



# OPPORTUNITY ZONE LEADERSHIP TASK FORCE

Prince George's Community College

August 7, 2019

4:30PM

## Minutes

### I. Call To Order:

Lieutenant Governor Rutherford called to order the sixth regional meeting of the Opportunity Zone Leadership Task Force at 4:30PM August 7, at Prince George's Community College.

### II. Roll Call/Attendees:

Task Force Members: Lt. Governor Rutherford, Secretary Kelly Schulz, Tiffany Robinson, Secretary Rob McCord, Deputy Secretary Sean Powell, Secretary Lourdes Padilla, Secretary James Fielder, Dr. Charlene Dukes, Sylvia Lawson, Phil Hutson, Jake Romanell, Robert Brennan, Thomas Sadowski

Designees: Frank Dickson – *Department of Housing Community Development (DHCD)* & Steven Auvil - *TEDCO*

Presenters: Nimisha Sharma – *Maryland Department of Transportation* & Frank Dickson – *DHCD*

Absent: Dannielle Glaros

### III. Introductions & Welcome Remarks:

1. Member Introductions - See minutes from February 22, 2019 – Governor's Reception Room Meeting
2. Charlene Dukes – President, Prince George's Community College
  - Welcome to Prince George's Community College

- There are 16 Community Colleges located strategically in MD. A plethora of certificates are available: health care, cybersecurity, accounting, IT, plumbing, heating & A/C, web designers, paralegals, nursing, professional development and workforce. We serve more than 50 percent of all Marylanders. 70% of the jobs available by 2025 have yet to be created, this Opportunity Zones project represents the opportunity to do just that.
  - Maryland Community Colleges are ready to be workforce partners for those who choose to invest.
  - Community Colleges serve as drivers. Serves as anchors. Provide projections for students and adults who are career changers. Provide Spaces for entrepreneurs. Colleges are true engines...
3. Angela Alsobrooks – County Executive, Prince George’s County
- Welcome to Prince George’s County on a very rainy afternoon and I want to thank the Lt. Governor for his enthusiasm of Opportunity Zones and Secretary Kelly Schulz as well.
  - There are 25 Opportunity Zones in Prince George’s County.
  - New Carrollton- is a great example of what is possible as well as the Kaiser Permanente project. We expect to have wonderful investment and a lot of activity.
4. Erek Barron – Delegate, District 24
- Thanks to the Governor for being very responsive in designating so many tracks and thank you, Lt. Governor for chairing the task force.
  - In respects to Prince George’s Opportunity Zones – I would like to direct attention to Central Avenue and the Blue Line Corridor.
  - The state should be talking more about the food and banking desert; I hope it’s a prominent part in the state plan.

#### **IV. New Business:**

1. July 10, Frostburg University - Minute Approval
2. Nimisha Sharma – Maryland Department of Transportation, TOD Presentation
  - Please see Transit Oriented Development Presentation
3. Frank Dickson – Information Exchange Presentation
  - This program is a mapping tool to show projects, businesses, funds, non-profits or government agencies that have decided to list on the exchange for whatever the individual purpose is. The main goal is to connect

investors to investment opportunities. Anybody can list a business or project.

#### **V. Public Comment:**

1. John Mason – PG Director of Economic Development

- It was a pleasure to host and show you first hand, our OZ projects.
- As for the Suitland project, we are trying to increase government development in this area.
- We are interested in employment centers.
- We are interested in projects that have existing infrastructure.
- The state could focus on expediting permits to assist further development in Prince George's. We also want to make sure that we have the connection with federal and state to prioritize and expedite huge investments to our county.
- Response:
  - I would ask you to keep in touch with your local delegation, and make sure they are educated on what you need. Prince George's County has the second largest delegation.
  - While meeting with Pastor Dugger today, we learned they could really use your assistance. These nonprofits are being treated like rich developers and it isn't allowing them an equal opportunity during the permit process.

2. Mark Lawrence – Inncuvate Consulting LLC

- Please consider bringing more start-ups & real estate development
- Thank you to the College for hosting Innovation Experience workshops will help highlight skills and resources that help entrepreneurs create, innovate, and expand their business.

#### **VI. Closing Remarks:**

Lt. Governor – Thank you all for coming out.

#### **VII. Adjournment:**

Lt. Governor adjourned the meeting at 6:17PM.