed by the 2004 General Assembly.

Circuit Riders were involved heavily in day-to-day implementation of the Critical Areas Law. They worked with developers, property owners and the real estate community in understanding and meeting program requirements and standards. They regularly reviewed development plans and plats for projects on land lying within 1,000 feet of tidal waters and advised the municipalities accordingly.

Often, MDP staff trained municipal officials to handle these technical responsibilities on their own. For example, public access, transient docking facilities, public trails and walkways played an important role in coastal community planning this year in the UES staff. In 2005, Circuit Riders provided assistance with a boardwalk/docking facility in Chesapeake City, a jetty/docking facility in Port Deposit and a transient docking facility in Perryville involving coordination, funding strategies, review and implementation at the local level. Circuit Riders also provided assistance to the new waterfront condominium projects in Crisfield, the redevelopment of Byrd Park in Snow Hill and the Vienna Village Annexation project in 2005. Further, considerable effort was spent in public education and training of local staff in the implementation of local critical Area program and ordinances to rectify compliance issues.

Local Planning assistance staff provided Critical Areas Circuit Rider assistance to twenty-seven municipalities on the Eastern Shore.

Through a cooperative agreement with the Critical Areas Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays, the MDP Upper and Lower Shore Regional Office Circuit Riders, who are MDP staff operating from the regional offices, provided technical support to municipalities with Critical Area Programs. These staff gave wide-ranging help in reviewing and updating municipal comprehensive plans, Critical Area Programs, ordinances and subdivision regulations. During the local ordinance review process, staff worked closely with other State and federal agencies in updating and coordinating regulatory protection of threatened and endangered species, plant and wildlife habitat, non-tidal wetlands and anadromous fish propagation waters. This effort included updating inventories and maps for project review guidance.

Base Realignment and Closing (BRAC) in Maryland

Military Bases and Surrounding Communities

The Department of Planning has been active in supporting the efforts of the Maryland Military Installations Strategic Planning Council. The Maryland General Assembly established the Council to assist Maryland's military bases and surrounding communities throughout the federal government's review by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission.

MDP has been present at all Council meetings and its designated staff planner has provided assistance in a number of technical areas. MDP developed and distributed more than 200 Maryland Military Installation Area Profile Compact Disks (CDs) to federal, State and local officials. The intent of the Area Profile CD was to demonstrate nearby communities' ability to provide adequate schools, housing, commercial outlets and employment opportunities for those moving as part of a base expansion or consolidation. The CDs also provided links to Maryland's higher education institutions. Representatives from the BRAC, local military bases and general community used this data when evaluating Maryland and its local communities' ability to support expansion and new development on military bases. The Department also has received numerous requests for this information from Ft. Meade, Aberdeen Proving Ground and other impacted and non-impacted military base alliances.

This information, which provides land use, zoning, aerial maps, employment, school populations and other relevant data, is updated bi-annually and is available on the MDP web page at www.mdp.state.md.us. Local Planning Assistance continues to work with the Military Planning Council and local governments to evaluate the military's community needs and to help ensure that adequate infrastructure including roads, schools, water and sewer and housing are available.

Infrastructure Planning

The Infrastructure Planning Division has the critical role of working in partnership with other departments and agencies of Maryland State government on a daily basis to incorporate the concerns of effective planning and Smart Growth into their infrastructure funding and management programs. Other departments have strong mandates that may, unless all work together, work at cross-purposes with the State's growth and development policies. Whether it is MDE protecting Maryland's priceless environment or MDOT with its mandate of providing a mix of transportation options to State citizens, the catalyst for cooperation is found in the work of MDP, ensuring that smart growth and planning issues are incorporated into individual project decisions and into management policy and regulation.

Water and Sewer Planning

Interagency Technical Assistance Committee (pursuant to House Bill 659, 2002)

MDP staff participated in the State's Interagency Technical Assistance Committee as it completed its supporting improvements in water and sewer planning. Through its representation on the Financial Management Subcommittee and the County Water and Sewerage Plan Subcommittee, MDP provided substantive planning-related and organizational input with the goal of incorporating changes to regulations and procedures to improve the effectiveness of county Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plans for environmental protection and growth management.

Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources

MDP participated in the Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources' work pursuant to Executive Order # 01.01.2005.25 on the "Wolman II Committee," follow- up to "Wolman I" Committee which completed its report in May, 2004, evaluating the adequacy of the State's surface and ground water supplies. In addition to providing information regarding growth projections and trends, the Department also brought a smart growth perspective to the Committee's work. The issue of staging new development consistent with adequacy of water resources will be pursued with a final report required in 2008.

Bay Restoration Fund Advisory Committee

The Bay Restoration Fund Advisory Committee extended oversight and advice to the Maryland Department of the Environment on the implementation of the uniquely named "Flush Fee" or Bay Restoration Fund. MDP provided input to the Committee's efforts to provide guidance to local governments on methods of identifying septic system users and also provided guidance on priorities for the utilization of the Fund to support smart growth and the Priority Places Program. Staff continues to participate in this panel.

County Water and Sewerage Plans

Staff reviewed and commented on all amendments to local water and sewer plans (approximately 100 per year) and provided technical assistance and guidance to local governments as appropriate. By example, staff has worked with Montgomery County and the Towns of Boonsboro, Leonardtown and Snow Hill. Staff continues to review all State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance projects related to water and sewer funding and issues.

Patuxent River Commission (PRC)

MDE provided professional staff support services (including, for example, coordinating monthly meetings, preparing agenda and minutes) to the PRC. The PRC is a mandated body providing advice to state and local governments concerning actions, especially land use related actions, affecting water quality in the Patuxent River. The Commission also functions as the Tributary Team for the Patuxent River Watershed.

Chesapeake Bay Sub-Cabinet

Staff provided planning input into the short-and long-range tributary strategies, total maximum daily load (TMDL) guidelines and Chesapeake Bay Program. Additionally, MDP took on an increased role in planning and strategy creation in relation to coastal hazard management, and prevention and mitigation, meeting regularly with staff from DNR and MDE.

Transportation Planning

Transportation Project and Program Review staff:

- Participated in nearly twenty major highway and transit planning studies,
- Raised issues and provided information or strategies in addressing the issues,
- Provided approximately twenty written comment letters and memos at milestone stages of the planning processes for over a dozen projects,
- Attended Maryland Department of Transportation's (MDOT) annual Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) Tour meetings in various counties,
- Reviewed and provided written comment on the 2005 CTP, and
- Reviewed and provided comments on various transportation projects and plans through the State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance.

Local Plan Review – Transportation elements

The transportation unit planners at MDP reviewed and commented on more than twenty local comprehensive plans and transportation elements of local plans. MDP's staff met repeatedly with local elected officials and planning staff to discuss issues pertaining to:

- State planning policies, transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities,
- Safe Routes to Schools,
- Transportation funding requests, and
- Travel demand model development.

Priority Funding Law/State Transportation Projects

The MD 32 Project and the Inter-county Connector (ICC) were two projects that received extensive review for Priority Funding Area compatibility. Ultimately, both were forwarded to the Maryland Board of Public Works. MDP provided extensive growth management and Smart Growth analysis for both projects. The analysis indicated that the project did, in fact, "connect PFA's." The ICC was forwarded to the Board of Public Works for approval.

MDP staff participated in the Interagency Working Group and Principal Plus 1 meetings, coordinated with the ICC study team and provided written comments on the draft environmental impact statement/Section 4(f) Evaluation, the draft travel forecasting study materials and the draft secondary and cumulative effects analysis. MDP staff also conducted the required smart growth land use effect GIS/Transportation modeling analysis for this project and prepared a white paper on "Planning Act and Smart Growth Compliance" that was used during the ICC alternative selection process.

Regional Transportation Planning Process

MDP provided comments on various regional transportation planning documents, including the BRTB's Transportation 2030 – the Baltimore Region's Long Range Transportation Plan. MDP staff also reviewed and provided comments on the BRTB's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), proposed upgrades to the Baltimore Metropolitan Council's (BMC's) travel demand model, BMC's external survey study and a variety of other technical transportation processes at BMC. MDP staff actively participated in various subcommittees of the BRTB, including the Technical Committee, the Travel Demand Advisory Group, Citizen Advisory Committee, Cooperative Forecasting Group and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group at BMC.

Transportation /Land Use Modeling Tools

MDP's Transportation Planning Staff have worked in the calibration and the validation of the Baltimore Metropolitan Region DRAM-EMPAL Land Use Model. Staff developed and refined an integrated land use and transportation modeling approach that can be used to assess the possible future land use scenarios with transportation investments.

Baltimore Region Red Line Transitway Study

Staff participated in the Red Line Transit Oriented Development Charrette and provided comments on the Red Line TOD strategies and sketch plans. It also participated in the Red Line Technical Working Group meetings on a regular basis to assist in the selections of alignments and potential stations in various sections of the proposed Red Line corridor.

I-270/US 15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study

MDP staff attended this I-270/US 15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study's team meetings, in coordination with MTA/MDT staff, re-evaluated the Corridor City Transitway Kentlands alignment study and assisted in evaluations for transit storage facilities along the proposed corridor.

I-95 (JFK Highway), Section 100 and Section 200 Studies

MDP transportation planners conducted transportation/land use modeling analysis for the purpose of assessing the potential secondary land use effects of the I-95/Section 100 Improvement. It reviewed the alternative retained for detailed study and the selected alternate for the Section 100. To prove functionally "connecting PFAs", MDP staff utilized the metropolitan travel demand model.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning

Staff participated in:
- The Maryland Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee and Baltimore Region Pedestrian and Bicycle Subcommittee meeting and activities,
- Review of major transportation projects to ensure the adequate accommodations of pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and
- Assistance to State and Regional agencies in mapping proposed trail and on-road projects and worked with the State Highway Administration (SHA) staff and localities in an effort to obtain local approval for SHA's on-road bicycle route designation program.

Task Force for Transportation Capacity Across the Chesapeake Bay

MDP staff assisted in the development of data sets and analysis for this Task Force with transportation impact on land use analysis and began a preliminary identification of transportation and land use issues. Using available Department technology, staff prepared various data sets dealing with population projections, commuting trends and related information from the 2000 U.S. Census of Transportation. Using this data and its specific analysis, MDP staff's made a presentation to the Task Force on a range of transportation and land use aspects of the various proposals under consideration.

Public School Construction

FY 2006 Capital Improvement Program

As a member of the Interagency Committee on Public School Construction, MDP prepared county project descriptions and summaries and prepared worksheets for determination of funding levels for major construction projects for a capital budget of $250 million.

Enrollment Projections

The Department's Division of Planning Data Services prepared its annual enrollment forecasts for Baltimore City and 23 counties. The Infrastructure Division staff reviewed local responses in preparation for the annual facility planning and capital budgeting processes.

Educational Facility Master Plan

Applicable educational facilities submitted information to MDP as at the start of the fiscal year. MDP staff reviewed all plans and comments were incorporated into project justifications during the Capital Improvement Program process that begins every October.

School Site Approvals

Department staff made site visits, conducted State Clearinghouse reviews and made recommendations for Interagency Committee action. Approximately ten sites are visited annually.

Resource Conservation Planning

As the lead state agency for land preservation and recreation planning, MDP worked with other entities such as the Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources, local governments, land trusts and other private stakeholders to ensure true stewardship of the land. The Secretary of Planning is a member of the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) and Rural Legacy Boards and staff provided professional support to this effort.

Review of Local Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plans

Using guidelines produced by MDP in coordination with DNR, Maryland's twenty-three counties and Baltimore City are completing their 2005 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plans. The process is part of a joint State/County effort to evaluate the ability of current programs to achieve statutory goals, to provide beneficial recreational opportunities for Marylanders and to protect agricultural and natural lands and resource.

MDP and DNR reviewed draft land preservation, parks and recreation plans from the majority of Maryland's major jurisdictions, using the review template that MDP developed. Based on both departments' comments, staff advised jurisdictions about desirable improvements incorporating information that is being used currently to develop the 2006 State Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

Development of the 2006 State Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

MDP initiated statewide analyses of state and local efforts to provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and to preserve agricultural and natural resource lands. Program Open Space law requires the State to prepare a statewide plan that incorporates the county plans one year after the local plans are due (2005). The State plan is dependent on both local plans and statewide analyses for each type of land and resource of interest. The emphasis in this round of land preservation and recreation planning was to ensure a good return on public investment in conservation programs. To accomplish this, staff from MDP:
- Reviewed goals of State and local land conservation and implementation programs for parks and recreation, agricultural land and natural resource lands,
- Evaluated the ability of programs and funding sources to achieve goals and to identify shortcomings, and
- Recommended to State and local legislatures and governing bodies changes needed to overcome shortcomings, achieve goals and ultimately ensure good return on public investment.

Legislation to implement Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) Task Force Recommendations

MDP worked with legislators to introduce SB 502 and HB 1334 to create a Critical Farms Program. This bill instructed MDP and MALPF to report on the options for the program and to recommend enabling legislation on or before January 1, 2006.

The Critical Farms program will be an option that MALPF may use to preserve important farms that are in poised for conversion to development. The Task Force, chaired by Secretary Audrey E. Scott and staffed by MDP planners, completed a comprehensive effort to identify and recommend ways the Foundation could conserve most effectively viable farmland and the industry.

Certification of County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs

MDP staff implements this program for the State that helps counties achieve agricultural land preservation goals. Staff reviewed reports and submitted reviews, comments and recommendations to the following counties: Anne Arundel, Carroll, Cecil, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Queen Anne's and Talbot.

The certification of agricultural counties has the following goals:

- To maintain contributions of farming to the economy and a quality environment,
- To encourage county programs complement MALPF to preserve viable land, manage growth and preserve environmental quality; and
- To ensure that increased county expenditures of Agricultural Land Transfer Tax are cost-effective.

Counties benefited from certification by being able to retain a greater share of the locally generated agricultural land transfer tax. This tax is collected whenever agriculturally assessed land is sold for development. Counties that are not certified keep 33% of the tax; 67% is allocated to the Foundation. Certified counties keep 75% of the tax; 25% is allocated to the Foundation. The Certification Period covers two years at which time a county must be recertified by both the MDP and MDA. Another benefit of certification is that MDP offers technical assistance to certified counties to enhance their programs—for example, through refinement of purchase and transfer of development rights programs and for improving return on investment in land preservation.

As a member of MALPF, MDP provided support and assistance to the foundation and its programs. MDP created maps for Board of Public Works meetings showing properties proposed for easement funding in context of their surroundings. It also provided technical support with updated GIS maps of MALPF preserved lands for twenty-three counties, showing both agricultural districts and easements and created maps for the Board of Public Works meetings. The maps showed districts in relation to other protected lands and environmental features, helping to provide consistent, balanced information for funding decisions by the Board.

Review of Rural Legacy Area Applications and support for the Board and Advisory Committee

The Maryland Rural Legacy Program provides focus and funding to protect contiguous tracts of rural land through the acquisition of easements.

MDP reviewed twenty-five applications, provided analysis for each area and wrote summary assessments of supporting programs. In conjunction with DNR and the Maryland Department of Agriculture, MDP provided technical and planning assistance to the Rural Legacy Board and Advisory Committee. MDP's Resource Conservation Planning staff reviewed applications and completed a technical analysis of fragmentation versus preservation for each. Staff attended both Board and Advisory Committee meetings and advised the Secretary, MDP on the status of conservation efforts and issues in Rural Legacy Areas.

Modeling Tools to Facilitate Better Planning

Development of GISHydro2000

The importance of associating water resources and land use planning is vital to insure sustainable growth in Maryland. However, tools to accomplish this task are few, are mostly highly complex and are not suited for use by planning groups or even most professional planners. To address this matter MDP coordinated a multi-agency effort to produce a first generation GIS tool that allowed users to examine alternative land uses in a watershed, estimated effects on stream flow, biodiversity and nutrient impacts, as well as the effects of best management practices. MDP assembled the project team, led by a civil engineer and a biologist from Tetra Tech, and MDP helped develop a successful grant proposal and provide assistance in coordination of the project. DNR's Coastal Zone Management Program supplied funding for the first generation effort.

Special Award: "Albers Gert Award of the Worldwide IsoCaRP"
International Society of City and Regional Planners

An MDP planner was the principal investigator and author for the award winning research paper. The article "A Model to Predict Impervious Surface for Regional and Municipal Land Use Planning Purposes," published by the Journal Environmental Impact Assessment Review (Elsevier Science: 24 (2004) 363-382) received the award as the most important planning publication by the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISoCaRP) in 2005. ISoCaRP is a non-governmental worldwide professional association of city and regional planners and is recognized officially by the United Nations, UNESCO and the Council of Europe. The article described a statistically derived algorithm which allowed planners to calculate quickly and very accurately the amount of future impervious surface given simple forecasts of houses and jobs. Impervious surface calculations are very useful in predicting runoff and runoff related impacts such as local flooding and biological impairment of streams.

Acquisition of Grant to Link Land Use and Water Quality in the Chesapeake Bay

MDP and the Environmental Protection Agency Bay Program staff jointly acquired a grant to develop an Integrated Assessment Model to evaluate the effects of alternative future land use changes on water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. A second program module then will predict future sewer flows and septic users. Both future growth and sewer/septic forecasts will be used as input to the Bay Program's Phase 5 model, planned for application by 2007. The project is a multi-year effort; MDP's contribution will be completed in 2006.

Land Use Planning and Analysis

The Land Use Planning and Analysis staff focused on combining the Department's land use analysis resources with land use. MDP worked directly with sister agencies, local governments and other key smart growth stakeholders, such as (e.g., homebuilders, environmental groups, universities and councils of governments). The nature of work ranged from land use modeling to working with task forces on planning policy issues. Products included data, analysis, technical assistance and reports that integrate analysis and planning policy. The following is a sampling of the section's projects and products.

Development Capacity Analysis

Working from the results of the Development Capacity Task Force of 2004, MDP staff continued in 2005 to work with local governments to generate development capacity (i.e., buildout) analyses to be included in comprehensive plans. This effort was facilitated by memoranda of understanding with local governments and by an Executive Order from Governor Ehrlich. The section continued to work on analysis with local governments including Baltimore City, Worcester County, Queen Anne's County, Carroll County, Town of Federalsburg and City of Cambridge. The section also reviewed comprehensive plans for potential inclusion and use in the analysis. To aid local governments further with the analysis, the section worked jointly with the University of Maryland to develop a guidebook that gives background, examples and guidelines on capacity analysis. This guidebook can be accessed at http://www.mdp.state.md.us/develop_cap.htm. Additionally, the section developed a query tool to help local governments access, query and otherwise utilize the land use model output associated with the development capacity analysis.

National Demonstration Project

MDP participated in a Land Market Monitoring National Demonstration Project through the University of Maryland (National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education) with funding from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. This participation entailed traveling to several sites throughout the country and presenting and discussing alternative types of land use data, as well as alternative land supply methodologies practiced by other nationwide entities. Staff created a development capacity summary report which will be included in a larger document to be completed by the University of Maryland.

Annexation Workgroup

MDP provided the analysis, background, case studies and policy options for the Annexation Workgroup, a collaborative effort by the Maryland Municipal League and the Maryland Association of Counties to attempt to bring discussion about numerous annexations in the State. As part of its efforts to improve the tracking and review of annexations, the Department worked to develop a review and tracking intranet application.

Land Use Data Sharing, Development, Maintenance and Assimilation

MDP provided substantial assistance obtaining, sharing, creating, maintaining and assimilating GIS and related data for planning-related analysis. This effort involved working with partner agencies, establishing and maintaining data sharing agreements with local governments, reviewing local zoning ordinances and other efforts to keep the information accurate.

Eastern Shore Analysis

Staff developed a report (draft due at the end of 2005) that highlighted growth trends, projections and issues. This product will be a useful resource as the Department works to help address the serious growth pressures on the Eastern Shore.

Flush Fee Implementation

The flush fee, also called the "Bay Restoration Fee," is a $30 annual fee that users of public sewer and septic system owners pay the State. For those served by central sewer systems, this new program added the fee to existing sewer bills. This program also applies to those on individual septic systems. Very few local governments have an inventory of septic systems. MDP is the only organization that has a Statewide draft inventory of septic systems which we shared with local governments to assist them in developing more detailed versions of their own.

Reality Check+/Imagine Maryland

MDP worked with other smart growth stakeholders on a series of regional growth visioning exercises where participants discusses and suggested where and how the State's projected growth occur. This effort also included some growth scenario analysis and recommendations for the in which State should address future growth. See the following web page for more information: http://www.realitycheckmaryland.org/.

Outreach and Presentations

MDP Staff presented briefings to various audiences throughout the year. Presentations addressed the issues mentioned above and others including the following:

- American Planning Association National Conference: "Land For Housing" and "GIS Tools for Land Market Monitoring"
- Maryland Water Conference: "Land Use and Water Resources"
- League of Woman Voters: "Growth Trends, Projections and Development Supply"
- Community Planning Collaborative: Democracy and Planning in Action: "Adding Intelligence to Smart Growth Through Land Market Monitoring"
- Presentations before local governments, regional councils of government and legislative committees

The State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance

The State Clearinghouse has continued its work in the forefront of computer technology to assist the State and its citizens with effective and timely products and services.

Electronic Maryland Intergovernmental Review and Coordination Process (EMIRC)

The State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance manages the Maryland Intergovernmental Review and Coordination, (MIRC) process. MIRC offers "one stop" project analysis by government agencies and officials to ensure proposed projects are consistent with known state and local plans, programs and policies prior to project approval and implementation. Additional information on this process may be found at http://www.mdp.state.md.us/CLHOUSE/ intergov_review_center.htm.

The Clearinghouse system provided enhanced efficiency in reviewing the projects submitted for review in order to achieve 100 percent consistency with known State and local plans, programs and policies.

Staff received 1,308 projects for intergovernmental review in fiscal year 2005. Of that total, 1,107 were requests for financial assistance, 199 were direct development projects and two were facility plans. The top three programmatic areas requesting financial assistance were (1) Environmental and Energy, (2) Recreation/Program Open Space and (3) Health. The total federal dollar amount that was requested was $1,144,801,952.10 and the State requested dollar amount was $361,124,852.39. Requested local funds were $51,015,817.95 and a total of $261,981,848.21 were requests from other funding sources.

In the area of direct development, the top three project categories were Category one Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) such as the draft EIS for the Inner County Connector in Montgomery and Prince Georges counties. Also included in Category One are National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) documents, findings of Non Significant Impacts statements (FONSI), Environmental Effects Reports (EER) and Draft Environmental Impact Statements (DEIS). Category Two consisted of excess real property declarations and Category Three contained historic nominations. Projects receiving full review resulted in being consistent with state and local plans, programs and objectives.

The "Red Book"-Catalog of State Assistance Programs

The well-known "Red Book" contains updates of the 800+ programs of technical, financial and non-financial assistance provide by State agencies. More than 60 State departments and agencies updated their Red Book program listings. Staff provided ongoing training and technical assistance to State agencies as they updated their programs via the Internet on The Red Book Online. This is an "easy to use" electronic reference tool located at www.mdredbookonline.com. Program contacts are provided for users to obtain detailed information on items of interest. In addition, MDP published in print form The Red Book – Abridged Edition, January 2005, which was well received by legislators, public officials and citizens at MACo, MML Governor's Conference on Housing.

The Intergovernmental Monitor

This collective publication provided weekly public notice via the Internet of projects received for intergovernmental review. In addition to keeping the public informed of the projects received for intergovernmental review, the "Monitor" served as a check for State agency and local government reviewers regarding notification about projects that they had not received for review that may impact their plans, programs and policies. In fiscal year 2005, MDP published fifty-two Intergovernmental Monitors and posted them to the Internet:http://www.mdp.state.md.us/CLHOUSE/monitor_fy05.htm.

Real Property Inventory

In its effort to keep current the status of state owned real property in Maryland, MDP
secured the participation of State custodial agencies to update their real property holdings. It developed an online process for State custodial agencies to record real property transactions – acquisitions, disposals and transfers and to obtain information regarding sales and acquisitions for 2004 and 2005. Upon request, staff prepared several specialized real property reports.

Technical and Informational Assistance

Clearinghouse staff made available local government and public requests for assistance with identifying government and non-government funding resources on line via the Clearinghouse Grant Resource Center http://www.mdp.state.md.us/CLHOUSE/grant_resource.htm, This information included federal, State and/or private funding opportunities, scholarships and financial aid and grantsmanship training. Staff also responded in writing to numerous telephone, e-mail and letter requests for funding resources.

State Agencies Requests for Funding Assistance

MDP maintained a close working relationship with the Governor's Grants Office and
continued to collaborate with the federal Grants.gov, various federal agencies, other state
Single Points of Contacts (SPOCs) and several non-profit organizations regarding
identification of funding opportunities for state agencies. MDP staff participated in various
grantsmanship training activities for state agencies.

Other Technical Assistance Provided by Clearinghouse Staff

The State Clearinghouse provided information to interested parties about State-owned land and buildings that are no longer needed by the State. In 2005, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, acting on information provided by the Clearinghouse, began making preparations to move the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner from a stand-alone office building to the site of the new University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Health Sciences Research Park in Baltimore City. By providing this information, the Clearinghouse helped State agencies fulfill their missions, save time and money and open existing office space for other uses.

The State Clearinghouse circulated proposals of declarations of excess real property made by State, custodial agencies to other Maryland State, local and regional governments. MDP circulated this information to gather statements of possible interest in acquiring the property and to make a   recommendation about the proposal to the Board of Public Works. In 2005, the Clearinghouse helped DNR and the U. S. Navy accomplish their objectives by circulating their request for a proposed land transfer of similar amounts of acreage in St. Mary's County.   Although no other State or local government was interested in acquiring the State property, the Clearinghouse recommended that historic resources on the sites be protected, interagency coordination take place to protect the Chesapeake Bay and that access to the parcel be retained.

Planning Data Services

Maryland Property Mapping

Annual Update of State's Tax Maps and Linkage to Parcel Accounts

During 2005, the Property Mapping Section updated the State's 2,800 Tax Maps for Maryland's 23 counties, adding 25,000 new properties and plotted and distributed 12,560 paper Tax Maps and over 3,000 CD-ROMs.

The annual update of the State's 2,800 Tax Maps for Maryland's twenty-three counties included:

- Major improvements in the property maps for areas such as Easton and Trappe in Talbot County,
- A complete re-mapping of Elkton in Cecil County and Golden Beach in St. Mary's County as well as the inclusion of lot lines for about 25,000 new properties (property lines associated with new subdivisions and parcel splits) and their linkage to the corresponding parcel account records,
- Updated property maps and full parcel database (2.2. million accounts statewide) that serve as the foundation for MDP's Property Mapping CD-ROM products, MdProperty View and FINDER, as well as the new web- based delivery system, FINDER On-Line,
- Production of 1,275 MdProperty View and 1,820 FINDER CD-ROMs to meet subscriber demand, and
- Plotting of 12,560 paper Tax Maps (2'x3') with 8,500 sent to the county assessments and taxation offices and 4,060 to complete public map orders through the Maryland Tax Map Ordering System (MOS).

> Now in its first full year of operation, the web-based MOS made it easy for users to identify and order paper plots of the State's 2,800 tax maps. Visitors simply click on a county from a State map and a view is opened showing the entire jurisdiction with a red overlay outlining the area covered by each tax map. Information then is charged easily to their credit card account. (Visit www.mdp.state.md.us and click on Printed Tax Maps under Products.)

Maryland Property Mapping

Maryland Property View (CD ROM GIS Mapping Product)

MdProperty View is MDP's parcel geographic information system (GIS) for use in ESRI's ArcView and ArcMap (ArcGIS 9) desktop GIS software. MdProperty View offers a visually accessible database allowing interaction with a jurisdiction's property map and parcel information using (GIS) software. MDP successfully completed the 2004 Edition cycle and began production on the 2005 Edition cycle, inaugurating the 10th year of production of this crucial GIS product. MDP achieved for the State $43,385.00 of new MdProperty View revenue through 45 new subscriber orders. The total revenue realized, including subscription renewals, was $309,500. The total number of MdProperty View CD-ROMs distributed was 1,220.

Maryland Property FINDER (CD ROM Map Viewer)

MdProperty Map FINDER is a robust and easy-to-use desktop tool for accessing MDP's GIS data. MDP launched FINDER, the abbreviated name for this sophisticated product, in 2003 to provide search and visual display of tax map and parcel databases and other map overlays to the consumers who lack GIS experience. A subscriber may locate a desired parcel by using the owner name, street address, parcel account or map reference searches, retrieve the latest parcel information from the Web for the selected or neighboring parcels and generate printed property maps and reports.

The Department successfully completed the 2004 Edition cycle and began production on the 2005 Edition cycle. For the 2005 version of the FINDER software, MDP added 11 new features based on subscriber feedback collected through its Engineering Change Proposal (ECP) process. Among these was the addition of the labeling tool. Staff created and added to the 2005 county CDs residential sales map layers for calendar years 2002, 2003, 2004 and the first half of 2005.   For the Worcester County CD, a subdivision map layer was created to assist subscribers in identifying condominiums by name in Ocean City.

Key address and database augmentations for MdProperty View also helped to improve FINDER. The most important of these was the addition of subdivision code and description to the FINDER parcel records. For FY2005, FINDER achieved just over $58,000 in new revenue through 170 new subscriber orders. Total revenue including subscription renewals realized was just under $106,500 for the past fiscal year. The total number of FINDER CD-ROMs distributed in CY 2005 was 1,888.

FINDER also supports advanced queries of the parcel database and allow additional GIS layers (e.g. flood plains, zoning, sewer, protected lands) to be displayed over the tax maps and parcels point maps. These products were exceedingly well received by the public and especially by business subscribers, primarily real estate agents, brokers and developers and appraisers.

Maryland FINDER On-Line (Statewide Web Accessibility)

In September, 2005 MDP introduced a newly developed web-based mapping application to access Maryland's 2,800 tax maps linked spatially to the State's 2.2 million parcel database records. This application was directed at providing broader use and access to products that are accessible from MDP currently only on CD-ROM – MdProperty View and FINDER CD. An initial Beta testing phase commenced in August comprising of more than 150 participants.

This web-based mapping project represents a successful collaboration between MDP's Planning Data Services (PDS) and Management Information System (MIS) units. PDS was responsible for spatial data and metadata updates to ensure data quality and uniformity and MIS was responsible for script coding as well as web server operation and maintenance. FINDER On-Line provided statewide access via the display of region-based mapping datasets (four to five Maryland jurisdictions simultaneously). This enabled all jurisdictions and all shared boundaries between jurisdictions to be viewed and analyzed. The map layers available with FINDER On-Line include the following:

- General and detailed State Highway Administration street and feature maps with annotation, Assessments data on ownership and value, recent sales and detailed characteristics of residential parcels with improvements,
- Generalized county zoning maps, county sewer maps; Protected lands,
- Land use/land cover; flood plains, and
- Priority Funding Areas (PFAs).

Maryland Property Mapping - Outreach and Training for GIS Mapping

MDP's Systems Support staff conducted twenty-five FINDER training classes in 2005, providing training to 121 subscribers.

Exhibitor at conferences: MDP participated as an exhibitor at the 2005 Towson University Geographic Information Systems and Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors conferences, the 2005 MML, MACo, Maryland Association of Realtors conventions and the 2005 Maryland Digital Government Summit. Outreach activities helped promote and market MDP's parcel GIS products and aerial imagery to the public and private sectors. Outreach activities included:

- Informational seminars to targeted end-user groups,
- Participation in conferences and conventions targeted to potential end-users,
- Speaking opportunities before associations representing the end-user target audience, and
- Creation of literature and direct mail programs and proactive web-based and telephone marketing

Training offered: MDP also offered training courses in the use of MdProperty View, in ESRI's desktop software products, ArcView 3.x and ArcGIS. In addition, MDP offered subscribers high-resolution aerial ortho-photography for Central Maryland counties through a special licensing program with Aerials Express, LLC.

Data Services Help Desk: The Help Desk offered more customer service support for both FINDER and MdProperty View subscribers. The Help Desk is accessed by phone or e-mail and is comprised of content experts answering subscribers' specific questions and providing technical assistance. The Help Desk is available to all subscribers during business hours.

Maryland Property Mapping - Improved Statewide Parcel Address Geocoding Tools

MDP staff updated street addresses in MDP's parcel database to 1.9 million parcels 1.86 million in 2004. The Department distributed the quarterly update CD-ROMs to the 12 State agencies participating in the MdProperty View program. MDP has maintained this CD-ROM product for three years to enable subscribers to do Statewide Parcel Geocoding of their address records. MDP updated the Statewide Parcel Geocoding tool at the conclusion of each calendar quarter using the latest available editions of MdProperty View for Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City.

State Data Center

Revised Long Range Socioeconomic Projections

Every four years MDP revises long-range socioeconomic projections for Maryland's twenty-four jurisdictions. MDP completed these revisions in October, 2005 and included five-year projections to 2030 for population, households, labor force, jobs by place of work, total personal income and per capita personal income for each of Maryland's twenty-four political jurisdictions. The population projections are for total, household and group quarters populations by detailed age group (five-year age cohorts), race (white & non-white) and gender; labor force projections are for age and gender; and job projections are for total jobs by place of work

For the first time, these projections incorporated expanding growth pressures from Maryland's metropolitan jurisdictions into the Eastern Shore and Western Maryland. Escalating housing prices in recent years have accelerated growth to these more rural and affordable areas. State departments and agencies make use of the socioeconomic projections for infrastructure planning purposes in addition to use by the private sector, academia and the general public.

Long-range projections are key inputs into state and local government agencies' infrastructure planning for water, sewer and transportation projects. All projections were made available in electronic form with summaries posted on the MDP website.

Annual Public School Enrollment Projections, 2005-2014

In 2005, MDP published a report on public school enrollment projections by grade (K through 12) by individual year for the 2005 to 2014 time period for each of Maryland's twenty-four jurisdictions. The report contains detailed tables of historical and projected enrollments, jurisdiction highlights and methodology used.

Prepared annually, the projections are used by state and local facility planners to determine state funding for school construction and renovations. The numbers also are used by colleges and universities for enrollment planning and by private marketing firms and business consultants.

Site Analyses/Special Projects

Department staff prepared detailed site studies for six proposed horse parks and three existing racetracks in Maryland. Analysis for the Race Tracks Studies was completed February 2005; the Horse Park Studies were completed August 2005. The studies provided a comprehensive look at characteristics and trends.

In February 2005, MDP prepared population estimates for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Population estimates for all counties and Baltimore City showed estimates of the number of persons for 18 age groups by gender, native and foreign-born persons and non-Hispanic persons by race as well as total Hispanic/Latino as of July 1, 2004.

State Data Center Website Updates of Yearly Time Series and Profiles

The State Data Center website, with more than 300,000 visits last year, made available new information such as population estimates for Maryland's 24 jurisdictions (age/race/gender) and municipalities, analysis of the changing population, IRS state-to-state migration flows and demographic and socioeconomic characteristics from the American Community Survey.

The Center also made available the Census Bureau's monthly, quarterly and annual estimates of housing units authorized for construction based on building permit data used to track residential development activity throughout Maryland and the 2004 update to residential sales data tracks the change in sales price for both jurisdictions and zip code areas by type of housing. This type of data enable such analysis as eligibility for housing programs.

The Maryland "Outlook of Projections" provided on a single sheet for each jurisdiction a summary of historical and projected data. The MDP Maryland Statistical Handbook offered a one-stop location for post 2000 data for Maryland and its jurisdictions.

State Data Center

Website Mapping & Profile Applications - improvements for Census Statistical Areas and Congressional and Legislative Districts

Staff redesigned Census websites for viewing maps and small area demographic and socio-economic information based on the decennial census and the Maryland's Congressional and State Legislative district.

The redesigned Address Look-Up Application enabled users to view a statewide map and to locate themselves by street address. Users can also display and print maps for the corresponding area. The map layers and statistical profile data are based on the 2000 decennial census.

The redesigned Legislative and Congressional District website enabled users easily to access and retrieve standard maps and demographic profiles based on the current Congressional and Legislative districts adopted in the 2002 redistricting. Users can access, download and view a variety of standard maps. The maps are available by districts within a County as well as by individual district and can be viewed in either black & white with district outlines in red or in full color. All maps can be downloaded as .pdf files for printing or the user may request that MDP supply the .pdf file on CD-ROM or print individual maps for the cost of reproduction. Also available to be viewed, download or ordered on CD-ROM from the website are (1) population and demographic profiles for the districts, (2) electronic map layers of the districts, census geographic areas used for redistricting and precincts (2000, 2002 and 2004) and (3) all election data compiled through the 2000 primary and general elections used as aid in the post 2000 Census redistricting process.

Residential Development Trends Analyses

MDP staff updated trends in single-family residential development inside and outside the Priority Funding Area (PFA) to include 2003 (completed August 2005). Median sales value for residential housing by type (single family, townhouse, condominium) was updated for 2004 (April 2005) and for the first six months of 2005 (September 2005).

Growth Trends Inside and Outside the PFA - MDP updated its annual analysis of growth trends inside and outside the Priority Funding Area (PFA) through CY2003 (completed August 2005). Data on single-family residential development now can be compared for the seven years (1990 – 1996) prior to enactment of the "Smart Growth Priority Funding Areas Act of 1997" to the subsequent seven years (1997 – 2003). This was accomplished by intersecting the PFA boundary with MdProperty View improved residential parcels. A total of 164,655 single-family residential
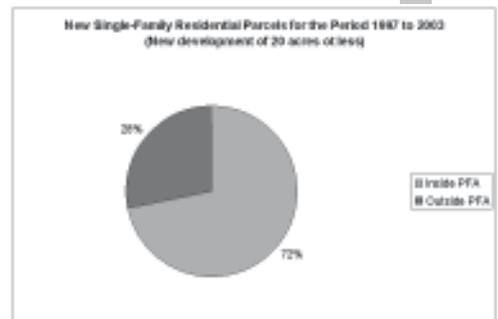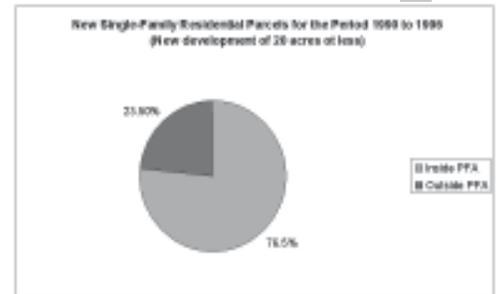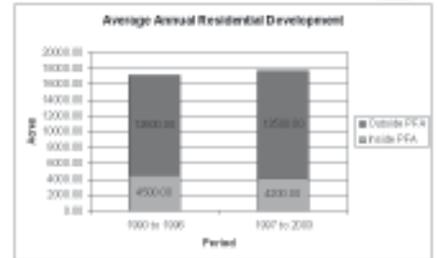
parcels of twenty acres or less were developed in Maryland in the earlier time period compared to 161,279 in the subsequent period. The housing units for these two time periods consumed 119,654 and 123,641 acres respectively, as average lot size increased from .73 acres to 77 acres.

The share of new single-family housing inside the PFA was 76.5% for the earlier seven year time period compared to just 71.7% for the more recent. While average lot size outside the PFA declined from 2.276 acres to 2.073, the decrease in the share of development inside the PFA, coupled with the comparatively small size of lots inside the PFA (about .25 acres), resulted in an increase from 73.7% to 76.4% in the share of total acres associated with development outside the PFA. The annual average for total acres developed outside the PFA increased from 12,600 to 13,500 acres over the two time periods compared to a decline inside the PFA from 4,500 to less than 4,200.

Total Acreage of New residential Development for the Period 1990 to 1996

Total Acreage of New residential Development for the Period 1997 to 2003

Residential Sales Analysis - Using MdProperty View extracts of sales were updated for both 2004 and the first six months of 2005, adding to the time series that also includes 2002 and 2003. Residential sales by type of housing (single family, townhouse and condominium) and by sales price (median, mean and distribution by sales price intervals) were derived for the State, counties, municipalities, zip codes, census tracts and block groups for all four time periods. The median sales data was mapped also for the small areas to see changes over time in the spatial distribution. The tabular and mapped data sets are included with the 2005 Edition of FINDER.

Sale prices have skyrocketed over this recent time period with statewide single-family median sales price increasing 47.0% from 2002 to the first half of 2005 ($323,900 compared to $220,312). Similarly, the statewide townhouse median sales price has increased 47.9% ($220,000 compared to $148,790) and the condominium median sales price has jumped 63.9% ($195,000 compared to $119,000). When the median sales price by census tract is mapped for 2005 (first six months) compared to 2002, there is a very dramatic increase in the portion of central Maryland where the median sale price now exceeds $300,000.

Statistical information available through the many capabilities of the Data Center are critical to understanding factors contributing to the expanding growth pressures from the metropolitan jurisdictions outward to the Eastern Shore and into Western Maryland.

2004 TIGER Street Map with Addresses to Support Planning

In the spring of 2005 the U.S. Census Bureau provided the Maryland Department of Planning with its First Edition 2004 TIGER/Line files (Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing). TIGER was developed at the Census Bureau to support the mapping and related geographic activities required by the decennial and economic censuses and sample survey programs. The TIGER/Line files were provided in text format only for each county in Maryland. MDP converted and translated the files into a format that can be used by specific Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping software and published them as a CD-ROM Product entitled "Census TIGER 2004" (completed June 2004).

Released for Maryland's twenty-three counties and Baltimore City, the 2004 TIGER street and feature files contain the current boundaries for counties and incorporated places in effect as of January 1, 2004 as reported to the Census Bureau by April 1, 2004. The 2004 version is the first to include counties with realigned and more accurate mapping of street features. To date, the Census Bureau has realigned street features in Baltimore City and eleven Maryland counties (Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Somerset, and Worcester).

MDP staff prepared the CD-ROM that contains extracted Census Bureau 2004 TIGER features along with key data fields as electronic map layers that can be accessed readily and used by computer mapping software that meets State standards.   Also included were statewide map layers for census statistical areas for which demographic data are published (e.g., counties, places, census tracts, block groups and blocks) as well as political areas (Congressional and Legislative districts). The CD-ROM was distributed to State and local agency data sharing partners and also may be ordered from MDP for the cost of reproduction.

Using the CD, users can find a map location by entering a single address and zooming to that location anywhere on the statewide map. Users also can take their own list of addresses (e.g. customer or client databases) and spatially reference them to their "x,y" location along the corresponding TIGER street feature. The result is a new map layer containing the user's database information.

Featured Speakers at Conferences and Workshops

China Delegation: Staff participated in two conferences as featured speakers and hosted a delegation of Chinese officials. MDP was able to present needed information such as Maryland's interaction with the Census Bureau, use of data for socio-economic projections and provision and distribution of census data through a state department.

Women's Bar Association: A presentation to the Women's Bar Association (WBA) at their annual meeting in May 2005 highlighted the foreign born population in Maryland. Members of the (WBA) were interested in the impact foreign immigration would have on the types of services the legal community would need to offer in the future. The presentation focused on foreign born by country of origin, concentrations by zip code and socioeconomic characteristics.

Maryland Library Association: Staff presented a session on accessing Census 2000 and more recent data from the Maryland State Data Center website at the Maryland Library Association conference in May 2005. Conference attendees received instructions on accessing demographic, socioeconomic and business data and information on the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, an on-going survey to replace the 2010 census long form questionnaire.

The U.S. Census Bureau requested that the Maryland State Data Center host a delegation of Chinese officials who were interested in learning about the types of data collected and maintained by a State agency, applications for the data and the access and distribution process.

Maryland Historical Trust

Research, Survey and Registration

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is a federal program designed to recognize properties significant in American history and culture. The Office of Research, Survey, and Registration administers the program in Maryland. During 2005, the Governor's Consulting Committee reviewed thirty-five proposals as nominations of Maryland properties to the National Register. The Committee forwarded twenty-three nominations comprising more than 2000 contributing resources to the National Park Service (NPS).

Many of the properties listed in the National Register during 2005 reflected themes important in African American history, including some of the following fine examples:
- A thematic nomination for African American Resources in Prince George's County allows for recognition of a wide variety of resource types associated with the African American experience throughout the county, and offers a model for similar efforts in other jurisdictions.
- Another thematic nomination covers Anne Arundel County's Rosenwald Schools, documenting the influence of a private initiative to fund the construction of elementary schools for African American children in the early 20th century.
- The education theme also is represented by the nomination of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, which developed from a private academy in the 19th century to become an integral part of the University Systems of Maryland.
- The Charles Sumner Post #25, Grand Army of the Republic Hall in Chestertown was listed as a representative of the only integrated social organization in 19th-century America; it is one of only two surviving G.A.R. Halls in the nation.

Research and Survey Program

Research and survey are the foundation of all preservation activity. These activities develop the data that comprise the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, a broad-based catalog of historic resources throughout the state. The Inventory consists of written, photographic, cartographic and other graphic documentation of over 150,000 historic districts, buildings, structures and sites that serve as a physical record of Maryland history. The Inventory is constantly expanding through contributions from the Research and Survey Unit's Statewide Architectural Survey Program, which works with county and local governments and other institutions to identify and document historic resources.

In 2005, the MHT Research and Survey staff reviewed and administered ongoing non-capital and Certified Local Government grant projects including:

Two county-wide comprehensive surveys in Howard and Queen Anne's Counties;
- A multi-phase research and survey project of modern architecture in the state;
- An architectural survey of the town of Belair; A study of historic roads of St. Mary's County;
- An historic structures report on the Easton Music Hall;
- And preparation of manuscripts for a guide to architecture in the state (a volume in the Buildings of the United States series) and for two county architectural history books.

Overall, MHT added 747 standing structures and survey districts to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties. Information on 255 standing structures and survey districts was updated and 30,247 acres were surveyed to determine the presence of historical and cultural resources.

Cultural Conservation Program

Shared beliefs, activities, skills and stories add a dynamic dimension to tangible places. The Cultural Conservation Program is dedicated to identifying, documenting, preserving and presenting the human dimension of the brick and mortar concerns of traditional preservationists. The single staff professional dedicated to this purpose serves as a clearinghouse to connect local communities with sources of professional expertise and administers grants to non-profit organizations and local governments for cultural resource documentation purposes.

In 2005, the Cultural Conservation Program saw the completion of a variety of projects including the publication of The Money Crop: Calvert County Tobacco after the Buyout and the accompanying compact disk by former Maryland Traditions fieldworkers.

The publication won the highest honors at the national Oral History Association meetings in October. Maryland Traditions, the partnership of the Trust and the State Arts Council, through the National Endowment for the Arts, is now in its fifth year and continues to document and present our state's living heritage.

MHT selected the first recipients of project grants to support cultural preservation in seven counties (Allegany, Baltimore, Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, Talbot, and St. Mary's) and Baltimore City. Ten Master Apprentice teams in traditional arts and skills participated in Hands-On Maryland Traditions! the three day showcase held for the second year at Baltimore's Artscape in the Mount Royal Cultural District. Teams from six counties and Baltimore City have been selected to begin their training. A yearlong survey of musical and spoken traditions of Old West Baltimore, in collaboration with the Baltimore City Heritage Area, has been completed with production phase to follow.

Maryland Traditions partners, The Ward Museum, Salisbury and Frostburg State University, continue to conduct field survey and program events including symposia, festivals and demonstrations in their respective regions. The Trust's Oral History Archive continues to grow as staff added three new projects this year, stabilized and created access to the Slackwater Archive in Southern Maryland, worked towards book publication with the Catoctin Center for Regional Studies and provided technical assistance to organizations and individuals working with traditional culture.

Geographic Information System

The MHT Geographic Information System (GIS) consists of computerized maps and databases containing information on Maryland's historical and archeological resources and information on other mapped management areas, including Heritage Areas. The GIS converts historic sites inventory, maps and management information into an integrated computerized format that is widely accessible to staff, other professionals, federal, state, regional and local programs, private consultants and the general public for preservation, evaluation and interpretation. Paper maps and documents, once accessible only in the MHT library, are now reaching an ever-growing number of citizens through Internet access and other digital delivery systems.

In 2005, GIS development continued under a T-21 grant administered by the State Highway Administration. The project is approximately 50 percent complete now and consists of development and enhancement of three GIS layers and the development of a Maryland Roadside Historic Markers Website. Plans for integration of MHT's GIS data with MDP's systems also are underway.

Monuments Conservation

MHT staff provided support to the Governor's Commission on Maryland Military Monuments, created in 1989 to inventory the approximately 400 military memorials honoring Maryland's veterans, to raise funds and manage their restoration and preservation, and to develop educational and tourism materials relating to their history.
- From 1989 through 2005, the Commission has sponsored, in whole or in part, the conservation treatment of ninety-four Maryland memorials. Treated monuments have been placed on a maintenance program to ensure their continued preservation.
- In 2005, MHT staff coordinated maintenance for twenty-one monuments and tablets and assisted with the repair and repointing of the speakers' stand at Washington Confederate Cemetery in Hagerstown.

Historic Markers

MHT staff continued to administer the Maryland Roadside Historic Marker Program, which seeks to commemorate people, events, and places of special significance to the state through the erection of roadside markers. The program, originating in 1933 with the State Roads Commission and later administered by the Maryland Historical Society, was transferred to MHT in 1985. MHT works in partnership with the State Highway Administration to locate, repair and replace markers that have fallen victim to weathering, accidents and vandalism. MHT provided for the installation of three new markers in 2005: Chesapeake Bay Skipjack Fleet in Talbot County, Planetary Radio Emissions Discovery Site in Montgomery County and University of Maryland Eastern Shore in Somerset County. A fourth marker, for the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad Marble Track Bed, is scheduled to be installed in Baltimore County.

Preservation Services

Review and Compliance Program

The Trust's Review and Compliance Program is a regulatory program that reviews State and Federal undertakings that have the potential to affect historic architecture, archeological resources and cultural resources to ensure compliance with federal and state historic preservation law. The Review and Compliance Program helps to ensure that the State's historic archeological and cultural resources will not be affected adversely or destroyed by the actions of Federal and State agencies or by those entities receiving assistance from those agencies. In 2005, Trust staff reviewed more than 3600 public undertakings in every county and Baltimore City pursuant to federal and state historic preservation legislation to assess the effects of the undertakings on historic and archeological properties and to ensure the appropriate stewardship of Maryland's heritage resources. Throughout the year, staff maintained close coordination with state agencies, federal agencies, local governments and recipients of state and/or federal funds, licenses and permits to assist program users in fulfilling their historic preservation responsibilities. Trust staff sustained effective consultation with the various compliance customers, particularly the following agencies:

Department of Defense Installations
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Community Development Block Grant Recipients
State and Federal Highway Administrations
County and Municipal governments receiving federal and/or state assistance
Federal Communications Commission and its licensees
National Park Service Units
National Institutes of Health
Corps of Engineers and Maryland Department of the Environment and their permit applicants
Veterans Administration
General Services Administration
State Owned Properties Administered by the Departments of Natural Resources, Health and Mental Hygiene, General Services, University of Maryland System
Other Federal Assisted Programs
Other State Assisted Programs

Highlights of notable case reviews and interagency partnerships are listed below.

Inter-County Connector (ICC) Project: Trust staff continued its active participation in the Maryland State Highway Administration's ICC interagency team in the project planning and environmental review process for the study. The ICC is one of thirteen projects selected nationwide by the U.S. Department of Transportation for priority streamlining and environmental stewardship.

Trust involvement included participation on the bi-monthly ICC Interagency Working Group meetings, attendance at Principals +1 meetings held quarterly or more often when needed, priority review of all cultural resources sections of technical studies and environmental documents, participation in interagency field reviews, meetings with cultural resources consultants to ensure appropriate completion of studies and prompt resolution of any issues and facilitation of the Section 106 review of the project. Section 106 milestones for 2005 included completion of the identification and evaluation of historic and archeological properties within the area of potential effect; consultation to resolve adverse effects on historic properties through avoidance, minimization and mitigation efforts; review of the Preliminary Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and negotiating and executing a Memorandum of Agreement for the project.

Biotech Park Project: Continued administration of the 2003 Programmatic Agreement with the City of Baltimore (City), East Baltimore Development Incorporated (EBDI) and the Baltimore Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) regarding the manner in which historic resources would be taken into account as part of the East Baltimore Development Project, also known as the "Biotech Park Project." Trust staff continued to participate in numerous meetings and site visits along with representatives from the City, EBDI, CHAP and several development teams to discuss how Biotech Park-related projects would be carried out in accordance with the agreement.

Included among these are the primary Biotech Park residential development area, a proposed community recreation center which involved the historic Hoen Warehouse Building, a proposed housing complex near Collington Square, the National Register nomination process for the historic area centered around Madison Square and the identification of two rows of historic alley houses for preservation. Notable developments that occurred in 2005 include reaching an agreement with EBDI regarding selected properties would be preserved within the primary residential development area, executing a MOA for the community recreation center/historic Hoen Warehouse Building, completing the review process for the proposed housing complex near Collington Square, the identification of a targeted survey area around Madison Square for National Register nomination and completing the Trust review of an assisted living development along Broadway.

Historic Preservation Easement Program

The Historic Preservation Easement Program protects the State's financial investment in the acquisition and rehabilitation of historic, archeological and cultural resources, ensuring that these resources continue to be cared for and available to the public in perpetuity. In turn, these resources contribute greatly to the development of the State's heritage tourism initiatives and to heritage-related educational programs. As of November 28, 2005, the Trust holds easements on 595 properties as a result of 571 easements. These easement properties are located in every county in the State and Baltimore City. In 2005, the Trust received six easements. In 2005, MHT inspected twenty-four easement properties. Also in 2005, staff held an easement workshop for volunteer inspectors in Talbot County.

Rehabilitation Tax Credits

The Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program is one of the State's most powerful economic development and community revitalization tools. The State Tax Credit Program, complemented by the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program, assists in the preservation of historical resources by providing financial incentives to property owners. These programs are two of the very few financial incentive tools that the Trust is able to provide to encourage historic preservation capital activity by for profit businesses and private individuals.

Tax Credit Program staff received more than 700 new projects, residential and commercial, federal and state, while continuing to finalize certifications on projects from previous years. Staff certified $104,000,000 worth of rehabilitation expenditures, equal to about $24,000,000 in credits for the Maryland Tax Credit. Revised state credit regulations were implemented starting at the beginning of the fiscal year, prohibiting the submission of completed projects or projects that were for remodeling only. In addition, staff attended a several day educational session at the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. about tax incentive review and participated in several workshops and seminars about tax incentives, including the Mayor's Conference in Annapolis and the Advanced Real Property Seminar in Baltimore.

Commercial Part II Certifications by Jurisdiction in CY2005

Jurisdiction	Number of Projects	Rehab Cost	Tax Credit Awards
Allegany	2	$834,850	$166,970
Anne Arundel	2	$900,000	$180,000
Baltimore City	8	$61,481,966	$10,000,000
Baltimore County	3	$5,093,000	$1,018,600
Caroline	1	$130,000	$26,000
Carroll	2	$3,358,428	$671,000
Dorchester	2	$1,300,000	$260,000
Frederick	3	$1,400,000	$280,000
Howard	1	$350,000	$70,000
Kent	3	$5,050,000	$1,010,000
Montgomery	2	$19,750,000	$3,950,000
Prince George's	1	$1,650,000	$330,000
Somerset	1	$2,000,000	$400,000
Talbot	3	$3,280,000	$656,000

Capital Historic Preservation Grant and Loan Programs

Capital Grants and Loans offer assistance to non-profit organizations, local jurisdictions, business entities and private citizens in their sponsorship of successful acquisition, rehabilitation and restoration of historic properties eligible for the Maryland Register of Historic Properties. Non-profit organizations and local jurisdictions also may receive funding for pre-development costs such as historic structure reports and studies, the preparation of plans and specifications, necessary archaeological investigations and reasonable fees for architectural, design, engineering and other special services. Structures used for religious purposes may be eligible for MHT assistance for exterior work only.

In fiscal year 2005, which ended on June 30, 2005, the Trust awarded grants to eighteen projects totaling $748,463. To date for fiscal year 2006, which began on July 1, 2005, the Trust has awarded $928,800 for twenty-eight projects located in Allegany, Anne Arundel, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Kent, Montgomery, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Washington and Wicomico Counties and Baltimore City.

To-date the Trust is reviewing two Historic Preservation Loan applications requesting a total of $700,000.

Non-Capital Historic Preservation Grant Program

Non-Capital grants are available to non-profit organizations and local governments for research, survey, planning and educational activities involving architectural, archeological or cultural resources. Eligible activities may include architectural, archeological or cultural resource surveys, the development of preservation plans, educational outreach programs and National Register nominations. In 2005, MHT awarded eight Non-Capital grants totaling $166,676. These grants funded a variety of heritage preservation projects, including archeological investigations in Anne Arundel County, a comprehensive historic sites survey in Queen Anne County, and statewide educational events. In addition, Non-Capital grants staff continued to monitor projects funded in previous years.

Certified Local Government Program

Each year, the State of Maryland makes at least ten percent of its annual apportionment of the federal Historic Preservation Fund available to Certified Local Governments (CLGs) through the CLG Sub Grant Program. Maryland's CLGs include Annapolis, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Bel Air, Calvert County, Chestertown, Cumberland, Frederick, Frederick County, Hagerstown, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Rockville, St. Mary's County, Talbot County, Washington County, and Wicomico County. Any of Maryland's seventeen CLGs that continue to meet minimum standards under its certification agreement with MHT are eligible to apply for funding. In 2005, MHT awarded five grants totaling $60,809. Projects funded include a historic sites survey in Annapolis, a historic roads survey in St. Mary's County, and the CLG educational set aside, that provides training opportunities for historic preservation commissioners and staff.

Heritage Planning and Outreach

Heritage Areas

The Maryland Heritage Areas Program was created in 1996 to leverage compatible State and non-State investment to protect and enhance Maryland's historical, cultural and natural resources. To participate in the program, partnerships of local government and private sector interests must complete and adopt a prescriptive management plan and create and sustain a local management entity to implement the plan, with 50-50 cost-sharing with the State. Unlike other state and federal heritage area designations, Maryland's heritage areas may be described as "heritage enterprise zones" where investment is targeted into defined geographic areas where funding will be most effective, most quickly.

In 2005 the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority awarded $899,180 in grants to twenty-six programs and projects within nine Certified Heritage Areas including the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (Prince George's County), the Four Rivers Heritage Area (Anne Arundel County), the Baltimore City Heritage Area, the Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area (Dorchester County), the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area (Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties), the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway (Cecil and Harford Counties), the Montgomery County Heritage Area, the Southern Maryland Heritage Area (St. Mary's, Charles, and Calvert Counties), and the Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area (Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne, and Talbot Counties). These matching grants provided funding for capital and non-capital projects, marketing and operating support assistance to Certified Heritage Areas. The 2005 heritage area grants leveraged $2,981,861 in non-State matching cash and in-kind investment in heritage tourism across the state. Total available Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grant funds in 2005 were $900,000, for which $1,970,497 in grant requests were received.

Additionally, in 2005 the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority approved the tenth Certified Heritage Area. The newly certified Stories heritage area entitled Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area lies within Kent, Caroline, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties. It covers approximately 1200 square miles, and includes twenty-one incorporated municipalities and a host of unincorporated settlements.

Preservation Planning

In 2005, MHT Staff completed The Maryland Preservation Plan, 2005. The National Park Service mandates that each State Historic Preservation Office prepare a preservation plan. This five-year plan outlines Maryland's statewide preservation goals and priorities and summarizes Maryland financial assistance programs and the status of Maryland's heritage resources. The plan is a resource for Maryland citizens and local governments, consultants and State agencies. In addition, the plan will guide the programs and activities of the Maryland Historical Trust, Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office.

Publications – MHT Press

The MHT Press produces and distributes materials that document and interpret the State's heritage resources and provide instruction in preservation practice. While some works are published in-house, most are developed in partnership with local governments and nonprofit organizations through Non-Capital and CLG grants. In 2005, the Press published The Money Crop: Calvert County After the Tobacco Buyout with the Calvert County Historic District Commission.

Additional publications currently under development include architectural histories for St. Mary's and Wicomico Counties, a history of the City of Annapolis, a popular report on the archeological investigations at the Benjamin Banneker Homestead, and several archeological reports.

Archeology

Terrestrial Archeology

The staff of the Terrestrial Archeology Program provides the professional expertise in the legislatively mandated identification, documentation and evaluation of archeological sites. The identification and evaluation of archeological sites play a key role in fulfilling the Office of Archeology's other mandates:
- Undertake direct, fundamental research,
- Encourage the preservation of sites,
- Cooperate in the scientific excavation of sites when warranted,
- Cooperate with museums and educational institutions, and
- Establish educational programs to train interested members of the public.

The Terrestrial Program staff completed an archeological survey of the Warfield Complex at the Springfield Hospital Center in Sykesville and continued fieldwork and research for a survey of lands owned by the Department of Natural Resources in the middle Potomac River valley. INSET, PHOTO In addition, the staff managed non-capital grants for survey and field testing; organized and staffed Tuesday lab volunteer activities, served as lead in planning and organizing major outreach events, including the field session, and answered more than 100 inquiries from archeologists, students and the general public requesting professional assistance.

Underwater Archeology

The staff of the Underwater Archeology Program actively document Maryland's underwater historic resources and offer extensive education programs and hands-on training experiences in the field and lab. In the safety arena, the Underwater Program assists in relocating areas hazardous to commercial and recreational mariners, and reporting those locations to NOAA for their Automated Wreck and Obstruction Information System. The program also participates in and acts as coordinator/facilitator for projects that involve broad partnerships including working with federal agencies such as the National Park Service and state agencies such as Maryland's Departments of Tourism and Transportation.

This year saw the completion of the NOAA-funded fieldwork searching for the remains of the British War of 1812 tender, Mary, as well as completion of the National Park Service-funded Atlantic research within one mile off Assateague Island National Seashore. An NPS-funded survey of the interior, bay side of the island has been initiated. The field component of a Navy-funded survey of a portion of the Potomac River was also completed. In addition, more than 800 applications for tidal wetlands permits were processed and eleven sites were inspected.

Terrestrial archeology permits

The issuance of terrestrial archeology permits is the primary mechanism for ensuring considerate stewardship of those archeological resources owned by the State. The Terrestrial Archeology Permit Program provides a process for partnership between State land managers, the State Office of Archeology, and those individuals and institutions that seek to excavate State owned archeological sites. Through this regulatory partnership, State land management and archeological expertise are brought together in a way that safeguards our irreplaceable archeological heritage while allowing wise use for researchers, the public, and future generations of Marylanders. Five terrestrial archeology permits were issued this year, for work undertaken at Harford Community College, Fort Frederick, Point of Rocks, and southern Frederick County.

Educational Outreach

Office of Archeology educational outreach efforts were extensive this year. Primary events were the Archeology Workshop in March, the Spring Symposium in April, Archeology Month in April, and the Annual Field Session in September. These outreach efforts reached hundreds of volunteers, avocational archeologists and members of the general public. The staff also provided at least thirty presentations and/or demonstrations to museums, service organizations, colleges and schools as well as to peers and colleagues at conferences and professional meetings. The underwater staff also consulted on three films.

Museum Services

Museum Advancement Program

Maryland is home to more than 220 private nonprofit and local jurisdiction historical and cultural museums. In an effort to encourage and implement important contributions to education, research, conservation, and heritage tourism, the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program provides technical assistance, services, and financial aid in the form of grants. The program is funded through the Maryland Historical Trust Grant Fund.

The program provides Museum Enhancement Grants that support museum operations and activities based on a percentage of the museum's annual operating budget. In Fiscal Year 2006, the program provided $383,338 in funding to twenty-two museums including the Jewish Museum of Maryland, the Frederick County Historical Society, the Accokeek Foundation, the National Capital Historical Museum of Transportation and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum to name a few. These funds are being used by museums for such critical organizational costs as developing strategic plans. They support a wide variety to public programming from museum/school/community partnerships to National History Day student research. And they will help to protect and preserve historical collections, especially community archival materials.

For fiscal year 2007, the Museum Assistance Program Review Panel comprised of (twelve museum professionals from across the state) recommended major changes to the Museum Program. First, it suggested that the Program be re-named the Museum Advancement Program to better reflect its intention. Secondly, the panel proposed new grant categories to support institutional development for small institutions and to emphasize the role of state funds as investments in museums to leverage non-state funds. Updated procedures and applications are available on the MHT website for next year's grant round.

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JPPM) is a Maryland state museum of history and archeology whose mission is to preserve, research, and interpret the diverse cultures of the Chesapeake Bay region. Located on a 560-acre property along the Patuxent River in Calvert County, JPPM contains more than seventy documented archeological sites spanning 9,000 years and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The rich archeological, agricultural, and historical resources of the property are interpreted to the public through a wide range of exhibits, educational programs, and services.

In 2005, the JPPM Visitors Center welcomed more than 18,500 day-use visitors and hosted an additional 5,000 visitors during its annual heritage festivals. In addition, JPPM's Education Program presented on-site and outreach programs to 3,200 students and parents. The Public Archeology Program allowed 189 volunteers and students the opportunity to participate in an excavation on site. Projects completed in 2005 include construction of a Woodland Indian Hamlet used for educational programs, development of three traveling trunks on Eastern Woodland Indians in Maryland, creation of a visitor orientation video, and development of Point Trail and a new map and trail guide.

Although undertaken by JPPM staff, all of these projects were supported with non-state funds. In addition, JPPM Facilities Maintenance staff completed the SHA-funded extension of the Riverside Trail. This project extended the trail 1,200 feet by the installation of geotextile cloth to protect potential future archaeological exploration of the affected areas. Six-inches of gravel, followed by a two-inch layer of one-inch bluestone, completed the trail surface.

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Lab, administered by JPPM, houses the state's archeology collections, which includes more than 7 million objects, collected over the past 100 years. The MAC Lab serves as the statewide support facility for artifact conservation. In 2005, the MAC Lab received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities ($150,481) to digitize the photographic and paper archives from more than thirty of the most important archaeological collections in the State's possession, and from the National Park Service ($316,000) to conserve Hurricane Isabel-damaged artifacts from Jamestown and a shot furnace from Ft. Jefferson in Florida.

Artifacts from Mt. Vernon, Monticello, Benjamin Banneker's home, and St. John's College also were conserved at the Lab. In addition, MAC Lab staff completed work on a National Endowment for the Humanities-funded project entitle: "A Comparative Archaeological Study of Colonial Chesapeake Culture."

As part of this project, a multi-institutional consortium, led by the MAC Lab, examined eighteen colonial sites from Maryland and Virginia and created a database of the findings from these sites. A web page devoted to the project will be accessible by the end of the year. MAC Lab staff also provided practicing professional and college student training opportunities in conservation and collection management topics through cooperative agreements with St. Mary's College, the Maryland Higher Education Commission IMPART program, and sponsored workshops throughout 2005.

Banneker-Douglass Museum

The Banneker-Douglass Museum is dedicated to preserving Maryland's African American heritage and serves as the state's official repository of African American material culture. The Museum annually sponsors and hosts a variety of preservation, arts, and cultural lectures, workshops, performances and other programs. In 2005, a $5.2 million capital building and permanent exhibit expansion was completed in order to better service a greater percentage of the heritage tourism market already visiting historic Annapolis and by expanding the African American tourism segment of that market. Staff and equipment relocated to the expanded facility, which reopened to the public at the end of 2005.

The expanded museum facility features a new permanent exhibit, revolving exhibit space, and a library for public use. Both the historic building and expansion have unified utility, computer, telephone and upgraded electrical systems to meet the demands of the new century. The museum entered into a formal memorandum of agreement with the Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland at College Park to promote cooperation on research, exhibits and educational programs in Annapolis. This led to the successful development of the first changing exhibit "Underground Annapolis" completed under the leadership of the Museum's staff who supervised work-study assistants from the Maryland Higher Education Commission IMPART program.