

LARRY HOGAN  
Governor

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD  
Lt. Governor

KENNETH C. HOLT  
Secretary

OWEN McEVOY  
Deputy Secretary



## MEMORANDUM

To: Ellington Churchill, Jr., Secretary, Maryland Department of General Services  
Robert S. McCord, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning  
Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary, Maryland Department of Health  
Tiffany P. Robinson, Secretary, Maryland Department of Labor  
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary, Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Kelly M. Schulz, Secretary, Maryland Department of Commerce  
Allison S. Mayer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

From: Kenneth C. Holt, Secretary

cc: Owen McEvoy, Deputy Secretary  
Robyne Chaconas, Chief of Staff  
Sergei Kuzmenchuk, Chief Financial Officer  
J. Hunter Pickels, Chief Policy Officer  
Carol Gilbert, Assistant Secretary, Neighborhood Revitalization  
Kevin Baynes, Director, State Revitalization Programs  
Caroline Varney-Alvarado, Special Assistant

Re: Establishment of the "Historic Properties Disposition and Preservation Team"

Date: September 21, 2021

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In 2019, the Maryland General Assembly ordered a study (SB741) on Adaptive Reuse of Historic Properties, directed by a Steering Committee chaired by the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning. Following completion of the study, the Steering Committee disbanded.

In 2021, the Maryland General Assembly renewed the Steering Committee (SB885) and directed the Committee to make recommendations to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Department of Commerce (Commerce) no later than December 31, 2021. The Steering Committee, which will sunset on June 30, 2023, has made the following preliminary recommendation: Create a historic properties



disposition and preservation team to ensure that State historic properties held for divestment and redevelopment are properly maintained and managed.

DHCD proposes administering and funding the “Historic Properties Disposition and Preservation Team” to achieve the following goals:

- Identify and maintain information on State historically significant complexes and properties
- Facilitate site and building assessments and the work necessary for stabilization and preservation
- Evaluate environmental and historical remediation requirements
- Develop a plan for future disposition and/or preservation
- Identify and make available funding resources
- Execute contracts of sale or restoration/preservation work
- Support creation of a “Maryland Historic Trades Corps” through Preservation Maryland and/or Maryland Environmental Service --
  - Modeled after The Campaign for Historic Trades, a national program of Preservation Maryland that expands training in the field of historic trades.
  - Creates an apprenticeship program for skilled workers in specialized trades for preservation of historic structures in Maryland.
  - Supports the State’s largest historic resource property owner – the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

The Historic Properties Disposition and Preservation Team would be co-chaired by Secretary Churchill, DGS, and Secretary Holt, DHCD, and comprised of the following agencies:

- Kenneth C. Holt, Secretary, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
- Ellington Churchill, Jr., Secretary, Maryland Department of General Services
- Robert S. McCord, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning
- Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment
- Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary, Maryland Department of Health
- Tiffany P. Robinson, Secretary, Maryland Department of Labor
- Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Kelly M. Schulz, Secretary, Maryland Department of Commerce
- Other agencies/entities to be determined based on review of ownership of properties or resources (e.g., Maryland Historical Trust, Preservation Maryland, Maryland Environmental Service)

**Next Steps:**

The first meeting of the Team would follow the recommendations of the Steering Committee, which are anticipated December 2021--January 2022.

