

**Critical Area Commission
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays
Meeting at 100 Community Place, Crownsville, Maryland**

April 6, 2022

**Project Implementation Subcommittee
Minutes Approved by the Project Subcommittee on 5/4/2022**

Attendees: Hertz (Chair), Beulah, Eames, Grant, Mahoney, McCall, McDowell, Parker, Roberson, Varney-Alvarado

Item 1. Wicomico County Board of Education - Mardela Middle/High School Addition and Renovations

Presented by Susan Makhoulf

The Wicomico County Board of Education is seeking approval to renovate existing school buildings, construct new school buildings and additional parking, and install new stormwater management (SWM) facilities at Mardela Middle/High School. The project is located partially within the Critical Area (1.88 acres) on land designated as Limited Development Area. Due to the extent of the proposed improvements and limited space available in the Critical Area, the 15% lot coverage limit will be exceeded. Conditional Approval under COMAR 27.02.06 is required. Ms. Makhoulf reviewed the proposed impacts and how the Board of Education proposes to offset the increased lot coverage through enhanced stormwater management. Commissioners asked questions about afforestation offsite which was answered by County staff. Staff also clarified that the site currently has no stormwater management and that the proposal will go beyond state standards.

Commissioner Varney-Alvarado made a motion to approve subject to the conditions in the staff report. Commissioner Grant seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Maryland Army National Guard - Parking Lot Creation (Harford County)

Presented by Lisa Hoerger

The Maryland Department of General Services is proposing to build a new automotive maintenance facility at the Maryland Army National Guard site located on Old Bay Lane in Havre de Grace. The proposed work inside the Critical Area consists of new parking areas in areas designated as Intensely Developed Area. The proposal will meet all standards for IDAs, including 10% pollutant reduction. A Commissioner had a question about the amount by which the 10% requirements for stormwater management would be exceeded, and the response was that it would be exceeded by 14.13 pounds.

Commissioner Mahoney made a motion to approve as proposed. Commissioner Roberson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. Maryland Port Administration - Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Restoration Project

Information Only

Ms. Annie Sekerak invited Amanda Penafiel from the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) up to provide the Subcommittee an overview of a joint effort with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), to construct a series of dredged material placement projects, collectively known as the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project (Mid-Bay Project). For the Mid-Bay project, MDOT MPA and the Corps propose to use dredged material from federal navigation channels to restore island and wetland habitat on and adjacent to diminishing island areas located in the mid-Bay. The first project will be located at Barren Island, which is approximately one mile west of Upper Hoopers Island in Dorchester County. The project will involve the installation of sills and breakwaters and the placement of dredged material. Ms. Sekerak reiterated that the project will come back to the Commission for a vote under COMAR 27.02.05 at a near future date.