

**ST. MARY’S COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

INTRODUCTION: PURPOSE OF THE GROUP

The purpose of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) is to provide the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County with advice and assistance concerning the development and implementation of a comprehensive economic development strategy to guide the diversification of the County’s future economy.

Each member of the Board shall be appointed for a term of office of three years. Members of the St. Mary’s County Economic Development Commission during 2018 are as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
John Austerman	Member	12/31/2021
Carlos Bravo	Member	12/31/2019
Wynne Briscoe	Member, Chair	12/31/2019
Laura Clarke	Member	6/30/2021
Lisa Creason	Member	12/31/2020
Phil Dorsey	Member	6/30/2019
William BJ Hall	Member	12/31/2020
Dr. Tracy Harris	Member, Secretary	6/30/2020
Rich Fleming	Member	Ex-officio
Phil Langley	Member	12/31/2021
Tom Sanders	Member	6/30/2021
Michael Schroeder	Member	Ex-officio
Elizabeth Torgerson	Member, Vice Chair	12/31/2019
Tom Watts	Member	6/30/2019

The following shall be ex-officio members:

- one (1) member from the Naval Air Station Patuxent River
- one (1) member from the St. Mary’s County Chamber of Commerce.

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ACTIVITIES IN 2018 CALENDAR YEAR

The EDC met quarterly in 2018 to discuss the progress of implementing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and to learn about other initiatives of the Department.

Topics Discussed by the Economic Development Commission

- February 21, 2018:
 - Welcome New Members
 - Welcome New Deputy Director
 - Tourism Transition Update
 - Airport Business Development
- May 16, 2018
 - Update on Visit St. Mary's MD
 - Substance Abuse Impact on Workforce Presentation
 - Quality of Life for Young Professionals Presentation
 - Innovation & Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Presentation
- August 16, 2018
 - Update on Visit St. Mary's MD
 - Summary of Race X Maryland Initiative
 - Review of DED Marketing Materials
 - Discussion about importance of Lexington Park and Leonardtown
 - Review of FOX's Zip Trip Program in Lexington Park and presentation by St. Mary's Community Development Corporation
 - Update on the progress of TechPort @ the Airport
- November 14, 2018
 - Place Based Development: Town Center Presentation
 - Town of Leonardtown Strategic Planning Update Presentation
 - Target Industry Update: Agriculture & Aquaculture Presentation & Community Input

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PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES**

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PLANS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

- The Board will continue to meet on a quarterly basis the third Wednesday of the month. 2019 Meeting Calendar is as follows:

February 20, 2019
August 21, 2019

May 15, 2019
November 20, 2019

Commissioner and citizen attendance is always welcomed.

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- The Board will continue to provide input to concerning the development and implementation of a comprehensive economic development strategy to guide the diversification of the County's future economy.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- The Board will continue to promote and discuss initiatives, projects and programs as they relate to the St. Mary's County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy