# OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED OCTOBER 14, 2015

**NEW ISSUE – Book-Entry Only** 

Fitch Ratings: AAA
Moody's Investors Service: Aaa
Standard & Poor's Ratings Services: AAA
See "Ratings" herein.

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, (i) under existing law, interest on the Bonds and any profit from the sale or exchange thereof is exempt from taxation by the State of Maryland and its counties and municipalities; no opinion is expressed as to estate or inheritance taxes or any other taxes not levied or assessed directly on the interest on the Bonds; and (ii) assuming compliance with certain covenants described herein, interest on the Bonds will be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under existing statutes, regulations and decisions. Interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes is not includable in the alternative minimum taxable income of individuals, corporations or other taxpayers as an enumerated item of tax preference or other specific adjustment; however, interest on the Bonds may be taken into account in determining "adjusted current earnings" for purposes of computing the alternative minimum tax for corporations, and interest on the Bonds will be subject to the branch profits tax imposed on foreign corporations engaged in a trade or business in the United States of America. See "Tax Matters."

# \$390,000,000

# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, MARYLAND

# (MONTGOMERY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTIES, MARYLAND) CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS OF 2015

Date of Delivery
June 1, as shown on the inside front cover
June 1 and December 1, beginning June 1, 2016
\$5,000 or any integral multiples thereof
Registered, book-entry only through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company
The Bonds maturing on or after June 1, 2025 are subject to redemption prior to maturity without premium. See "Description of the Bonds - Redemption Provisions."
Debt service on the Bonds is expected to be paid from revenues generated in the District from fees, charges, rates and assessments and other available funds. In the event of a deficiency of such revenues for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the Bonds, the Public Utilities Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides that the county councils of Montgomery County and Prince George's County shall impose ad valorem taxes upon all the assessable property within the District. See "Summary of District Ad Valorem Taxes and Other Charges and Revenues Therefrom."
To date, ad valorem tax revenues have not been required from such counties to pay debt service on any of the Commission's outstanding bonds.
The proceeds of the Bonds and investment earnings thereon will provide funding for the construction or reconstruction of water supply facilities, water supply lines and transmission mains, sewage disposal facilities, sewer collection mains and trunk sewers.
McKennon Shelton & Henn LLP
Public Advisory Consultants, Inc.
The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N. A.

### FOR MATURITY SCHEDULE, INTEREST RATES, AND YIELDS AND CUSIP NUMBERS, SEE INSIDE FRONT COVER

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and subject to the unqualified approving opinion of McKennon Shelton & Henn LLP and other conditions specified in the Notice of Sale. It is expected that the Bonds will be available for delivery through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, on or about October 28, 2015.

### **MATURITY SCHEDULE**

# \$390,000,000 CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS OF 2015

Maturity <u>June 1</u>	Principal Amount	Interest Rate**	Yield**	CUSIP <u>Number</u> <sup>†</sup>	Maturity <u>June 1</u>	Principal <u>Amount</u>	Interest Rate**	Yield**	CUSIP <u>Number</u> †
2016	\$ 6,100,000	5.00%	0.18%	940157ZG8	2031	\$12,615,000	4.00%	2.99%*	940157ZX1
2017	7,080,000	5.00	0.47	940157ZH6	2032	13,120,000	4.00	3.08*	940157ZY9
2018	7,290,000	5.00	0.71	940157ZJ2	2033	13,645,000	4.00	3.15*	940157ZZ6
2019	7,585,000	5.00	0.93	940157ZK9	2034	14,190,000	4.00	3.18*	940157A26
2020	7,885,000	5.00	1.17	940157ZL7	2035	14,755,000	4.00	3.23*	940157A34
2021	8,200,000	5.00	1.37	940157ZM5	2036	15,345,000	4.00	3.28*	940157A42
2022	8,610,000	5.00	1.56	940157ZN3	2037	15,960,000	4.00	3.32*	940157A59
2023	9,040,000	5.00	1.80	940157ZP8	2038	16,600,000	4.00	3.36*	940157A67
2024	9,495,000	5.00	1.93	940157ZQ6	2039	17,265,000	4.00	3.39*	940157A75
2025	9,970,000	3.00	2.05*	940157ZR4	2040	17,955,000	4.00	3.42*	940157A83
2026	10,370,000	3.00	2.19*	940157ZS2	2041	18,670,000	4.00	3.45*	940157A91
2027	10,785,000	3.00	2.40*	940157ZT0	2042	19,420,000	4.00	3.48*	940157B25
2028	11,215,000	3.00	2.61*	940157ZU7	2043	20,195,000	4.00	3.50*	940157B33
2029	11,660,000	3.00	2.81*	940157ZV5	2044	21,005,000	4.00	3.52*	940157B41
2030	12,130,000	3.50	3.10*	940157ZW3	2045	21,845,000	4.00	3.54*	940157B58

<sup>\*</sup> Yield to first par call.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The rates shown above are the rates payable by the District resulting from the successful bid for the Bonds on October 14, 2015 by a group of banks and investment banking firms. The successful bidder has furnished to the Commission the yields shown above. Other information concerning the terms of the reoffering of the Bonds, if any, should be obtained from the successful bidder and not from the Commission. See "Sale at Competitive Bidding."

<sup>†</sup> CUSIP (Committee on Uniform Securities Identification Procedures) numbers have been assigned by Standard & Poor's CUSIP Service Bureau, division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. that is not affiliated with the Commission and the Commission is not responsible for the selection or use of the CUSIP numbers. The CUSIP numbers are included solely for the convenience of bondholders and no representation is made as to the correctness of such CUSIP numbers. CUSIP numbers assigned to securities may be changed during the term of such securities based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, the refunding or defeasance of such securities or the use of secondary market financial products. The Commission has not agreed to, and there is no duty or obligation to, update this Official Statement to reflect any change or correction in the assigned CUSIP numbers set forth above. The use of CUSIP numbers in this Official Statement is not intended to create a database and does not serve in any way as a substitute for the CUSIP Service Bureau.

# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, Maryland 20707 301-206-7069 www.wsscwater.com

### **COMMISSIONERS**

Hon. Adrienne A. Mandel, Chair Christopher Lawson, Vice Chair Fausto R. Bayonet Omar M. Boulware Dr. Roscoe M. Moore, Jr. Mary Hopkins-Navies

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### **BOND COUNSEL**

McKennon Shelton & Henn LLP

# FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Public Advisory Consultants, Inc.

### BOND REGISTRAR AND PAYING AGENT

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A.

Additional copies of this Official Statement may be obtained from J.D. Noell, Disbursements Group Leader, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, Maryland 20707 (301-206-7069), or from Public Advisory Consultants, Inc., 25 Crossroads Drive, Suite 402, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117 (410-581-4820). Copies of the latest Official Statements of Montgomery County and Prince George's County are available at the offices of the respective counties. THE WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION HAS NOT UNDERTAKEN TO AUDIT, AUTHENTICATE OR OTHERWISE VERIFY THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN ANY OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY OR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. REFERENCE TO THE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY IS INCLUDED HEREIN FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND ANY INFORMATION INCLUDED IN SUCH OFFICIAL STATEMENTS IS NOT INCORPORATED HEREIN, BY REFERENCE OR OTHERWISE.

This Official Statement is provided in connection with the issuance of the Bonds referred to herein and may not be reproduced or be used, in whole or in part, for any other purpose. The information contained in this Official Statement has been derived from information provided by the Commission and other sources which are believed to be reliable. Additional information, including financial information, concerning the Commission is available from the Commission's website. Any such information that is inconsistent with the information set forth in this Official Statement should be disregarded. This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the Commission and the purchasers or holders of any of the Bonds.

No dealer, broker, salesperson or other person has been authorized by the Commission to give any information or to make any representations with respect to this offering, other than as contained in this Official Statement and, if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Commission. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation or sale.

The Bonds have not been registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, in reliance upon exceptions contained in the Securities Act of 1933. Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Bonds or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Official Statement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The order and placement of information in this Official Statement, including the appendices, are not an indication of relevance, materiality or relative importance, and this Official Statement, including the appendices, must be read in its entirety. The captions and headings in this Official Statement are for convenience only and in no way define, limit or describe the scope or intent, or affect the meaning or construction, of any provision or selection in this Official Statement.

Some statements contained in this Official Statement reflect not historical facts but forecasts and "forward-looking statements." In this respect, the words "estimate," "project," "anticipate," "expect," "intend," "believe," "plan," "budget," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Projections, forecasts, assumptions, expressions of opinions, estimates and other forward-looking statements are not to be construed as representations of fact and are qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements set forth in this Official Statement. The achievement of results or other expectations contained in such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, performance or achievements described to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The Commission does not plan to issue any updates or revisions to those forward-looking statements if or when its expectations or events, conditions or circumstances on which such statements are based occur or do not occur.

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of provisions of laws and documents herein do not purport to be complete and reference is made to such laws and documents for full and complete statements of their provisions. Any statements made in this Official Statement involving estimates or matters of opinion, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as estimates or opinions and not as representations of fact. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale of the Bonds shall under any circumstances create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Commission since the date hereof.

All references in this Official Statement to the Commission's Internet home page are provided for convenience only. The information on the Commission's Internet home page is NOT incorporated herein, by reference or otherwise.

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### SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT

This Official Statement, including the cover page, inside front cover, and appendices hereto, is to set forth certain information concerning the \$390,000,000 Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2015 (the "Bonds") of the Washington Suburban Sanitary District (the "District"). The following summary is qualified in its entirety by the detailed information in this Official Statement. This summary is only a brief description of the offering and potential investors should review this entire Official Statement. The Official Statement speaks only as of its date, and the information contained herein is subject to change.

### The District

The District is a sanitary district incorporated under Chapter 122 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1918, as amended. It is governed by and is under the jurisdiction of a commission of six members constituting a statutory body corporate under the name of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (the "Commission"). Three of the Commissioners are required to be from, and are appointed by the County Executive of Montgomery County and three of the Commissioners are required to be from, and are appointed by the County Executive of Prince George's County. The District operates as a public corporation of the State of Maryland under the Public Utilities Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the "Public Utilities Article"). Through its governing body, the Commission, it provides, as authorized, water and sewerage systems, including water supply and sewage disposal facilities for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland. The area initially incorporated in the District has been expanded by legislative enactments to its present boundaries encompassing over 950 square miles within Montgomery and Prince George's Counties effectively representing 95% of the land area of both counties. See "Washington Suburban Sanitary District - Establishment, Powers and Service Area."

#### **Authorization of Bonds**

Bonds of the District, including the Bonds offered by this Official Statement, are issued upon the basis of authorizations, under the Constitution, the Public Utilities Article and other applicable law, by the Commission through the adoption of resolutions or orders. See "Bonded Indebtedness of the District - Authorization of Debt."

### **Purpose of Bonds**

The Bonds will finance the costs of the construction or reconstruction of water supply facilities, water supply lines and transmission mains, sewage disposal facilities, sewer collection mains and trunk sewers. See "Plan of Financing."

### **Sources of Payment and Security for Bonds**

Debt service on the Bonds is expected to be paid from revenues generated in the District from fees, charges, rates and assessments and other available funds. However, in the event of a deficiency of such revenues, for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on bonds and notes of the District, including the Bonds, the Public Utilities Article provides the County Council of Montgomery County and the County Council of Prince George's County, respectively, shall levy, annually, against all the assessable property within the District ad valorem taxes sufficient to pay such principal and interest when due. Due to the level of revenues generated in the District from fees, charges, rates and assessments, the Commission has not needed to seek ad valorem tax revenues from such counties to pay debt service on any of its outstanding bonds since the incorporation of the District and does not anticipate the need to levy ad valorem taxes to pay the debt service on the Bonds. See "Summary of District Ad Valorem Taxes and Other Charges and Revenues Therefrom" herein.

# **Denominations**

The Bonds will be issued in denominations of \$5,000 each or any integral multiple thereof.

### **Book-Entry Only System**

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") will act as the securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued on a book-entry only basis. Beneficial Owners (defined herein) will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in the Bonds except in the event of termination of the book-entry only. Principal of and interest payments on the Bonds will be made to DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., as registered owner of the Bonds. Payments by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants (each as defined herein) to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with municipal securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name." For a more complete description, see Appendix E herein.

### Redemption

The Bonds maturing on or after June 1, 2025, are callable for redemption prior to their respective maturities, at the option of the Commission, from any money that may be made available for such purpose. Any such redemption may be made on not fewer than 20 days' notice by mail, either in whole or in part on any date not earlier than June 1, 2024, at the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, with interest thereon accrued to the date fixed for redemption, without premium, as more fully described herein under "Description of the Bonds - Redemption Provisions."

### **Tax Matters**

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, (i) under existing law, interest on the Bonds is exempt from taxation by the State of Maryland and its counties and municipalities; no opinion is expressed as to estate or inheritance taxes or any other taxes not levied or assessed directly on the interest on the Bonds; and (ii) assuming compliance with certain covenants described herein, interest on the Bonds will be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under existing statutes, regulations and decisions. Interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes is not includable in the alternative minimum taxable income of individuals, corporations or other taxpayers as an enumerated item of tax preference or other specific adjustment; however, interest on the Bonds may be taken into account in determining "adjusted current earnings" for purposes of computing the alternative minimum tax for corporations, and interest on the Bonds will be subject to the branch profits tax imposed on foreign corporations engaged in a trade or business in the United States of America. See "Tax Matters."

### **Continuing Disclosure**

In order to assist bidders in complying with SEC Rule 15c2-12(b)(5), the Commission will execute and deliver a continuing disclosure certificate on or before the date of issuance of the Bonds pursuant to which it will undertake to provide certain information annually and notices of certain events. See "Continuing Disclosure" and Appendix C herein.

# Litigation

There is not now pending any litigation restraining or enjoining the issuance or delivery of the Bonds or questioning or affecting the validity of the Bonds or the proceedings and authority under which they are to be issued.

There are miscellaneous claims now pending against the Commission, including claims currently in litigation. See "Litigation."

### **Limitation on Offering or Reoffering Securities**

No dealer, broker, sales agent, financial consultant or any other person has been authorized by the Commission, Montgomery County or Prince George's County to give any information or to make any representations, other than those contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by any of the foregoing.

This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation, or sale.

# **OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

# \$390,000,000

# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, MARYLAND

(MONTGOMERY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTIES, MARYLAND)

### CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS OF 2015

### INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

The purpose of this Official Statement, including the cover page, inside front cover, and appendices hereto, is to set forth certain information concerning the \$390,000,000 Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2015 (the "Bonds"), of the Washington Suburban Sanitary District (the "District"). The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to finance the construction or reconstruction of water supply facilities, water supply lines and transmission mains, sewage disposal facilities, sewer collection mains and trunk sewers. The Bonds may also be issued to replace short term bond anticipation notes.

The District is a sanitary district incorporated under Chapter 122 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1918, as amended. It is governed by and under the jurisdiction of a commission of six members constituting a statutory body corporate under the name of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (the "Commission"). See "Washington Suburban Sanitary District - Commission" herein.

Amounts herein relating to tax collections, front foot benefit charges, water and sewer charges and the District's financial position have been taken from official records of the Commission. All estimates and assumptions herein have been based upon information believed to be reliable and correct; however, statements made involving estimates and assumptions, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as such and not as representations of facts.

### **SECURITY**

### Bonds and Notes are Currently Paid from Revenues Other Than Taxes

Currently all of the debt service on bonds and notes of the District is being paid from revenues generated in the District from fees, charges, rates and assessments and other available funds. The Commission has not sought ad valorem tax revenues from Montgomery County or Prince George's County to pay debt service on any of its outstanding bonds or notes and does not anticipate the need to levy ad valorem taxes to pay the debt service on the Bonds, or for any of its operations. However, the underlying security for all bonds and notes of the District is the levy of ad valorem taxes on the assessable property as stated in the following paragraph. See "Summary of District Ad Valorem Taxes and Other Charges and Revenues Therefrom" herein.

# Levy of Taxes to Pay Bonds and Notes

For the purpose of securing the principal of and interest on bonds and notes of the District, including the Bonds, in the event of a deficiency of the above referenced revenues, the Public Utilities Article provides for the levy, annually, against all the assessable property within the District by the County Council of Montgomery County and the County Council of Prince George's County, respectively, of ad valorem taxes sufficient to pay such principal and interest when due and payable. After receiving from the County Executive of each County the assessed valuations of the taxable property in the District, the Commission determines the amount necessary to be raised, taking into account the amount available from other sources, by the levy of taxes for the next taxable year for the payment of interest on all outstanding bonds and notes due and payable in such year. The Commission shall determine the number of cents per \$100 valuation

necessary to raise such amount and shall so certify to the two county councils. Each of the county councils in its next annual levy is required to levy and to collect such tax as county taxes are levied and collected. The tax so levied and collected shall be remitted to the Commission.

# **Charges and Assessments**

While the Bonds constitute general obligations of the Commission, the Commission fixes and collects the following charges and assessments which have been and are currently estimated to be sufficient to pay all expenses of the Commission including principal of and interest on the Bonds.

Water Consumption Charge: The Commission fixes and collects a water consumption charge, which is based upon metered water use on all properties connected to the water supply system of the District. The proceeds of the water consumption charges are applied to the payment of principal of and interest on the water supply bonds and notes of the District (including that portion of the Bonds allocable to water supply projects), and to the payment of the cost of operating and maintaining the water supply system.

Sewer Usage Charge: The Commission fixes and collects a sewer usage charge, which is based on metered water use on all properties connected to the sewage disposal system of the District. Sewer only customers are billed a flat rate on a quarterly basis. The proceeds of the sewer usage charges are applied to the payment of the principal of and the interest on all sewage disposal bonds and notes of the District (including that portion of the Bonds allocable to sewage disposal projects), and to the payment of the costs of operating and maintaining the sewage disposal system.

Front Foot Benefit Charge: The Commission assesses, on certain property benefiting from water mains or sewers, front foot benefit charges in amounts sufficient to pay debt service on said bonds as such debt service becomes due. The front foot benefit charges are payable in annual installments during the term of the respective bonds issued for the particular improvements (including that portion of the Bonds allocable to such improvements). Proceeds of such front foot benefit charges are applied to the payment of the principal of and the interest on the general construction bonds of the District.

The assessment of front foot benefit charges normally begins the calendar year (January 1 through December 31) following the completion of or actual connection to the newly constructed water and/or sewer lines. Once construction is completed, those property owners directly benefitting from the newly constructed water and/or sewer mains receive in writing a "Notice of Benefit Assessment". This notice is accompanied by a letter which includes the property's classification, footage, rate(s), and amount of the proposed front foot benefit charges.

In regards to customer appeal rights, after owners are notified in writing of their assessments, customers are requested to contact the Property Assessment staff with any questions or concerns they may have about the proposed assessments. Also, the customer may elect to be represented at the informal hearing. Following the informal hearing, the customer is provided a written decision by the commission with whom he/she met, and the customer is informed of his/her right to additionally appeal the Commissioner's decision to the full Commission. Hearings with the full Commission are held in accordance with the State's Administrative Procedures Act.

Annually following a public hearing, the Commission establishes a "base" water and sewer rate which is used to assess properties abutted or served by the Commission's water and/or sewer lines. After the base rate is established, a property's front foot benefit charge is determined by multiplying its assessment rate(s) by its assessable front footage are determined by its one of six classifications: Subdivision Residential, Multi-Unit Residential, Small Acreage, Industrial or Single Business, Multi-Unit Business, Agricultural.

### ESTIMATED SOURCES AND USES OF THE BONDS

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Par Amount of Bonds	\$390,000,000
Net original issue premium	26,594,135
Total Sources of Funds	\$416,594,135

#### Uses of Funds:

Sources of Funds:

Total Underwriter's Discount	\$	871,350
Deposit to Construction Fund <sup>(1)</sup>	41:	5,722,785
Total Uses of Funds	\$41	6,594,135

<sup>(1)</sup> See "Plan of Financing."

### PLAN OF FINANCING

The Bonds will provide funding for the construction or reconstruction of water supply facilities, water supply lines and transmission mains, sewage disposal facilities, sewer collection mains and trunk sewers. The Bonds may also be issued to replace short term bond anticipation notes.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE BONDS

#### General

The Bonds will be dated the date of their initial delivery and will bear interest at the rates and mature in the amounts and at the times set forth on the inside front cover page hereof.

The Bonds shall be fully registered bonds in the denomination of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof. The Bond Registrar and Paying Agent shall be The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (the "Bond Registrar" or "Paying Agent"), having a corporate trust office in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which shall register the Bonds and the transfer of Bonds on the District's bond registration books. The payment of interest on each Bond shall be made by the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent on each interest payment date to the person appearing on the bond registration books as the registered owner of such Bond (or the previous bond or bonds evidencing the same debt as that evidenced by such Bond) at the close of business on the record date for such interest, which shall be the 15th day of the calendar month next preceding such interest payment date, by check or draft mailed to such person at his address as it appears on the registration books. The payment of principal shall be made to the owner registered on the bond registration books upon presentation and surrender thereof to The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. at the office of its affiliate, The Bank of New York Mellon, in New York, New York or Dallas, Texas. The Bonds may be transferred or exchanged subject to the requirements prescribed by the resolution authorizing their issuance, including provisions that the Bond Registrar shall not be required to exchange or register the transfer of any bond during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of the mailing of a notice of redemption of Bonds or any portion thereof and ending at the close of business on the day of such mailing or of any Bond called for redemption in whole or in part pursuant to the resolution.

### **Redemption Provisions**

The Bonds which mature on or after June 1, 2025, are callable for redemption prior to their respective maturities, at the option of the Commission, from any money that may be made available for such purpose. Any such redemption may be made on not fewer than 20 days' notice by mail, either in whole or in part on any date not earlier than June 1, 2024, at the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, with interest thereon accrued to the date fixed for redemption, without premium. If less than all of the Bonds of any one maturity shall be called for redemption, the particular bonds of such maturity to be redeemed shall be selected by lot; except that so long as the Depository Trust Company ("DTC" or, together with any successor securities depository for the Bonds, the "Securities Depository") or its nominee is the sole registered owner of the Bonds, the particular Bond or portion to be redeemed shall be selected by DTC in such manner as DTC shall determine. In selecting Bonds for redemption, the Bond Registrar shall treat each

bond of a denomination higher than \$5,000 as representing that number of bonds which is equal to the principal amount of such bond divided by \$5,000.

# **Book-Entry Only System**

DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co., DTC's partnership nominee, or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered certificate of the Bonds will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds in principal amount equal to the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds of such maturity and will be deposited with DTC. Beneficial Owners (as defined in Appendix E) will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in the Bonds except in the event of termination of the book-entry only. Principal of and interest payments on the Bonds will be made to DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., as registered owner of the Bonds. Payments by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants (each as defined in Appendix E) to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with municipal securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name." For a more complete description, see Appendix E herein.

### **Annual Debt Service on the Bonds**

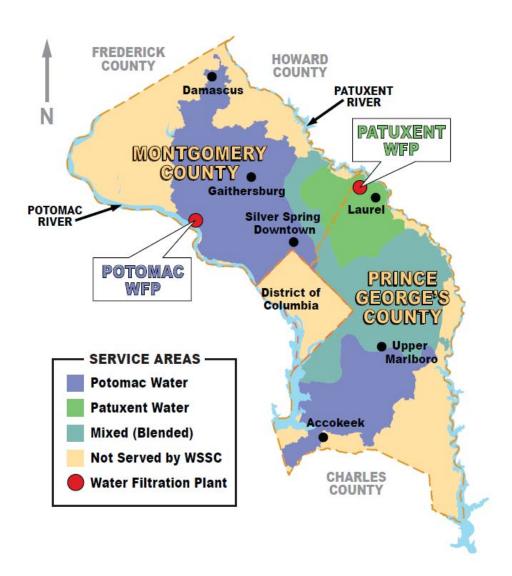
Fiscal Year	<u>Principal</u>	Interest	<u>Total</u>
2016	\$ 6,100,000	\$ 9,296,385	\$ 15,396,385
2017	7,080,000	15,407,200	22,487,200
2018	7,290,000	15,053,200	22,343,200
2019	7,585,000	14,688,700	22,273,700
2020	7,885,000	14,309,450	22,194,450
2021	8,200,000	13,915,200	22,115,200
2022	8,610,000	13,505,200	22,115,200
2023	9,040,000	13,074,700	22,114,700
2024	9,495,000	12,622,700	22,117,700
2025	9,970,000	12,147,950	22,117,950
2026	10,370,000	11,848,850	22,218,850
2027	10,785,000	11,537,750	22,322,750
2028	11,215,000	11,214,200	22,429,200
2029	11,660,000	10,877,750	22,537,750
2030	12,130,000	10,527,950	22,657,950
2031	12,615,000	10,103,400	22,718,400
2032	13,120,000	9,598,800	22,718,800
2033	13,645,000	9,074,000	22,719,000
2034	14,190,000	8,528,200	22,718,200
2035	14,755,000	7,960,600	22,715,600
2036	15,345,000	7,370,400	22,715,400
2037	15,960,000	6,756,600	22,716,600
2038	16,600,000	6,118,200	22,718,200
2039	17,265,000	5,454,200	22,719,200
2040	17,955,000	4,763,600	22,718,600
2041	18,670,000	4,045,400	22,715,400
2042	19,420,000	3,298,600	22,718,600
2043	20,195,000	2,521,800	22,716,800
2044	21,005,000	1,714,000	22,719,000
2045	21,845,000	<u>873,800</u>	22,718,800
Total	\$390,000,000	\$278,208,785	\$668,208,785

#### WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY DISTRICT

# **Establishment, Powers and Service Area**

The District was created in 1918 and operates as a public corporation of the State of Maryland under the Public Utilities Article. Through its governing body, the Commission, it provides, as authorized, water and sewerage systems, including water supply and sewage disposal facilities for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland. The

area initially incorporated in the District has been expanded by legislative enactments to its present boundaries encompassing over 950 square miles within Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.



### Commission

The District is under the jurisdiction of, and its governing body is, the Commission, a body corporate consisting of six members who are required to be residents of the District. Three Commissioners are required to be from, and are appointed by the County Executive of Montgomery County, subject to their confirmation by the County Council thereof, and three Commissioners are required to be from, and are appointed by the County Executive of Prince George's County, subject to their confirmation by the County Council thereof. No more than two commissioners from Montgomery County may be of the same political party. The term of office for the Commissioners is four years, with termination dates on a staggered year basis. At the end of a term a commissioner continues to serve until a successor is appointed and takes the oath of office. The Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Commission are elected by the Commission and may not be from the same county. These two offices rotate annually between the two counties unless waived, as provided by law.

The County Executive of each of the two counties may, with the approval of the majority of the members of the County Council of the respective county, remove any Commissioner appointed from such county from such Commissioner's current term of office prior to the completion of such term. In addition, a majority of the Montgomery

County Council, by resolution, may, unless the County Executive of Montgomery County disapproves the resolution in writing within 30 days of its adoption, remove any Commissioner appointed from Montgomery County prior to the completion of his or her term. In either event, a public hearing must be held thereon unless waived in writing by the Commissioner sought to be removed.

# Powers and Responsibilities of the Commission

The powers and responsibilities of the Commission as set forth in the Public Utilities Article include, among others:

- (i) providing for the construction, reconstruction, operation and maintenance of water supply and sanitary sewerage facilities in the District area in Montgomery and Prince George's counties;
- (ii) establishing water rates, sewer usage rates, connection charges, front foot benefit charges and permit fees, and causing ad valorem taxes to be levied;
  - (iii) issuing bonds and notes of the District, including refunding bonds and bond anticipation notes;
  - (iv) exercising the power of eminent domain;
- (v) providing for the construction, reconstruction, operation and maintenance of water and sewer house connection lines from the Commission's mains to abutting property lines;
  - (vi) approving the location of, and issuing permits for, all utilities to be installed in public ways;
- (vii) reviewing preliminary subdivision plans as to suitability of water and sewer design and reviewing street grades for those streets in which there are Commission facilities;
  - (viii) formulating regulations governing all plumbing and gas fitting installations;
- (ix) issuing permits for the installation of and inspection of all plumbing and gas fitting connections; and
  - (x) licensing master and journeyman plumbers and gas fitters.

### **Commission Membership**

Adrienne A. Mandel: The Honorable Adrienne A. Mandel was appointed to the Commission from Montgomery County in October 2007, and was elected Chair of the Commission in June 2015. She retired from the Maryland Legislature in 2007, after serving three four-year terms as a State Delegate from Montgomery County Legislative District 19. Ms. Mandel authored landmark legislation in the areas of highway deaths and injuries, regulation and oversight of the Commission, services and programs for the elderly and expanded access to quality, affordable health care. For seven years, she was Delegation Chair of the Bi-County Committee with jurisdiction over the Commission. Ms. Mandel was elected president of the 64-member Women Legislators of Maryland and served on the Executive Board of the National Foundation for Women Legislators. Ms. Mandel retired in 1997 from an 18-year career with Montgomery County Government during which time she opened the Holiday Park Multi-Service Senior Center, served as a Special Projects Coordinator with the Department of Health and Human Services, and for 10 years was a lobbyist to the State Legislature for the County's Office of Intergovernmental Relations. Prior to her service in local government, she was a staff member in the offices of a U.S. senator and congressman. Currently a member of the Board of Advisors of The Center on Global Aging for Catholic University of America, Ms. Mandel also is a member of the friends Advisory Board of the Montgomery County Conservation Corps. She is a member of the League of Women Voters, Congregation Har Shalom, the Women's Suburban Democratic Club and District 19 Democratic Club. Ms. Mandel has a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Rutgers University, a master's degree in Legislative Policy from George Washington University and completed an Executive Program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Her term expires in May 2017.

Christopher Lawson: Mr. Lawson was appointed to the Commission from Prince George's County in May 2011. He has previously served as Chair, and was elected as Vice Chair of the Commission in June 2015. Mr. Lawson, President and Principal at Insuraty Inc. is a CPLH licensed insurance broker and Advisor to mid-sized companies and organizations in the area of employee benefits consulting, brokerage and administration including 401k retirement plan advisory and administration. Mr. Lawson comes from Raleigh, North Carolina, where he studied Business Administration at Saint Augustine's College before moving to the Washington metropolitan area and starting his business career representing corporations such as American Express Corporate Services and Cigna Healthcare in sales, business development and management. During his business career he has been honored on numerous occasions by Guardian Life Insurance Company, Gold Producers Award, and American Express, Presidents Club, Top District Award and Peak Performance Award. He was also honored with the Gold Masters Club Award by Allianz Life Insurance Company and has been featured in the Gazette of Politics and Business, Pride of Prince George's County business owners. Mr. Lawson has served on the Board of Directors for the Prince George's Chamber of Commerce and was presented with the distinguished service award in 2006. Mr. Lawson was an original member of the Washington D.C. Board of Directors for the National Association of African American Insurance Agents in the capacity of Vice President. He is a current member of the Society for Human Resource Management and the National Association of Health Underwriters. A resident of Prince George's County Maryland for 20 years, Mr. Lawson previously served as the President of the South Bowie Boys And Girls Club and was awarded the Prince Georges County Boys and Girls Club Inc. Man of the year award in 2003. He has served on the City of Bowie Maryland diversity task force and city recreation committee providing recommendations for recreation fields and facilities development to the Bowie City Council. Mr. Lawson was recognized by proclamation from the City of Bowie for his distinguished service in 2003. In 2006 Lawson led the campaign efforts as Chairman, to elect Rushern L. Baker III for Prince George's County Executive. Mr. Lawson's term expires in June 2015\*.

Fausto Bayonet: Mr. Bayonet is the newest Commissioner from Montgomery County, having been appointed in June 2015. An architect who has worked in the architectural and engineering fields for three decades, he has lived in Montgomery County for more than 40 years. A native of the Dominican Republic, Bayonet earned his bachelor's degree in Architecture from that country's Eastern Central University. He furthered his architectural studies at the University of Maryland when he came to the Washington area in 1971. Mr. Bayonet has had a role in the design of numerous commercial and government projects throughout the Washington Metropolitan area, such as renovations to University of Maryland's Byrd Stadium, the Embassy of Nicaragua and the U.S. District Courthouse in Alexandria, Virginia. He has also done consulting work for the University of Maryland's Office of Architectural Services. Mr. Bayonet shared his consulting skills as Mentor and Sales Instructor with the former Bell Atlantic company, where his efforts led to increased sales at branches in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. He is also a licensed real estate agent in the State of Maryland and member of the Greater Capital Area Association of Realtors, the National Association of Realtors and the Maryland Association of Realtors. As 20-year member of the Montgomery County Democratic Party, Mr. Bayonet is a veteran campaigner, having done volunteer work for county executives and Council members, governors, lieutenant governors, delegates, congressmen and senators. He is also a member of the Hispanic Democratic Club of Montgomery County and served on its executive board. In addition, he has volunteered for different institutions that serve the Latino community of the Metropolitan area. Mr. Bayonet has been married for more than 30 years and has four children. Mr. Bayonet's term expires in June, 2019.

Omar M. Boulware: Mr. Boulware was appointed to the Commission from Prince George's County in November 2013, and served as Chair of the Commission in June 2014. He was appointed as Commissioner from Prince George's County in June 2015. He has a long history of military, public and community service. A Navy veteran, Mr. Boulware is a congressional relations officer in the Department of Veterans Affairs. He advises the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on Congressional interests, including veteran outreach, veteran small business, and collaboration between the Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense. His areas of expertise include budgeting, financial management and legislation. While attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Mr. Boulware volunteered for service in the United States Navy, where he served a three-year tour of duty on the staff for Chief of Naval Operations in the Pentagon. Upon completion of active duty, he entered federal civil service as a legislative liaison in the Department of the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs. He concurrently served in the U.S. Navy Reserve from 2000 to 2012, earning the rank of Petty Officer First Class. Mr. Boulware and his family live in Mitchellville, where he is involved in the community. He is vice president of the Greater Marlboro Democratic Club and the former president of the Prince George's County Young Democrats. A board member of Enterprise Estates Civic Association, he also served as vice president of Chapel

<sup>\*</sup> At the end of a term, a Commissioner continues to serve until a successor is appointed and takes the oath of office.

Oaks/Beaver Heights Civic Association. Mr. Boulware was a Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commissioner. He was a member of the Prince George's County Personnel Board, and in 2011 was a member of County Executive Rushern Baker III's transition committee. Mr. Boulware is a 2005 honors graduate of Strayer University with a BBA degree in Management and a minor in Economics. He was a 2007 Rawlings Fellow at University of Maryland's James McGregor Burns Academy of Leadership. Mr. Boulware's term expires in June 2017.

Dr. Roscoe M. Moore, Jr.: Dr. Moore was appointed to the Commission from Montgomery County in June 2008. He has previously served as Chair of the Commission. He is an internationally recognized Doctor of Veterinary Medicine with extensive experience and credentials in epidemiology. Recently retired from the U.S. Public Health Service with the rank of Rear Admiral, Dr. Moore has been focused on the prevention, treatment and control of infectious diseases worldwide for more than 37 years. He is currently the founder and president of PH RockWood Corporation, where he is dedicated to continuing this work with an emphasis on the continents of Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. Dr. Moore is trained as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and was a Senior Epidemiologist with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the CDC. His career also includes service as the Chief Epidemiologist with the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health. Dr. Moore serves and has served on numerous Boards of Directors, including the Maryland Health Care Commission, the George Washington University Africa Center for Health and Human Security, Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce, the National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale of Montgomery County, and Montgomery General Hospital. Born and raised in Richmond, Va., he is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, where he also earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. Dr. Moore obtained a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from the University of Michigan and his PhD in Epidemiology from The Johns Hopkins University. A Fellow with the American College of Epidemiology, he was awarded the honorary Doctor of Science in Recognition of Public Health Career by Tuskegee University. Dr. Moore has resided in Rockville for more than 32 years, and is married to Patricia Haywood Moore. They have two sons. His term expires in May 2015\*.

Mary Hopkins Navies: Ms. Hopkins Navies was appointed to the Commission from Prince George's County in July 2013. She is President and CEO of Hopkins Navies Management, Inc. For the past 22 years, she has owned and operated 8 McDonald's restaurants in Prince George's County, Maryland, which employ more than 500 people. Previously, Ms. Hopkins Navies served on the Prince George's County Redevelopment Authority under the appointment of County Executive Wayne Curry. Prior to her career as a McDonald's franchisee, Ms. Hopkins Navies worked for United Airlines, Baltimore Mayor William Donald Schaefer, and the University of Maryland. In Baltimore, she worked on Mayor Schaefer's homestead program, which helped develop housing for the Inner Harbor. Throughout her career, Ms. Hopkins Navies has also been an engaged community activist and philanthropist. She served seven years on the Ronald McDonald House Board of Directors. She was instrumental in helping community non-profits receive Ronald McDonald House grants. Additionally, she has raised money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation Race for the Cure and participated in mentoring at Fairmont Heights High School in Capitol Heights, Maryland. Ms. Hopkins Navies received her bachelor's degree from California State University. She has two children and resides in Fort Washington, Maryland, with her husband. Ms. Hopkins Navies' term expires in June 2015\*.

### **Management and Operations**

The daily operation of the Commission is supervised by the General Manager/CEO.

### **Senior Staff**

A brief resume of the Commission's senior staff is shown below:

Jerry N. Johnson, General Manager/CEO: Mr. Johnson was hired as General Manager/CEO of the Commission in September 2009. Prior to joining the Commission, he served for 12 years as the first General Manager of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority. He guided the Authority from a bankrupt unrated agency to one with an AA credit rating and over \$180 million in reserves. Mr. Johnson previously held the posts of Deputy City Manager for Operations and Director of The Public Utilities for the City of Richmond, Virginia. He was also General Manager for the

<sup>\*</sup> At the end of a term, a Commissioner continues to serve until a successor is appointed and takes the oath of office.

Richmond Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Director of Community Facilities. Mr. Johnson holds an associate's degree in Business Administration from Ferrum College and a bachelor of science degree in Urban Affairs and Economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Mr. Johnson completed the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He also holds leadership roles in a number of national organizations.

While Mr. Johnson has announced his intention to retire, he has agreed to stay at the Commission until a national search is concluded for his replacement. This will ensure a smooth transition in Commission senior leadership.

Sheila R. Finlayson, Esq., Corporate Secretary: Ms. Finlayson joined the Commission in May 2013 as Corporate Secretary. She is one of the Commission's corporate officers and the executive officially authorized to attest documents on behalf of the Commission and to act as the custodian of the Commission's official files and records, including the minutes of open and closed meetings that are subject to the Maryland Open Meetings Act. Ms. Finlayson also manages the day-to-day administrative functions of the Office of the Commission/Corporate Secretary's Office and serves as parliamentarian at the Commission's meetings. Ms. Finlayson received her law degree from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C. and her undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland at College Park, Maryland. Ms. Finlayson has extensive corporate secretarial and governance experience, having previously served as the Corporate Secretary and Director of Board Relations for the Society for Human Resource Management, a professional membership association in Alexandria, Virginia, and as Vice President, Counsel and Corporate Secretary for Independence Federal Savings Bank, a federally-chartered stock savings bank in Washington, D.C. Ms. Finlayson is licensed to practice law and is a member in good standing of the Bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Yvette R.D. Downs, Chief Financial Officer: Mrs. Downs joined the Commission as Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer in January 2015. With over 30 years of experience, Ms. Downs has been a leader in the public sector working in public transportation and the water and wastewater arenas for multiple entities. Ms. Downs is a results driven executive, with a track record of fixing problems and creating change in government to enhance stakeholder objectives. While at the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority, she created a new fixed rate structure and the credit rating of the agency's bonds increased twice during her tenure (which included serving as the Acting Chief Financial Officer in 2012-2013). Her work has been published in industry journals. She has presented papers in many national forums and has been recognized for her leadership in managing culture change. Mrs. Downs holds an MBA from Keller Graduate School and a bachelor's degree in Economics from Vassar College. She is also a Certified Construction Manager (CCM) from the Construction Management Association of America.

Jerome K. Blask, General Counsel: Mr. Blask was appointed General Counsel on October 24, 2005. He is a 1973 graduate of Dickinson College (B.A.) and received a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1979. Mr. Blask has practiced law for over 25 years, during which time he served as an Assistant Consumer Advocate in the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, and was one of the founding partners of the law firm Gurman, Blask and Freedman. He is admitted to practice in Maryland, the District of Columbia and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and is also admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, United States District Court for the District of Columbia, and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

Letitia C. Carolina-Powell, Budget Group Leader: Ms. Carolina-Powell joined the Commission as Sr. Financial Analyst in September 2007. She was promoted to Budget Unit Coordinator in January 2009 and appointed Budget Group Leader in June 2015. Ms. Carolina-Powell has over 20 years of finance experience in both the public and private sectors. Prior to joining the Commission, she worked as a Project Controller Manager for Deloitte Consulting where she was responsible for the financial management and performance forecasting of Department of Defense contracts. She also served as a Budget Manager for the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation. Ms. Carolina-Powell holds a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Maryland, College Park and a bachelor's degree in Economics from Williams College.

# **Labor Relations**

On June 30, 2015 the Commission had 1,614 full time employees of whom approximately 494 are represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. The Commission considers its labor relations to be satisfactory.

### **Employees' Retirement Plan**

Substantially all Commission employees participate in either the closed or open version of the contributory Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Employees' Retirement Plan (the "Plan"). The closed version of the Plan is applicable only to participants as of June 30, 1978 who did not elect to change to the open version. The open version of the Plan is mandatory for all employees who commenced employment on or after July 1, 1978, and all other employees who elected to change to the open version.

The Plan, including the books and records thereof, is an entity distinct from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. Its assets are managed by an independent board of trustees comprised of two Commissioners, four Commission employees, two Commission retirees, two members of the business community, and the Executive Director of the Plan. The Plan's valuation is prepared annually by an independent actuarial firm.

As of June 30, 2015, the Commission adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions - An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27. Based on the most recent actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2014, which was rolled forward to December 31, 2014 and rolled backwards to December 31, 2013, the Plan's independent actuaries determined that, at December 31, 2014 and 2013 (the measurement dates), the Plan's total pension liability exceeded its fiduciary net position by \$175.5 million and \$167.8 million, respectively.

The Plan began using the average value method to determine actuarial asset value effective July 1, 2007. This smoothing method explicitly recognizes each year's investment gain or loss over a five-year period with the final actuarial value not less than 80% or more than 120% of the market value of assets. The Plan implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Statement No. 67 Financial Reporting for Pension Plans – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 25 in fiscal year 2014. As required by GASB Statement No. 67, the Plan's fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability was 80.9% as of December 31, 2014. This represented a slight decline from the 81.5%, which resulted from applying the current year's GASB Statement No. 67 standards to the prior year's financial results as of December 31, 2013.

For additional information concerning the Plan, see Appendix A, "Notes to Financial Statements," Note L, Retirement Plan.

# **Other Post Employment Benefits**

In June 2004, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") issued Statement No. 45 ("GASB 45") which addresses how state and local governments should account for and report their costs and obligations related to post-employment health care and other non-pension benefits ("OPEB"). GASB 45 generally requires that employers account for and report the annual cost of OPEB and the outstanding obligations and commitments related to OPEB in essentially the same manner as they currently do for pensions. Annual OPEB costs for most employers will be based on actuarially determined amounts that, if paid on an ongoing basis, generally would provide sufficient resources to pay benefits as they come due. The provisions of GASB 45 do not require governments to fund their OPEB plans. GASB 45 establishes disclosure requirements for information about the plans in which an employer participates, the funding policy followed, the actuarial valuation process and assumptions, and for certain employers, the extent to which the plan has been funded over time.

The Commission obtains an actuarial report (the "OPEB Report") addressing the extent of its projected liability to its retirees for other post-employment benefits at least biennially. The OPEB Report is prepared in accordance with the standards set forth in GASB Statement 45. The OPEB Report is subject to a number of actuarial and economic assumptions; these assumptions are generally similar to the assumptions used in evaluating the Commission's pension fund liabilities.

The Commission's 2015 and 2014 annual OPEB cost was \$16.8 million and \$16.8 million, respectively. In 2015 and 2014 the Commission pre-funded \$10 million and \$9 million, respectively, as the initial installments of a phase-in of the required pre-funding level. Amounts funded exceeded OPEB costs by \$5,613,000 and \$3,685,000 in 2015 and 2014, respectively, and appropriate adjustments were made to the OPEB liability. The cumulative liability will be adjusted and paid with interest over a twenty-nine year period from fiscal year 2008. For additional information concerning the OPEB

Plan, see Appendix A, "Notes to Financial Statements," Note M, Other Post-Employment Benefits within the financial statements.

### **Leases and Agreements**

During fiscal year 1985, the Commission entered into an agreement with a partnership for the provision and operation of a concrete water storage tank. Associated with this transaction, the Commission was obligated to pay certain fees and charges over the life of the agreement. Upon the expiration of the lease agreement in fiscal year 2015 the Commission purchased the storage tank from the lessor.

The Commission is party to certain agreements to provide water service to Howard County, Maryland on an as-available basis and sewage service to the City of Rockville, Maryland. The Commission considers its present capacity to be adequate to continue providing water and sewerage services under these contracts and is of the opinion at the present time that no new capital expenditures will be required of the Commission to fulfill these obligations.

### BONDED INDEBTEDNESS OF THE DISTRICT

# **Bond Program**

The Commission issues bonds to provide funding for the construction or reconstruction of (i) water supply facilities, water supply lines and transmission mains (the "Water Supply Bonds"), (ii) sewage disposal facilities, sewer collection mains and trunk sewers (the "Sewage Disposal Bonds"), and (iii) Commission-built water/sewer pipes in subdivisions (the "General Construction Bonds"). The bonds may also be issued to replace short term bond anticipation notes. Pursuant to Section 19-101 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, the Water Supply Bonds, the Sewage Disposal Bonds and the General Construction Bonds may be consolidated for sale and sold, issued and delivered as a single issue of bonds that are designated as the "Consolidated Public Improvements Bonds."

# **Maryland Water Quality Debt**

The Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund is administered by the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration. As of June 30, 2015, the Commission had \$247,953,771 of outstanding debt under this program. The Commission's obligation to repay this amount is evidenced by Commission bonds, which are payable over a 20-year period at below-market interest rates and on parity with the bonds of the Commission. The source of repayment and security for these Commission obligations is the same as that for the Commission's Water Supply Bonds and Sewage Disposal Bonds, respectively.

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# **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Debt Statement**

		Bonds Outstanding June 30, 2015
Bonds Outstanding <sup>(1)(2):</sup>		June 30, 2013
General Construction Bonds (self-supporting) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$	205,955,000
Water Supply Bonds (self-supporting) <sup>(4)</sup>		643,170,167
Sewage Disposal Bonds (self-supporting) <sup>(5)</sup>		864,284,833
Maryland Water Quality Loan Fund (self-supporting) <sup>(5)</sup>		247,953,771
Total Bonds Outstanding		1,961,363,771
Less:		
Self-supporting Bonds		1,961,363,771
Bonds Outstanding Exclusive of Self-supporting Bonds	\$	0
Assessed Valuation <sup>(6)</sup> , All Property within District	\$ 2	42,885,625,035
Per Capita: (Population estimated at 1,885,847)		
Bonds Outstanding Total	\$	1,111
Bonds Outstanding Exclusive of Self-supporting Bonds	\$	0

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes \$50,000,000 principal amount of bonds outstanding as of June 30, 2015 which have been refunded.

# Bonded Debt Outstanding and Changes from June 30, 2014 to June 30, 2015<sup>(1) (2)</sup>

	Bonds Outstanding				Bonds Outstanding
	June 30, 2014	<u>Issued</u>	<b>Defeased</b>	Redeemed	June 30, 2015
General Construction Bonds	\$236,430,000	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 30,475,000	\$ 205,955,000
Water Supply Bonds	618,655,000	75,000,000	-0-	50,484,833	643,170,167
Sewage Disposal Bonds	745,680,000	175,000,000	-0-	56,395,167	864,284,833
Maryland Water Quality Loan					
Fund	201,677,786	53,963,156	-0-	7,687,171	247,953,771
Total	\$1,802,442,786	\$303,963,156	\$ -0-	\$145,042,171	<u>\$ 1,961,363,771</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes \$50,000,000 principal amount of bonds outstanding as of June 30, 2015 which have been refunded.

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<sup>(2)</sup> Excludes \$210,000,000 principal amount of bond anticipation notes outstanding as of June 30, 2015. See "Short-Term Financing Program" below.

<sup>(3)</sup> Front foot benefit charges are levied sufficient to pay debt service.

<sup>(4)</sup> Water consumption charges are fixed sufficient to pay all operating expenses and debt service.

<sup>(5)</sup> Sewage usage charges are fixed sufficient to pay all operating expenses and debt service.

<sup>(6)</sup> Includes the assessed valuation for Montgomery County as of December 31, 2014 and the assessed valuation for Prince George's County as of June 30, 2015.

<sup>(2)</sup> Excludes \$210,000,000 principal amount of bond anticipation notes outstanding as of June 30, 2015. See "Short-Term Financing Program" below.

# **Adjusted Debt Service**

The following table shows principal, interest, and total debt service on the District's outstanding bonds.

# **Outstanding Bonds** June 30, 2015 (1)(2)

Fiscal Year	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2016	\$ 137,824,547	\$ 73,653,024	\$ 211,477,571
2017	134,517,871	67,870,519	202,388,390
2018	132,572,950	62,067,064	194,640,014
2019	126,528,790	56,370,216	182,899,006
2020	123,460,395	51,087,869	174,548,264
2021	120,542,775	46,050,729	166,593,504
2022	113,273,084	41,542,307	154,815,391
2023	109,242,032	37,494,890	146,736,922
2024	107,029,496	33,766,807	140,796,303
2025	105,093,937	30,174,035	135,267,972
2026	96,767,059	26,460,698	123,227,757
2027	92,441,550	22,969,673	115,411,223
2028	89,416,779	19,545,916	108,962,695
2029	80,509,996	16,242,001	96,751,997
2030	70,865,729	13,347,303	84,213,032
2031	59,267,809	10,933,122	70,200,931
2032	44,688,053	9,089,069	53,777,122
2033	25,119,035	7,837,294	32,956,329
2034	25,565,760	7,189,873	32,755,633
2035	16,211,124	6,560,172	22,771,296
2036	14,960,000	5,967,133	20,927,133
2037	15,360,000	5,367,400	20,727,400
2038	15,775,000	4,751,617	20,526,617
2039	16,205,000	4,119,183	20,324,183
2040	16,655,000	3,469,483	20,124,483
2041	17,120,000	2,801,733	19,921,733
2042	17,605,000	2,115,317	19,720,317
2043	18,110,000	1,409,433	19,519,433
2044	18,635,000	683,283	19,318,283
Total	<u>\$1,961,363,771</u>	<u>\$ 670,937,162</u>	\$2,632,300,933

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Excludes \$50,000,000 principal amount of bonds outstanding as of June 30, 2015 which have been refunded.
 Excludes \$210,000,000 principal amount of bond anticipation notes outstanding as of June 30, 2015. See "Short-Term Financing Program"

# Summary of Outstanding Debt Service as of June 30, 2015<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

		Interest To	Total Debt
	<u>Principal</u>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Service</b>
General Construction Bonds	\$ 205,955,000	\$ 51,535,497	\$ 257,490,497
Water Supply Bonds	643,170,167	243,136,704	886,306,871
Sewage Disposal Bonds	864,284,833	357,253,985	1,221,538,818
Maryland Water Quality Loan Fund		19,010,976	<u>266,964,747</u>
Total	<u>\$1,961,363,771</u>	<u>\$670,937,162</u>	\$ 2,632,300,933

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes \$50,000,000 principal amount of bonds outstanding as of June 30, 2015 which have been refunded.

#### **Authorization of Debt**

The Bonds are issued upon the basis of authorizations, under the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland, including Titles 16 through 25 of Division II of the Public Utilities Article, particularly Titles 22 and 25 thereof and other applicable law, by the Commission through the adoption of Resolution No. 2016-2095 or orders of the Commission.

## **Borrowing Limitation**

The Public Utilities Article limits the amount of bonds and notes issued by the District that may be outstanding at any time. The aggregate principal amount of bonds and notes of the District (excluding refunded bonds and certain short-term instruments) outstanding at any time may not exceed the sum of: (i) 3.8% of the total assessable tax base of all real property assessed for county tax purposes within the District, and (ii) 7.0% of the total assessable personal property and operating real property assessed for county tax purposes within the District (or such respective percentages of such tax bases as of July 1, 1997, if larger).

Shown below are the latest certified assessed valuations of those portions of the Counties that lie within the District, and the ratio of debt to permitted debt.

	Total Assessed <u>Valuation (000)</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	Maximum Debt <u>Permitted (000)</u>	Total Debt <u>Outstanding (000)</u>	Ratio of Debt Outstanding to Debt Permitted
June 30, 2015	\$242,885,625	\$9,289,681	\$1,961,364	21.2%
June 30, 2014	240,410,073	9,197,332	1,952,543	21.2
June 30, 2013	240,018,093	9,180,923	1,878,296	20.5
June 30, 2012	227,730,398	8,715,697	1,556,797	17.9
June 30, 2011	242,366,111	9,275,409	1,421,789	15.3

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes the assessed valuation for Montgomery County as of December 31, 2014 and the assessed valuation for Prince George's County as of June 30, 2015.

# **Short-Term Financing Program**

On June 24, 2003, the Commission established a \$465,000,000 short-term borrowing facility whereby it may issue and redeem its General Obligation Multi-Modal Bond Anticipation Notes (the "BANs") from time to time. The BANs are general obligations of the District. Debt service on the BANs is expected to be paid from revenues generated in the District from fees, charges, rates and assessments and other available funds and, in the event of a deficiency, are secured by ad valorem taxes upon all the assessable property within the District, without limitation as to rate or amount. On November

<sup>(2)</sup> Excludes \$210,000,000 principal amount of bond anticipation notes outstanding as of June 30, 2015. See "Short-Term Financing Program" below.

19, 2008, the Commission amended the previous note program to expand the authority to issue notes up to an additional \$600,000,000. The BANs are tax-exempt variable rate demand notes, the interest rates on which are reset weekly. The BANs are subject to optional redemption by the Commission at par on not less than fifteen days' notice to the holders thereof. Interest on the BANs is paid out of user fees for water and sewer service. The principal of the BANs is payable from the proceeds of the long-term water supply bonds and sewage disposal bonds of the District and other available funds. Until such time as they are redeemed from bond proceeds, the Commission generally amortizes the BANs principal over a 20-year term.

On August 28, 2013, the Commission replaced its liquidity facility provider, Helaba, with two new facilities; TD Bank N.A. and State Street Bank and Trust Company respectively. On that date, the outstanding Series A BANs in the aggregate principal amount of \$130,100,000 were fully redeemed and reissued in two separate series, Series A Notes and Series B Notes. On February 26, 2014 and June 24, 2015, the Commission issued \$50,000,000 and \$90,000,000 aggregate principal amount of BANs respectively.

The Series A Notes are secured by a Standby Note Purchase Agreement between the Commission and TD Bank, N.A. in the aggregate principal amount of \$107,500,000 and the Series B Notes are secured by a Standby Note Purchase Agreement between the Commission and State Street Bank and Trust Company in the aggregate principal amount of \$107,500,000. Under each Standby Note Purchase Agreement, the applicable banks are obligated, subject to certain terms and conditions of a note order, to purchase the notes secured thereby, or portions thereof tendered for purchase and not remarketed. Each Standby Note Purchase Agreement is scheduled to expire on August 28, 2016.

The Commission has issued \$691,100,000 aggregate principal amount of BANs since the short-term borrowing facility was established on June 24, 2003. Of that amount, \$481,100,000 has been redeemed, leaving a balance of \$210,000,000 aggregate principal amount of BANs outstanding as of August 31, 2015. The proceeds of the BANs are used to provide interim financing for the water and sewer projects comprising a portion of the Commission's capital program.

### Record of No Default

The Commission has never defaulted on any bonded indebtedness.

### DISTRICT FINANCIAL DATA

The District's financial records are maintained on the debt service method of accounting to conform to its annual budget. The District maintains a fund accounting system to separately account for its construction functions and operating functions. Each operating fund is credited with its share of the interest earned from the investments. The Commission continuously reviews its procedures to ascertain if it is necessary to update them due to new developments and other changes. Revenue available for debt service and operating expenses for the five most recent complete fiscal years ended June 30 are shown in summary form as follows:

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### Summary of Operating Revenues, Expenses and Net Revenues (Loss) (Dollars in Thousands)(1)

	Twelve months ended June 30		Fiscal Year ended June 30,		
	(unaudited)	2014	2013	2012	2011
Gross Revenues Available for Debt Service	\$ 643,046	\$ 623,021	\$ 598,510	\$ 584,831	\$ 566,918
Debt Service:					
Bonds Redeemed and Sinking Fund					
Contributions	173,642	180,025	161,921	163,928	182,928
Interest on Bonds and Notes Payable	<u>74,380</u>	<u>69,042</u>	<u>65,710</u>	<u>59,082</u>	<u>56,908</u>
Total	248,022	249,067	<u>227,631</u>	223,010	239,836
Net Revenues Available for Operations	395,024	373,954	370,879	361,821	327,082
Operating Expense Exclusive of Depreciation and					
Amortization	<u>415,684</u>	<u>365,963</u>	<u>356,527</u>	<u>338,004</u>	<u>330,836</u>
Net Revenue (Loss)	<u>\$ (20,660)</u>	<u>\$ 7,991</u>	<u>\$ 14,352</u>	<u>\$ 23,817</u>	<u>\$ (3,754)</u>
Composed of:					
Water Operating (1)	\$ (20,085)	\$ (11,357)	\$ 9,986	\$ 21,927	\$ 26,599
Sewer Operating (1)	6,271	30,721	12,057	6,225	9,122
Other Operating Funds	<u>(6,846)</u>	<u>(11,373)</u>	<u>(7,691)</u>	<u>(4,335)</u>	<u>(39,475)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (20,660)</u>	<u>\$ 7,991</u>	<u>\$ 14,352</u>	\$ (23,817)	\$ (3,754)
Total Operating Reserves <sup>(2)</sup>	\$139,480	\$153,294	\$133,930	\$111,887	\$83,735
Commission Reserve Target %	9%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Total Operating Reserve as % of Revenues	21%	24%	22%	19%	14%

Operating losses were planned uses of existing prior year surpluses within the operating funds accomplished by restraining rate increases in the
respective year.

The Commission's operating revenues derived from water and sewer charges vary from year to year, as water usage fluctuates in response to a variety of factors (such as changing weather patterns and economic conditions, for example). The Commission's policy is to maintain a reserve in the amount of at least 10% of budgeted water and sewerage operating revenues to offset any shortfall in such revenues. In those years in which water or sewerage operating revenues exceed budgeted amounts, the Commission generally accrues the resulting surplus in the respective Operating Fund(s) to be utilized in future years' budgets for fiscally prudent purposes, including rate increase mitigation, one-time expenditures, increasing the Commission's reserve, and applying the surplus against future capital costs on a pay-as-you-go basis. In those years in which water or sewer operating revenues do not reach budgeted amounts, the Commission adjusts its then-current budget by reducing expenditures and by drawing upon the reserve, if necessary. In the event that the reserve is inadequate to cover such shortfall, the Commission may implement a mid-year rate increase after notifying the respective County Councils, although this has never been required. The Commission did not draw upon the reserve during fiscal year 2013, fiscal year 2014 or fiscal year 2015. The Commission increased the reserve target by \$2.3 million in fiscal year 2015 and has further increased the reserve target by \$6.3 million in fiscal year 2016. with a goal of maintaining a reserve of 10%. At June 30, 2015 the reserve target amounted to \$55.6 million, which is approximately 9.5% of budgeted water and sewer rate revenue. The fiscal year 2016 budgeted addition is expected to increase the reserve percentage to 10.6%.

# **Budget**

The Public Utilities Article requires the Commission, prior to January 15 preceding the respective fiscal year, to prepare operating and capital budgets (the "Budget") for the ensuing fiscal year.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes Commission's minimum operating reserve and accumulated unrestricted surplus. Source: Washington Suburban Sanitary District.

The Budget is prepared to reflect the total funding and staffing requirements of the Commission as well as its individual programs and organizational components. The Budget is divided into two major sections, the Operating Budget and the Capital Budget. The Operating Budget reflects the Commission's resource requirements to operate and maintain its completed plants and other installations. The Operating Budget consists of three separate funds: Water Operating, Sewer Operating, and General Bond Debt Service. The Capital Budget reflects the Commission's plan to receive and expend funds for capital projects including those identified in the first year of its Six Year Capital Improvements Program (see "Capital Improvement Program - Six Year Capital Program"), reconstruction programs and other capital programs. The Capital Budget consists of three separate funds: Water Supply Bond, Sewage Disposal Bond and General Construction Bond funds.

The Budget process begins with submission of requests by all organizational units. The Finance Office compiles and presents the budget to the General Manager for review. After review, the General Manager submits this Budget with his recommendations to the Commissioners. The Commissioners review the Budget and make changes they deem necessary in order to arrive at the Commission's proposed Budget.

The Public Utilities Article requires that the Proposed Budget be published by January 15. Copies of the Proposed Budget are available to the public. The Commission holds public hearings on the Proposed Budget prior to February 15 after providing 21 days' notice of such hearing by publication in at least two newspapers published and generally circulated in Montgomery County and two newspapers published and generally circulated in Prince George's County.

The Commission is required to transmit the Proposed Budget by March 1 to the County Executives of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. The County Executives make recommendations on the Proposed Budget by March 15 to their respective County Councils. The County Councils may hold public hearings and conduct work sessions with Commission personnel during the months of April and May. Each County Council may add to, delete from, increase or decrease any item of the Proposed Budget and shall transmit by May 15 any proposed changes to the other County Council for review and concurrence. Each County Council must approve all amendments to the Proposed Budget and, prior to June 1, approve the Budget.

In the event both County Councils fail to concur on a change with respect to any item in such Proposed Budget by June 1, that failure shall constitute approval of the item as submitted by the Commission.

Finally, upon receipt of the joint resolutions of the two County Councils, the Commission adopts the Budget and approves the water and sewer rates, other charges and fees, and ad valorem tax rates required to fund the approved expenditure levels.

The Commission's audited financial statements (Appendix A) are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Comparison of the audited financial statements to the debt service method statements requires adjustments for several differences, including depreciation, bond principal redemption, capitalized interest and unfunded pension costs.

# SUMMARY OF DISTRICT AD VALOREM TAXES AND OTHER CHARGES AND REVENUES THEREFROM

# **Ad Valorem Tax Rate**

At present, no ad valorem taxes are levied pursuant to Commission certification for the payment of debt service on outstanding bonds. Debt service on the Bonds and other outstanding bonds of the District is expected to be paid from revenues generated in the District from fees, charges, rates and assessments and other available funds.

Tax Collection Procedures

Pursuant to Section 22-106 of Division II of the Public Utilities Article to retire and pay the interest on bonds each year the county councils of Montgomery County and Prince George's County shall impose against the assessable property that is in the District a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as and when due and until paid in full. Each year the Commission shall determine the amount necessary to pay the principal and interest on bonds issued and shall set aside such amount from water service charges, sewer usage charges, house connection charges, and

any other charges imposed by the Commission as the Commission determines to be fair and equitable. The amount set aside shall be deducted from the amount that the Commission determines to be necessary to be raised by taxation.

At least 30 days before the taxable year for property taxes, the county executives of Montgomery County and Prince George's County shall certify to the Commission the total valuation of assessable property within the District in each county. The Commission shall determine the amount necessary, for the next taxable year, to pay: (i) interest on all outstanding bonds; (ii) principal of all serial bonds maturing during the year; and (iii) the proportionate part of principal of all outstanding sinking fund bonds as determined by the usual table of redemption of bonds by annual deposit in a sinking fund.

After deducting all amounts applicable to payment of interest and principal on the bonds, the Commission shall certify to the county councils of Montgomery County and Prince George's County the number of cents per \$100 necessary to raise the amount determined to pay the debt service.

Each year the county councils of Montgomery County and Prince George's County shall impose a tax in the amount determined by the Commission under the Public Utilities Article on all assessable property within the District. The taxes imposed under this Act shall (i) have the same status as county taxes; and (ii) be imposed and collected by the tax collecting authority for each county as county taxes. Every 60 days, each county shall pay to the Commission the taxes collected under the Public Utilities Article.

# Front Foot Benefit Charges and Historic Collections

For meeting debt service on its outstanding \$282,785,000 of general construction bonds as of June 30, 2014, there have been assessed front foot benefit charges in amounts sufficient, taking delinquencies in account, to pay debt service on the general construction bonds as such debt service becomes due. Front foot benefit charges are payable in annual or semi-annual installments. There are no operations, repair or maintenance costs paid from front foot benefit charges.

Front foot benefit charges for water and sewer lines placed in service during 2014 and 2013, as shown in the table below, became effective January 1, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The charges are payable over 20-years.

	Annual Rates per linear front foot*				
	Ef	fective	Effective		
	<u>January 1, 2015</u>		<b>January 1, 2014</b>		
	Water	Sewer	Water	Sewer	
Subdivision	. \$4.80	\$7.18	\$4.80	\$7.18	
Business (First 200 feet)	. 6.39	9.55	6.39	9.55	
Small Acreage (First 150 feet)	4.80	7.18	4.80	7.18	
Multi-Unit Residential Apartment	. 4.80	7.18	4.80	7.18	
Townhouse	4.80	7.18	4.80	7.18	
Agricultural (First 150 feet)	4.80	7.18	4.80	7.18	

<sup>\*</sup>The total amount of assessment can be redeemed at any time by the property owner.

Front foot benefit charges and deferred house connection charges are levied on a calendar year basis prior to July 1 of each year. Charges can be paid in two installments, the first due prior to October 1 and the second due prior to January 1. Levies, and collections for the five calendar years through 2014 as supplied by the counties, are shown in the following table:

Montgomery County Amount				Prince George's County				
Levy Year(2)	Amount <u>Levied</u>	Total <u>Collections</u>	Percent Collected(1)	Amount <u>Levied</u>	Total <u>Collections</u>	Percent Collected(1)		
2014	\$15,647,153	\$15,609,498	99.76%	\$17,905,855	\$17,861,380	99.75%		
2013	19,593,246	19,587,597	99.97	22,718,632	22,687,622	99.86		
2012	23,767,335	23,737,736	99.88	27,158,233	27,128,763	99.89		
2011	26,387,653	26,379,928	99.97	30,815,410	30,781,313	99.89		
2010	29,071,807	29,064,706	99.98	32,472,756	32,449,011	99.93		

<sup>(1)</sup> Collections are applied to their respective levy years regardless of the year of collection.

### **Water and Sewer Charges**

Water consumption charges are collected to pay the operation, repair and maintenance costs of, and the debt service on bonds and notes issued for, water supply projects. Sewer usage charges are collected to pay the operation, repair and maintenance costs of, and the debt service on bonds and notes issued for, sewerage projects. Ad valorem taxes are not presently levied for such purposes.

Under the Public Utilities Article, the Commission imposes a 5% late payment charge on any water/sewer bill outstanding after 30 days for residential customers and 20 days for commercial customers. If payment is not made within an additional 15 days, a termination notice is forwarded to a delinquent property owner advising that service will be discontinued by a specified date without further notice. Should this fail, and if any bill shall remain unpaid for 60 days from the date fixed for payment, it is collectible against the owner of the property served. As of this date of the Official Statement, historically the bad debt write-off has never been material to the Commission.

The Commission employs a conservation oriented multi-rate structure for both water and sewer usage. The structure applies a sliding schedule of rates per thousand gallons of use with a level of charges determined by the customer's average daily consumption (ADC) during each billing period. The rates as of July 1, 2015 range from \$3.20 to \$7.37 per thousand gallons for water consumption and \$4.26 to \$10.80 per thousand gallons for sewer usage. The schedule starts at a base consumption level of 1-49 gallons a day where the lowest water and sewer rates apply and moves up in sixteen increments to a top ADC threshold at 9,000 gallons or more where the highest water/sewer rates apply to the total consumption by the customer unit. Sewer-only customers are charged a flat rate. In addition, all customers are assessed Ready-to-Service fees, based on meter size, in cumulative amounts ranging from \$16.50 to \$3,115.00 per quarter.

### **Other Charges**

The Commission collects other charges and fees, namely, infrastructure investment fees, house connection fees, plumbing and gas connection inspection fees and system development charges, as mentioned below.

### Sub-district Charges

In order to expedite ahead of schedule the construction of water and/or sewer facilities to serve certain sub-districts within the District, the Commission established individual sub-district charges in the Olney, Mattawoman, Green Branch, Mill Branch and Clopper Road Sub-districts to help defray the cost of capital construction therein. The Commission has suspended the collection of sub-district charges, because system development charges provide sufficient growth-related cost recovery. See "System Development Charge" below.

<sup>(2)</sup> Original levies adjusted by subsequent additions, deletions and collections as of May 31, 2015. Assessments are levied on construction completed in the previous calendar year.

#### House Connection Fees

On January 1, 2005, to reflect the construction cost differential, the Commission's pricing of house connections for residential customers changed to one in which unimproved and improved connections receive different rates for each different sized connection. Beginning January 1, 2015, the rate for standard one-inch or one and one-half inch residential water connections in an unimproved area is \$2,250, whereas a standard one-inch or one and one-half inch residential water connection in an improved area is \$7,250. A standard residential sewer connection in an unimproved area is \$3,500, whereas a standard residential sewer connection in an improved area is \$10,750. Commercial customers are charged different rates for larger sized improved and unimproved area connections to reflect the construction cost differential for these two types of connections.

# Plumbing and Gas Connection Inspection Fees

The Commission inspects the installation of all plumbing and gas facilities throughout the bi-county area. This affords standardization of materials and methods for plumbing and gas systems in the District. The Commission charges certain fees for such inspections.

### System Development Charge

The Commission is authorized by the Public Utilities Article to impose a system development charge at the time of filing of each plumbing permit application. The charge is applicable to each first-time connection to the water or sewer systems of the District, and to each additional connection or increase in water meter size due to a change in property use or an increase in demand at a property already connected to the system. The amount of the charge is established and annually revised by the Montgomery County Council and the Prince George's County Council. The charge is applied based on the number of plumbing fixtures at the subject property. The rate schedule in effect as of July 1, 2015 imposes charges of between \$22 and \$264,000 for 71 categories of non-residential fixtures, and between \$44 and \$880 for 20 categories of residential fixtures. The system development charge is capped at \$2,036 per apartment unit, \$3,054 for dwellings with one or two toilets, \$5,090 for dwellings with three or four toilets, and \$7,126 for dwellings with five toilets. The Commission may apply the proceeds of the system development charge only to pay for new treatment, transmission and collection facilities, the need for which is directly attributable to the addition of new service, or to amortize bonds issued in connection with the construction of such facilities.

# INFORMATION REGARDING MONTGOMERY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTIES

Montgomery County, Maryland and Prince George's County are each body politics and corporate and political subdivisions of the State of Maryland. The populations of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties are shown below:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>
Montgomery County	\$ 757,027	\$ 873,341	\$1,004,709
Prince George's County	728,553	801,515	881,138
Total	<u>\$ 1,485,580</u>	<u>\$1,674,856</u>	\$ <u>1,885,847</u>

Source: U.S. Census of Counties.

Additional information regarding Montgomery County and Prince George's County, including detailed governance, demographic, economic and financial information is set forth in Appendix B and can be obtained from the most recent Official Statements of such counties. The information regarding Montgomery County and Prince George's County set forth in Appendix B to this Official Statement has been provided to the Commission by Montgomery County and Prince George's County, respectively. The Commission has not undertaken to audit, authenticate or otherwise verify the information set forth in Appendix B or any Official Statement of Montgomery County or Prince George's County. The Commission makes no guaranty, warranty or other representation respecting the accuracy and completeness of the information set forth in Appendix B or any such Official Statement. The Commission is not in a position to, and will not, undertake to update any information set forth in Appendix B or in any Official Statement of Montgomery County or Prince George's County. Reference to the Official

Statements of Montgomery County and Prince George's County is included herein for convenience only and any information included in such Official Statements is not incorporated herein, by reference or otherwise.

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**

#### Ten Year Plan

The State of Maryland requires that every county in the State have a ten-year water and sewerage plan. The Commission, as the provider of water and wastewater services for Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, has assisted in the preparation of the ten-year plans since 1971. The County 10-year plans provide the overall guidance for the timing and capacity for planned implementation of new water filtration plants, pumping stations, transmission lines and storage facilities and sewage treatment plants, pumping stations, force mains and interceptor sewers and related facilities. Local water distribution and sewage collection systems are approved by Commission authority consistent with service policies in the ten-year plans.

### Six Year Capital Program

Each year the Commission prepares a six-year projection of capital expenditures for new major water and sanitary sewerage facilities constituting its Capital Improvements Program ("CIP"). In addition, six-year projections are made for existing water and sewer systems reconstruction activities, a planned program for rehabilitating the older or deficient portions of these systems. The principal objective of the CIP is the six-year programming of planning, design, land acquisition, and construction activities on a yearly basis for major water and sewerage infrastructure projects and programs. These projects and programs may be necessary for system improvements for service to existing customers (77% of the CIP), to comply with federal and/or state environmental mandates (10%), or to support new development in accordance with the counties' approved plans and policies for orderly growth and development (13%). The projects within the approved six-year program include an aggressive program to rehabilitate or replace the older portions of the Commission's 5,500 miles of water mains and 5,400 miles of sewer mains, provide for growth as needed and ensure compliance with a 2005 sanitary sewer consent decree. The projects are generally categorized as follows:

Capital Improvements Program (CIP) & Allocated Costs Systems Reconstruction Program Engineering Support Program Other Capital Projects General Construction

Working to protect clean water, in July of 2005 the Commission joined U.S. Representative Chris Van Hollen, Lieutenant Governor Michael S. Steele and representatives from the Anacostia Watershed Society, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Audubon Naturalist Society and Friends of Sligo Creek to announce agreement on a multi-year action plan to dramatically minimize, and eliminate where possible, sewage overflows. A sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) is an event where untreated or partially treated wastewater discharges from a sanitary sewer system into the surrounding areas.

The comprehensive plan settles a lawsuit filed by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in November 2004 on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding overflows in the Commission's wastewater collection system. The Commission has worked closely with its partners at the federal, state and local levels to develop a proactive plan that will augment its existing efforts to maintain, identify and repair problem areas within its 5,400-mile sewer system. This Existing Consent Decree, similar to many others being enacted throughout the country, will enhance the Commission's ability to meet the public health needs of our customers. The Commission is well underway on this program and all funding required has been incorporated within the existing CIP.

The Commission has approved water and sewer CIP, Engineering Support and Energy Performance Program projects with a value of nearly \$2.3 billion for fiscal years 2016-2021, and over \$903 million for water and sewer system reconstruction projects during the same period. Of this amount, \$2.6 billion is anticipated to be funded through the sale of Commission bonds. The remaining amount is expected to be funded through federal and state grants, operating funds, and contributions from other sources.

The following table shows the approximate funding schedule (subject to adjustment for inflation) for approved CIP and system reconstruction projects (dollars in thousands).

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30						
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	6-YrTotal
Water CIP/ESP/EPP	\$ 162,760	\$194,435	\$ 186,005	\$ 154,128	\$ 125,034	\$ 87,206	\$ 909,568
Sewer CIP/ESP/EPP	417,758	319,408	298,138	165,487	119,960	91,854	1,412,605
System Reconstruction	138,779	<u>140,556</u>	<u>147,380</u>	<u>164,560</u>	<u>164,502</u>	<u>147,368</u>	903,145
	\$ 719,297	\$ 654,399	\$ 631,523	\$ 484,175	\$ 409,496	\$ 326,428	\$ 3,225,318
Bond Funding	\$562,831	\$509,065	\$510,440	\$393,059	\$342,186	\$265,102	\$2,582,683
% of Capital Program	78%	78%	81%	81%	84%	81%	80%

The funds necessary to finance general construction projects are not included in the above six year projections. In accordance with amendments to the Public Utilities Article enacted in 1998, general construction projects begun after June 30, 2001 will generally be financed by private developers rather than the Commission.

### WATER AND SEWERAGE FACILITIES, SERVICE CENTERS AND STATISTICS

The Commission currently operates water filtration plants, raw water reservoirs, wastewater treatment plants (in addition to sharing the use of regional facilities) and maintenance service centers.

### **Water Sources and Filtration Facilities**

The Commission has multiple sources of raw water available for processing and delivery to its customers. These sources are supplemented by a number of reservoirs containing an aggregate of 17 billion gallons of raw water storage, and up to an additional 17 billion gallons of water for river quality and flow. The water filtration facilities (Potomac and Patuxent), which have a combined peak production capacity of more than 300 million gallons of water per day (mgd), are strategically located to meet all of the needs of the Commission's customers. The water system is designed with a focus on sufficient redundancy to ensure adequate overlapping coverage for the Commission's service area.

The Commission maintains a water distribution network containing more than 5,500 miles of mains. There are filtered water storage structures located at strategic points along this network to assist in meeting peak customer demands and fire protection requirements. These structures have a combined gross storage capacity of more than 200 million gallons.

### **Wastewater Treatment Facilities**

The Commission's wastewater plants located throughout the District are as follows:

Seneca Plant Piscataway Plant Parkway Plant
Damascus Plant Western Branch Plant Hyattstown Plant

Blue Plains Plant (developed and operated by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority; capacity is shared by the Commission under regional agreements)

Mattawoman Plant (developed and operated by Charles County, Maryland; the Commission has purchased 15% of the plant's capacity under a regional agreement)

Poolesville Plant (owned and operated by the Town of Poolesville, Maryland; the Commission has purchased

20,000 gpd capacity at the plant under an agreement with the Town)

In recent years, in response to efforts to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay, emphasis has been placed on the expansion and improvement of wastewater treatment facilities to serve current and future needs of the Commission's bi-county service area. Every plant receiving wastewater from the Commission's system is equipped to provide advanced treatment. In 2004 the State of Maryland passed the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Act into law to provide funding to remove additional nitrogen at wastewater treatment plants statewide to achieve Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR). Construction is nearly complete to upgrade all Commission facilities to the ENR technology. The State of Maryland had previously provided funds on a 50% cost share basis to upgrade plants statewide to Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR). The Commission has previously constructed BNR facilities at the Piscataway, Western Branch, Parkway, Seneca and Damascus Plants. Each of the prior nitrogen removal projects allowed the Commission plants to meet or surpass the BNR goals and produce effluents of < 8 mg/l nitrogen. The additional ENR upgrades are expected to further reduce nitrogen in the effluent to approximately 3 mg/l which is considered the limit of technology.

Approximately 65% of the District's sewage flow travels through the regional system in Maryland and the District of Columbia to the Blue Plains Plant Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant in Washington, D.C. ("Blue Plains"). The Blue Plains Plant is an advanced wastewater treatment plant with treatment capacity of 370 mgd. Blue Plains nitrogen removal facilities are currently under construction. The Commission has contributed to the capital cost of these upgrades. This project continues to receive grant funding annually from previously-appropriated federal (EPA) and State pollution control grant programs. During fiscal year 2014, the Blue Plains Plant received 45.3 billion gallons (bg) of sewage from the Commission system, while the following flows were handled during the year at Commission-operated facilities: Piscataway Plant, 9.6 bg; Western Branch Plant, 8.1 bg.; Parkway Plant, 2.4 bg; Seneca Plant, 5.6 bg; and Damascus Plant, 0.3 bg. In addition, the Mattawoman Plant received 0.5 bg of sewage from the Commission system.

Wastewater is conveyed through the Commission pipeline system, which contains more than 5,400 miles of sewer mains.

### **Service Centers**

The Commission operates four service centers throughout the service area. Through facilities in Anacostia, Gaithersburg, Lyttonsville and Temple Hills, the Commission provides warehouse management, fleet services and meter operations to ensure that appropriate materials and transportation is available for the maintenance and repair of the vast water and wastewater system. In addition, the Commission operates a state-of-the-art laboratory which performs an estimated 500,000 tests annually to ensure water safety and quality.

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# **Historical Water and Sewage Service Statistics**

Fiscal Year	Estimated	Miles of		water Delivered		Miles of	
Ended	Population	Water	Water	(000,000	Average	Sewer	Sewer
<u>June 30, </u>	<u>Served</u>	<u>Mains</u>	<b>Connections</b>	<u>gal.)</u>	<u>mgd.</u>	<u>Mains</u>	<b>Connections</b>
2014	1,757,000	5,571	452,184	58,603	160.6	5,463	429,092
2013	1,749,000	5,494	446,453	58,830	161.2	5,376	423,110
2012	1,742,000	5,471	444,184	60,648	165.7	5,363	421,092
2011	1,734,000	5,451	441,593	63,861	175.0	5,344	418,718
2010	1,727,000	5,438	440,019	61,590	168.7	5,324	417,301
2009	1,710,000	5,427	438,839	59,255	162.3	5,314	416,392

# **INSURANCE**

The Commission maintains insurance on its property (structures, contents, boilers and machinery, etc.) for physical damages. The Commission also maintains Employee Dishonesty and Terrorism insurance.

The Commission is self-insured for all liability except fiduciary liability insurance which the Commission maintains in connection with its Employees Retirement Plan. Each year, the Commission budgets funds to pay for

expected claims, based on past loss experience. However, should the actual claims be significantly higher than budgeted, or should a catastrophic loss occur, then funds to pay for such loss or losses would have to be obtained from ad valorem taxation or other sources of revenue, since a self-insurance fund has not been established.

The Commission is self-insured for Workers' Compensation benefits per the applicable statutory requirements of the State of Maryland.

The Commission's insurance policies contain varying self-insured retention levels. All such policies are subject to their terms, conditions, exclusions, definitions and limitations.

### INVESTMENT OF OPERATING AND CAPITAL FUNDS

Commission funds held for operating and capital purposes are invested by the Commission Treasurer's Office in accordance with the Commission's investment policy, which conforms to State of Maryland law on the investment of public funds. The Commission does not leverage its investment portfolio, buy reverse repurchase agreements, invest in investment pools or enter into interest rate swaps or other derivatives. The Commission does not borrow or lend securities. The Commission invests primarily in obligations of the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, repurchase agreements, and bankers' acceptances. The repurchase agreements into which the Commission enters are collateralized by United States government treasury obligations and obligations of agencies and instrumentalities of the United States government, held by an independent third party custodian and marked to market daily.

#### LITIGATION

In February 2014, the Potomac Riverkeeper, Inc. ("PR") and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Inc. ("CBF") filed a complaint for injunctive relief and penalties in U.S. District Court in Maryland alleging violations of the Clean Water Act ("CWA") by the Commission; in May 2014, the Maryland Department of the Environment ("MDE") notified the Commission of its intention to file its own CWA complaint against the Commission. Negotiations among PR, CBF, MDE and the Commission to resolve these claims by another Consent Decree have extended over multiple months and are continuing. The Consent Decree being negotiated contemplates short, medium and long-term investments at the Commission's Potomac Water Filtration Plant that are designed to attain proposed performance metrics. The level of improvements and any civil and stipulated penalties and other expenditures required under the Consent Decree are not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Commission's ability to satisfy its debt service requirements for the Bonds or any other debt obligations of the District.

# RATINGS

Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch"), Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") and Standard & Poor's Rating Services ("S&P") have assigned the Bonds long-term ratings of "AAA" (with a stable outlook), "Aaa" (with a stable outlook) and "AAA" (with a stable outlook), respectively. No application was made to any other rating agency for the purpose of obtaining a rating on the Bonds.

The Commission furnished to such rating agencies certain information and materials respecting the Bonds, the District, the Commission, Prince George's County and Montgomery County. Generally, rating agencies base their ratings on investigations, studies and assumptions that they made, in addition to the information and materials provided by the Commission. Such ratings express only the views of the respective rating agencies. There is no assurance that the ratings mentioned above will remain in force for any given period of time or that the ratings may not be lowered or withdrawn by the rating agencies or any of them. Any such lowering or withdrawal of a rating may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds.

#### TAX MATTERS

The following discussion does not describe all aspects of federal income taxation that may be relevant to a particular holder of Bonds in light of his or her particular circumstances and income tax situation. Each holder of Bonds should consult such holder's tax advisor as to the specific tax consequences to such holder of the ownership and disposition of such Bonds, including the application of state, local, foreign and other tax laws.

### **State of Maryland Taxation**

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, interest on the Bonds and any profit from the sale or exchange thereof is exempt from taxation by the State of Maryland and its counties and municipalities; no opinion is expressed as to estate or inheritance taxes or any other taxes not levied or assessed directly on the interest on the Bonds. Interest on the Bonds may be subject to state or local income taxes in jurisdictions other than the State of Maryland under applicable state or local tax laws. Purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the taxable status of the Bonds in jurisdictions other than Maryland.

#### **Federal Income Taxation**

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing statutes, regulations and decisions, assuming compliance with certain covenants described herein, interest on the Bonds will be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), there are certain restrictions that must be met subsequent to the delivery of the Bonds, including restrictions that must be complied with throughout the term of the Bonds in order that the interest thereon be excludable from gross income. These include the following: (i) a requirement that certain earnings received from the investment of the proceeds of the Bonds be rebated to the United States of America under certain circumstances (or that certain payments in lieu of rebate be made); (ii) other requirements applicable to the investment of the proceeds of the Bonds; and (iii) other requirements applicable to the use of the proceeds of the Bonds and the facilities financed or refinanced with such proceeds. Failure to comply with one or more of these requirements could result in the inclusion of the interest payable on the Bonds in gross income for federal income tax purposes, effective from the date of their issuance. The Commission has covenanted to take all actions necessary to maintain the exemption of interest on the Bonds from federal income taxation in the Resolutions.

In rendering its opinion with respect to the Bonds, Bond Counsel will rely, without independent investigation, on certifications provided by the Commission with respect to certain material facts within its knowledge relevant to the tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds.

Further, under existing statutes, regulations and decisions, Bond Counsel is of the opinion that interest on the Bonds is not included in the alternative minimum taxable income of individuals, corporations or other taxpayers as an enumerated item of tax preference or other specific adjustment. However, for purposes of calculating the corporate alternative minimum tax, a corporation subject to such tax may be required to increase its alternative minimum taxable income by 75% of the amount by which its "adjusted current earnings" exceed its alternative minimum taxable income (computed without regard to this current earnings adjustment and the alternative tax net operating loss deduction). For such purposes, "adjusted current earnings" may include, among other items, interest income from the Bonds. In addition, interest income on the Bonds will be subject to the branch profits tax imposed by the Code on foreign corporations engaged in a trade or business in the United States of America.

See Appendix D – Form of Opinion of Bond Counsel.

### **Certain Other Federal Tax Consequences pertaining to Bonds**

There are other federal income tax consequences of ownership of obligations such as the Bonds under certain circumstances, including the following: (i) deductions are disallowed for certain expenses of taxpayers allocable to interest on tax-exempt obligations, as well as interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry tax-exempt obligations and interest expense of financial institutions allocable to tax-exempt interest; (ii) for property and casualty

insurance companies, the amount of the deduction for losses incurred must be reduced by 15% of the sum of tax-exempt interest received or accrued and the deductible portion of dividends received by such companies; (iii) interest income which is exempt from tax must be taken into account for the purpose of determining whether, and what amount of, social security or railroad retirement benefits are includable in gross income for federal income taxation purposes; (iv) for S corporations having Subchapter C earnings and profits, the receipt of certain levels of passive investment income, including interest on tax-exempt obligations such as the Bonds, can result in the imposition of tax on such passive investment income and, in some cases, loss of S corporation status; and (v) net gain realized upon the sale or other disposition of the Bonds generally must be taken into account when computing the 3.8% Medicare tax with respect to net investment income imposed on certain high income individuals and specified trusts and estates.

# **Tax Accounting Treatment of Discount Bonds**

Certain maturities of the Bonds may be issued at an initial public offering price which is less than the amount payable on such Bonds at maturity (the "Discount Bonds"). The difference between the initial offering price at which a substantial amount of the Discount Bonds of each maturity was first sold and the principal amount of such Discount Bonds payable at maturity constitutes the original issue discount. The amount of such original issue discount which is treated as having accrued with respect to such Discount Bonds is added to the original cost basis of the holder in determining, for federal income tax purposes, gain or loss upon disposition (including sale, early redemption or repayment at maturity). For federal income tax purposes (a) any holder of a Discount Bond will recognize gain or loss upon the disposition of such Discount Bond (including sale, early redemption or payment at maturity) in an amount equal to the difference between (i) the amount received upon such disposition and (ii) the sum of (1) the holder's original cost basis in such Discount Bond, and (2) the amount of original issue discount attributable to the period during which the holder held such Discount Bond, and (b) the amount of the basis adjustment described in clause (a)(ii)(2) will not be included in the gross income of the holder.

Original issue discount on Discount Bonds will be attributed to permissible compounding periods during the life of such Discount Bonds in accordance with a constant rate of interest accrual method. The yield to maturity of the Discount Bonds of each maturity is determined using permissible compounding periods. In general, the length of a permissible compounding period cannot exceed the length of the interval between debt service payments on the Discount Bonds and must begin or end on the date of such payments. Such yield then is used to determine an amount of accrued interest for each permissible compounding period. For this purpose, interest is treated as compounding periodically at the end of each applicable compounding period. The amount of original issue discount which is treated as having accrued in respect of a Discount Bond for any particular compounding period is equal to the excess of (a) the product of (i) the yield for such Discount Bond (adjusted as necessary for an initial short period) divided by the number of compounding periods in a year multiplied by (ii) the amount that would be the tax basis of such Discount Bond at the beginning of such period if held by an original purchaser who purchased at the initial public offering price, over (b) the amount actually payable as interest on such Discount Bond during such period. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the tax basis of a Discount Bond, if held by an original purchaser, can be determined by adding to the initial issue price of such Discount Bond, the original issue discount that is treated as having accrued during all prior compounding periods. If a Discount Bond is sold or otherwise disposed of between compounding dates, then interest which would have accrued for that compounding period for federal income tax purposes is to be apportioned in equal amounts among the days in such compounding period.

Holders of Discount Bonds should note that, under the tax regulations, the yield and maturity of a Discount Bond are determined without regard to commercially reasonable sinking fund payments and any original issue discount remaining unaccrued at the time that a Discount Bond is redeemed in advance of stated maturity will be treated as taxable gain. Moreover, tax regulations prescribe special conventions for determining the yield and maturity of certain debt instruments that provide for alternative payment schedules applicable upon the occurrence of certain contingencies.

The yields (and related prices) provided by the purchasers of the Bonds and shown on the inside cover of this Official Statement may not reflect the initial issue prices for purposes of determining the original issue discount for federal income tax purposes.

The foregoing summarizes certain federal income tax consequences of original issue discount with respect to the Discount Bonds but does not purport to deal with all aspects of federal income taxation that may be relevant to particular investors or circumstances, including those set out above. Prospective purchasers of Discount Bonds should consider possible state and local income, excise or franchise tax consequences arising from original issue discount on Discount

Bonds. In addition, prospective corporate purchasers should consider possible federal tax consequences arising from original issue discount on the Discount Bonds under the alternative minimum tax or the branch profits tax. The amount of original issue discount considered to have accrued may be reportable in the year of accrual for state and local tax purposes or for purposes of the branch profits tax without a corresponding receipt of cash with which to pay any tax liability attributable to such discount.

Purchasers with questions concerning the detailed tax consequences of transactions in the Discount Bonds should consult their tax advisors.

### Purchase, Sale and Retirement of Bonds

Except as noted below in the case of market discount, the sale or other disposition of a Bond will normally result in capital gain or loss to its holder. A holder's initial tax basis in a Bond will be its cost. Upon the sale or retirement of a Bond, for federal income tax purposes a holder will recognize capital gain or loss upon the disposition of such security (including sale, early redemption or payment at maturity) in an amount equal to the difference between (a) the amount received upon such disposition and (b) the tax basis in such Bond, determined by adding to the original cost basis in such Bond the amount of original issue discount that is treated as having accrued as described above under "Tax Accounting Treatment of Discount Bonds." Such gain or loss will be a long-term capital gain or loss if at the time of the sale or retirement, the Bond has been held for more than one year. Present law taxes both long and short-term capital gains of corporations at the rates applicable to ordinary income. For noncorporate taxpayers, however, short-term capital gains are taxed at the rates applicable to ordinary income, while net capital gains are taxed at lower rates. Net capital gains are the excess of net long-term capital gains (gains on capital assets held for more than one year) over net short-term capital losses.

### **Market Discount**

If a holder acquires a Bond after its original issuance at a discount (or in the case of a Bond issued at an original issue discount, at a price that produces a yield to maturity higher than the yield to maturity at which such Bond was first issued), the holder will be deemed to have acquired such Bond at "market discount," unless the amount of market discount is de minimis, as described in the following paragraph. If a holder that acquires a Bond with market discount subsequently realizes a gain upon the disposition of such Bond, such gain shall be treated as taxable interest income to the extent such gain does not exceed the accrued market discount attributable to the period during which the holder held such Bond, and any gain realized in excess of such market discount will be treated as capital gain. Potential purchasers should consult their tax advisors as to the proper method of accruing market discount.

In the case of a Bond not issued at an original issue discount, market discount will be de minimis if the excess of the stated redemption price of such Bond at maturity over the holder's cost of acquiring such Bond is less than 0.25% of the stated redemption price at maturity multiplied by the number of complete years between the date the holder acquires such Bond and its stated maturity date. In the case of a Bond issued with original issue discount, market discount will be de minimis if the excess of the revised issue price of such Bond over the holder's cost of acquiring such Bond is less than 0.25% of the revised issue price multiplied by the number of complete years between the date the holder acquires such Bond and its stated maturity date. For this purpose, the "revised issue price" of a Bond is the sum of (a) its original issue price and (b) the aggregate amount of original issue discount that is treated as having accrued with respect to such Bond during the period between its original issue date and the date of acquisition by the holder.

### **Amortizable Bond Premium**

A Bond will be considered to have been issued at a premium if, and to the extent that, the holder's tax basis in such Bond exceeds the amount payable at maturity (or, in the case of a Bond callable prior to maturity, the amount payable on the earlier call date). Under the tax regulations applicable to the Bonds, the amount of the premium would be determined with reference to the amount payable on that call date (including for this purpose the maturity date) which produces the lowest yield to maturity on such Bonds. The holder will be required to reduce his tax basis in such Bond for purposes of determining gain or loss upon disposition of the Bond by the amount of amortizable bond premium that accrues determined in the manner prescribed in the regulations. Generally, no deduction (or other tax benefit) is allowable in respect of any amount of amortizable bond premium on the Bonds.

### **Legislative Developments**

Legislation recently under consideration or proposed after issuance and delivery of the Bonds could adversely affect the market value of the Bonds. Further, if enacted into law, any such proposal could cause the interest on the Bonds to be subject, directly or indirectly, to federal income taxation and could otherwise alter or amend one or more of the provisions of federal tax law described above or their consequences. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult with their tax advisors as to the status and potential effect of any legislative proposals, as to which Bond Counsel expresses no opinion.

### CERTIFICATE CONCERNING OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds, one or more Officers of the Commission will certify that, to the best of their knowledge, the Official Statement did not as of its date, and does not as of the date of delivery of the Bonds, contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact which should be included therein for the purpose for which the Official Statement is to be used, or which is necessary in order to make the statements contained therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading in any material respect.

### SALE AT COMPETITIVE BIDDING

The Bonds were offered by the Commission by a competitive sale occurring on October 14, 2015, in accordance with the Notice of Sale. The Notice of Sale for the Bonds is attached hereto as part of Appendix F. The interest rates shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement for the Bonds are the interest rates resulting from the award of the Bonds at the competitive sale. The yields or prices shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement were furnished by the successful bidder for the Bonds. All other information concerning the nature and terms of any reoffering should be obtained from the successful bidder for the Bonds and not from the Commission.

### FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Public Advisory Consultants, Inc., Owings Mills, Maryland is an independent registered municipal advisor (the "Financial Advisor") that has rendered financial advice to the Commission regarding the issuance of the Bonds and the preparation of this Official Statement. The Financial Advisor has not been engaged, nor has it undertaken, to audit, authenticate or otherwise verify the information set forth in this Official Statement, or any other related information available to the Commission, with respect to accuracy and completeness of disclosure of such information. The Financial Advisor makes no guaranty, warranty or other representation respecting the accuracy and completeness of this Official Statement or any other matter related to the Official Statement. The Financial Advisor does not engage in the underwriting, selling, or trading of securities.

### APPROVAL OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The legality of the Bonds, based upon the documents and proceedings relative to the authorization, issuance and delivery thereof, is subject to the approval of McKennon Shelton & Henn LLP, Bond Counsel, whose approving opinions will be delivered with the Bonds. The proposed form of bond counsel opinion is set forth in Appendix D.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the Commission as of June 30, 2014 and 2013 and for the years then ended, included in Appendix A, have been audited by BCA Watson Rice LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their report appearing herein.

#### CONTINUING DISCLOSURE

The Commission will execute a Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the "Disclosure Undertaking") in connection with the issuance of the Bonds to assist the bidders in complying with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 (the "Rule") promulgated by the SEC pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The Disclosure Undertaking requires the Commission to file the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") through its Electronic Municipal Market Access system ("EMMA") (i) certain annual financial information and operating data and (ii) certain event notices. The form of the Disclosure Undertaking is attached as Appendix C. The Commission may amend the Disclosure Undertaking in the future so long as such amendments are consistent with the Rule as then in effect.

A default by the Commission under the Disclosure Undertaking is not an event of default with respect to the Bonds. Except as described below, during the last five years, the Commission has not failed to comply, in all material respects, with its continuing disclosure undertakings.

- Due to an administrative error, the Commission did not file updated financial information for fiscal year 2010 until October 28, 2011, however the Commission did post the required fiscal year 2010 financial information in the Official Statement dated September 14, 2010 for the \$240,000,000 Washington Suburban Sanitary District, Maryland Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2010.
- The Official Statement dated November 1, 2011 for the \$300,000,000 Washington Suburban Sanitary District, Maryland Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2011, containing the fiscal year 2011 additional financial information required to comply with the Commission's annual disclosure requirements for fiscal year 2011, was posted on EMMA but not posted as part of its annual disclosure information and cross referenced with the CUSIP numbers of the outstanding bonds.
- The Commission recently became aware that financial information posted on October 27, 2011 for fiscal year 2010 was not appropriately linked for Commission debt issued in 2002 and 2003. This administrative error was corrected by the Commission on June 17, 2015.
- Certain operating data for fiscal year 2011 was not appropriately linked to all of the outstanding bonds until June 17, 2015.
- Due to an administrative error, the Commission did not file updated operating data for fiscal year 2013 until April 18, 2014. The filing deadline was March 31, 2014.

The Commission has put in place internal procedures intended to ensure that all required information is provided to the MSRB for posting on EMMA on a timely basis in accordance with its continuing disclosure undertakings. All annual financial statements, operating data and event notices posted on EMMA are current as of the date of this Official Statement.

### APPROVAL OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT

The execution and delivery of this Official Statement have been approved by Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

### WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

Ву:	/s/ Adrienne A. Mandel
	Hon. Adrienne A. Mandel, Chair
By:	/s/ Jerry N. Johnson
	Jerry N. Johnson, General Manager/CEO

### APPENDIX A

AUDITOR'S REPORT DATED AUGUST 29, 2014, AND COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE, 30, 2014 AND 2013



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### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To The Commissioners of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission:

### **Report on Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), which comprise the balance sheets as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of WSSC as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Other Matter

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the accompanying management discussion and analysis on pages 3-10, the schedule of historical other pension information on page 34, and the schedule of historical other postemployment benefits information on page 35 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Washington, DC BCA Watson RRe LZP August 29, 2014

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (Unaudited)

This section of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of WSSC's financial performance for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013. GASB has issued Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*. This statement establishes accounting and financial reporting standards that reclassify, as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities and recognizes, as outflows of resources or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities. The statement is effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2012. To comply with GASB Statement No. 65, prior year balances were restated resulting in a net \$4.1 million decrease in net position as of June 30, 2013. A summary of the transactions and the impact of the restatements are illustrated in Note P of the financial statements.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Fiscal Year 2014

- WSSC maintained AAA bond ratings from Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service, and Standard & Poor's.
- In April 2014, WSSC issued \$150 million of Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds to fund new construction on rehabilitation and replacement of water and sewer mains.
- In April 2014, WSSC sold \$47,395,000 of refunding bonds with interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 5.00% to refund \$52,830,000 of outstanding callable water supply, sewage disposal and general construction bonds with interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 4.25%. The net proceeds of \$52,955,000 (including a premium of \$5,560,000) were used to purchase U.S. Government securities. Those securities were deposited with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments and the early redemption of callable bonds. The April 2014 refunding will reduce WSSC's total debt service payments over the next 9 years by \$5,439,000 and provide an economic gain of \$5,103,000.
- A Consent Decree with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Justice, the State of Maryland, and four environmental groups entered its ninth year. The Consent Decree formally identifies the remedial measures to eliminate and/or reduce sanitary sewer overflows. Costs of these remedial measures are estimated at \$1,825 million and are projected to be expended over 12 years, \$1,229 million of which is expected to be incurred after fiscal year 2014. The costs for each fiscal year are or will be included in WSSC's budget and capital improvements program.
- WSSC's operating revenues rose \$26.5 million due to a 6.4% increase in water and sewer billing rates.
- Operating expenses increased \$18.2 million, or 3.7%, during fiscal year 2014. Additions to capital assets placed in service in recent years resulted in a \$9.1 million escalation in depreciation and amortization expenses. The remaining increase in depreciation represents the write-off of net book values for assets that were decommissioned upon completion of upgraded or replacement facilities and equipment. Actuarially required costs for retirement benefits exceeded contributions, thereby increasing the related liability by \$7.3 million. Contributions for other postemployment benefits exceeded actuarially required costs, reducing the liability by \$3.7 million.
- Capital assets (water and sewer lines, water tanks, treatment plants, pumping stations, multipurpose facilities and other facilities), net of accumulated depreciation, increased by \$455.0 million, while overall debt increased \$76.6 million in comparison to the previous fiscal year.
- The increase in net position during the year included net income of \$90.9 million, and capital contributions of \$100.0 million.

#### Fiscal Year 2013

- WSSC maintained AAA bond ratings from Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service, and Standard & Poor's.
- In November 2012 and April 2013, WSSC issued \$250 million and \$150 million, respectively, of Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds to fund new construction on rehabilitation and replacement of water and sewer mains.
- In April 2013, WSSC sold \$101,560,000 of refunding bonds with interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 5.00% to refund \$105,820,000 of outstanding callable water supply, sewage disposal and general construction bonds with interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 5.00%. The net proceeds of \$111,394,000 (including a premium of \$10,217,000 and payment of \$130,000 of issuance costs) were used to purchase U.S. Government securities. Those securities were deposited with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments and the early redemption of callable bonds. The April 2013 refunding will reduce WSSC's total debt service payments over the next 19 years by \$9,186,000 and provide an economic gain of \$8,492,000.
- A Consent Decree with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Justice, the State of Maryland, and four environmental groups entered its eighth year. The Consent Decree formally identifies the remedial measures to eliminate and/or reduce sanitary sewer overflows. Costs of these remedial measures are estimated at \$1,735 million, \$1,272 million of which is expected to be incurred after fiscal year 2013. The costs for each fiscal year are or will be included in WSSC's budget and capital improvements program.
- WSSC's operating revenues rose \$14.3 million in fiscal 2013. A 6.9% increase in water and sewer billing rates was offset by a 3% decrease in the amount of water delivered to the system.
- Operating expenses increased \$29.1 million, or 6.3%, during fiscal year 2013. Increases in capital assets placed in service in recent years resulted in a \$8.9 million escalation in depreciation and amortization expenses. Salaries and wages rose \$5.3 million as a result of cost of living adjustments (COLA) and merit increases provided in fiscal year 2013. WSSC employees last received COLAs and merits in fiscal 2009. Actuarially required costs for retirement and other postemployment benefits exceeded contributions, thereby increasing the related liabilities by \$3.3 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. Maintenance costs increased \$8.8 million for sewer main inspections, cleaning and engineering services performed to comply with Consent Decree requirements.
- Capital assets (water and sewer lines, water tanks, treatment plants, pumping stations, multi-purpose facilities and other facilities), net of accumulated depreciation, increased by \$458.0 million, while overall debt increased \$367.5 million in comparison to the previous fiscal year.
- The increase in net position during the year included net income of \$77.4 million, and capital contributions of \$126.3 million.

### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of two parts - management's discussion and analysis and the required financial statements. The required financial statements consist of:

- Balance sheets
- Statements of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position
- Statements of cash flows
- Notes to the financial statements

The balance sheets provide a snapshot of WSSC's financial position at June 30, the end of the fiscal year. WSSC's balance sheets present current and long-term assets and liabilities as well as net position.

WSSC's statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position reflect activity for the fiscal years. These statements measure operating revenues and expenses as well as non-operating revenues and expenses. The statements also present capital contributions as well as changes in net position.

The statements of cash flows present WSSC's inflows and outflows of cash. Cash flows from operating activities, capital and related financing activities, and investment activities are shown separately. Cash provided by operating activities is reconciled to operating income. WSSC uses the direct method for presenting the statements of cash flows.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data.

WSSC operates as an enterprise fund, which is one type of proprietary fund. Enterprise funds operate similarly to private businesses in that charges for services to customers are expected to cover expenses. WSSC's financial statements are presented using the accrual basis of accounting and the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and liabilities are included in the financial statements. Revenue is recognized when water or other services are delivered. Expenses are recognized when goods and services are received. All revenues and expenses are recognized regardless of when cash is received or paid.

### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

### **Net Position**

#### Fiscal Year 2014

WSSC's net position increased 4.7% to \$4,266.7 million (See Table A-1). The majority of this increase is attributable to the change in the net investment in capital assets. Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, increased 7.9% to \$6,230.6 million. Unused bond proceeds at the end of the year were \$33.9 million. Investments of unused bond proceeds are restricted and classified as non-current assets. During fiscal year 2014, developers constructed \$37.5 million of capital assets and donated them to WSSC. Additional information is presented in the Capital Asset and Debt Administration section of this discussion.

Total debt, including current maturities increased to \$2,094.3 million. Capital contributions of \$62.5 (net of donated capital assets) million were available to finance capital projects during the year. These funding sources reduced the amount of bonds WSSC needed to sell for construction of water and sewer projects. A more detailed description of WSSC's debt can be found in Notes J and K of the financial statements.

#### Fiscal Year 2013

WSSC's net position increased 5.3% to \$4,075.8 million (See Table A-1). The majority of this increase is attributable to the change in the net investment in capital assets. Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, increased 8.6% to \$5,775.6 million. Unused bond proceeds at the end of the year were \$219.2 million. Investments of unused bond proceeds are restricted and classified as non-current assets. During fiscal year 2013, developers constructed \$21.5 million of capital assets and donated them to WSSC. Additional information is presented in the Capital Asset and Debt Administration section of this discussion.

Total debt, including current maturities increased to \$2,017.7 million. Capital contributions of \$104.8 (net of donated capital assets) million were available to finance capital projects during the year. These funding sources reduced the amount of bonds WSSC needed to sell for construction of water and sewer projects. A more detailed description of WSSC's debt can be found in Notes J and K of the financial statements.

TABLE A-1 WSSC's Condensed Balance Sheet (in millions of dollars)

	FY 2014	FY 2013 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2012 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2014 % Change	FY 2013 % Change
Current and other assets	\$ 432.0	\$ 615.7	\$ 453.2	(29.8)	35.9
Capital assets, net of accumulated					
depreciation	6,230.6	5,775.6	5,317.6	7.9	8.6
Total assets	6,662.6	6,391.3	5,770.8	4.2	10.8
Deferred amount from debt refunding	7.6	11.7	11.4	(35.0)	2.6
Total deferred outflows of resources	7.6	11.7	11.4	(35.0)	2.6
Current and other liabilities	595.8	591.8	541.5	0.7	9.3
Bonds and notes payable, net of					
current maturities	1,807.7	1,735.4	1,368.6	4.2	26.8
Total liabilities	2,403.5	2,327.2	1,910.1	3.3	21.8
Net position:					
Net investment in capital assets	4,078.0	3,881.7	3, 676.9	5.1	5.6
Restricted for growth construction	37.1	42.5	61.0	(12.7)	(30.3)
Unrestricted	151.6	151.6	134.2	0.0	13.0
Total net position	\$ 4,266.7	\$ 4,075.8	\$ 3,872.1	4.7	5.3

### **Changes in Net Position**

#### Fiscal Year 2014

WSSC's operating revenues rose \$26.5 million (See Table A-2) due to a 6.4% increase in water and sewer billing rates. Conversely, income from front foot benefit assessments and house connection charges continued to decline. Front foot benefit extensions and related house connections have been built primarily by outside developers for approximately fifteen years. Assessments for construction by WSSC prior to that time are collected over the remaining term of the debt utilized to finance the construction.

Operating expenses increased \$18.2 million, or 3.7%, during fiscal year 2014. Additions to capital assets placed in service in recent years resulted in a \$9.1 million escalation in depreciation and amortization expenses. The remaining increase in depreciation represents the write-off of net book values for assets that were decommissioned upon completion of upgraded or replacement facilities and equipment. Actuarially required costs for retirement benefits exceeded contributions, thereby increasing the related liability by \$7.3 million. Contributions for other postemployment benefits exceeded actuarially required costs, reducing the liability by \$3.7 million.

The net changes in revenues and expenses during the year resulted in a 17.4% increase in income before capital contributions to \$90.9 million. Capital contributions decreased by 20.8% to \$100.0 million. Grant revenue declined almost \$50 million due to the close out of Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) construction projects for WSSC and Blue Plains wastewater facilities. Donated assets, constructed and contributed by developers, increased \$16.0 million.

### Fiscal Year 2013

WSSC's operating revenues rose \$14.3 million (See Table A-2). A 6.9% increase in water and sewer billing rates was offset by a 3.0% decrease in the amount of water delivered to the system. Operating expenses increased \$29.1 million, or 6.3%, during fiscal year 2013. Increases in capital assets placed in service in recent years resulted in a \$8.9 million escalation in depreciation and amortization expenses. Salaries and wages rose \$5.3 million as a result of cost of living adjustments (COLA) and

merit increases provided in fiscal year 2013. WSSC employees last received COLAs and merits in fiscal 2009. Actuarially required costs for retirement and other postemployment benefits exceeded contributions, thereby increasing the related liabilities by \$3.3 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. Maintenance costs increased \$8.8 million for sewer main inspections, cleaning and engineering services performed to comply with Consent Decree requirements.

The net changes in revenues and expenses during the year resulted in a 20.9% decrease in income before capital contributions to \$77.4 million. Capital contributions increased by 22.1% to \$126.3 million. Grant revenue increased in excess of \$25 million to provide funding for Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) construction at WSSC and Blue Plains wastewater facilities.

TABLE A-2 WSSC's Condensed Changes in Net Position (in millions of dollars)

	FY 2014	FY 2013 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2012 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2014 % Change	FY 2013 % Change
Operating revenues	\$ 624.4	\$ 597.9	\$ 583.6	4.4	2.5
Operating expenses	(506.9)	(488.7)	(459.6)	(3.7)	(6.3)
Net non-operating revenues (expenses)	(26.6)	(31.8)	(26.2)	16.4	(21.3)
Income before capital contributions	90.9	77.4	97.8	17.4	(20.9)
Capital contributions	100.0	126.3	103.4	(20.8)	22.1
Changes in net position	\$ 190.9	\$ 203.7	\$ 201.2	(6.3)	1.2

### CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

#### **Capital Assets**

#### Fiscal Year 2014

As of June 30, 2014, WSSC had invested \$6,230.6 million, net of accumulated depreciation, in a broad range of capital assets including water and sewer lines, water tanks, treatment plants, pumping stations, multi-purpose facilities and other facilities. This amount represents a net increase of \$455.0 million, or 7.9%, over fiscal year 2013.

### Fiscal Year 2013

As of June 30, 2013, WSSC had invested \$5,775.6 million, net of accumulated depreciation, in a broad range of capital assets including water and sewer lines, water tanks, treatment plants, pumping stations, multi-purpose facilities and other facilities. This amount represents a net increase of \$458.0 million, or 8.6%, over fiscal year 2012.

TABLE A-3
WSSC's Capital Assets
(net of depreciation and impairment losses, in millions of dollars)

	FY 2014	FY 2013 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2012 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2014 % Change	FY 2013 % Change
Land and rights of way	\$ 78.0	\$ 78.0	\$ 78.0	0.0	0.0
Construction in progress	1,356.2	1,237.3	1,090.9	9.6	13.4
Water supply	1,405.1	1,296.0	1,115.1	8.4	16.2
Sewage disposal	1,932.9	1,711.7	1,568.0	12.9	9.2
General construction	1,377.0	1,379.9	1,392.8	(0.2)	(0.9)
Intangible assets	38.8	39.1	39.9	(0.8)	(2.0)
Other	42.6	33.6	32.9	26.8	2.1
Total capital assets	\$ 6,230.6	\$ 5,775.6	\$ 5,317.6	7.9	8.6

Capital assets completed and placed in service increased \$31.2 million or 7.1%, in comparison to fiscal year 2013. Rehabilitation or replacement of water and sewer mains and related house connections increased 40.0%, or \$64.1 million. Also, assets constructed and contributed by developers rose \$16.0 million. Major additions to capital assets being depreciated during fiscal years 2014 and 2013 are illustrated in Tables A-4 and A-5, respectively.

TABLE A-4
WSSC's Additions to Capital Assets Being Depreciated
Fiscal Year 2014
(in millions of dollars)

	Water	Sewage	General
	Supply	Disposal	Construction
Financed from proceeds of bonds, notes, operating			
revenues or capital contributions:			
Water and sewer mains	\$122.3	\$ 53.4	\$ 1.7
House connections	7.9	35.4	3.6
Water meters	0.9	0.9	
Water filtration plants	9.7		
Water pumping stations	4.1		
Wastewater treatment facilities		3.5	
Water storage facilities	1.5		
Wastewater pumping stations		8.8	
Joint-use facilities		157.4	
Miscellaneous assets	0.3	20.7	
Constructed and contributed by developers:			
House connections			4.7
Water and sewer mains			32.8
Wastewater pumping stations			
Total fiscal year 2014 additions to capital assets			
being depreciated	\$146.7	\$280.1	\$ 42.8

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## TABLE A-5 WSSC's Additions to Capital Assets Being Depreciated Fiscal Year 2013 (in millions of dollars)

	Water	Sewage	General
	Supply	Disposal	Construction
Financed from proceeds of bonds, notes, operating			
revenues or capital contributions:			
Water and sewer mains	\$ 67.4	\$ 50.0	\$ 8.1
House connections	8.3	23.8	2.6
Water meters	1.0	1.0	
Water filtration plants	128.6		
Water pumping stations	0.2		
Wastewater treatment facilities		47.6	
Water storage facilities	5.2		
Wastewater pumping stations		2.2	
Joint-use facilities		62.8	
Miscellaneous assets	2.2	4.5	1.5
Constructed and contributed by developers:			
House connections			2.7
Water and sewer mains	0.9	0.1	17.2
Wastewater pumping stations		0.5	
Total fiscal year 2013 additions to capital assets			
being depreciated	\$213.8	\$192.5	\$ 32.1

#### **Bonds and Notes Payable**

#### Fiscal Year 2014

At the end of fiscal year 2014, bonds and notes outstanding totaled \$2,094.3 million, a \$76.6 million increase in comparison to the previous fiscal year. In April 2014, WSSC issued \$150 million of Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds to fund new construction on rehabilitation and replacement of water and sewer mains.

In April 2014, WSSC sold \$47,395,000 of refunding bonds with interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 5.00% to refund \$52,830,000 of outstanding callable water supply, sewage disposal and general construction bonds with interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 4.25%. The net proceeds of \$52,955,000 (including a premium of \$5,560,000) were used to purchase U.S. Government securities. Those securities were deposited with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments and the early redemption of callable bonds. The April 2014 refunding will reduce WSSC's total debt service payments over the next 9 years by \$5,439,000 and provide an economic gain of \$5,103,000.

### Fiscal Year 2013

At the end of fiscal year 2013, bonds and notes outstanding totaled \$2,017.7 million, a \$367.5 million increase in comparison to the previous fiscal year. In November 2012 and April 2013, WSSC issued \$250 million and \$150, respectively, of Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds to fund new construction, focusing primarily on rehabilitation and replacement of water and sewer mains.

In April 2013, WSSC sold \$101,560,000 of refunding bonds with interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 5.00% to refund \$105,820,000 of outstanding callable water supply, sewage disposal and general construction bonds with interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 5.00%. The net proceeds of \$111,394,000 (including a premium of \$10,217,000 and payment of \$130,000 of issuance costs) were used to purchase U.S. Government securities. Those securities were deposited with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments and the early redemption of callable bonds. The April 2013 refunding will reduce

WSSC's total debt service payments over the next 19 years by \$9,186,000 and provide an economic gain of \$8,492,000.

In accordance with GASB 65, deferred amounts from debt refundings are illustrated as Deferred Outflows or Inflows of Resources on the Balance Sheet. This change was implemented in fiscal 2014 and balances for and 2013 and 2012 were restated (See Note P).

TABLE A-6 WSSC's Bonds and Notes Payable (in millions of dollars)

	FY 2014	FY 2013 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2012 As Restated (Note P)	FY 2014 % Change	FY 2013 % Change
Water supply	\$ 778.9	\$ 725.9	\$ 616.0	7.3	17.8
Sewage disposal	1,041.1	970.0	679.2	7.3	42.8
General construction	274.3	321.8	355.0	(14.8)	(9.4)
Total	2,094.3	2,017.7	1,650.2	3.8	22.3
Current maturities	286.6	282.3	281.7	1.5	0.2
Long-term portion	1,807.7	1,735.4	1,368.5	4.2	26.8
Total bonds and notes payable	\$ 2,094.3	\$ 2,017.7	\$ 1,650.2	3.8	22.3

### **Bond Ratings**

Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service, and Standard & Poor's assigned and affirmed ratings of 'AAA', 'Aaa', and 'AAA', respectively, on WSSC's outstanding water supply, sewage disposal and general construction general obligation bonds. The agencies identified strengths of the Commission in support of their ratings which include a sizeable, diverse tax base in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, good finances characterized by the self-supporting nature of the water and sewer system, and a skilled management team.

#### Limitations on Debt

Maryland law limits the amount of bonds and notes WSSC may have outstanding at any time. This limitation is generally based on legislated percentages of the real property assessable tax base and personal property and operating real property assessments within the Washington Suburban Sanitary District. As of June 30, 2014 and 2013, the calculated limits were \$9,197.3 million and \$9,180.9 million, respectively. WSSC's outstanding debt was significantly below those limits.

#### **BUDGET**

WSSC's operating and capital budgets are prepared annually utilizing the debt service method of accounting. These financial statements are presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Because different methods of accounting are utilized, comparisons of budgeted and actual revenues and expenses have not been presented.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Any questions regarding this report can be directed to the Finance Office at 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, Maryland, 20707. A copy of the report is also available on WSSC's website at <a href="https://www.wsscwater.com">www.wsscwater.com</a>.

### WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

### BALANCE SHEETS AS OF JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

(in thousands)

	<u>2014</u>	2013 As Restated
		(Note P)
ASSETS		(110101)
Current assets:		
Cash (Note B)	\$ 41,302	\$ 38,242
Investments (Note B)	179,226	188,982
Receivables, net (Note C) State grants receivable	124,532 24,793	111,548 24,372
Prepaid expenses	719	2,023
Materials and supplies, at average cost	13,513	13,422
Total current assets	384,085	378,589
Non-current assets:		
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation (Note D)	6,230,579	5,775,658
Investments restricted for capital construction (Note B)	33,882	219,201
Note receivable (Note E)	9,695	9,668
Federal and State grants receivable	4,375	8,172
Total non-current assets	6,278,531	6,012,699
Total assets	6,662,616	6,391,288
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred amount from debt refunding (Note F)	7,602	11,707
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$6,670,218</u>	<u>\$ 6,402,995</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Bonds and notes payable, current maturities (Notes J and K)	\$ 286,628	\$ 282,290
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	177,989	184,237
Accrued bond and note interest payable	14,695	14,630
Deposits and unearned revenue	3,032	2,065
Total current liabilities	482,344	483,222
Non-current liabilities:		
Bonds and notes payable, net of current maturities	1 007 660	1 725 410
(Notes J and K)	1,807,662	1,735,418
Long-term pension liability (Note L)	50,257	42,917
Other postemployment benefits liability (Note M) Deposits, unearned revenue and other long-term	33,071	36,756
liabilities (Note I)	30,216	28,887
Total non-current liabilities	1,921,206	1,843,978
Total liabilities	2,403,550	2,327,200
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	4,078,030	3,881,734
Restricted for growth construction	37,069	42,467
Unrestricted	151,569	151,594
Total net position	4,266,668	4,075,795
Total liabilities and net position	\$6,670,218	<u>\$6,402,995</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013 (in thousands)

	<u>2014</u>	2013 As Restated (Note P)
OPERATING REVENUES:		
Water consumption, sewer use and service charges	\$ 559,907	\$ 523,542
Front foot benefit assessments	30,926	38,076
House connection charges	7,978	9,250
Other	<u>25,547</u>	<u>27,025</u>
Total operating revenues	624,358	<u>597,893</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Operations	97,105	91,081
Maintenance	142,000	143,786
Intermunicipal agency sewage disposal	47,859	53,372
Administrative and general	77,305	73,579
Depreciation and amortization	<u>142,605</u>	<u>126,916</u>
Total operating expenses	506,874	488,734
Net operating revenues	117,484	109,159
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES):		
Interest on bonds and notes payable	(55,708)	(57,344)
Capitalized interest	26,753	22,662
Interest income on investments	290	466
Other interest income	2,072	2,465
Net non-operating expenses	(26,593)	(31,751)
Income before capital contributions	90,891	77,408
Capital contributions (Note G)	99,982	126,296
Changes in net position	190,873	203,704
Net position, beginning of the year (as originally reported)		3,875,430
Restatement for GASB 65 (Note P)		(3,339)
Net position, beginning of the year (as restated for 2013)	4,075,795	3,872,091
Net position, end of year	<u>\$4,266,668</u>	<u>\$4,075,795</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013 (in thousands)

	<u>2014</u>	2013
		As Restated
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		(Note P)
Receipts from water and sewer customers	\$ 548,840	\$ 526,916
Receipts from front foot benefit assessments	35,334	41,957
Receipts from house connection charges	8,781	8,628
Receipts from other customers and miscellaneous	58,095	61,161
Payments to employees	(148,760)	(145,019)
Payments to District of Columbia Water & Sewer Authority	(37,626)	(42,902)
Payments to suppliers and others	(194,592)	(173,794)
Net cash provided by operating activities	270,072	<u>276,947</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED		
FINANCING ACTIVITIES: Proceeds from bonds and notes	308,763	590,741
Capital contributions	104,660	125,158
Bond redemptions and note repayments	(235,182)	(269,883)
Interest payments, premiums and discounts on bonds and notes	(44,673)	(8,179)
Capital asset construction	(595,946)	(548,757)
Net cash used in capital and related financing activities	(462,378)	(110,920)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from the sale of investments	986,578	846,413
Purchases of investments	(791,583)	(1,001,725)
Interest income received	<u>371</u>	430
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>195,366</u>	(154,882)
Net increase in cash	3,060	11,145
Cash, beginning of year	38,242	27,097
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 41,302</u>	<u>\$ 38,242</u>
Reconciliation of net operating revenues to net cash provided by		
operating activities:	Φ 117 404	Φ 100 170
Net operating revenues	\$ 117,484	\$ 109,159
Adjustments to reconcile net operating revenues to		
net cash provided by operating activities:  Depreciation and amortization	153,768	137,081
Changes in assets, liabilities and deferred outflows of resources:	133,700	137,001
Receivables, net	(12,984)	6,643
Materials and supplies	(91)	528
Prepaid expenses	(489)	(63)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	8,491	21,191
Unearned revenue	966	(1,045)
Long-term pension liability	5,878	2,604
Long-term OPEB liability	(2,951)	849
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 270,072	<u>\$ 276,947</u>

### Noncash capital financing activities:

Capital assets of \$37,503 and \$21,540 were acquired through contributions from developers in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

### A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) is a bi-county political subdivision of the State of Maryland, created to provide water supply and sewage disposal services for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. The financial statements are presented using the accrual basis of accounting and the economic resources measurement focus. Significant accounting policies are summarized below.

### Operating and Non-operating Revenues and Expenses

Revenues and expenses derived from financing and investment activities are classified as non-operating revenues and expenses. All other revenues and expenses are classified as operating.

Water and sewer service rates are established to provide sufficient funds to recover operating costs and debt service relating to the water supply and sanitary sewer systems. Water and sewer revenues are recognized as water is delivered to the system.

Estimated intermunicipal agency sewage disposal expenses are paid quarterly. Adjustments resulting from audits and/or reconciliations of WSSC's share of estimated and actual expenses are recognized in the year of settlement.

Front foot benefit and house connection assessments levied on properties where water and/or sanitary sewer service is available are the principal source of funds to service general construction bond debt. Front foot benefit assessments are recorded as operating revenue ratably over the levy year; house connection assessments and fees are recognized as operating revenue over the life of the bonds issued to finance the house connections.

### **Capital Contributions**

In July 1993, a system development charge (SDC) was established to help finance the cost of expanding water and sewage systems to accommodate growth in the Washington Suburban Sanitary District. System development charges are recorded as capital contributions when received.

Developer fees and charges are established to recover costs related to services provided to outside developers for the construction of capital assets. These fees are recorded as capital contributions when received.

Federal and State grants are recognized as capital contributions when related capital costs are incurred.

Donated assets consist principally of capital assets constructed by developers and subsequently donated to WSSC. They are recorded at estimated fair value using developers' estimated costs to construct the assets or WSSC's estimated costs to construct similar assets. The capital assets, and related capital contributions, are recognized upon completion of construction.

A small portion of capital assets is related to donated assets acquired or constructed under a Department of Defense (DOD) contract executed during fiscal 2005 to operate and maintain the water and sewer systems at Bolling Air Force Base. Costs incurred by WSSC to acquire or enhance these systems are reimbursed by DOD and, consequently, recognized as capital assets and capital contributions.

WSSC follows Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 33, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions" (GASB No. 33). GASB No. 33 requires recognition of all contributions of capital assets, including donated assets, as revenues (capital contributions in the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position).

### A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Capital Assets

Capital assets include water and sewer lines, water distribution, wastewater collection and multi-purpose facilities, capital equipment and fleet. Capital assets are stated at historical costs, which include related payroll, payroll taxes, fringe benefits, administrative costs and interest capitalized during construction if applicable. Costs incurred for the purchase of software and water and wastewater capacity are treated as intangibles and amortized over the estimated useful life of the asset or the term of the contractual agreement.

### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated service lives of the property, which averaged 48 and 46 years in fiscal 2014 and 2013, respectively.

### <u>Inventory</u>

Materials and supplies inventory is recorded at weighted average cost and is reduced for estimated losses due to obsolescence.

### **Bond Refunding Costs**

The difference between the reacquisition price and the carrying value of refunded bonds is deferred and amortized to operations (see Note F).

#### Annual Leave

Employees earn annual leave based on length of service. Accumulated annual leave in excess of 360 hours at the end of each year is transferred to sick leave. At termination, employees will be paid for unused annual leave but will not receive any pay or time off for unused sick leave. At retirement, an employee may convert unused annual leave to sick leave. Unused sick leave at retirement may be credited to an employee's total service time for retirement benefit purposes. Annual leave earned but unused is accrued as a liability.

#### Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

### Reclassifications

The 2013 financial statements reflect certain reclassifications to conform with the 2014 presentation.

#### Net Position

Capital assets, as defined above, net of related outstanding debt represent the largest portion of WSSC's net position, or net investment in capital assets.

Net position associated with unspent SDC proceeds are restricted for growth construction.

Unrestricted net position is the residual amount not included in the other classifications.

### A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

### **Accounting Changes**

GASB has issued Statement No. 62, *Codification of Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB Pronouncements*. This statement combines the authoritative accounting and financial reporting of the FASB and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA"). The statement eliminates the need for financial statement preparers and auditors to determine which FASB and AICPA pronouncement provisions apply to state and local governments. The statement became effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and did not have a significant impact on WSSC's financial statements for 2014 and 2013.

GASB has issued Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflow of Resources, Deferred Inflow of Resources, and Net Position. The requirement of this statement standardizes the presentation of deferred inflows and outflows of resources, and their effects on a government's net position. This statement became effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The implementation of this statement to WSSC is limiting to renaming of "Net Assets" to "Net Position".

GASB has issued Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*. This statement establishes accounting and financial reporting standards that reclassify, as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities and recognizes, as outflows of resources or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities. The statement is effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2012 and was implemented in fiscal year 2014. Corresponding balances in 2013 were restated (See Note P).

GASB has issued Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. The primary objective of this statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local government employers about financial support for pensions that is provided by other entities. GASB has also issued Statement No. 71, Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 68. This statement addresses an issue relating to amounts associated with contributions, if any, made by a state or local government employer or nonemployer contributing entity to a defined pension plan after the measurement date of the government's beginning net pension liability. Both of these statements are effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2014. WSSC is evaluating the impact of this standard on the financial statements.

### B. CASH AND INVESTMENTS

At June 30, 2014 and 2013, cash per WSSC's records amounted to \$41,302,000 and \$38,242,000, respectively, and per reported bank balances was \$48,625,000 and \$55,576,000, respectively. All collected bank balance funds were secured by Federal depository insurance or by collateral held in WSSC's name under a tri-party collateral agreement with M&T and BNY Mellon.

### **B.** CASH AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

WSSC's investment policy conforms to Maryland laws on the investment of public monies. Consequently, WSSC is authorized to invest in the investment types identified in the table below. The table also identifies certain provisions of the Maryland law or WSSC investment policy, which address interest rate risk, credit risk and concentration of credit risk.

	Maximum	Maximum
Maximum	Percentage	Investment
<u>Maturity</u>	Of Portfolio	In One Issuer
1 year	None	None
1 year	None	None
6 months	None	20%
1 year	None	20%
1 year	5%	None
1 year	None	20%
	1 year 1 year 6 months 1 year 1 year	Maximum MaturityPercentage Of Portfolio1 yearNone1 yearNone6 monthsNone1 yearNone1 year5%

Any investment with a maturity in excess of 1 year must be approved by the Treasurer and will be limited to U.S. Government and Federal agency securities. The aggregated value of investments with any one bank or broker will not exceed 20% of the total investment portfolio at the time of investment, unless approved by the Investment Manager or Treasurer.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a failure of a financial institution, WSSC would not be able to recover deposits, the value of its investments, or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Maryland State law requires that collateral shall be maintained for all deposits and certificates of deposit with amounts in excess of Federal insurance coverage. State law also requires the securities collateralizing repurchase agreements have a market value of at least 102 percent of the principal of the investment plus accrued interest. At June 30, 2014 and 2013, all WSSC investments, or the collateral securities for such investments, were held by various Trust Companies in WSSC's name. None of these investments required securities to be held by a broker's or dealer's trust department or agent in WSSC's name.

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. As of June 30, 2014 and 2013, all of WSSC's investments had remaining maturities of 1 year or less.

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. Credit risk is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. WSSC may invest in bankers' acceptances and commercial paper having a short-term rating of the highest letter and numerical rating issued by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization. WSSC does not have a formal policy for other investment types; however virtually all remaining investments are in, or collateralized by, Federal agency securities. Actual ratings as of June 30, 2014 and 2013 are presented below for each investment type.

WSSC investments are recorded at amortized cost. Recorded amounts approximate fair value.

### B. <u>CASH AND INVESTMENTS</u> (continued)

Investments at June 30, 2014 (in thousands):

Investment Type	Credit <u>Rating</u>	Remaining Maturity	Cost	Fair <u>Value</u>
Repurchase agreements	Aaa	1 year or less	\$ 23,139	\$ 23,139
Federal agency securities	Aaa	1 year or less	189,969	189,973
Total investments (includes \$70,951 restricted for capital projects, \$33,882 of which is classified as non-current)			<u>\$213,108</u>	<u>\$213,112</u>
Investments at June 30, 2013 (in thousands):				
Investment Type	Credit Rating	Remaining <u>Maturity</u>	Cost	Fair <u>Value</u>
Repurchase agreements	Aaa	1 year or less	\$ 8,231	\$ 8,231
Federal agency securities	Aaa	1 year or less	399,952	400,045
Total investments (includes \$261,668 restricted to capital projects, \$219,201 of which is classified a non-current)			<u>\$408,183</u>	<u>\$408,276</u>

On August 5, 2011, Standard & Poor's downgraded the U.S. government's credit rating to AA+ and issued a negative outlook. Moody's Investor Services and Fitch Ratings maintained their respective Aaa and AAA ratings, but changed the outlook to negative on June 2, 2011 and November 28, 2011, respectively. Standard & Poor's, Fitch and Moody's Investor Services revised the credit rating outlook for the U.S. government from negative to stable on June 10, 2013, June 28, 2013 and July 18, 2014, respectively, which was confirmed by all with the fiscal year 2014 issuance.

WSSC records investments in money market instruments such as repurchase agreements and U.S. government securities with original maturities at acquisition of less than 1 year at cost, which approximates fair value.

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss due to the magnitude of WSSC's investment in the securities of any single issuer. The investment policy of WSSC contains no limitations on the amount that can be invested in any one issuer. Investments in any one issuer that represent 5% or more of total investments are as follows:

<u>Issuer</u>	Investment <u>Type</u>	Reported Amount at June 30, 2014 (in thousands)
FNMA	Federal agency securities	\$165,975
FHLMC	Federal agency securities	24,994
<u>Issuer</u>	Investment <u>Type</u>	Reported Amount at June 30, 2013 (in thousands)
FNMA	Federal agency securities	\$129,976
FHLB	Federal agency securities	129,987
FHLMC	Federal agency securities	139,989

### C. <u>RECEIVABLES</u>

Receivables consisted of the following at June 30 (in thousands):

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Front foot benefit assessments accrued and billed	\$ 17,006	\$ 21,609
Water and sewer services unbilled	54,954	46,927
Water and sewer services billed	44,533	40,468
Miscellaneous	17,482	10,017
	133,975	119,021
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(9,443)	<u>(7,473</u> )
Total receivables, net	<u>\$ 124,532</u>	<u>\$111,548</u>

### D. <u>CAPITAL ASSETS</u>

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2014 was as follows (in thousands):

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:			-	
Land and rights of way	\$ 78,013	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 78,013
Construction in progress	1,237,329	550,603	(431,710)	1,356,222
Total capital assets not being depreciated	1,315,342	550,603	(431,710)	1,434,235
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Water supply	1,863,196	146,738	(3,978)	2,005,956
Sewage disposal	2,490,536	280,084	(8,239)	2,762,381
General construction	2,410,906	42,801	(1,697)	2,452,010
Intangible assets	50,359	732		51,091
Other	121,547	<u>19,497</u>	(5,103)	135,941
Total capital assets being depreciated	6,936,544	489,852	(19,017)	7,407,379
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Water supply	(567,137)	(37,736)	3,978	(600,895)
Sewage disposal	(778,885)	(56,525)	5,967	(829,443)
General construction	(1,030,977)	(45,763)	1,697	(1,075,043)
Intangible assets	(11,267)	(1,042)	_	(12,309)
Other	(87,962)	(10,430)	5,047	(93,345)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(2,476,228)</u>	<u>(151,496</u> )	16,689	(2,611,035)
Capital assets being depreciated, net	4,460,316	338,356	(2,328)	4,796,344
Total capital assets, net	<u>\$5,775,658</u>	<u>\$ 888,959</u>	<u>\$(434,038)</u>	\$6,230,579

### D. <u>CAPITAL ASSETS</u> (continued)

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2013 was as follows (in thousands):

	Beginning <a href="Balance">Balance</a>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	Ending <u>Balance</u>
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land and rights of way	\$ 78,013	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 78,013
Construction in progress	1,090,859	563,468	(416,998)	1,237,329
Total capital assets not being depreciated	1,168,872	563,468	(416,998)	1,315,342
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Water supply	1,649,484	213,749	(37)	1,863,196
Sewage disposal	2,298,008	192,530	(2)	2,490,536
General construction	2,379,767	32,079	(940)	2,410,906
Intangible assets	50,175	184	_	50,359
Other	115,755	10,204	(4,412)	121,547
Total capital assets being depreciated	6,493,189	448,746	(5,391)	6,936,544
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Water supply	(534,337)	(32,838)	37	(567,137)
Sewage disposal	(730,026)	(48,861)	2	(778,885)
General construction	(987,009)	(44,908)	940	(1,030,977)
Intangible assets	(10,268)	(999)	_	(11,267)
Other	(82,842)	<u>(9,475</u> )	4,356	(87,962)
Total accumulated depreciation	(2,344,482)	(137,081)	5,335	(2,476,228)
Capital assets being depreciated, net	4,148,707	311,665	<u>(56</u> )	4,460,316
Total capital assets, net	<u>\$5,317,579</u>	\$ 875,133	<u>\$(417,054</u> )	\$5,775,658

Purchased software and related development stage costs of \$0.7 million and \$1.5 million were capitalized in accordance with GASB Statement No. 51, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Intangible Assets* in fiscal years 2014 and 2013, respectively. Costs of \$6.8 million are included in the Construction in Progress balance as of June 30, 2014 and will commence amortization upon implementation of the software. Intangible assets include the balance of costs placed in service, net of accumulated amortization, of \$1.7 million and \$1.4 million in fiscal 2014 and 2013, respectively.

An intangible asset for purchased capacity has been established for WSSC's share of capital costs in the Jennings Randolph Reservoir (Bloomington Dam). The Reservoir provides backup and peak-day water supply to WSSC and is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District. WSSC funds 50% of the capital costs, and intangible asset balances of \$28.2 million and \$28.4 million, for fiscal years 2014 and 2013, respectively, are included above.

In addition, WSSC participates in the funding of capital costs for the Mattawoman and Poolesville Wastewater Treatment Plants through agreements with Charles County and the Town of Poolesville, respectively. In exchange for this participation, WSSC obtains the right to discharge wastewater from the Washington Suburban Sanitary District into said facilities. Asset balances, net of accumulated amortization, totaling \$9.0 million and \$9.3 million, for fiscal years 2014 and 2013, respectively, are included in intangible assets above.

The amount shown in the statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets for depreciation and amortization does not include depreciation of vehicles and equipment. Depreciation of these assets, \$10.4 million in fiscal 2014 and \$9.5 million in fiscal 2013, is classified with other related operating and maintenance costs.

### E. NOTE RECEIVABLE

On April 4, 2007, WSSC entered into a Purchase and Sale Contract with Montgomery County for the County's purchase of WSSC's property which previously was the site of a biosolids composting facility. On January 15, 2009, the closing date of the sale, WSSC received a promissory note in the amount of \$10,000,000 from Montgomery County.

Interest accrues at a rate of 4.43%, commencing six months after the execution of the promissory note. Under the provisions of the promissory note, the minimum annual payment by Montgomery County is \$400,000 and is due on July 15, 2009 and annually thereafter. Payments shall be allocated first to interest, then to principal. At June 30, 2014 and 2013, the balance of this Note Receivable was \$9.7 million.

As Montgomery County develops the property, additional payments become due when a 'Payment Event' occurs. A 'Payment Event' is defined as a sale or ground lease of a parcel or the commencement of initial construction on a parcel. The additional payment shall be applied to the minimum annual payment amount. Montgomery County is obligated to pay additional payments for amounts in excess of the minimum annual payment.

The principal portion of additional payments shall be at least determined based upon the ratio of the developable square feet (DSF) of the sold or developed parcel to the sum of the DSF of the sold or developed parcel plus the total DSF of the unsold parcels. Interest shall be the outstanding unpaid interest accrued as of the date of the applicable Payment Event.

The promissory note matures upon the earlier of January 15, 2024, (fifteenth anniversary of the date of the note) or the date for the Payment Event for the last parcel for which an additional payment is due.

### F. DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that is applicable to a future period. Deferred losses on bond refundings result from the difference between the carrying value of the refunded debt and its reacquisition price. Net losses are deferred and amortized over the life of the refunded or refunding debt, whichever is shorter.

### G. CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Capital contributions consisted of the following for the years ended June 30 (in thousands):

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
System development charges	\$ 27,945	\$ 25,056
Developer fees	5,238	3,589
Federal and State grants	29,296	76,111
House connections	4,709	2,721
Other construction projects	_ 32,794	18,819
Total	\$ 99,98 <u>2</u>	\$126,296

### H. COMPENSATED ABSENCE LIABILITY

Compensated absence liability activity consisted of the following for the years ended June 30 (in thousands):

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Compensated absence liability – beginning of year	\$ 10,849	\$ 10,817
Increases (incurred)	8,986	8,719
Decreases	<u>(8,681</u> )	(8,687)
Compensated absence liability – end of year	<u>\$ 11,154</u>	<u>\$ 10,849</u>

This liability is included in accounts payable and accrued expenses on the balance sheet.

### I. DEPOSITS, UNEARNED REVENUE AND OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Deposits, unearned revenue and other long-term liabilities consisted of the following at June 30 (in thousands):

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Unearned revenue for house connections	\$ 18,950	\$ 19,555
Unearned front foot benefit revenue	1,320	1,501
Other unearned revenue	965	479
Construction deposits	1,835	1,480
House connection deposits	4,804	3,760
Other	2,342	2,112
Total	<u>\$ 30,216</u>	\$ 28,887

### J. BONDS AND NOTES PAYABLE

Bonds and notes payable activity for the year ended June 30, 2014 was as follows (in thousands):

	Beginning Balance As Restated	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Current Maturities
Bonds and notes payable:					
Water supply	\$ 685,188	\$ 177,705	\$ (126,250)	\$ 736,643	\$ 136,038
Sewage disposal	912,966	202,110	(131,599)	983,477	100,004
General construction	308,702	58,887	(107,271)	260,318	50,586
	1,906,856	438,702	(365,120)	1,980,438	286,628
Plus unamortized premium/discount	110,852	17,458	(14,458)	113,852	
Total bonds and notes payable	\$ 2,017,708	<u>\$ 456,160</u>	<u>\$ (379,578)</u>	\$ 2,094,290	\$ 286,628

### J. BONDS AND NOTES PAYABLE (continued)

Restated (see Note P) bonds and notes payable activity for the year ended June 30, 2013 was as follows (in thousands):

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Current Maturities
Bonds and notes payable:					
Water supply	\$ 592,684	\$ 176,785	\$ (84,281)	\$ 685,188	\$ 105,045
Sewage disposal	648,601	350,980	(86,615)	912,966	114,358
General construction	344,713	62,974	(98,985)	308,702	62,887
	1,585,998	590,739	(269,881)	1,906,856	282,290
Plus unamortized premium/discount	64,217	56,868	(10,233)	110,852	
Total bonds and notes payable	<u>\$ 1,650,215</u>	<u>\$ 647,607</u>	<u>\$ (280,114)</u>	\$ 2,017,708	<u>\$ 282,290</u>

In accordance with GASB 65, deferred amounts from debt refundings are now illustrated as Deferred Outflows or Inflows of Resources on the Balance Sheet. This change was implemented in fiscal 2014 and balances for 2013 and 2012 were restated (See Note P).

The unamortized amounts above represent premiums received on outstanding debt issuances.

Bonds payable accrue interest at rates ranging from 0.8% to 6.0%, with an effective interest rate of 3.85% at June 30, 2014. All bonds payable at June 30, 2014, exclusive of refunded bonds, are due serially through the year 2044. Generally, the bonds are callable at a premium after a specified number of years.

In April 2014, WSSC issued \$150 million of Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds to fund new construction on rehabilitation and replacement of water and sewer mains. WSSC issued \$150 million and \$250 million, respectively, of Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds in April 2013 and November 2012 to fund new construction.

In September 2010, WSSC issued \$240 million of Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds in two series; \$120 million in Tax-Exempt Bonds, Series 2010A and \$120 million in Taxable Build America Bonds - Direct Payment to the Issuer, Series 2010B. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 created the Build America Bonds program. This program is intended to assist state and local municipalities in issuing debt. One provision of the program is for issuance of taxable Build America Bonds to finance capital expenditures while providing a federal subsidy of 35% of the interest payment to the issuer. Due to government sequestration enacted in March 2013, the December 1, 2013 and June 1, 2014 subsidies were reduced by 2.6%. The subsidy is payable over the life of the issue, and in the schedule below it is assumed that the remainder of subsidy payments will be made at the original 35%.

Bond and note maturities and interest thereon, including Taxable Build America Bond subsidies, for the next five years are as follows (in thousands):

Year ended June 30	Principal <u>Maturities</u>	Interest <u>Requirements</u>	Build America Bond Subsidies
2015	\$286,628	\$ 75,239	\$ (3,279)
2016	133,997	69,174	(3,279)
2017	130,533	63,145	(3,279)
2018	128,433	59,545	(3,279)
2019	122,219	53,481	(3,280)

### J. BONDS AND NOTES PAYABLE (continued)

Bond and note maturities and interest thereon, including Taxable Build America Bond subsidies, in five-year increments for fiscal years after 2018 are as follows (in thousands):

Year ended June 30	Principal Maturities	Interest <u>Requirements</u>	Build America Bond Subsidies
2020-2024	\$547,403	\$ 190,597	\$(14,082)
2025-2029	430,420	90,590	(6,285)
2030-2034	142,251	23,763	(204)
2035-2039	30,415	8,890	_
2034-2044	28,139	3,123	_

Bond Anticipation Notes (the Notes) are remarketed weekly by WSSC's remarketing agent at prevailing weekly tax-exempt interest rates. Interest rates on the Notes ranged from 0.02% to 0.12% during fiscal 2014, and from 0.07% to 0.26% during fiscal 2013. Any or all buyers of the Notes may demand payment from WSSC's remarketing agent upon seven days' notice. WSSC's remarketing agent is prepared to remarket the Notes in such eventuality. The Notes were sold under a bank line of credit agreement which acts as a guarantee of liquidity for the Notes in the event that the Notes cannot be remarketed. On August 28, 2013, the Commission replaced the series "A" notes with two separate series (A&B), each backed by their own line of credit. The maximum amount available under each line of credit which expires in August 2016 and is subject to certain conditions is \$107.5 million. In aggregate, the total line of credit is \$215 million.

At June 30, 2014 and 2013, \$150.1 million and \$130.1 million respectively, of the Notes were outstanding. WSSC expects to redeem these Notes with proceeds of future bond issues or annual amortization. On February 26, 2014, WSSC issued \$50 million in Series B Notes. The Commission redeemed \$30 million in Notes on June 2, 2014 as part of the water, sewer and general debt service amortization. The Notes are treated as bonds, and as such, are expected to be amortized over a 20-year term. However, because these Notes are callable, the entire \$150.1 million has been included in current maturities (fiscal 2015 principal maturities), and an estimated \$5.3 million has been included in the fiscal 2015 interest requirements. Additional estimated interest requirements at prevailing rates through 2034 on these Notes, assuming future redemption from proceeds of bonds, would total \$55.2 million.

On July 15, 2005, WSSC commenced work on a utility service contract with the U.S. Department of Defense to operate and maintain the Bolling Air Force Base water distribution and wastewater collection systems. Under the terms of this contract, WSSC acquired the existing water and sewer systems for \$1.0 million and \$4.3 million, respectively. Corresponding notes payable accrue interest at 7.0% over a 30-year term.

Since November 1989, WSSC has participated in a loan program established by the State of Maryland to loan money to Maryland municipalities for local water and sewer projects. The program, known as the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, is designed to offer these municipalities loans at reduced interest rates. As of June 30, 2014, WSSC borrowed \$300.0 million from the program. The total principal balance outstanding as of June 30, 2014 and 2013 was \$201.7 million and \$146.6 million, respectively.

Proceeds of notes payable to the Federal government were used to make improvements to the Jennings Randolph Reservoir for backup and peak-day water supply. The note payable accrues interest at 3.25% and balances outstanding at June 30, 2014 and 2013 were \$23.3 million and \$23.9 million, respectively.

WSSC is in compliance with all terms of its debt agreements at June 30, 2014 and 2013.

### K. BOND REFUNDINGS

In April 2014, WSSC sold \$47,395,000 of refunding bonds with interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 5.00% to refund \$52,830,000 of outstanding callable water supply, sewage disposal and general construction bonds with interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 4.25%. The net proceeds of \$52,955,000 (including a premium of \$5,560,000) were used to purchase U.S. Government securities. Those securities were deposited with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments and the early redemption of callable bonds. The April 2014 refunding will reduce WSSC's total debt service payments over the next 9 years by \$5,439,000 and provide an economic gain of \$5,103,000.

In April 2013, WSSC sold \$101,560,000 of refunding bonds with interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 5.00% to refund \$105,820,000 of outstanding callable water supply, sewage disposal and general construction bonds with interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 5.00%. The net proceeds of \$111,394,000 (including a premium of \$10,217,000) were used to purchase U.S. Government securities. Those securities were deposited with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments and the early redemption of callable bonds. The April 2013 refunding will reduce WSSC's total debt service payments over the next 14 years by \$9,186,000 and provide an economic gain of \$8,492,000.

As a result of the refundings, the refunded bonds are considered to be defeased and the liability is not reflected in the financial statements.

WSSC has sold refunding bonds totalling \$3,371,580,000 for the purpose of refunding and defeasing \$3,252,855,000 of outstanding bonds. The purpose of these refundings was to reduce total debt service payments over the remaining life of the refunded bonds and to obtain an economic gain (difference between the present value of the old and new debt service payments) from the transactions.

Prior to fiscal 1994, these refundings were accounted for in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 76, *Extinguishment of Debt*. At the time of the respective refundings, WSSC recognized extraordinary losses aggregating approximately \$89,726,000 resulting from the issuance of additional principal. However, interest savings over the remaining terms of the refunded bonds are estimated to aggregate approximately \$191,863,000.

Effective July 1, 1993, WSSC adopted GASB Statement No. 23, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Refundings of Debt Reported by Proprietary Activities. GASB No. 23 requires deferral of the difference between the reacquisition price and the carrying amount of the old debt. The difference is reported in the accompanying financial statements as a deferred outflow of resources and is being amortized to interest on bonds and notes through the year 2029 using the proportionate-to-stated interest method. Amortization totaling \$1,854,000 and \$2,792,000 in fiscal 2014 and 2013, respectively, was recorded as interest on bonds and notes payable in the accompanying statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position.

### K. <u>BOND REFUNDINGS</u> (continued)

Details of the current and prior years' refunding are shown in the table below (in thousands):

	Remaining			Extraordinary	
		•		•	Deferred
Bonds Bonds	<u>Date</u>	<u>Bonds</u>	<u>Savings</u>	<u>Recognized</u>	Loss/(Gain)
\$ 52,830	9 years	\$ 47,395	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ (663)
105,820	14 years	101,560	4,926	-	4,098
79,730	20 years	83,965	5,622	-	4,467
80,360	19 years	82,285	5,544	-	1,989
63,980	20 years	62,510	731	-	2,880
271,815	19 years	266,395	10,059	-	14,941
14,500	11 years	15,780	3,107	-	1,103
70,485	11 years	70,590	5,435	-	2,352
454,905	17 years	428,945	22,269	-	23,612
43,610	10 years	43,705	4,483	-	904
100,150	14 years	100,095	9,672	-	(110)
42,400	14 years	45,265	4,967	-	2,712
74,375	23 years	79,600	7,467	-	4,595
437,695	22 years	435,675	84,556	-	42,761
243,835	22 years	278,730	38,845	-	28,155
127,975	21 years	139,705	12,908	7,730	-
50,475	20 years	54,775	4,896	4,200	-
88,355	24 years	95,435	8,083	5,580	-
229,775	23 years	248,865	22,276	10,944	-
48,395	21 years	53,885	6,700	4,216	-
64,160	22 years	74,680	15,000	9,182	-
149,055	29 years	174,490	27,000	18,542	-
111,750	23 years	118,015	18,000	11,002	-
24,765	23 years	29,210	8,000	3,797	-
221,660	23 years	242,025	69,000	14,533	-
	105,820 79,730 80,360 63,980 271,815 14,500 70,485 454,905 43,610 100,150 42,400 74,375 437,695 243,835 127,975 50,475 88,355 229,775 48,395 64,160 149,055 111,750 24,765	Amount of Refunded         Term at Refunding           Bonds         Date           \$ 52,830         9 years           105,820         14 years           79,730         20 years           80,360         19 years           63,980         20 years           271,815         19 years           14,500         11 years           70,485         11 years           43,610         10 years           100,150         14 years           42,400         14 years           437,695         22 years           243,835         22 years           243,835         22 years           50,475         20 years           88,355         24 years           229,775         23 years           48,395         21 years           64,160         22 years           11,750         23 years           24,765         23 years	Amount of Refunded         Term at Refunding         Amount of Refunding           Bonds         Date         Bonds           \$ 52,830         9 years         \$ 47,395           105,820         14 years         101,560           79,730         20 years         83,965           80,360         19 years         82,285           63,980         20 years         62,510           271,815         19 years         266,395           14,500         11 years         15,780           70,485         11 years         70,590           454,905         17 years         428,945           43,610         10 years         43,705           100,150         14 years         100,095           42,400         14 years         45,265           74,375         23 years         79,600           437,695         22 years         278,730           127,975         21 years         54,775           88,355         24 years         95,435           229,775         23 years         248,865           48,395         21 years         53,885           64,160         22 years         74,680           149,055         2	Amount of Refunded         Term at Refunding         Amount of Refunding         Estimated Interest           Bonds         Date         Bonds         Savings           \$ 52,830         9 years         \$ 47,395         \$ 2           105,820         14 years         101,560         4,926           79,730         20 years         83,965         5,622           80,360         19 years         82,285         5,544           63,980         20 years         62,510         731           271,815         19 years         266,395         10,059           14,500         11 years         15,780         3,107           70,485         11 years         70,590         5,435           454,905         17 years         428,945         22,269           43,610         10 years         43,705         4,483           100,150         14 years         100,095         9,672           42,400         14 years         45,265         4,967           74,375         23 years         79,600         7,467           437,695         22 years         278,730         38,845           127,975         21 years         139,705         12,908	Amount of Refunded Refunding Bonds         Term at Date         Amount of Refunding Bonds         Estimated Interest Previously Recognized           \$ 52,830         9 years         \$ 47,395         \$ 2         \$ -           105,820         14 years         101,560         4,926         -           79,730         20 years         83,965         5,622         -           80,360         19 years         82,285         5,544         -           63,980         20 years         62,510         731         -           271,815         19 years         266,395         10,059         -           14,500         11 years         15,780         3,107         -           70,485         11 years         70,590         5,435         -           454,905         17 years         428,945         22,269         -           43,610         10 years         43,705         4,483         -           100,150         14 years         100,095         9,672         -           42,400         14 years         45,265         4,967         -           437,695         22 years         278,730         38,845         -           127,975         21 years         1

The refunded bonds continue to be general obligations of WSSC until redeemed or called. However, the net proceeds of the refunding bonds were applied toward the purchase of U.S. Government obligations (held in escrow) with maturities and interest sufficient to meet debt service and call premiums, if any, on the refunded bonds. The holders of the refunded bonds have first lien on all assets held in escrow. Refunded bonds outstanding at June 30, 2014 and 2013, which amounted to \$129,730,000 are considered to be defeased and are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

### L. RETIREMENT PLAN

### Plan Description

Substantially all WSSC employees participate in the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Employees' Retirement Plan (the Plan), which is administered by WSSC. The Plan, established in 1967, is a single-employer contributory defined benefit retirement plan. The Commission has been designated as the Plan sponsor and materially significant amendments to the Plan must be approved by the Commission. Effective July 1, 1978, WSSC approved a new version of the Plan (Open Version). Members of the Plan as of June 30, 1978 had an option through December 31, 1978 to be included in the Open Version or to continue participation in the original version of the Plan (Closed Version). The Open Version is mandatory for all new employees. It generally provides for reduced employee contributions and benefits.

### L. <u>RETIREMENT PLAN</u> (continued)

The Plan requires employees under the Closed Version to contribute 6% of gross wages and employees under the Open Version to contribute 3% of gross wages as a condition of employment. Upon withdrawal from the Plan, participants are refunded their contributions plus 5% interest thereon.

The Plan provides for 100% vesting of retirement benefits after five years of credited service. Generally, the normal retirement benefits payable to an eligible participant are equal to the sum of 2.1% of the participant's final average monthly compensation times Closed Version credited service, if applicable, plus 1.4% of final average monthly compensation, as defined, times Open Version credited service.

### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The information presented in the required supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuations at the dates indicated. Significant actuarial assumptions used in the most recent valuation, as of June 30, 2013 are as follows:

age
E

normal method.

Rate of return on investments 8.0%

Yearly increase in cost of living 3.5%

Yearly increase in salary scale 5.0%

Yearly increase in total payroll 5.0%

Annual rates of severance prior to retirement Severance due to withdrawal is based on WSSC

experience. Severance due to mortality or disability is based on published rates adjusted to reflect actual

experience.

Mortality rates after retirement Retirement Plan – 2000 Healthy Annuitant tables

for non-disability pensioners.

Group Annuity – 1983 tables assumed forward ten

years for disability retirement pensioners.

Retirement age assumptions Ranging from age 45 to 69

### Actuarially Determined Contribution Requirements

### And Contribution Made

WSSC's retirement plan funding policy provides for actuarially determined yearly contributions calculated on a level percentage of payroll costs basis. The covered payroll used by the actuary in determining the contribution was \$117,393,000, and the total actual payroll was \$118,150,000. The significant actuarial assumptions used to compute the actuarially determined contribution requirement are the same as those previously described.

### L. RETIREMENT PLAN (continued)

WSSC's annual pension cost and long-term pension liability for fiscal years 2014 and 2013 were (in thousands):

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Annual required contribution	\$22,080	\$19,097
Interest on long-term pension liability	3,723	3,179
Adjustment	<u>601</u>	
Annual pension cost	26,404	22,276
Contributions made	<u>(19,064</u> )	<u>(19,000</u> )
Increase in long-term pension liability	7,340	3,276
Long-term pension liability – beginning of year	42,917	39,641
Long-term pension liability – end of year	<u>\$50,257</u>	<u>\$42,917</u>

The difference between the amount contributed and the amount charged to operating expenses and capital assets is recorded as a change to the long-term pension liability. The annual required contribution for the current year was determined as part of the most recent actuarial valuation.

#### **Historical Trend Information**

The historical trend information designed to provide information about the Plan's progress made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in Schedule A.

Six-year historical trend information showing the Plan's progress is presented in the Plan's December 31, 2013 comprehensive annual financial report, which can be requested from WSSC's offices.

### Retirement Restoration Plan

Effective July 1, 1995, WSSC established the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Employees' Retirement Restoration Plan (the Restoration Plan), a non-qualified plan. The purpose of the Restoration Plan is to restore most of the benefits foregone by participants in the WSSC Employees' Retirement Plan when such benefits are limited by the maximum benefit provisions of Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code. During fiscal years 2014 and 2013, the Restoration Plan paid benefits totaling \$35,000 and \$36,000 respectively.

### M. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

#### Plan Description

WSSC provides healthcare, prescription drug, dental and life insurance benefits to retirees and their dependents, and pays a portion of the related costs. All full time active employees who retire or are disabled directly from WSSC and meet the eligibility criteria can participate. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Other Postemployment Benefits Trust (the "Trust") is a single-employer contributory fund established in 2007 to provide life insurance and medical benefits for the Retiree Plan participants and beneficiaries of WSSC under conditions set forth by the Trust Agreement. The provision of postemployment benefits is determined under a set of personnel policies (herein referred to, collectively, as the "Plan").

Eligibility for post retirement health care benefits requires a minimum of two years participation in a WSSC sponsored plan immediately prior to retirement. At the end of fiscal 2013, substantially all of WSSC's retired employees (or beneficiaries) are eligible for those benefits. WSSC contributes up to 78% of the amount of health care insurance costs for eligible retired employees and their families.

### M. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (continued)

Employees who retired in 1982 and after are eligible for life insurance benefits. The amount of retiree life insurance begins at 85% of the employee's salary as of the day immediately prior to retirement, and decreases over a four-year period, until coverage equals either 25% of that salary or \$5,000, whichever is greater.

### **Funding Policy**

The required contribution is based on projected pay-as-you-go obligations, with an additional amount to prefund benefits as determined annually by WSSC. For fiscal year 2014, WSSC contributed \$20.4 million to the Trust, including \$11.4 million for current claims and/or premiums (approximately 56 percent of total claims and/or premiums) and an additional \$9.0 million to fund benefits. Retirees receiving benefits contributed \$3.5 million or approximately 22% of the total claims and/or premiums, through their required contributions.

### Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligation

WSSC's annual OPEB cost is calculated based on the annual required contribution of the employer (ARC), an amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB Statement No. 45. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities over thirty years, beginning with the year that the phase-in funding ends.

The long-term OPEB liability is estimated based on existing WSSC policies regarding retiree healthcare benefits. This level of coverage is not guaranteed in the future. The obligation will be periodically re-evaluated.

WSSC's annual OPEB cost and long-term liability for fiscal years 2014 and 2013 were (in thousands):

<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
\$13,995	\$17,452
2,757	2,676
16,752	20,128
(9,000)	(8,000)
<u>(11,437</u> )	<u>(11,060</u> )
(3,685)	1,068
<u>36,756</u>	<u>35,688</u>
<u>\$33,071</u>	<u>\$36,756</u>
	\$13,995 <u>2,757</u> 16,752 (9,000) (11,437) (3,685) <u>36,756</u>

WSSC's annual OPEB cost, the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed and the long-term OPEB liability for fiscal years 2014 and 2013 were (in thousands):

Fiscal Year	Annual OPEB	Percentage of Annual OPEB	Long-term
<u>Ended</u>	Cost	Cost Contributed	<b>OPEB</b> Liability
6/30/2014	\$16,752	122.0%	\$33,071
6/30/2013	20,128	94.7%	36,756

### Funded Status and Funding Progress

As of June 30, 2013, the most recent actuarial valuation date, the plan was 19.0% funded. The actuarial accrued liability for benefits at June 30, 2013 was \$217.2 million, and with assets of \$41.3 million, the resulting unfunded actuarial liability (UAAL) was \$175.9 million. The covered payroll (annual payroll of active employees covered by the OPEB Plan) was \$103.9 million, and the ratio of the UAAL to the covered payroll was 169.2%.

### M. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (continued)

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of the occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and the healthcare cost trend. Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the Trust and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. The schedule of funding progress is presented as required supplementary information following the notes to the financial statements in Schedule B. This schedule presents multi-year trend information about whether the actuarial value of plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial liabilities for benefits.

### Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and the plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

As of the last valuation, WSSC had 1,485 retired employees and 1,424 active employees who participated in health plans, excluding spouses and dependents. Life insurance plan participation is 1,207 and 1,424, respectively for retirees and active employees. The average age is 69.2 and 47.5 respectively for retirees and active employees.

Actuarial assumptions used in the most recent valuation, as of June 30, 2013, are as follows:

Actuarial cost method Projected unit credit cost method.

Discount rate 7.5%

Yearly increase in medical/prescription costs

Medical claims and retiree premiums will increase

at an annual trend rate of 8.0% pre-65 and 6.0% post-65 for 2013, grading down to an ultimate rate of 5.5% in 2018 for pre-65 and 5.5% in 2018 for

post-65.

Mortality rates after retirement

Retirement Plan–2000 Combined Health Mortality

Table for near disability ratios at 1082 Community

Table for non-disability retirees; 1983 Group Annuity Mortality Table (Corrected) set forward 10 years for Males/Females for disability retirees.

Retirement age assumptions Ranging from 50 to 69

Coverage 100% of current retirees are covered and 100% of

current active employees will elect coverage at least two years prior to retirement age under the medical

and life insurance plans.

Amortization method 30 year amortization of the unfunded Actuarial

Accrued Liability as a level dollar.

### N. DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

WSSC offers its employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The deferred compensation plan, available to all employees, permits them to defer a portion of their salaries until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency. All of the assets of the deferred compensation plan are held in a trust for the exclusive benefit of participants and beneficiaries. Participants' rights under the plan are equal to the fair market value of the deferred account for each participant.

### O. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Construction expenditures for fiscal 2015 are not expected to exceed \$625 million, a portion of which will be funded by capital contributions. Commitments in connection with this construction program approximated \$117 million at June 30, 2014.

Intermunicipal agency sewage disposal expenses are accrued as incurred, based on estimates. These expenses are subject to audit by WSSC and others.

WSSC administers several federal and state grants. The grant funds expended are subject to compliance audits by the grantors.

The United States Department of Justice, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Maryland Department of the Environment (collectively, "the Regulators") alleged, in previous years, that sanitary sewer overflows ("SSOs") from WSSC's sanitary sewer collection system were violations of the Federal Clean Water Act and analogous State law. Federal agencies have pursued similar enforcement actions nationally against public wastewater treatment system owners. WSSC contested this action and the initial remedial measures proposed by the Regulators. Negotiations to resolve the enforcement action through the entry of a mutually agreeable Consent Decree began in March 2002. In July 2005, a proposed Consent Decree was executed between WSSC, the Regulators and four environmental groups in which WSSC agreed to undertake certain remedial measures to eliminate and/or reduce SSO occurrences. The proposed Consent Decree was approved by the U.S. District Court with an official start date of December 7, 2005. Costs of these remedial measures are estimated at \$1,825 million and are to be expended over at least 12 years, \$1,229 million of which is expected to be incurred after fiscal year 2014. The costs are included in WSSC's budget and capital improvements program. WSSC also agreed to pay civil penalties totaling \$1.1 million. These costs were accrued in fiscal 2005, and paid in fiscal 2006.

WSSC is involved in judicial and administrative proceedings. These actions include personal injury, property damage, personnel and environmental claims, and various claims filed by contractors against WSSC for cost overruns on construction contracts. While the outcomes of these matters are uncertain, it is the opinion of management and WSSC's General Counsel that resolution of all claims outstanding will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position or changes in net position of WSSC.

WSSC purchases insurance on its property (structures, contents, boiler and machinery, etc.) for physical damages where it has been determined that a reasonable amount of exposure exists. In addition, WSSC is self-insured for workers' compensation in accordance with the statutory requirements of the State of Maryland. The workers' compensation accrued liability includes an estimate for claims incurred but not yet reported to the claims administrator. WSSC also maintains crime and terrorism insurance and fiduciary liability policies having various self-insured retention levels.

WSSC is self-insured for all public liability. Each year, funds are budgeted for normal claims. However, should the past loss experience change, or should a catastrophic loss occur in excess of applicable insurance coverage, funds for such loss or losses would have to be obtained from ad valorem taxation or other sources of revenue since a self-insurance fund has not been established.

### O. <u>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</u> (continued)

General liability and workers' compensation claim activity consisted of the following at June 30 (in thousands):

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Claim liability - beginning of year	\$18,431	\$18,964
Current year claims and changes in estimates	6,831	5,354
Claim payments	(5,997)	(5,887)
Claim liability - end of year	<u>\$19,265</u>	<u>\$18,431</u>

This liability is included in accounts payable and accrued expenses on the balance sheet.

During fiscal 2014 and 2013, WSSC leased a variety of equipment with annual rental payments of approximately \$582,000 and \$549,000, respectively.

### P. <u>RESTATEMENT</u>

GASB has issued Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*. This statement establishes accounting and financial reporting standards that reclassify, as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities and recognizes, as outflows of resources or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities. The statement is effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2012. To comply with GASB Statement No. 65, prior year balances were restated resulting in a net \$4.1 million decrease in net position as of June 30, 2013. A summary of the transactions and the impact of the restatements are illustrated below:

- (1) Net unamortized gains/losses from refundings of debt are now reported as Deferred Outflows of Resources. Prior to the implementation of the GASB, they were netted against long-term liabilities and included in Bonds and Notes Payable on the Balance Sheet.
- (2) Debt issuance costs previously deferred and amortized over the term of the related debt have now been recognized as expenses, thereby reducing net position. Any unamortized issuance costs incorporated into the gain/loss calculations from refundings of debt have also been expensed.
- (3) All assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows have been reported in the corresponding net position category.

### P. <u>RESTATEMENT</u> (continued)

	Fiscal 2013 as previously	Restatement As of	Restatement As of	Fiscal 2013 Restated
	reported	July 1, 2012	June 30, 2013	
Current and other assets	\$ 618,979	\$ (2,730)	\$ (619)	\$ 615,630
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	5,775,658			5,775,658
Total assets	6,394,637	(2,730)	(619)	6,391,288
Deferred outflows of resources		11,353	354	11,707
Total assets and deferred outflows	<u>\$6,394,637</u>	\$ 8,623	<u>\$ (265)</u>	<u>\$6,402,995</u>
Current and other liabilities	591,782	_	_	591,782
Bonds and notes payable, net of current maturities	1,722,992	11,962	<u>464</u>	1,735,418
Total liabilities	2,314,774	11,962	464	2,327,200
Net investment in capital assets	3,989,577	(81,476)	(26,367)	3,881,734
Restricted for growth construction	42,467	_	_	42,467
Unrestricted	47,819	78,137	25,638	151,594
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$4,079,863</u>	\$ (3,339)	\$ (729)	\$4,075,795
Operating revenues	\$ 597,893		\$ —	\$ 597,893
Operating expenses	(487,902)		(619)	(488,521)
Non-operating revenues (expenses)	(31,854)		(110)	(31,964)
Income before capital contributions	78,137		(729)	77,408
Capital contributions	126,296			126,296
Change in net position	<u>\$ 204,433</u>		<u>\$ (729)</u>	<u>\$ 203,704</u>

### Q. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The WSSC has evaluated events subsequent to June 30, 2014 and through August 29, 2014, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and determined there have not been any events that have occurred that would require adjustments to the financial statements.

#### SCHEDULE A

#### WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF HISTORICAL OTHER PENSION INFORMATION Unaudited (In thousands)

			Unfunded			
Actuarial		Actuarial	Actuarial			
Valuation	Actuarial	Accrued	Accrued			UAAL
Date	Value of	Liability	Liability	Funded	Covered	as a Percentage of
June 30	Assets	(AAL)	(UAAL)	Ratio	Payroll	Covered Payroll
2010	\$672,657	\$701,999	\$29,342	95.8%	\$110,029	26.7%
2011	673,242	710,347	37,104	94.8	110,955	33.4
2013	646,536	690,054	43,518	93.7	117,393	37.1

Fiscal Year			
Ended	Annual Pension	Percentage of	Long-Term Pension
June 30	Cost (APC)	_APC Contributed_	Liability
2012	\$20,757	88%	\$39,641
2013	22,276	85	42,917
2014	26,404	72	50,257

According to policy, WSSC completes an actuarial study at least once every two years. No study was performed in 2012, consequently results are not displayed.

#### SCHEDULE B

# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF HISTORICAL OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) INFORMATION Unaudited (In thousands)

Actuarial		Actuarial				
Valuation	Actuarial	Accrued				UAAL
Date	Value of	Liability	Unfunded	Funded	Covered	as a Percentage of
June 30	Assets	(AAL)	AAL (UAAL)	Ratio	Payroll	Covered Payroll
2010	\$ 11,308	\$213,159	\$201,851	5.31%	\$111,929	180.3%
2011	21,296	205,941	184,645	10.34	113,634	162.5
2013	41,300	217,196	175,896	19.02	103,943	169.2

Fiscal Year			
Ended	Annual	Percentage of	Long-term OPEB
June 30	OPEB Cost	OPEB Contributed	Liability
2012	\$19,984	80.0%	\$35,688
2013	20,128	94.7	36,756
2014	16,752	122.0	33,071

According to policy, WSSC completes an actuarial study at least once every two years. No study was performed in 2012, consequently results are not displayed.

## SELECTED INFORMATION RESPECTING MONTGOMERY COUNTY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

#### General

The information contained under the heading "Montgomery County" has been provided by Montgomery County. **The**Commission has not undertaken to audit, authenticate or otherwise verify the information regarding Montgomery County set forth in this Appendix B. The Commission makes no guaranty, warranty or other representation respecting the accuracy and completeness of such information. The Commission is not in a position to, and will not, undertake to update any information set forth herein regarding Montgomery County.

Montgomery County is located adjacent to the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., and includes 496 square miles of land area. The topography is rolling with small hills. Elevations range from 52 feet above sea level at the junction of the Potomac River and the District Line, to 850 feet in the northern portion of Montgomery County near Damascus. Bordering Montgomery County are Howard County to the northeast, Prince George's County to the southeast, Frederick County to the northwest, the District of Columbia to the south, and Virginia to the southwest.

#### Government

The County Council is comprised of nine members, four of whom are elected by the qualified voters of the entire County. Each of the five other members of the Council must, at the time of their election, reside in a different one of five Councilmanic districts of Montgomery County and each of these five members shall be nominated and elected by the qualified voters in their respective districts. Populations of the Councilmanic districts are substantially equal.

The County Executive, who must be a qualified voter of Montgomery County for the five years preceding his or her election and who may not be less than thirty years of age, is elected by the qualified voters of the entire County at the same time as the Council. Both the County Executive and the County Council members serve a four-year term.

#### **Population**

The population of Montgomery County, according to the 2010 Census, was 971,777, an increase of 10.6 percent since the 2000 Census. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (MWCOG) estimates a population of 1,020,000 in 2015.

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#### **Households and Population**

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			Population Percent
	<u>Households</u>	<u>Population</u>	Change from Prior Census
2015 (est.)	377,500	1,020,000	5.0%
2012	361,116	1,004,709	1.8
2011	359,496	991,645	1.9
2010 (U.S. Census)	357,086	971,777	10.6
2009	345,301	959,013	9.1
2008	341,812	942,748	7.3
2007	343,540	931,694	6.0
2006	341,438	926,492	5.4
2005	339,628	921,531	4.9
2004	337,838	914,991	4.1
2003	336,613	910,498	3.6
2002	334,500	903,140	2.8
2001	329,000	891,764	1.5
2000 (U.S. Census)	324,565	878,683	15.7
1990 (U.S. Census)	283,400	759,600	31.2
1980 (U.S. Census)	207,195	579,053	

Note: Data for total population from 2001 to 2012 from the Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce and population estimate for 2015 from Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (MWCOG), Round 8.2. Data for households for 2001 and 2002 are from Sales and Marketing Management issues of the "Survey of Buying Power." Data for households from 2003 to 2012 are from the Census Bureau and in 2015, are from MWCOG (Round 8.2).

#### Median Age

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>
Median Age	29.5	28.1	27.9	32.1	33.9	36.8	38.5

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census and M-NCPPC Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning, Research and Technology Center.

#### **Employment**

Montgomery County's economic structure reveals a diversified economy with a strong service sector. The total private sector (trade, information services, financial activities, professional services, education and health, and hospitality) employed 80.5 percent of the total workforce in 2012, the latest available annual data. The following tables present Montgomery County's employment by industrial sector.

#### **Payroll Employment**

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
TOTAL PRIVATE SECTOR	365,022	361,688	362,899	363,126
PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT:	20.615	46.460	47.000	46.074
FederalState	39,615 1,100	46,460 1.186	47,080 1.232	46,854 1,122
Local	33,084	<u>38,450</u>	<u>39,669</u>	40,707
TOTAL PUBLIC SECTOR	73,799	86,096	87,981	88,683
GRAND TOTAL	<u>438,821</u>	447,784	<u>450,880</u>	<u>451,809</u>

Notes: The following groups are excluded from the payroll count - Federal, military, self-employed, railroad workers and domestic employees. Payroll employment represents the total number of jobs covered by the Maryland Unemployment Insurance Program. Source: State of Maryland, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

#### **Payroll Employment Shares by Industry**

•	<u>2000</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
TOTAL PRIVATE SECTOR	83.2%	80.8%	80.5%	80.4%
PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT:				
Federal	9.0	10.4	10.4	10.4
State	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Local	<u>7.5</u>	<u>8.5</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>9.0</u>
TOTAL PUBLIC SECTOR	16.8	19.2	<u>19.5</u>	19.6
CD AND TOTAL	100.00/	100.00/	100.00/	100.00/
GRAND TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: State of Maryland, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

Note: Due to reclassification by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Commerce, of private-sector industrial categories from the U.S. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system to the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) beginning with the 2001 employment statistics, there is no longer a historical comparison available within the private sector employment categories for years prior to 2001. The table below provides a comparison of the payroll employment data for 2012 and 2013 based on the new classification system which shows that the County had a slight overall percentage gain in employment in 2013.

## Payroll Employment (NAICS Series)\*

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Difference</u>	Percent Change
TOTAL PRIVATE SECTOR	362,899	363,126	227	0.1%
GOODS-PRODUCING	35,091	34,840	(251)	-0.7%
Natural Resources and Mining	393	258	(135)	-34.4%
Construction	23,263	23,363	100	0.4%
Manufacturing	11,435	11,219	(216)	-1.9%
SERVICE PROVIDING	327,802	328,286	484	0.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	58,193	57,607	(586)	-1.0%
Information	12,232	12,359	127	1.0%
Financial Activities	30,586	30,479	(107)	-0.3%
Professional and Business Services	99,317	98,510	(807)	-0.8%
Education and Health Services	65,780	66,767	987	1.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	39,115	40,257	1,142	2.9%
Other Services	22,579	22,307	(272)	-1.2%
UNCLASSIFIED	6	0	(6)	-100%
PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT	87,981	88,683	702	0.8%
Federal Government	47,080	46,854	(226)	-0.5%
State Government	1,232	1,122	(110)	-8.9%
Local Government	39,669	40,707	1,038	2.6%
GRAND TOTAL	450,880	451,809	929	0.2%

<sup>\*</sup> North American Industrial Classification System.

During calendar year 2013 Montgomery County's unemployment rate averaged 5.1 percent. The following table presents the County's labor force, employment and unemployment for the calendar years 2000 through 2014.

#### Montgomery County's Resident Labor Force Employment & Unemployment

	<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>Employment</b>	<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>Unemployment</b>
2014*	529,482	506,937	22,545	4.3%
2013*	538,288	510,657	27,631	5.1%
2012**	534,178	506,730	27,448	5.1%
2011**	529,997	501,697	28,300	5.3%
2010**	525,384	494,889	30,495	5.8%
2009**	522,875	493,501	29,374	5.6%
2008**	519,330	502,802	16,528	3.2%
2007	512,934	499,536	13,398	2.6%
2006	518,142	503,476	14,666	2.8%
2005	508,251	492,431	15,820	3.1%
2004	497,204	481,248	15,956	3.2%
2003	496,223	479,675	16,548	3.3%
2002	496,101	478,782	17,319	3.5%
2001	490,213	475,049	15,164	3.1%

Source: State of Maryland, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

#### **Federal Government Employment**

Montgomery County is home to 18 Federal agencies in which over 45,000 civilians are employed. The National Institutes of Health in Bethesda (part of the Department of Health and Human Services) is one of the nation's premier centers of medical research. The following is a partial list of Federal agencies in the County and their estimated employment in 2013.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	28,000
Food and Drug Administration	
Department of Defense	13,000
Walter Reed National Military Center	
Carderock Naval Surface Warfare Center	
U.S. Army Research Laboratory	
Department of Commerce	5,500
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration	
National Institute of Standards & Technology	
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	2,700
Department of Energy	1,800

Source: Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development.

<sup>\*</sup> Based on the rate of change in the averages of the first ten months of 2013 and 2014.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Data for 2008 through 2012 were revised by DLLR and BLS to incorporate intercensal population controls for 2000 and 2010.

#### **Private Sector Employment**

There are several thousand private sector employers in Montgomery County, below is a listing of some of the County's largest employers.

Name of Firm	Est. No. of Employees
Marriott International, Inc. (Headquarters)	5,800
Adventist Hospital	5,300
Lockheed Martin	4,700
Holy Cross Hospital	3,200
Giant Food Corporation	3,000
Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States	2,900
Verizon	2,900
MedImmune/Astra Zeneca	2,300
Government Employee Insurance Company (GEICO)	2,300
Westat, Inc.	2,300
SuburbanHospital	1,700
Henry M. Jackson Foundation	1,800
Red Coats/Admiral Security Services	1,600

Note: The employee numbers are from the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development.

#### **Personal Income**

Actual personal income of County residents reached \$74.0 billion in calendar year 2013 which is an increase over the 2012 amount of \$73.5 billion. Montgomery County's total personal income experienced an increase of 0.7 percent in 2013, less than the nation's increase of 2.0 percent, and lower than the State's rate of 1.1 percent. Montgomery County's total personal income increase of 0.7 percent is less than the ten-year (2003-2012) annual average growth rate of 4.3 percent.

Montgomery County accounts for 23.2 percent of the State's personal income in 2013, which is a percentage that has ranged from a high of 23.8 percent in 2008 to a low of 23.2 percent.

## Total Personal Income (\$ millions)

	Montgomery			Montgomery County as
Calendar Year	<u>County</u>	<u>Maryland</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	Percent of Maryland
2013	\$73,959	\$319,125	\$14,151,427	23.2 %
2012	\$73,551	\$316,682	\$13,729,063	23.2%
2011	71,716	306,011	13,179,561	23.4
2010	67,991	289,653	12,423,332	23.5
2009	65,965	282,152	12,073,738	23.4
2008	67,379	283,053	12,429,284	23.8
2007	64,472	272,901	11,990,244	23.6
2006	62,252	261,067	11,376,460	23.8
2005	57,950	245,063	10,605,645	23.6
2004	54,232	232,067	10,043,284	23.4

Notes: Data for 2004 to 2013 from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, revised November 2014 (County, State, and U.S.).

#### Average Household and Per Capita Personal Income

According the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Montgomery County's total personal income reached \$74.0 billion in calendar year 2013, up from \$73.5 billion in 2012, while per capita income reached \$72,746 in 2013, down from \$73,140 in 2012. Average household income decreased from \$203,445 in 2012 to \$202,770 in 2013.

#### Per Capita and Average Household Income, 2013

<u>County</u>	Per <u>Capita Income</u>	<u>County</u>	Average Household Income
Marin, CA	\$93,407	Marin, CA	\$233,520
Arlington, VA	83,242	Fairfield, CT	226,485
Fairfield, CT	81,068	Westchester, NY	218,162
Westchester. NY	77,153	Nassau, NY	216,133
Somerset, NJ	75,863	San Mateo, CA	212,985
San Mateo, CA	74,582	Somerset, NJ	212,778
Morris, NJ	74,057	Fairfax, VA	211,462
Douglas, CO	73,516	Douglas, CO	208,708
Montgomery, MD	72,746	Morris, NJ	205,033
Fairfax, VA	71,607	Montgomery, MD	202,770
Nassau, NY	70,761	Santa Clara, CA	199,181
Howard, MD	70,533	Howard, MD	196,173
Bergen, NJ	69,919	Arlington, MD	192,936
Norfolk, VA	68,619	Bergen, NJ	190,727
Montgomery, PA	68,057	Norfolk, VA	181,132
Santa Clara, CA	66,535	Montgomery, PA	178,180
Middlesex, CT	64,914	Chester, PA	174,940
Chester, PA	63,741	Contra Costa, CA	174,933
Contra Costa, CA	61,638	Middlesex, MA	171,337
Monmouth, NJ	61,426	Monmouth, NJ	163,506

Notes: A major affluent suburban county is defined as a county in either a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or a Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA) with a population of at least 200,000 where income levels are considerably higher than in the central city and other jurisdictions in the area. These counties are primarily suburban in nature; no city or town accounts for 40 percent or more of the total population.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Survey of Current Business", November 21, 2014, for total personal income and per capita data; the Department of Finance used data from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *American Community Survey*, for the number of households in each county.

#### **Property Tax Information**

Montgomery County levies real and personal property taxes on all taxable property within its boundaries. Annual payments of taxes are due in full on July 1 and become delinquent on the following October 1. Semi-annual payments are the standard in Maryland for residential property and small business owners only, with the semi-annual payments becoming delinquent after September 30 and December 31. Tax sales to recover delinquent real property taxes are held on the second Monday in June in the fiscal year that taxes are due and payable. Legal action may be taken to enforce payment of both real and personal property taxes.

#### **Property Tax Assessments**

The assessment of all real and tangible personal property for purposes of property taxation by State and local governmental units is the responsibility of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT). Assessment rolls are maintained in each county seat and in Baltimore City. Real property is valued at market value (full cash value) and assessed in each year at a percentage of market value. One-third of the real property base is reassessed every three years. An increase in full cash value arising from such reassessment is phased in over the ensuing three tax years in equal annual amounts. A decline in assessed valuation becomes fully effective in the first year.

As the level of new construction was less than \$1.5 billion per year between FY08 and FY10, less than \$1.0 billion in FY11, less than \$0.6 billion in FY12, and less than \$1.5 billion in FY13, coupled with a decline in the valuation of properties, the real property taxable base decreased at an average annual rate of 2.9 percent, measured from FY11 to FY13, compared to the average annual growth rate of 7.5 percent the previous five-year period (from FY07 to FY11). Because of the dramatic decline in the reassessment rates in FY10, FY11, and FY12 and the reduction in the available Homestead Tax Credit (HSTC), real property taxable assessments grew 5.7 percent in FY10, grew 0.4 percent in FY11, then declined 3.3 percent in FY12 and 2.4 percent in FY13. Due to a decline in business investment in personal property between FY04 and FY13, attributed to an adjustment by the SDAT to assessments of individual personal property, the personal property base decreased at an average annual rate of 1.0 percent during the ten-year period (from FY04 to FY13).

#### Assessed Value of All Taxable Property by Class and Fiscal Year

Fiscal <u>Year</u>	Real <u>Property</u>	Personal <u>Property</u>	Total <u>Assessed Value</u>	Percent Change From Prior Year	Ratio of Assessment to Full Market Value
2014	\$159,891,865,334	\$3,709,327,508	\$163,601,192,842	1.06%	91.77%
2013	\$158,272,830,848	\$3,604,478,750	\$161,877,309,598	-2.43%	93.05
2012	162,197,149,758	3,718,945,710	165,916,095,468	-3.34	93.05
2011	167,790,792,529	3,856,191,952	171,646,984,481	0.25	88.63
2010	167,096,843,537	4,123,996,612	171,220,840,149	5.66	95.51
2009	158,133,491,472	3,920,171,020	162,053,662,492	10.79	96.48
2008	142,306,435,593	3,970,547,370	146,276,982,963	12.82	98.05

Sources: Montgomery County Department of Finance, Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports.

Tax-exempt properties are excluded from the above figures. In FY14, such exemptions for real property owned by Federal, State, County, and other governmental units, and certain non-profit organizations totaled \$19.0 billion at the beginning of the fiscal year based on data from the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. Tax-exempt real property constitutes 10.6 percent of the total assessable base. The SDAT grants exemptions from property taxes, pursuant to State law. The ratio of total assessed value to total full market value is based on studies conducted by the SDAT.

#### Tax Levies and Revenue

Fiscal <u>Year</u>	County Tax Levy	Revenue From Current Year Assessment	Ratio of Current Yr Revenue to <u>Tax Levy</u>	Revenue From Prior Year <u>Assessment</u>	Total <u>Revenue</u>	Ratio Of Total Revenue to <u>Tax Levy</u>	Accumulated Delinquent Taxes	Ratio of Accumulated Delinquent Taxes to Current Year Tax Levy
2014	\$1,148,085,538	\$1,126,029,910	98.08%	(\$18,755,733)	\$1,107,274,177	96.45%	\$14,453,739	1.26%
2013	1,081,306,701	1,056,688,995	97.72	(23,627,793)	1,033,061,202	95.54	18,400,655	1.70
2012	1,089,656,756	1,068,630,086	98.07	(26.293.427)	1,042,336,659	95.66	16,292,469	1.50
2011	1,104,184,153	1,088,633,177	98.59	(25,571,510)	1,063,061,667	96.28	15,259,381	1.38
2010	1,082,224,889	1,064,870,559	98.40	(16,618,444)	1,048,252,115	96.86	24,752,779	2.29
2009	1,003,679,078	984,378,292	98.08	(20,121,191)	964,257,101	96.07	20,570,727	2.05

Tax Rates and Tax Levies, by Purpose

Fiscal	Gener	al County	Tra	ansit	S	tate	7	Γotal
Year	Rate	Levy	Rate	Levy	Rate	Levy	Rate	<u>Levy</u>
2014	\$0.759	\$1,148,085,538	\$0.042	\$63,303,304	\$0.112	\$179,561,927	\$0.913	\$1,390,950,769
2013	0.724	1,081,306,701	0.048	71,440,950	0.112	177,724,401	0.984	1,330,472,052
2012	0.713	1,089,656,756	0.038	57,868,221	0.112	182,298,673	0.863	1,329,823,650
2011	0.699	1,104,184,153	0.037	58,220,069	0.112	188,764,480	0.848	1,351,168,702
2010	0.683	1,082,224,889	0.037	58,460,427	0.112	187,999,760	0.832	1,328,685,076
2009	0.661	1,003,679,078	0.040	60,562,706	0.112	177,929,853	0.813	1,242,171,637
2008	0.627	848,638,685	0.058	78,263,664	0.112	160,027,167	0.797	1,086,929,516

Note: Rates are per \$100 of assessed value. Tax rates shown are for real property only, and tax levies are based upon a 100% of full cash value assessment. The personal property rate for General County was \$1.898 in FY14, \$1.810 in FY2013, \$1.783 in FY12, \$1.747 in FY11, \$1.707 in FY10; the personal property rate for Transit was \$0.105 in FY14, \$0.120 in FY13, \$0.095 in FY12, \$0.092 in FY11, \$0.092 in FY10. (the State does not tax personal property).

#### Ten Highest Commercial Property Taxpayers' Assessable Base As of June 30, 2014

<u>Taxpayer</u>	Total	Real <u>Property</u>	Personal <u>Property</u>	Ratio: Taxpayer Base to Total Assessable Base
Potomac Electric Power Co	\$793,656,503	\$34,531,133	\$759,125,370	0.49%
Verizon Maryland Inc	497,508,170	44,066,100	453,442,070	0.30
Montgomery Mall, LLC	281,850,410	280,115,000	1,735,410	0.17
Washington Gas Light Co	269,380,950		269,380,950	0.16
Wheaton Plaza Reg Shopping Ctr.	260,060,067	260,060,067		0.16
Chevy Chase Land Co	254,587,797	252,901,867	1,685,930	0.16
Camalier, Anne D. et al, Trustee	234,690,865	234,690,865		0.14
7501 Wisconsin Avenue LLC	218,636,043	217,330,033	1,306,010	0.13
Federal Realty Investment Trust	207,660,900	207,660,900		0.13
WP Project Developer LLC	200,181,660	200,000,000	181,660	<u>0.12</u>
Total	\$3,218,213,365	<u>\$1,731,355,965</u>	<u>\$1,486,857,400</u>	<u>1.96%</u>
Assessable Base (June 30, 2014)	\$163,601,192,842			

 $Sources: \ State\ of\ Maryland, Department\ of\ Assessments\ and\ Taxation, and\ Montgomery\ County\ Department\ of\ Finance,\ Division\ of\ Treasury.$ 

#### **ECONOMY**

**New Construction** 

Between FY13 and FY14, the number of new construction projects increased 18.6 percent. At the same time, the value of new construction added to the real property tax base decreased 7.0 percent to \$1.309 billion. Over the prior nine-year period (from FY05 to FY13), the number of projects, both residential and non-residential decreased from over 2,077 to 1,497. However, during that same period, the value of new construction averaged \$1.3 billion between FY05 and FY13 and ranging from a high of \$1.668 billion in FY05 to a low of \$0.586 billion in FY12. The decline in the construction of residential properties beginning in FY08 and ending in FY12 reached its lowest level in ten fiscal years. Because of the depressed housing market beginning in late 2005, the value of new residential construction declined 76.8 percent between the peak in 2007 and 2012.

#### **New Construction Added to Real Property Tax Base**

## Montgomery County (\$ millions)

Fiscal Year 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010 2009	Construction <u>Starts</u> 1,775 1,497 839 863 833 738	Residential \$649.2 537.2 241.5 540.2 599.4 724.1	Apartments \$78.5 91.9 39.0 20.6 19.7 5.8	Condominiums \$ 59.0 123.8 60.7 56.6 180.3 455.4	Commercial/ Industrial \$515.9 651.8 241.3 226.9 354.7 229.5	All Other \$6.8 3.0 3.1 75.5 226.6 0.0	Total \$1,309.4 1,407.6 585.6 919.8 1,380.7 1,414.9
2008 2007	952 985	882.7 1.040.1	25.8 22.0	318.5 211.4	256.6 312.6	0.0 19.5	1,483.6 1,605.6
2006	1,580	978.3	41.2	132.9	384.6	4.8	1,541.8
2005	2,077	874.2	82.5	121.2	588.4	1.7	1,668.0
10-Year Summary		\$7,066.9	\$427.0	\$1,719.8	\$3,762.3	\$341.0	\$13,317.0
Categories as Percent of Total		53.1%	3.2%	12.9%	28.2%	2.6%	100.0%

Source: Dodge Analytics, McGraw-Hill Construction, and Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation.

#### **Development Districts**

In 1994, the County Council enacted the Development District Act, which allows Montgomery County to create development districts and to provide financing, refinancing, or reimbursement for the cost of infrastructure improvements necessary for the development of land in areas of Montgomery County of high priority for new development or redevelopment. Special assessments and/or special taxes may be levied to fund the issuance of bonds or other obligations created from the construction or acquisition of infrastructure improvements. The proceeds of development district bonds are used to fund certain road, park, and sewer infrastructure improvements supporting development within the districts.

As a result of a petition by property owners and the subsequent review and analysis of the feasibility of the proposed development district, the County Council, in January 1998, created Montgomery County's first development district, West Germantown. A second district, Kingsview Village Center, was created on July 28, 1998.

In separate actions in September 2000 and October 2001, the County Council approved resolutions initiating evaluation of three proposed new development districts located in Clarksburg: Clarksburg Town Center, Clarksburg Village and Clarksburg Skylark (currently marketed as Arora Hills). The Clarksburg Town Center development district was created on March 4, 2003. However, in October 2010, the Council adopted Resolution 16-1544 which effectively terminated the Clarksburg Town Center development district.

#### **Economic Development Initiatives**

In an effort to stimulate employment growth and new investment, Montgomery County initiates programs and promotes the strengths of each of its local employment centers.

#### **Overview of Montgomery County**

Montgomery County is divided into two major commercial real estate areas: the core and non-core markets. The core markets include the Bethesda/Chevy Chase and Silver Spring submarkets. These two are characterized by high-density, mass transit-serviced areas. Historically, they are some of the most highly demanded areas in Suburban Maryland.

The non-core markets include all of the remaining submarkets in Montgomery County including the technology based I-270 corridor. Each of the submarkets is outside of the Capital Beltway and generally exhibits more suburban traits with a few pockets of dense development.

#### **Technology Corridors**

The I-270 Technology Corridor is an internationally recognized life sciences and advanced technology center. It is home to over 1,000 biotechnology and advanced technology companies, including GlaxoSmithKline (formerly Human Genome Sciences), Lockheed Martin, MedImmune/Astra-Zeneca, IBM and Hughes Communications. The corridor continues to grow with over 18 million square feet of additional commercial and industrial development in the pipeline.

As the first new hospital in Montgomery County in 35 years, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital will bring much-needed health care services to the most rapidly growing and aging region in the county. The six-story, 237,000 square-foot hospital will offer medical, surgical, obstetric, emergency and psychiatric care when it opens its doors in 2014. As the anchor tenant of the Montgomery College Science & Technology Park, Holy Cross Germantown will serve as a valuable educational resource for aspiring health care workers. The project has significant economic impact both directly and through its multiplier effect. It is anticipated that the construction project alone will lead to the creation of 1,100 jobs and ongoing hospital operations will create more than 1,500 permanent jobs. The combined effect of hospital operations, an expanded nursing program, and a fully developed Science & Technology Park could create more than 5,700 jobs.

The Montgomery Planning Board approved Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.'s plan to build up to 263,000 square feet more R&D space on its 18-acre Shady Grove Life Sciences Center (SGLSC) site. Ultimately developers will be able to bid on 400,000 square feet of additional commercial space and 2,500 additional housing units in the 900-acre SGLSC, which is designated within the Great Seneca Science Corridor master plan to become an even more prominent national and international bioscience hub with up to 17.5 million square feet of life sciences office and lab space, 9,000 residences and approximately 52,500 jobs.

The U.S. General Services Administration selected the Montgomery County campus of Johns Hopkins University as the site for the National Cancer Institute's consolidated headquarters. The Universities at Shady Grove (USG), which offers degrees from 9 colleges throughout the State, continues its expansion. Design is underway for an additional parking garage, which will free up valuable land for USG's Academic Building #4.

The White Flint Sector Plan, approved in March 2010 continues to move forward. The plan targets future growth along Rockville Pike with development clustered around about 430 acres near the White Flint Metro Station. It will allow replacement of aging low-rise commercial properties in the area with mixed-use buildings as tall as 30 stories. The revitalized new urban neighborhood will include residences, offices, service-oriented businesses, restaurants and entertainment venues. Plans for almost six million square feet of new development were submitted for approval in White Flint. Federal Realty Investment Trust (FRIT) broke ground in July of 2012 on Maryland's first "Fast Track" approved project – Pike & Rose – that will bring transit oriented development (TOD) to the White Flint Area. The plan is to overhaul 3.44 million square feet of mixed-use development for Mid-Pike Plaza, a retail center located at the corner of Rockville Pike and Old Georgetown Road. FRIT's development plan is comprised of 1.14 million square feet of office space, 1,500 dwelling units, a 125-room hotel and 304,200 square feet of retail all less than a quarter mile from the White Flint Metro Station. For its part, the JBG Companies submitted plans for the next phase of development at North Bethesda Market. The plans include over 700,000 square feet of new residential and commercial space. A sketch plan for North Bethesda Gateway proposed 1.7 million square feet, half office and half residential, in the southeast quadrant of Rockville Pike and Nicholson Lane. Both plans received Planning Board approval in early 2012.

The redevelopment of the White Flint Mall will be the fourth major project of the White Flint Master Plan, and is by far the largest. The plan is a street-grid town of several million square feet, with multiple office buildings, 2,500 new residences, a hotel and over a million square feet of retail. All but an existing anchor, Lord & Taylor, would be razed. The design includes nearly two dozen buildings, a two acre square, and an elementary school site.

The U.S. Route 29 Corridor in eastern Montgomery County continues its steady transformation into the County's other major technology and business center, with more than 100 major employers. The \$900 million FDA Headquarters Consolidation project is nearing completion, occupying 130 acres of the 660-acre Federal Research Center in White Oak. The new FDA campus will include over 2.1 million square feet of office, lab and support facilities. Currently, about 7,500 employees work at the new campus and 11,000 will work there when it is completed in 2014, contingent upon Congressional appropriations.

The consolidation of the U.S. Food & Drug Administration provides an opportunity for Montgomery County to reexamine its long-term goals and objectives for this area through the development of the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan. This planning effort will determine how a new research and technology node that capitalizes on the growing presence of the FDA, complimented by mixed-use development, can be developed in the future. There are approximately 300 acres on two sites adjacent to the FDA – the 115-acre County-owned Site 2 and the 185-acre Percontee property. Potential synergies between these properties and the FDA, as well as with the planned Washington Adventist Hospital are currently being developed. Adventist HealthCare plans to build a hospital and medical campus on nearly 50 acres along Plum Orchard Drive.

#### **Central Business Districts**

Montgomery County is committed to promoting new investment in its Central Business Districts (CBD). Montgomery County's four CBDs are Silver Spring, Wheaton, Bethesda, and Friendship Heights, and are served by the region's longest extensions of the Metrorail system. The CBDs are centers for major business activity and medium- to high-density residential development in close proximity to the Metro stations.

#### **Downtown Silver Spring**

Since 1998, the State and Montgomery County invested a total of approximately \$200 million in the redevelopment of downtown Silver Spring. Downtown Silver Spring transformed into a vibrant business, retail and entertainment hub with the American Film Institute (AFI) and Discovery Communications leading the way.

Through a public-private partnership with developer Foulger Pratt, the downtown Silver Spring project has over 800,000 square feet of retail, office, restaurant, hotel, and entertainment space, plus two new parking garages. The first phase was completed and features 100,000 square feet of retail space, including Whole Foods Market and Strosniders Hardware.

The next phase unveiled an array of new restaurants and shops as new sections were completed. The Regal Majestic 20 movie theaters with its 20 screens (one IMAX) and 4,500 seats have, along with the American Film Institute (AFI), made downtown Silver Spring a significant entertainment destination.

Each year the AFI Silver Theatre and Discovery Communications co-sponsor the Silverdocs international documentary film festival, which attracts an estimated 20,000 people. Additionally, downtown Silver Spring has over 190 free diverse and multicultural events per year within the development including festivals, concerts, movies and fashion shows.

United Therapeutics Corporation, an innovative locally grown biotech company, began construction on the third phase of its headquarters/research/laboratory campus in downtown Silver Spring. The third phase includes a seven-story building with an integrated public use space and street-level retail building. The first level is comprised of retail space and the remaining six stories consist of office space supporting activities of the adjacent laboratories. United Therapeutics totals 213,000 square feet on both corners of Spring and Cameron streets in downtown Silver Spring.

The Fillmore Silver Spring has been a huge success in the heart of Silver Spring and brings the tradition of the legendary Fillmore Auditorium in San Francisco to the area through a diverse lineup of performers across many genres of music. The 23,000 square foot music venue is the newest addition to a burgeoning arts and entertainment district anchored by the American Film Institute (AFI) and Discovery Communications. The Fillmore's ability to host 2,000 fans will further invigorate Silver Spring's Arts & Entertainment district to make Silver Spring a true entertainment destination. An adaptive reuse of a former J.C. Penney department store, the Fillmore Silver Spring stemmed from a public-private partnership between the Lee Development Group and Montgomery County. The venue was designed to preserve the historic façade of the old store site which was vacant for 18 years.

The State of Maryland is the first state in the country to sponsor Arts and Entertainment Districts as a way to stimulate the economy and improve quality of life. This designation enables jurisdictions, municipalities, and counties to apply for state designations and offer tax incentives as provided by law. The State of Maryland has redesignated Silver Spring as an Arts & Entertainment District, a designation which will be in effect through November 30, 2021. The Silver Spring Civic Building and Veterans Plaza added a new dimension to the arts & entertainment economy in the area. The facility has transformed what it means to be in a public space in Silver Spring. During the winter, the ice rink brings this urban space alive. During the remaining months, the space is enjoyed by the community and visitors alike as a gathering place reminiscent of the great urban spaces throughout the world. Montgomery County's annual – and regionally renowned – Jazz Festival and Thanksgiving Parade and SilverDocs Film Festival are now augmented with many other events throughout the year. The 42,000 square foot building with six community use rooms and a 5,200 square foot Great Hall has become the "go-to" venue for fundraisers, celebrations and major civic events as well as private conferences and seminars. The venue is an economic engine for the

nearby retail community. The facility houses the Silver Spring Regional Services Center and the administrative offices of the Round House Theatre Company.

In addition, the facility has a large pedestrian plaza (Veterans Plaza), which includes a pavilion where the Silver Spring Swings summer concert series is held. Veterans Plaza also houses three artistic panels dedicated to Veterans, featuring letters to and from home, created by Toby Mendez Studios who also created the Thurgood Marshall Memorial at the State Capital.

The new Silver Spring Library that is currently under design will be 63,000 square feet, almost four times bigger than the current Silver Spring Library. The Library project will include an Arts Center (Pyramid Atlantic) with a Gallery and Community Arts Store and County Office space. The building is being designed to allow for a station for the Purple Line transit project to be on the site. Parking will be provided in the Wayne Avenue Garage across the street from the Library.

In addition to being a destination for work, entertainment, and shopping, downtown Silver Spring is established as a place where people are attracted to live. More than 5,000 units of rental housing provide a solid residential base for downtown Silver Spring.

In the Fenton Village area the challenge continues to be incorporating the proposed developments into the existing fabric of small businesses, restaurants, and service retail. Some of these proposed developments have advanced through the development process and are set to begin construction soon. Among these is the First Baptist Church Redevelopment (corner of Wayne and Fenton), where 220 apartment units and 20,000 square feet of retail will begin construction. Across the street (on Bonifant) will be a senior housing development with approximately 110 units. Just south of this area, the Studio Plaza, an approved major development has applied for the start of phase one, which would bring over 400 apartment units, supportive retail, and a new public plaza. In addition, there are at least four other projects nearby in the approval process.

Back across Georgia Avenue, the plans for the Ripley District are fast becoming a reality. The Solaire Apartments (286 units) recently opened; and the Home Properties development, which will also include retail, is well under construction right across the street. On the north side of downtown, the Falklands redevelopment – if built out to its full potential – will bring over 1,000 units plus 60,000 square feet of retail. In its near vicinity, Fenwick Station (at the old post office site) is under construction for 310 units. In the core of downtown, right behind the Civic Building, 222 units are nearly finished. This will be the last piece of the puzzle of the original, formal "redevelopment area" for the core of downtown Silver Spring.

Commercial activity continues at a brisk pace in downtown Silver Spring, as demonstrated when an anchor store went bankrupt nationally (Borders), another major anchor was eager to take its place (H&M.) Vacancies in the area are hard to find, with most spaces turning around very quickly. Peterson Companies, the management/owners of "Downtown" Silver Spring, point to their development in Silver Spring as one of their most successful in the region and beyond.

The success of the residential market and growing arts, entertainment, retail, and restaurant options, lays the framework for an active, economically viable downtown Silver Spring that is ready for the rebound in commercial office activity something that has been lackluster in the recent past due more to the national economic situation than local factors. Significant activity in the area includes Radio-One and MedTech having moved into the area, highlighting not only the arts and entertainment opportunities, but the medical and educational opportunities provided by Silver Spring's premier location. Also, United Therapeutics continues their headquarters expansion, creating not only a growing employment center, but architecturally significant buildings and public works of art.

In the first decade of this century, approximately \$200 million was invested in Silver Spring's downtown redevelopment by the State of Maryland and Montgomery County. The area was designated an Enterprise Zone; a Parking Lot District was created; the Urban District came into its own; and an Arts & Entertainment District was created (and recently re-designated.) These incentives and programs were instrumental in creating the Silver Spring of today. Public investment continues. A new library will soon be finished, and the Purple Line light rail will add new transit options to the region, with two stations in downtown Silver Spring – and nine in the Silver Spring Regional Area.

#### Wheaton

The limited size of Wheaton's Central Business District (CBD), 76 acres, combined with the number of small commercial property parcels and multiple property owners, presents a challenge in redeveloping Wheaton, given the cost of land aggregation necessary for larger-scale development. Montgomery County recognized that it and other public entities held enough real estate assets in Wheaton that were capable of accommodating larger development projects. Montgomery County determined that some of these assets might be used to stimulate redevelopment in Wheaton. In May 2012, Montgomery

County approved facility planning for a multi-user government office facility to include a new headquarters for the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission, street-level retail uses, structured underground parking, and a town square on the site of County Parking Lot 13. The site is situated in Wheaton's downtown core, directly across the street from the WMATA Red Line subway station and bus depot.

The Wheaton CBD and Vicinity Sector Plan, which was approved by the County Council in November 2011 promotes transit-oriented, "smart growth" development in downtown Wheaton. Such development will enhance Wheaton's strong retail base, which includes a newly renovated Westfield Wheaton regional shopping mall and over 300 locally owned and operated small businesses, including more than 80 restaurants; 148,000 square foot Costco Wholesale opened alongside the Westfield shopping mall this past year.

Capitalizing on Wheaton's retail strength, Montgomery County seeks to enhance Wheaton's urban character and improve it further by attracting more arts/entertainment-related entities, and encouraging more mixed-use development. It will continue to use its designations as both an Enterprise Zone and an Arts and Entertainment District to move this type of development forward.

Patriot Realty Co., Foulger-Pratt Construction and Safeway, Inc. are currently constructing an 800,000 square foot mixed-use residential/retail project – The Exchange at Wheaton Station – directly across from the WMATA Red Line subway station. The 17-story building will contain a 58,000 square foot, street level Safeway Supermarket and 486 residential units. Structured parking will provide 140 parking spaces for Safeway customers and 432 residential parking spaces. The grocery store opened in Fall 2013.

Approximately 200 feet south of the Exchange project, Lowe Enterprises Real Estate Group has received Planning Board approval for the conversion of an existing 5-story office building into a 12-story mixed-use residential/commercial building containing up to 194 residential units and street-level commercial space. One block south of Lowe Enterprise's project, Washington Property Co. is currently constructing Allaire Wheaton, a six-story, 221-unit residential apartment complex, adjacent to Westfield II Wheaton Mall and one block south of the subway station and bus depot. The project is on track to be completed by March 2014. Centex Homes is in the final phase of its residential project "Leesborough." The project, approximately one-half mile due north of the Wheaton subway station, is comprised of 143 townhomes, 45 condominiums and 6 single-family homes. The single-family homes are currently under construction. All other units have been built and sold.

#### Bethesda

Downtown Bethesda is one of Montgomery County's major urban business and entertainment centers, with nearly 200 restaurants along with the density of both high-rise office and residential buildings. Downtown Bethesda is a thriving destination offering residents, visitors and its workforce multi-cultural dining, live theater, cinema, unique shops and numerous special events and festivals. Residents and visitors alike continue to enjoy the artistic and enriching performances provided at the Bethesda Round House Theatre, Imagination Stage, Bethesda Row Landmark Theatre and Bethesda Blues and Jazz Super Club. These marquee entertainment organizations highlight classical plays, children's theatre, live music and independent and foreign films.

Bethesda has a workforce of nearly 44,000 and includes employees who work for some of the region's most notable employers, including Capital One (formerly Chevy Chase Bank), Clark Construction Group, Development Alternatives and American Capital Strategies.

The Hilton Garden Inn, Bethesda opened its doors in January 2010. This hotel created 216 additional guestrooms to serve the National Institutes of Health, National Military Medical Center, and the Bethesda community. The hotel is part of the Air Rights Center, a 700,000 square foot office and retail located on Wisconsin Avenue in the heart of Bethesda. The Air Rights Center has approval to add another 150,000 square feet of office space.

Akridge Development has completed renovation of 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, a formerly vacant 10-story Federal building, into a 120,000 square foot commercial office building. The project, which is targeting Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design or LEED Gold certification, started leasing in 2012.

Carr Properties acquired the contract and development rights for 4500 East West Highway, a 223,000 square foot trophy office project located in the CBD of Bethesda. Delivery is expected to begin in 2014. The project is the first trophy quality ground up office development in the Bethesda market in over ten years. The building has been designed to achieve LEED Gold certification.

In the popular Bethesda Row section of downtown Bethesda, StonebridgeCarras has broken ground on the redevelopment of County Parking Lot 31. The development, which will add 250 residential units in two buildings and a new 940-space underground County parking garage, is a joint venture with PN Hoffman. Across the street from Lot 31, JBG has plans to break ground on a 230-room boutique hotel, 25,000 square feet of shops and cafes, and nearly 270,000 square feet of office space.

A block south at 7001 Arlington Road, Associated Estates Realty Corporation recently acquired the former Bethesda Post Office site and has approval to build 145 dwelling units and 7,000 square feet of street level retail. Residential development is also booming in the Woodmont Triangle section of downtown Bethesda, where several developments are poised to add more than 1,200 new housing units and 360,000 square feet of commercial space in the next two to five years.

Bainbridge Bethesda began construction at 4918 St. Elmo Avenue. Built by the Bainbridge Development, Bainbridge Bethesda is a 17-store, mixed-use project with 200 dwelling units (including 30 moderately priced dwelling units) and 7,200 square feet of retail space and four levels of underground parking. The entire project plans to seek LEED Silver certification.

In 2012, Donohoe Development broke ground on the first phase of the Gallery of Bethesda at Auburn and Del Ray Avenues. The Gallery of Bethesda will include two 17 and 16 story high-rise apartment buildings with a total of 456 apartments. Donohoe Development also plans to construct 90,000 square feet of office space at Battery Lane and Wisconsin Avenue.

At 4900 Fairmont, JBG has received approval to build a 17-story, 250 unit residential high-rise building with 7,000 square feet of street-level retail. At Wisconsin Avenue, just south of Norfolk Avenue, Bernstein Management has received preliminary approval for 466,000 square feet redevelopment that will include a full-service hotel, office and retail.

The National Capital Planning Commission has approved final details of the first phase of a \$300 million intelligence campus being developed at the former National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency headquarters in Bethesda. The Army Corps of Engineers is working with the Defense Intelligence Agency on the large-scale \$300 million, 40-acre overhaul, which will be developed in two phases. When complete, the site will be home to roughly 3,000 employees from the federal government's intelligence gathering agencies, including the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. As proposed, the military wants to keep all but one of the five buildings at the site, which now has about 700,000 square feet. In addition, it plans to add 170,000 square feet and create connections so the complex would be turned into one large facility rather than a cluster of separate buildings.

#### Friendship Heights

The Friendship Heights CBD is located at the Montgomery County-Washington, D.C. border with the Metrorail station at Wisconsin and Western Avenues at its center. Adjacent to the Friendship Heights CBD are multiple smaller jurisdictions and developments, including the Village of Friendship Heights special taxing district, the Town of Somerset, the Brookdale neighborhood, and the Somerset House complex.

The Friendship Heights area has the first top-tier luxury shopping center on the east coast outside of New York City. The Collection at Chevy Chase, part of the Chevy Chase Center mixed-used development, is a 112,000 square foot project facing Wisconsin Avenue. Originally developed and managed by The Chevy Chase Land Company, the property is now owned by Clarion Partners of New York City, and managed by Cassidy Turley. The Collection brought retailers such as Christian Dior, Jimmy Choo and Barney's New York Co-Op to this area for the first time. Tiffany & Company, Georgette Klinger and Cartier were in Chevy Chase for many years and moved down the street to join Collection tenants such as Bulgari, Ralph Lauren, Gucci, Max Mara, and Louis Vuitton.

The second and third components of Chevy Chase Center consist of 100,000 square feet of neighborhood-oriented retail, and a 200,000 square foot office tower, which was originally leased in its entirety by The Mills Corporation in 2006. Mills subsequently filed for bankruptcy and put the entire building on the market for sublease, and the space was immediately backfilled by such tenants as New Enterprise Associates, Columbia Partners, and The Travel Channel.

The final project completed in 2009 in Friendship Heights is Wisconsin Place, a one million square foot mixed-used development on Wisconsin Avenue. Wisconsin Place consists of 305,000 square feet of retail (Bloomingdale's and Whole Foods are the anchor tenants), 432 luxury apartments, 295,000 square feet of office space, a 20,500 square foot community center and a 1,765 space underground parking garage. Wisconsin Place is also home to the mid-Atlantic offices for Microsoft.

Wisconsin Place accounts for a significant portion of the development allowed in Friendship Heights under the Friendship Heights Sector Plan. The Plan originally allowed for a total of over 1.4 million additional square feet of office

and retail space, and an estimated 635 dwelling units. One of the first major projects constructed in this plan was the Chase Tower, a 240,000 square foot retail and office building delivered in November 2001. This luxury Class A tower is now home to the corporate headquarters for Ritz Carlton. Other tenants include Capital Trust and the JBG Companies.

#### Existing Office/R&D/Commercial Space

As of October 2012, Montgomery County has over 143 million square feet of commercial real estate space (office, flex, R&D, industrial and retail).

Most of Montgomery County's office space is located along two "Technology Corridors", the I-270 corridor and the Route 29 corridor. The I-270 corridor includes the Bethesda, Rockville, Gaithersburg and Germantown markets and features over 105 million square feet of commercial space. Notable buildings along the I-270 corridor include the 700,000 square foot Capital One Bank headquarters in Bethesda, and the 260,000 square foot Tower Building in Rockville. The Route 29 corridor connects Silver Spring to Burtonsville and includes over 14 million square feet of commercial space. Discovery Communications' 550,000 square foot corporate headquarters in downtown Silver Spring is the signature building in the corridor. Also featured along Route 29 is the Westech Business Park, which includes over three million square feet of office, R&D, light industrial and retail development.

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## Office/Flex/Industrial/Retail Space Availability by Major Submarkets as of October 2014

Montgomery County Market	Total Inventory (Square Feet)	Direct Vacant (Square Feet)	Direct Vacancy <u>Rate</u>	Vacancy Rate w/Sublet
Bethesda/Chevy Chase	18,058,682	1,307,636	7.2%	7.9%
Gaithersburg	21,886,906	1,727,722	7.9	8.2
Germantown	8,008,968	674,086	8.4	8.7
Kensington/Wheaton	8,251,526	671,253	8.1	8.1
North Bethesda/Potomac	17,083,829	2,493,853	14.6	15.0
North Rockville	24,376,680	2,813,656	11.5	12.7
North Silver Spring/Rt 29	9,306,332	634,705	6.8	7.6
Rockville	19,885,451	1,930,088	9.7	9.9
Silver Spring	12,255,807	840,684	6.9	7.2
Other Markets*	6,933,603	969,482	<u>14.0</u>	14.0
Total	146,047,784	14,063,165	9.5	10.3

Note: These figures are provided by CoStar Property, the County's source for commercial real estate information.

#### Agriculture

Agriculture in Montgomery County is a diverse industry that occupies about one-quarter of the County land area. Montgomery County's agriculture industry contributes over \$287 million to the local economy. Over \$85 million comes from Montgomery County's thriving equine industry, about \$154 million from horticulture, and \$48 million from traditional agriculture. There are more than 540 farms and 350 horticultural enterprises in Montgomery County. Forty-two (42) percent of Montgomery County's 540 farms are farmed as a primary occupation. Cash grain farms are the predominant agricultural use in Montgomery County covering over 48,000 acres. There are 219 farms or forty (40) percent that produce table food cropsproducts for direct human consumption. The majority of farms are family-run operations, most having been in the same family for several generations. The industry as a whole employs more than 10,000 residents.

Preservation of rural land for agricultural use is a high priority in Montgomery County. Farmland preservation efforts consist of a variety of strategic programs offered by Montgomery County and State. Montgomery County received a total of \$19.7 million in Rural Legacy Program grant awards.

Since its creation in 1980, the 93,000 acre Agricultural Reserve controlled farmland development in Montgomery County. There are approximately 70,000 acres of farmland in the Reserve, and another 20,000 acres within the Reserve are publicly owned (parkland) or previously developed land (rural villages). Currently, Montgomery County is ranked second nationally in acres of farmland protected through easements (72,479 acres), and has the highest percentage of land in farms preserved in the nation (94 percent).

In 1980, sixty (60) percent of the farmland in the Agricultural Reserve was owned by speculators. Through farmland preservation programs, this trend was significantly reduced as more farms are now owned and operated by farmers. Farmers and landowners can choose from seven separate agricultural land preservation programs. Each of these programs places an easement on the property that prevents future commercial, residential or industrial development of the land.

The Department of Economic Development-Agricultural Services Division supports retail and wholesale agricultural marketing programs, such as the Montgomery County-sponsored farmer's markets and annual farm tour, and promotion of wholesale and cooperative marketing. The Division also provides programs and technical assistance for farmers; these initiatives include Fuel-Energy Tax Relief, Deer Donation Program, Weed Control Services, Agricultural Product and Farm Logo Program, and many more.

<sup>\*</sup>Others include I-270 North, Outlying Montgomery County East, and Outlying Montgomery County West submarkets.

Major capital assets acquired during the current fiscal year included approximately \$2,006,430 for purchasing preservation easements on farmland in agricultural zones. These assets enhance the preservation of farmland protected by Transferable Development Rights easements (TDRs) including other agricultural lands not protected by agricultural easements. An additional \$3.1 million dollars is earmarked for pending FY15 easement settlements in association with Montgomery County and State Agricultural Easement Programs.

#### Office/Industrial Projects

#### **Summary**

A few large commercial projects continued in Montgomery County in 2014. Construction is nearing completion on NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Additionally, Montgomery County continued to make significant progress developing two strategic Science and Technology Centers. Details on these projects appear below.

Developers and local government officials broke ground on the Crown project in October 2012. The 182-acre tract is now the construction site for 320,000 square feet of retail and commercial space, plus 2,250 residential units, to be built by Buzzuto Group and called "Cadence at Crown." Part of the project has already been completed and the ribbon cutting ceremony took place in November 2014. JBG won the retail rights and restaurants and shops will include Harris Teeter, La Madeleine, Asia Nine and Roti Mediterranean Grill.

#### **Public/Private Projects**

#### East County Center for Science and Technology (ECCST)

The White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan is also being developed, which will provide a unique opportunity to capitalize on the presence of FDA, and transform this region of the Montgomery County into a vibrant hub for technological advancement.

The proposed 300-acre Site II development is envisioned as a public-private partnership between the Montgomery County and Percontee, Inc. The goal is to create a world-class life sciences, education and research campus that will be an economic engine in the eastern portion of the Montgomery County, and complement nearby Federal agencies, most notably the consolidated U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) headquarters. The Montgomery County took the property through the State's Voluntary Clean-Up Program; environmental remediation was completed in late 2014.

#### Montgomery College-Germantown Science and Technology Park

The White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan is also being developed, which will provide a unique opportunity to capitalize on the presence of FDA, and transform this region of Montgomery County into a vibrant hub for technological advancement.

In early 2003, Montgomery College settled on the purchase of a 20-acre site adjacent to the College's Germantown campus. This property was combined with 20 acres of existing undeveloped land on the campus to form a 40-acre site on which a one million square foot Science and Technology Park will be constructed. The purchase of the 20-acre site was made possible by a total of \$6.1 million in funding appropriations to the College from the State and County. The preliminary plan for the Science and Technology Park calls for primarily high technology research and development space, with a focus on the life sciences, which will complement the biotechnology programs and curriculum already offered at the Germantown Campus. Once built out, the Science and Technology Park would be home to nearly 4,000 employees. As the anchor tenant of the Montgomery College Science & Technology Park, Holy Cross Germantown will serve as a valuable educational resource for aspiring health care workers. To complement the Science and Technology Park, the College provided space for a 35,000 square foot County-operated business incubator on campus, which is fully occupied with science and technology early stage companies. To complete this three part science and technology project, the 127,000 square foot Bioscience Education Center has begun construction and will open to students in 2014.

#### **Montgomery County Business Innovation Network**

The Montgomery County Business Innovation Network is a program of business incubator facilities that has successfully assisted start-up technology and professional services companies to grow and expand in Montgomery County. The Maryland Technology Development Center (MTDC), opened its doors in 1998 and in August 2012, was renamed the

William E. Hanna, Jr. Innovation Center at Shady Grove. To date, nearly 137 companies graduated from Montgomery County's incubators. Montgomery County opened a second incubator in 2004, called the Silver Spring Innovation Center (SSIC). The SSIC is nearly fully leased to start-up information technology companies. The success of and demand for the incubator program spurred Montgomery County to develop three additional incubators since the opening of the SSIC. The Wheaton Business Innovation Center (WBIC) opened in 2006, and the Rockville Innovation Center (RIC) opened in 2007. The latest addition to the incubator program is the Germantown Innovation Center (GIC), which opened in October 2008.

#### **Commercial Projects Continuing in 2014**

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases will bring a projected 2,000 workers to a new 491,000-square-foot building on Fishers Lane in Twinbrook, under a lease signed by the U.S. General Services Administration. Chevy Chase-based JBG Companies will construct and lease the 10-story office at 5601 Fishers Lane, near where NIAID already has 150,000 square feet of laboratory space. There is also a 5-story, concrete parking garage located adjacent to the building. NIAID signed a 15-year lease for its new quarters, which are expected to be completed in 2014.

Construction began in 2013 on a new mixed-use development project in Rockville Town Center. The \$100 million development will include approximately 40,000 square feet of retail space, 465 apartments, a 140-room Cambria Suites Hotel and 1,000 parking spaces. The project is expected to generate \$10.18 million in revenue for the county and nearly \$3.8 million for the city during the next 15 years. The property is across the street from Choice Hotels International's new headquarters thus realizing the long-time vision for the headquarters and the flagship hotel brand to be located in close proximity.

#### **New Business Additions and Expansions**

Montgomery County's Department of Economic Development continues to work with companies interested in starting-up, expanding, or relocating to the County. Highlights of this activity include:

- **M Luis Construction Company** the company has committed to moving its headquarters with about 250 employees from Baltimore to Montgomery County.
- Mobile System 7 Company located its headquarters in Bethesda creating 40 new jobs.
- **SunEdison** signed a 10 year lease for 33,000 square feet of space in the newly renovated Bethesda building and will create 85 new jobs.
- **LSoft** was the first company to benefit from the MOVE program. It has relocated 25 jobs to Bethesda and plans to create another 10 new jobs in the next 2 years
- Cobrain a data analytics based e-commerce platform is planning to expand to 200 FTE in 3 years.
- **Emergent Biosolutions** was retained in Montgomery County and is planning to expand by 130 employees.
- Precision for Medicine was retained in Montgomery County and is planning to expand by 60 jobs

#### **General Obligation Bonds**

Montgomery County general obligation bonds are secured by the full faith, credit, and taxing powers of the County. Bonds are normally issued in serial maturities from one to 20 years, with five percent of the principal retired each year. This practice produces equal annual payments of principal over the life of the bond issue and declining annual payments of interest on the outstanding bonds. The Charter limits the term of any bond to a maximum of 30 years.

The General Obligation Bonded Debt Ratios displayed below measure the burden of the County's net direct debt, which consists primarily of general obligation bonds and outstanding BANs/commercial paper, and debt service payments on such. As with the calculation of the Legal Debt Limit, the County includes its BANs/commercial paper in these ratio calculations because it intends to repay such notes with the proceeds of general obligation debt to be issued in the near future. The ratios are as follows: 1) net direct debt as a percentage of full (market) value of taxable property; 2) debt service on outstanding general obligation bonds as a percentage of General Fund expenditures and transfers out; 3) net direct debt per

capita; 4) net direct debt per capita as a percentage of per capita income; and 5) rate of replacement of general obligation bond principal (payout ratio) in ten years. The results of these indicators are displayed in the Table below.

# $\begin{array}{c} General\ Obligation\ Bonded\ Debt\ Ratios \\ 2005-2014 \end{array}$

		GO Bond Debt			
	Net Direct	Service to		Net Direct	
	Debt to	General Fund	Net Direct	Debt Per Capita to	GO Bond
Fiscal Year	Market Value	<b>Expenditures</b>	Debt Per Capita	Per Capita Income	Payout Ratio
2005	1.30	7.74	1,527	2.61	70.20
2006	1.30	7.77	1,701	2.71	69.75
2007	1.30	7.83	1,861	2.81	68.92
2008	1.18	7.95	1,848	2.70	71.39
2009	1.13	7.31	1,997	2.83	70.63
2010	1.22	7.92	2,277	3.24	69.37
2011	1.27	8.58	2,507	3.55	68.65
2012	1.46	8.87	2,625	3.60	67.88
2013	1.58	8.88	2,737	3.74	68.33
2014	1.61	8.96	2,819	3.88	68.64

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#### **Statement of Direct and Overlapping Debt** As of June 30, 2014 **And Including Proposed General Obligation Bonds**

Direct Debt as of June 30, 2014 General Obligation Bonds Outstanding* General Obligation Variable Rate Demand Obligations Short-Term BANs/Commercial Paper Outstanding** Proposed General Obligation Bonds. Proposed General Obligation Refunding Bonds*** Revenue Bonds Outstanding. Total Direct Debt.	\$2,002,390,000 100,000,000 0 500,000,000 259,540,000 196,875,000	\$3,058,805,000
Overlapping Debt as of June 30, 2013 Gross Debt: Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Applicable to Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission. Montgomery County Revenue Authority. Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Applicable to Montgomery County Kingsview Village Center Development District as of June 30, 2014. West Germantown Development District as of June 30, 2014. Towns, Cities and Villages within Montgomery County. Total Overlapping Debt	1,406,111,000 669,408,769 90,501,519 33,904,922 1,570,000 13,505,000 52,027,910	\$2,267,029,120
Total Direct and Overlapping Debt		\$5,325,834,120
Less Self-Supporting Debt: County Government Revenue Bonds as of June 30, 2014 Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Applicable to Montgomery County Montgomery County Revenue Authority Montgomery County Revenue Authority Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Applicable to Montgomery County Total Self-Supporting Debt	196,875,000 1,406,111,000 669,408,769 90,501,519 222,228	(2,363,118,516)
Net Direct and Overlapping Debt		\$2,962,715,604
Ratio of Debt to June 30, 2014 Assessed Valuation of (100% Assessment):  Direct Debt  Net Direct Debt ****  Direct and Overlapping Debt  Net Direct and Overlapping Debt.		\$163,601,192,842 1.87% 1.75% 3.26% 1.81%
Ratio of Debt to June 30, 2014 Market Value of:  Direct Debt  Net Direct Debt ****  Direct and Overlapping Debt  Net Direct and Overlapping Debt.		\$178,263,765,645 1.72% 1.61% 2.99% 1.66%

<sup>\*</sup> This amount has been reduced by \$268,110,000 the amount of the Refunded Bonds.
\*\* Preliminary, subject to change.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Net of amount retired with proceeds Series A Bonds.

\*\*\*\* Net Direct Debt of \$2,861,930,000 is derived by subtracting direct self-supporting debt, which consists only of County Government Revenue Bonds, from Total Direct Debt.

#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

#### Overview

The information contained under the heading "Prince George's County" has been obtained from Prince George's County. The Commission has not undertaken to audit, authenticate or otherwise verify the information regarding representation respecting the accuracy and completeness of such information. The Commission is not in a position to, and will not, undertake to update any information regarding Prince George's County.

Prince George's County, with a 2014 population of 904,430, encompasses an area of 483 square miles and lies between Washington D.C., and Baltimore, Maryland. Bordering Prince George's County are Howard, Anne Arundel and Calvert Counties to the north and east, Montgomery County and Washington, D.C. to the west and Charles County to the south. Across the Potomac River in Virginia are Arlington and Fairfax Counties. Prince George's County is part of the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The County seat for Prince George's County is Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Prince George's County is a body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of Maryland. Services provided or paid for by Prince George's County from local, State and federal sources include police, fire and emergency services; programs for the aged; public works; stormwater management; and court and correctional services. Prince George's County also is responsible for adoption and maintenance of building codes and regulation of licenses and permits; collection of taxes and revenues; maintenance of public records; conducting elections; and collection and disposal of refuse.

Health care, elementary, secondary and community college education and library services are provided by other entities and are partially financed by Prince George's County. Public transit, planning, parks, recreation, water, sewer and public housing are provided by related entities. Public assistance is provided by the State of Maryland. Hospital services are provided by a nonprofit corporation under a lease arrangement with Prince George's County. For accounting purposes, certain of these governmental entities are included in Prince George's County's financial statements.

County residents enjoy a diversity of leisure options, including a park system encompassing 26,000 acres of parkland. Leisure facilities and services provided by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "M-NCPPC") include a sports and concert facility (Show Place Arena); a 10,000 seat AA Minor League Baseball stadium (Bowie Baysox); community centers; recreational buildings; aquatic facilities; ice rinks; golf courses; an equestrian center; tennis courts; a performing arts and cultural center; and a gymnastic center. Other major recreational facilities include an 87,052-seat National Football League stadium (Fedex Field – Home of the Washington Redskins); an amusement park (Six Flags of America) featuring rides attractions and shows; and a 240,000 square foot Olympic-quality recreational Sports and Learning Complex. In addition, recreational and cultural opportunities of the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., are located just across the Prince George's County line. The National Harbor, Brickyards, and Woodmore Town Center are recent, high-quality mixed-use developments in Prince George's County. The County is home to six universities and colleges including the flagship campus of the University System of Maryland. Prince Georgians enjoy an excellent road system and some of the most affordable housing in the Washington area as well as convenient access to three major airports and the Port of Baltimore.

#### Government

The County operates under a Charter which was adopted in November 1970. The powers of Prince George's County are provided in the County Charter and in the Constitution and the laws of the State of Maryland, including Article 25A of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Under the County Charter, the County is composed of an executive and a legislative branch. The executive branch implements and enforces the laws and administers the day to day business of Prince George's County. It consists of a County Executive (who is elected by the qualified voters of the entire County) and all other officers, agents, and employees under the County Executive's supervision and authority, including the Chief Administrative Officer, who is responsible for the day to day administration of the County. The legislative branch of the County consists of a nine-member County Council (elected from Councilmanic Districts) and its staff. The County Executive and the County Council are elected for coterminous four-year terms by qualified voters of the County and are limited by the County Charter to two consecutive four-year terms in office.

Each member of the County Council has one vote. Five votes generally are required to pass legislation and six votes are needed to enact emergency bills and to override a veto by the County Executive. The County Council customarily elects from among its members a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman to serve one-year terms.

The court system for the County was established by and is operated under the authority of the State. District and Circuit Court judges are appointed by the Governor, but Circuit Court judges must thereafter run for election. Other State court officials are directly elected for various terms.

There are 27 incorporated municipalities in the County. These municipalities levy taxes on their own authority and are not subject to the limitations set forth in Sections 812 and 813 of the County Charter. Property in these areas is subject to County taxation and the County provides certain public services to residents of the incorporated municipalities. County ordinances and regulations also are applicable to them. These municipalities may incur general obligation bonded indebtedness and levy taxes without the approval of the County. Bonds issued by these municipalities are the legal responsibility of each municipality and are not guaranteed in any way by the County. Maryland law mandates that the County recognize either through a reduced County tax rate or through a direct grant payment, those governmental services and programs which municipal governments perform in lieu of similar County government services funded through the property tax.

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "M-NCPPC") is a bi-county agency established by State law. It acquires and develops land and facilities for park or recreational use and provides planning for physical development in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. It also operates the park and recreational systems in Prince George's County. The operations of the M-NCPPC are financed by separate *ad valorem* property taxes levied and collected by each of the two counties on its behalf. Bonds issued by the M-NCPPC for land or improvements located in Prince George's County are guaranteed by Prince George's County.

#### **Population**

From 1980 to 2010 the County has grown at an average rate of approximately 66,116 people every 10 years. Between 2000 and 2010 the population growth in the County increased 7.7%. The County's growth has been slightly slower than the population growth in Maryland (9.0%) and the United States (9.7%) between 2000 and 2010. The population for 2014 is estimated to be 904,430, an increase of 1.1% from the 2013 population of 894,199.

In 2014, 66.1% of the County's residents were between the ages of 18 and 64 years old, which was slightly higher than the State of Maryland (63.6%) and the United States (62.4%). The share of the County's population that was 65 years and older (11.2%) was lower compared to the State of Maryland (13.8%) and the United States (14.5%).

Population						
	1980 – 2010	)				
Year	County	State of Maryland	United States			
2010	863,420	5,773,552	308,745,538			
2000	801,515	5,296,486	281,421,906			
1990	729,268	4,798,000	248,769,873			
1980	665,071	4,216,000	226,505,000			
Percent Change (2000-2010)	7.7%	9.0%	9.7%			
2014 (Est.)	904,430	5,976,407	318,857,056			

Source: Decennial Census, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce (as of July 2015)

#### **Income**

In 2013, the County's aggregate personal income totaled \$38.6 billion. The per capita personal income in the County during 2013 was \$43,362. The County's per capita personal income increased 4.0% between 2009 and 2013. This percentage increase was lower than in the United States (13.7%) and the State of Maryland (9.2%).

The County's median household income in 2013 was \$72,052 compared to \$69,947 in 2009, an increase of 3.0% in the 5-year period. Jurisdictional comparisons are shown below:

#### Median Household Income

2009 and 2013

Median Household Income

	Median Household income					
Metro Jurisdiction	2009	2013	% Change			
State of Maryland	\$69,272	\$72,483	5%			
Washington Metro Area:						
Prince George's County	69,947	72,052	3.0%			
Calvert County	89,289	94,196	5.5%			
Charles County	89,115	88,797	-0.4%			
Frederick County	83,229	84,308	1.3%			
Montgomery County	94,420	98,326	4.1%			
Baltimore Metro Area:						
Anne Arundel County	80,300	86,230	7.4%			
Baltimore City	38,772	42,266	9.0%			
Baltimore County	64,906	64,795	-0.2%			
Carroll County	79,227	82,955	4.7%			
Harford County	76,187	77,765	2.1%			
Howard County	101,940	109,476	7.4%			

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates (as of July 2015). \*Inflation-adjusted.

#### **Employment**

A comparison between the employment distribution of the County and the State of Maryland is shown in the following chart.

Comparative Distributions of Non-Agricultural Employment by Industry 2010 - 2014

Industry	Prin	ce Geor	ge's County			Maryland
	(2010)		(2014) <sup>1</sup>	l		(2014) <sup>1</sup>
	Sectoral Employment	% of Total	Sectoral Employment	% of Total	Sectoral Employment	% of Total
Government Employment	86,791	29%	87,236	29%	485,989	19%
Private Employment	212,436	71%	215,953	71%	2,067,344	81%
Natural Resources and Mining	140	0%	158	0%	6,435	0%
Construction	25,365	8%	24,853	8%	149,622	6%
Manufacturing	9,114	3%	6,638	2%	103,562	4%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	57,386	19%	59,287	20%	449,318	18%
Information	3,197	1%	4,418	1%	38,801	2%
Real Estate and Financial Activities	11,816	4%	11,217	4%	137,176	5%
Professional, Business & Administrative Services	39,549	13%	37,594	12%	424,517	17%
Education and Health Services	29,159	10%	31,729	10%	408,350	16%
Leisure and Hospitality	27,188	9%	30,467	10%	260,369	10%
Other Services	9,522	3%	9,592	3%	89,184	3%
Unclassified	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	299,227	100%	303,189	100%	2,553,333	100%

<sup>1</sup>As of July 2015

Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulations Employment and Payroll - County Industry Series

Between 2006 and 2015, the unemployment rate for the County generally remained close to the State of Maryland's unemployment rate and below that of the United States as shown in the following table and the subsequent chart.

Labor Market Characteristics
2006-2015

	County R	Residents	Une	<b>Unemployment Rate</b>				
Year	Civilian Labor Force	Resident Employment	Prince George's County	State of Maryland	United States			
2006	444,907	426,421	4.2	3.9	4.6			
2007	445,492	429,521	3.6	3.5	4.6			
2008	450,361	430,909	4.3	4.2	5.8			
2009	457,576	425,799	6.9	7.0	9.3			
2010	479,606	443,635	7.5	7.7	9.6			
2011	481,902	446,839	7.3	7.2	8.9			
2012	483,956	449,798	7.1	7.0	8.1			
2013	484,066	451,466	6.7	6.6	7.4			
2014	482,279	453,982	5.9	5.8	6.2			
2015 <sup>1</sup>	482,675	456,675	5.2	5.6	5.8			

<sup>1</sup>Estimated as of July 2015

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey and Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program.\*Not seasonally adjusted. (as of July 2015)

The County's diversity in employment is shown in the following table reflecting the 10 largest private and 10 largest public sector employers in the County.

Employer	Product or Service	Number o
	1 loudet of Service	Employees
LARGEST PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYERS		
United Parcel Service	Package Delivery (Regional Headquarters)	4,220
Giant Food, Inc.	Retail Grocery Chain	3,000
Verizon	Communications Services	2,738
Dimensions Healthcare System	Health Services/Nursing Homes	2,500
Marriott International	Hotels and Motels	2,303
Shoppers Food Warehouse	Retail Grocery Chain (National Headquarters)	1,975
Safeway Store, Inc.	Retail Grocery Chain (Regional Headquarters)	1,605
Target	Consumer Goods (Retail)	1,400
Doctors Community Hospital	Medical Services	1,300
MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center	Medical Services	1,242
LARGEST PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYERS		
University of Maryland <sup>1</sup>	Higher Education	18,562
Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington <sup>2</sup>	Defense Installation (civilian and military employees)	17,500
Prince George's County Public Schools	Education	17,359
Prince George's County	Local Government	7,004
United States Internal Revenue Service <sup>2</sup>	Revenue Collection/Data Processing	5,539
United States Bureau of the Census <sup>2</sup>	Demographic and Economic Surveys	4,414
NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center <sup>2</sup>	Space Satellite Design and Tracking	3,397
Prince George's Community College	Education	2,665
United States Department of Agriculture <sup>2</sup>	USDA Library/Agricultural Research	1,850
National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office <sup>2</sup>	Maritime Intelligence Analysis	1,724

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Includes University of Maryland College Park, University of Maryland University College and Bowie State University

Source: MD Dept. Business and Economic Development; Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation, July 2015.

#### **Retail Sales**

The Maryland sales and use tax rate is 6% on all taxable sales other than certain vehicle rentals and sales of mobile homes. Beginning July 1, 2011, the tax rate for alcoholic beverages, including mixtures, increased from 6% to 9%. Most sales of food by substantial grocery or market businesses are not subject to the sales tax. Other exemptions include medicine, energy for residential use, manufacturing machinery and equipment, and certain agricultural equipment and supplies. In fiscal year 2014, the County generated an estimated \$489.7 million in sales taxes. From fiscal year 2010 to fiscal year 2014 the sales taxes generated by the County increased 11.0%.

Prince George's County's diversity in employment is shown in the following table reflecting the 10 largest private and 10 largest public sector employers in the County.

#### Housing

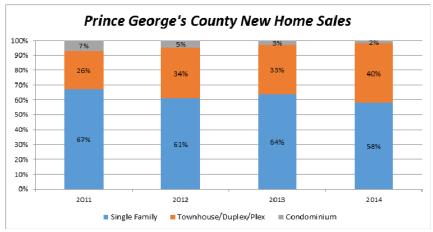
The composition of the County's housing market is displayed in the following table. Between 2009 and 2013, total housing units increased by 2.3% (an increase of approximately 7,278 units). During this time period, single family homes increased by 4.6% while multi-family homes decreased by 2.3%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Excludes contractors

Housing Units by Type of Structure									
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013				
Single Family									
Number of Units	211,793	221,898	224,870	222,668	221,589				
Percent of Market	65.8%	67.6%	68.2%	67.7%	67.3%				
Multi-Family									
Number of Units	110,296	106,499	104,985	106,376	107,778				
Percent of Market	34.2%	32.4%	31.8%	32.3%	32.7%				
Total Units	322,089	328,397	329,855	329,044	329,367				

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates (as of July 2015)

Historically, single family detached homes have made up a majority of new home sales in the County. Single family detached homes have averaged 62.5% of new total sales from 2011 to 2014.



Source: Metro Study (Accessed July 2015)

Median residential sales in the County have increased by an average of 23.6% comparing the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2014 to 2015. The median sales price of owner-occupied residential properties in the County has also increased during this time period from an average of \$250,967 in 2014 to \$284,833 in 2015.

The following table shows the number of residences distributed within certain housing value ranges. During 2013, the majority of residences were valued between \$200,000 and \$499,999.

#### Estimated Market Value of Owner-Occupied Residential Property

	20	12	20	Increase (Decrease)	
	Number of	Share of	Number of	Share of	Number of
Value Range	Residences	Residences	Residences	Residences	Residences
Less than \$50,000	4,478	2.4%	10,345	5.5%	5,867
\$50,000 to \$99,999	6,526	3.5%	7,091	3.8%	565
\$100,000 to \$149,999	14,343	7.8%	13,663	7.3%	(680)
\$150,000 to \$199,999	31,109	16.8%	30,716	16.4%	(393)
\$200,000 to \$299,999	69,463	37.6%	64,864	34.6%	(4,599)
\$300,000 to \$499,999	47,279	25.6%	51,389	27.4%	4,110
\$500,000 to \$999,999	10,086	5.5%	7,812	4.2%	(2,274)
\$1,000,000 or more	1,591	0.9%	1,444	0.8%	(147)
Total Owner-Occupied					
Units	184,875		187,324		2,449

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates (July 2015).

Note: Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100 percent.

#### **Commercial and Industrial Growth**

A summary of building permit activity, including residential as well as commercial and industrial (non-residential) projects, is provided in the following table.

Between 2005 and 2014, the value of new residential construction within the County has averaged approximately \$345.8 million annually. Non-residential construction has averaged approximately \$178.6 million per year. The value of new residential construction within the County in 2014 was \$288.9 million as compared to \$231.2 million in 2013. The value of new non-residential construction within the County in 2014 was \$96.3 million as compared to \$121.1 million in 2013.

					Build	ing Peri	mit	ts					
	Residential Construction					Non-Residential Construction				Total			
Calendar Year	Permits Issued	١	Total Valuation <sup>(1)</sup>	Va	Annual aluation <sup>(1)</sup>	Permits Issued	V	Total aluation <sup>(1)</sup>		Average uation <sup>(1)</sup>	Total Permits Issued	V	Total aluation <sup>(1)</sup>
2005	3,647	\$	636,860	\$	175	39	\$	161,359	\$	4,137	3,686	\$	798,219
2006	3,625		700,079		193	59		178,648		3,028	3,684		878,727
2007	2,987		487,868		163	105		477,541		4,548	3,092		965,409
2008	1,879		231,129		123	77		103,904		1,463	1,956		335,033
2009	2,058		260,898		127	40		187,584		4,690	2,098		448,482
2010	1,405		205,443		146	398		112,701		283	1,803		318,144
2011	1,412		223,875		159	301		107,905		358	1,713		331,780
2012	1,255		191,489		153	321		239,357		746	1,576		430,846
2013	1,452		231,219		173	304		121,100		812	1,756		352,319
2014	1,037		288,927		279	259		96,263		372	1,296		385,190
Total	20,757		3,457,787		1,691	1,903		1,786,362		20,437	22,660		5,244,149
Annual Average	2,076		345,779		169	190		178,636		2,044	2,266		524,415
2015 (JanJune)	660	\$	122,498	\$	186	156	\$	76,381	\$	489	816	\$	198,879
(1) Amounts in thous	ands of doll	ars o	of permit-state	ed co	onstruction c	osts.		·			•		

Source: Bureau of the Census, Construction Statistics Division, Building Permits Branch and Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement.

During 2014, approximately 715,983 square feet of new commercial space was delivered to the market in Prince George's County. This represents a significant reduction in delivered commercial space from 2010 to 2013, but is still 9.5% of total delivered commercial space in the Washington D.C. metropolitan market. The total square footage of commercial space delivered by type during the calendar years 2010 through 2014 is shown below:

Commercial Square Feet Delivered, by Type									
Туре	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014				
Office	626,918	357,469	374,102	58,994	0				
Retail	771,789	555,830	582,143	370,724	541,994				
Flex	152,767	36,120	81,848	99,974	0				
Industrial	776,890	377,240	392,998	622,489	173,989				
Total Square Footage Metropolitan Area	2,328,364 11.69%	1,326,659 6.10%	1,431,091 6.98%	1,152,181 13.30%	715,983 9.41%				

Source: CoStar (Accessed August 2015).

Nearly three quarters of a million square feet of industrial and retail space was delivered in 2014. The vacancy rate of the overall commercial real estate sector was at approximately 11%, down 1.5% from 2013, with retail space showing the strongest absorption rate. Also, the industrial sector delivered 173,989 square feet in calendar year 2014.

#### **Economic Activity**

Contracting opportunities with government, research, technology, and defense industry anchors contributed to the maintenance of a relatively stable market. The federal government and the County's mixed commercial base cushion the impact of economic downturns, but also moderate the rate of recovery.

There are nearly a dozen federal agencies mostly with research-focused activities within the County. These agencies attract technology companies as partners/contractors for their operations. The NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, the USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the Army Research Laboratory, the Institute for Defense Analysis, the Internal Revenue Service, and the U.S. Census Bureau Supercomputer Center support the local technology business base. The University of Maryland at College Park is building several new facilities, some for national security-related tenants, on its 100-acre Enterprise Campus research park. The completion of the NOAA Center for Weather and Climate Control at the Enterprise Campus was delivered in mid-2012 and involved a \$76.5 million capital expenditure.

Below is additional information about certain significant retail, commercial, and/or entertainment projects that are pending or have been completed recently:

• Prince George's County negotiated a \$30 million grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation for the construction of the major access road serving the proposed Konterra Development, a major economic development project in the northern portion of the County that is expected to create jobs and strengthen the County's commercial tax base. The access road connects Konterra to the new Contee Road Interchange at I-95, as well as to the new Intercounty Connector (MD Route 200) interchange at Virginia Manor Road. The realignment and reconstruction of the roadway provides access to undeveloped and previously inaccessible areas in northern Prince George's County. The proposed Konterra Town Center development adjacent to the new road has the ability to accommodate about two million square feet of commercial space and 2,000 residential units, where construction is scheduled to begin in 2018.

- During 2012-2013, Solar City relocated 12 jobs and added another 88 new positions in the consolidation of locations formerly in Montgomery and Anne Arundel Counties and now has 260 employees at the Beltsville facility, where it is continuing to expand with the addition of 8,173 square feet of leased space for a new solar panel installation training center.
- Aquilent of Laurel, which provides cloud computing services t o t h e federal government, has increased its workforce to 400 employees and has leased an additional 34,000 square feet of office space in adjacent buildings in the 95 Office Center Business Park in 2015 to accommodate future job growth of 200 information technology professionals by mid-2018.
- Westphalia Town Center is a planned mixed-use town center in Upper Marlboro that will offer 347 townhomes, over 400 apartments, a 150-room hotel and 500,000 square feet of retail shopping on 479 acres during phase one. The project broke ground in June 2013. Infrastructure development is in process. At completion, the development will have 15,000 homes, one million square feet of retail, four million square feet of office space and three hotels -- making it one of the largest developments in Prince George's County.
- Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development relocated its headquarters from Crownsville, Maryland to New Carrollton. The Department, employing 400 individuals, will be the anchor tenant of a mixed use, transit-oriented development at the New Carrollton Metro Station. During phase one of the project, 550 residential units and 65,000 square feet of retail space will be constructed.

## Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation

The County contracts with the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to promote economic development. The EDC works in the following areas:

- Market the County as a great business location regionally and globally
- · Retain, expand and grow existing businesses
- Attract new businesses
- Promote the growth and development of small, minority and disadvantaged businesses
- Operate a business incubator to nurture advanced technology and life sciences firms
- · Promote strategic retail development
- Serve as the "front door" for applications to the \$50M Economic Development Incentive Fund
- Promote international trade and investment with businesses interested in doing business in the United States involving import-export trade and foreign direct investment
- Secure funds necessary to implement economic development strategies, FTZ, and expand incubator/accelerator program
- Provide workforce services and training to County businesses, job seekers and residents
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through the United States General Services Administration ("GSA") solicited proposals throughout the Region for the relocation of the agency, now in downtown Washington, D.C. Two of the three finalist sites are located in Prince George's County; one at Greenbelt Metro Station and the other at Landover Mall. The project will consist of the construction of a 2.1 million square foot security level five office complex with 11,000 employees.
- Thompson Creek is a window manufacturing company in the process of consolidating its facilities in Prince George's County into an expanded build-to-suit facility in Upper Marlboro to retain more than 400 employees.
- MGM Resorts is constructing the MGM National Harbor Casino on 23 acres. The \$1.3 billion casino is scheduled to open in mid-2016 and create 3,600 jobs.
  - Susan Gage Catering, a commercial caterer, relocated from Oxon Hill to a new location in Landover, with 110 employees.
- Echo-UTC, LLC will redevelop and construct a mixed-use development project consisting of a 52,105 square foot Safeway grocery store and commercial/retail, restaurant and office space totaling another 33,419 square feet. The project will create 282 new jobs over the next three years. With an investment of \$23.5 million, the project has the potential to revitalize and stabilize the existing University Town Center development.
- Construction of a 117-room Hampton Inn hotel was completed in Camp Springs in 2014. Located near the Branch Avenue Metro Station, the hotel features a conference center with 150-person occupancy and created 16 full-time positions. Total project cost was \$15.6 million.
- The Kane Company is consolidating their operations to a 100,000 square foot facility currently being constructed in Lanham. The property will serve as the company's headquarters and is expected to cost approximately \$13 million and house 200-300 employees.

- Relay Foods, an on-line grocery store, relocated from Washington, D.C. to Landover with 35 employees.
- Famous Daves Restaurant opened a new location at the Boulevard at the Capital Centre shopping center in Largo creating 50 jobs.
- Well Dunn Catering is in the process of relocating from Washington, D.C. to Hyattsville with 40 employees.
- Metropolitan Meat and Seafood is in the process of consolidating the company's Washington, D.C. operation into the company's Landover facility that will add 85 employees.
- EBA Engineering is consolidating its Baltimore and Laurel operations into a new location in Laurel that will add 109 employees to the company's Prince George's County workforce.
- Alsco, a commercial laundry business with 180 facilities worldwide, is in the process of relocating its Washington, D.C. operation to Lanham with a workforce of 250 employees at the company's new 84,000 square foot facility.
- FlexEl, a developer and manufacturer of ultra-high capacity flexible thin-film batteries, graduated from the University of Maryland's business incubator and has leased commercial space to remain in College Park with 32 employees.
- Panda Power Funds is scheduled to begin construction of the \$1.7 billion 884 Mega-Watt Mattawoman natural gas electric power plant in Brandywine in the fall of 2015.
- UPS acquired an additional seven acres of land adjacent to the company's distribution facility in Laurel to accommodate future growth beginning with 25 new jobs in addition to the current 1,019 full-time employees.

#### **Economic Development**

Economic development is a core priority of the County's commitment to ensuring a high quality of life and securing the long-term viability of the County. The fiscal year 2016 approved budget includes a \$9.0 million investment in the Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Fund which was established under CB-4-2011. The fund was created to assist the County in expanding its tax base; attracting new businesses; retaining existing businesses; and expanding job opportunities through loans, grants and guarantees to businesses throughout the County. To date, the County has approved the following loan awards that are at various stages of disbursement:

# Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Fund Loan Activity

Date of Award	Project Name	Loan Amount	Purpose	Project Location
6/28/2012	Hampton Inn & Suites	1,200,000	Construction of new \$15,150,000 117-room Hilton brand hotel resulting in the creation of 15-20 full-time jobs in addition to construction positions.	Camp Springs, MD
7/19/2012	Man & Machine, Inc.	500,000	Business expansion of technology company to manufacture new waterproof computer equipment. Expansion of current facility by 7,000 sf and the addition of 19 full-time employees.	Landover, MD
7/19/2012	Little Caesars	300,000	Franchise expansion resulting in the employment of 6 new full-time employees and 40 part-time positions.	Mount Rainier, MD Bladensburg, MD
9/20/2012	Information Management Services, Inc.	110,000	Biomedical computing support contractor relocation from Montgomery County to Prince George's County. Leasing of 25,000 sf for 10 years with a 10-year renewal option. Employment of 150 new full-time employees.	Calverton, MD
9/20/2012	Nash Finch Company	200,000	Relocation and expansion of wholesale food distribution operations resulting in employment of 136 new full-time employees and the revitalization of long-vacant, large commercial property.	Landover, MD
10/25/2012	Vocus Inc.	100,000	Expansion of information technology marketing company resulting in lease of 25,000 sf facility and employment of 100 new full-time employees.	Beltsville, MD
1/17/2013	Strayer University	2,500,000	Pre-development expenses and construction of 36,956 sf campus resulting in the retention of 74 jobs and the creation of 6 new jobs.	Suitland, MD
5/31/2013	Marra Forni	455,000	Expansion and capital improvements of building, machinery, and equipment and working capital for local manufacturer of brick ovens resulting in creation of 40 new jobs.	Beltsville, MD
6/28/2013	Bozzuto & Associates, Inc.	500,000	Retention, relocation and expansion of integrated real estate services company headquarters into 74,000 sf building resulting in retention of 284 employees and 44 new full-time employees.	Greenbelt, MD
11/8/2013	Patak Realty, LLC	650,000	Redevelopment of blighted, vacant shopping center in the heart of University of Maryland College Park area resulting in economic growth in retail industry and creation of 67 full-time jobs.	College Park, MD
11/8/2013	Echo-UTC, LLC	2,000,000	Redevelopment and construction of mixed-used project consisting of 52,000 sf Safeway store and 33,000 sf commercial/retail, restaurant and office space and two story parking structure resulting in creation of approximately 280 jobs.	Hyattsville, MD
11/8/2013	Amare Realty, LLC	750,000	Relocation and expansion of 23,650 sf catering and food service company headquarters from Washington, DC resulting in creation of 63 full-time jobs and retention of 25 jobs.	Brentwood, MD
3/31/2014	Still I Rise CSS&T, LLC	100,000	Working capital for Women's Wellness Center resulting in creation of approximately 10 full-time jobs.	Clinton, MD
4/17/2014	Leuterio Thomas, LLC	450,000	Relocation and consolidation of full service architectural and engineering firm from Virginia to 3,231 sf office space resulting in creation of approximately 14 full-time jobs.	Oxon Hill, MD
6/26/2014	Bates Trucking Company, Inc.	2,700,000	Major renovations and construction of existing business property to include new 10,405 sf service building and 7,750 sf office building.	Bladensburg, MD
6/26/2014	F. G. Development Corporation, LLC	570,000	Major rehabilitation of one stand-alone building and two units in partially vacant shopping center to house a minority-owned medical practice.	Capitol Heights, MD
6/26/2014	Little Caesars	200,000	Machinery and equipment, inventory, leasehold improvements, and working capital for two franchises.	College Park, MD Bowie, MD
7/31/2014	Carrollton Station	2,250,000	Mixed use transit oriented development including 113,000 sf headquarters for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, 556 residential units and approximately 61,000 sf of retail space.	Lanham, MD
8/28/2014	Blueline Security Services, LLC	50,000	Working capital to support growth resulting in the retention of 140 full- time and 100 part-time jobs and the creation of 120 new full-time jobs.	Landover, MD
9/25/2014	Bowie Marketplace	1,000,000	Redevelopment of 130,000 sf of retail to include Harris Teeter as the anchor grocer.	Bowie, MD
9/25/2014	Lyon Bakery, Inc.	1,000,000	Attraction of artisan bread supplier to the County with 97 full-time jobs and the creation of 25 new full-time jobs into an 87,712 sf facility	Hyattsville, MD
12/4/2014	Romano Vineyard & Winery	145,000	Expansion of local vineyard.	Brandywine, MD
1/29/2015	Thompson Creek Window Company	250,000	Retention and expansion of the company's manufacturing and warehouse operations into a newly constructed 125,000 sf facility resulting in retention of 330 full-time jobs and creation of 150 new full-time jobs.	Upper Marlboro, MD
3/26/2015	Hampton Park	1,800,000	Redevelopment of mixed use facility to include residential units, retail, office, hotel and structured parking resulting in creation of 572 full-time jobs.	Capitol Heights, MD
5/28/2015	Susan Gage Caterers	600,000	Retention and expansion of a catering business to include financing of improvements, machinery and equipment resulting in retention of 110 full-time jobs and creation of 25 additional jobs.	Hyattsville, MD
	Total	20,380,000	just and treation of 25 deathoris jour	

In fiscal year 2016, the County continues its investment in three economic development-related agencies that attract and retain businesses; promote the County's tourism activities; and provide financial assistance to businesses. The approved fiscal year 2016 budget provides the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) with \$2.9 million to continue its marketing and public relations efforts, small business initiatives, job training and travel program to leverage resources and promote the County abroad. The Financial Services Corporation First (FSC First) will use \$0.7 million of County contribution to continue its work in assisting local businesses in finding the financing resources necessary to make sound business decisions. The Prince George's County Conference and Visitors Bureau will spend \$0.7 million in county contribution to support its one-stop service function for businesses hosting conferences and events in the County.

**Economic Development Program Initiatives** 

The following initiatives support economic development in the County:

- Economic Development Incentive Fund (EDIF). This is a \$50 million, one-time appropriation to support expansion of the County's commercial tax base, job retention and attraction, support for small and local businesses, promotion of development and redevelopment opportunities, transit-oriented development and growth of key industry sectors. The EDIF, which launched in March 2012, has a fiscal year appropriation of \$7-11 million annually. As of June 2015, twenty-five applications for funding have been approved, with a value in excess of \$20.3 million. An additional 22 projects are at various stages in the review and underwriting process; these projects have a value of over \$16.2 million. See Economic Development Incentive Fund chart of this Official Statement under heading "Description of Services."
- The Transforming Neighborhood Initiative (TNI). TNI is an effort by Prince George's County to focus on uplifting six neighborhoods in the County that face significant economic, health, public safety, and educational challenges. Through this initiative, the County seeks to improve the quality of life in these neighborhoods while identifying ways to improve service delivery throughout the County to all residents. The communities are East Riverdale/Bladensburg, Hillcrest Heights/Marlow Heights, Langley Park, Glassmanor/Oxon Hill, Kentland/Palmer Park, and Suitland/Coral Hills.
- <u>Enterprise Zone</u>. The County's Enterprise Zone continues to provide incentives for new investment and new job creation in targeted areas of the County. The existing Enterprise Zones were expanded in 2014 by an additional 152.86 acres. The Focus Areas within the Enterprise Zones were also expanded and redesignated in eligible areas.
- <u>Gaming</u>. The Maryland General Assembly approved Governor O'Malley's Gaming Bill in August 2012. This bill, which received favorable County and statewide referendum votes in November 2012, authorized the construction of a sixth casino in Prince George's County. MGM Resorts was selected among the contenders by the Maryland Gaming Commission to be the operator of the casino that will be located at National Harbor. Construction of the new casino is expected to be complete in mid-2016.
- New County Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement. The new Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement opened July 1, 2013. The goal of this new department is to increase efficiency and improve consistency, predictability, and streamlined communications to both commercial and residential stakeholders with respect to permitting, inspections, and code enforcement, thereby resulting in a more customer-friendly process for businesses and residents. Developers have frequently cited the current lengthy, repetitive and costly permitting and review system as an impediment to investment in the County.

<u>International Trade</u>. The international trade objectives for the county shifted in 2015 from BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) to a global market strategy. Regions interested in doing business in the United States in terms of import-export trade or foreign direct investment are of interest to Prince George's County. The EDC has joined the State of Maryland in business missions to

India (2012) and Brazil (2013). County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III led a county mission to China in 2014, and will lead another county mission China in September 2015. The county also opened the India Business Center at the EDC.

- Foreign-Trade Zone 63. Companies that import components and products from overseas will find hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings by participating in the County's foreign-trade zone. Originally designated to the Collington Industrial Business Park, companies can now determine where they want to warehouse inventory, or set-up light manufacturing in the County near Washington, D.C., Baltimore, or south near Charles County. Foreign-Trade Zones eliminate or defer duties on imports and provide cash flow management protections; eliminate tariffs on exports; reduce record of entry payments; and speed processing through the port.
- Hospital Memorandum of Understanding. Under this multi-party agreement, the County, the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation, and the University System of Maryland worked with Dimensions Health Corporation and State of Maryland health officials to establish an analysis of the County's health facility needs to determine the scale, cost and feasibility of constructing a new regional medical center and health sciences campus. In late August 2013, the Board of Directors of Dimensions Health Corporation approved the selection of the Largo Town Center site as the location of the new campus. A certificate of need application for the selected site has been submitted to the State of Maryland, which is the next step in the process prior to final approval of the regional medical center site.

Strengthened Minority Business and Local/Small Business Outreach and Certification. Driven in part by procurement opportunities in professional services, such as architectural and engineering services, as well as information technology and construction, the number of participants currently certified as Minority Business Enterprises in Prince George's County has reached 900 firms, the highest number of minority-owned firms that have been certified in the County since the Minority Business Program was created more than 25 years ago. This program is designed to give access to procurement opportunities to the minority business community and expand competition in the procurement process. It was renamed the Supplier Development and Diversity Division (SDDD) Program in early 2013. Effective January 1, 2013, the County began certifying local/small County-based businesses and effective July 1, 2013, SDDD began implementing the provisions of CB-17-2011 (the Jobs First Act) that gives preference for County contracts to County-based businesses.

- Economic Development Strategy. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and its consultant, Battelle Technology Partnership Practice, completed work on a targeted economic development strategy for Prince George's County in May 2013. The strategy focuses on identifying and targeting key high-growth industries that have the greatest potential to contribute to economic growth and development in Prince George's County; leveraging the County's unique assets to capture economic development opportunities; and setting forth targeted strategies and actions to maximize economic development. The high-growth industry sectors are Healthcare and Life Sciences, Business Services, ICE (Information, Communications and Electronics) and the Federal Government.
- Transit Oriented Development (TOD). In March 2014, County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III kicked-off the Jump Start TOD initiative to focus attention on attracting commercial and residential development at five of the County's 15 Metro Stations Largo, New Carrollton, Prince George's Plaza, Branch Avenue, and Suitland. These high priority TOD locations will receive needed public infrastructure improvements, and development projects will be fast-tracked through regulatory approval processes and given priority consideration for County incentives; each of the five high priority TOD locations will receive market branding and the County government will take a leadership role in working with local, state, regional and federal partners to implement Transit Oriented Development.

#### **Major Economic Development Projects**

Several projects, reflecting a range of commercial development in the County, are listed in the following chart. A map showing the location of the major economic development projects identified in this section follows the chart.

Major Commercial Projects Recently Completed, Under Construction, or in Development Stage

As of August 2015

<u>Project Name</u>	Location Number in Map	New or Expansion	Expected Occupancy	Capital Investment (\$ Millions)	Size (Square Feet) at Full Build-Out
Projects Completed or Under Construction					
Enterprise Campus (UMCP) 2 Office Buildings	6	New	Completed	25.0	120,000
Woodmore Town Center (Retail Phase I) Wegman, Costco, others	12	New	Completed	171.0	684,000
Ritchie Station (BJ's Warehouse)	14	New	Completed	23.8	119,000
Ritchie Station (Phase I)	14	New	2017	76.2	381,000
Steeplechase 95 International Business Park (Retail Phase I)	13	New	Completed	11.5	10,000
Steeplechase 95 International Business Park (Retail Phase II)	13	New	N/A	13.8	46,000
Melford (formerly MD Science and Tech Center)	11	New	Completed	18.0	40,000
NOAA	8	New	Completed	81.0	270,000
New Carrollton Metro Area (Mixed-Use) - Phase 1	10	New	2017	N/A	2,000,000
Westphalia Town Center (Phase I)	22	New	2018	N/A	5,900,000
The Brickyard (Residential, Retail)	3	New	Completed	N/A	1,300,000
Arts District Hyattsville (Retail Only)	9	New	Completed	10.8	36,000
National Harbor Tanger Outlets	16	New	Completed	100.0	350,000
Brandywine Crossing (phase 2)	17	New	Completed	14.2	71,000
Sub-Total A				545.3	11,327,000
Projects in Development Stage					
Regional Medical Center	20	New	2017	650.0	150,000
MGM National Harbor, LLC	16	New	2016	1,300.0	1,079,000
College Park Metro (Mixed-Use)	7	New	N/A	N/A	N/A
UMD East Campus (All Phases)	5	New	N/A	N/A	1,000,000
Enterprise Campus (UMCP)	6	New	N/A	N/A	2,000,000
Greenbelt Metro Area (Mixed-Use)	4	New	N/A	N/A	3,000,000
Walmart (Duvall Village)	23	New	N/A	N/A	110,000
Branch Ave. Metro (Office and Residential)	15	New	N/A	N/A	400,000
Konterra (Town Center)	1	New	N/A	N/A	5,300,000
Brandywine Village	21	New	N/A	N/A	218,500
Laurel Commons	2	Expansion	July 2016	N/A	665,000
Cafritz Property (retail)	19	New	March 2015	N/A	370,000
Andrews Federal Campus	18	New	N/A	N/A	1,000,000
Sub-Total B				\$1,950.00	15,292,500

Source: Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation

#### **Transportation**

The County is located near three major airports: Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport; Washington Dulles International Airport; and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Interstate 95 provides the County with access to the nation's eastern seaboard, including the major commercial centers in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York City. Interstate 495 (the Capital Beltway) circles Washington, D.C. and provides access both to that city and to nearby suburban jurisdictions. Other major highways in the County include the Baltimore-Washington Parkway (Route 295), U.S. Route 50 (access to Maryland's eastern shore) and U.S. Route 3/301 (access to Baltimore and Virginia). The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrorail system operates a 117 mile subway system. The system serves Washington, D.C. and nearby suburban areas, including five lines and 15 stations that serve the County. WMATA's local bus system has more than 70 routes serving County residents. The County supplements WMATA's bus service with "TheBus."

The County is served by CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern, Amtrak (including a station at New Carrollton on Amtrak's Northeast Corridor service), and the MARC (Maryland Area Regional Commuter) rail system which has two lines that run through the County, both of which provide service between Baltimore City (and surrounding areas) and Washington, D.C.'s Union Station, with 9 stations in the County. More than 90 freight lines serve the County. Most of the County lines lie within the Washington commercial zone as defined by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

#### Utilities

Baltimore Gas & Electric Company (BGE), Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO), Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SMECO), and Allegheny Power provide the County with electricity services. County residents have the option of choosing their electric supplier. Natural gas is supplied by Washington Gas or BGE; however, County residents have the option of buying natural gas directly from natural gas suppliers. BGE is owned by Exelon Corporation and Exelon is in the process of acquiring PEPCO which would make both entities subsidiaries of Exelon Corporation. Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission provides the water supply to the entire County and wastewater treatment services for part of the County. The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority also provides wastewater treatment services for parts of the County. Storm drainage for the County is provided by the County Department of Environmental Resources.

#### **Telecommunication**

Verizon, Comcast, Level 3 Communications and others have significant fiber throughout Prince George's County. AT&T, Sprint Nextel, Cavalier, Cox, and other carriers and resellers also offer services on proprietary and leased lines.

# **Property Taxes**

The County levies real and personal property taxes on all taxable property within its boundaries. Taxes are due in full on July 1 and become delinquent on the following October 1 with the exception of those taxes owed by (1) small business owners for which annual property taxes do not exceed \$100,000 who qualify for a semi-annual payment plan (effective July 1, 2012); and (2) and homeowners living in their properties who qualify for a semi-annual payment plan. Semi-annual taxpayers must pay one-half of the annual taxes by September 30 and the remaining one-half in a second installment by December 31 of the fiscal year. No discount is allowed for early payment. Interest at the rate of 2/3% per month and a penalty of 1% per month are charged after September 30 (December 31 for the second semi-annual payment), except that tax bills issued after September 30 may be paid within 30 days without interest or penalty. Tax sales to recover delinquent real property taxes are held on the second Monday in May in the fiscal year taxes are due and payable. Legal action may be taken to enforce payment of both real and personal property taxes.

An independent state agency, the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT), assesses all real and tangible personal property on a rolling basis every three years for purposes of property taxation by State and local governmental units. Prior to tax year 2001, real property had been valued at market value and assessed in each year at 40% of phased-in market value. Beginning in tax year 2001, property tax rates are applied to 100%, instead of 40%, of the value of real property.

By law, the annual taxable assessment growth of owner-occupied residential property is capped at the lesser of the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous 12 months or 5% of the prior year's taxable assessment. The cap for fiscal year 2016 is set at 2%, based on the CPI and remains unchanged from fiscal year 2015.

Maryland law also provides that certain owner occupants of residential property may receive certain property tax credits based on various criteria including their income and net worth. The County is reimbursed by the State for some of these tax credits. Certain real estate developments inside the Capital Beltway within census tracts where the median household income does not exceed 100% of the median household income for the County based on census numbers (Revitalization Tax Credit Districts) are eligible to receive tax credits.

This provides tax incentives for revitalization projects, with a long-term goal of enhancing the communities and preserving the tax base.

Tangible personal property and commercial and manufacturing businesses are assessed annually at fair market value with no inflation allowance, based upon annual reports filed with SDAT. Public utility property is assessed at fair market value determined by reference to both income and property values, with the exception that power-generating personal property has been subject to a phased-in partial assessment due to the State's electricity deregulation. The County grants some personal property tax credits for research and development property, designed to stimulate economic development.

The following tables set forth both the growth rate of and the assessed and estimated actual value of real and personal property in the County.

	Annual Growth Rate	es
Fiscal Year	Assessed Value	Estimated Actual Value
2015	1.2%	1.2%
2014	-0.3%	-4.0%
2013	-7.3%	-8.2%
2012	-13.2%	-13.0%
2011	-1.0%	-6.0%
2010	12.6%	2.6%
Six-Year Average:	-1.3%	-4.6%

Source: Office of Finance

# Assessed and Estimated Actual Value of Taxable Property (\$ millions)

Real Property			Other Property			Total					
Fiscal Year		Assessed Value	Α	Estimated ctual Value		Business Personal Property <sup>(1)</sup>		Public Utilities	Assessed Value	A	Estimated
2015	\$	74,172.4	\$	73,896.7	\$	1,420.0	\$	1,355.6	77,078.0	\$	76,772.3
2014		73,372.0		73,074.8		1,367.1		1,393.4	76,132.6		75,835.3
2013		75,986.5		76,308.6		1,395.6		1,364.1	78,746.2		79,068.3
2012		82,217.5		83,404.3		1,381.2		1,335.2	84,933.9		86,120.7
2011		95,135.1		96,199.1		1,415.1		1,334.1	97,884.3		98,948.3
2010		96,054.7		102,512.2		1,490.8		1,292.0	98,837.5		105,295.0

<sup>(1)</sup> Effective Fiscal Year 2003, "Unincorporated Personal Property" has been combined with "Incorporated Ordinary Business" and is reported as "Business Personal Property" on estimates prepared for the County Assessable Base by the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation.

Source: Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation

The total General Fund property tax revenues included in the County's approved operating budget for fiscal year 2016 are \$770.3 million (adjusted for tax credits, assessment abatements and deletions, allowance for municipal tax differential and uncollectible taxes). As of June 30, 2015, total

property tax revenues in fiscal year 2015 were \$725.1 million. The tax rates shown in the next table represent a weighted average of the unincorporated and incorporated area rates.

		Real and	Personal Pr	operty Taxe	es	
		(	Levies and Collec	etions)		
		Tax Rate per			Percent	
	Assessed	\$100	Tax Levy	Collected	Collected	Percent
Fiscal	Value	Assessed	Excluding	During Fiscal	during Fiscal	Collected as
Year	(\$ millions)	Value	Adjustments	Year	Year	of June 30
2015	\$ 77,078.0	\$0.96	\$ 725,142,829	\$ 721,581,559	99.5%	99.5%
2014	76,132.6	0.96	704,812,592	700,445,480	99.4	99.4
2013	78,746.2	0.96	703,826,505	699,837,546	99.4	99.6
2012	84,933.9	0.96	711,565,650	708,645,489	99.6	99.6
2011	97,888.0	0.96	987,400,083	981,984,336	99.5	99.8
2010	98,837.5	0.96	1,001,271,795	995,260,491	99.4	99.8

Source: Office of Finance

The following table provides a breakdown of the property tax rate into its component parts. The "General" rate is the only listed component that is subject to the limitations of Section 812 of the County Charter. Pursuant to Section 812, the County shall not levy "a real property tax which would result in a total collection of real property taxes greater than the amount collected in fiscal year 1979." Section 812 further provides that "the County may levy a real property tax which would result in a total collection of real property taxes greater than the amount collected in fiscal year 1979 if the real property tax rate does not exceed two dollars and forty cents (\$2.40) for each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value." Pursuant to Chapter 80 of the Laws of Maryland of 2000, this maximum rate is to be construed as 40% of the stated rate or \$0.96 for each \$100 of assessed value of real property. The "Stormwater Management" component pays debt service on bonds issued to provide funds for, and other expenses pertaining to, stormwater management facilities. The Washington Suburban Transit Commission (WSTC) component pays for the County's contribution to WSTC and other related mass transit costs. The Maryland State and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) components identify taxes collected by the County on behalf of those entities.

FY 2014 Property Tax Rates in Dollars/\$100 of Assessed Value				
PRIN	CE GEORGE'S COUNTY	OVER	LAPPING TAXING	ENTITIES
General \$0.96	Stormwater Management \$0.054	<u>WSTC</u> \$0.026	Maryland State \$0.112	M-NCPPC \$0.279

Source: Office of Finance

# Property Tax Levies

(\$ thousands)

Fiscal Year	PF	RINCE GEOR	S	'S COUNTY Stormwater anagement	OVERLAP WSTC	IG TAXING laryland State		TITIES -NCPPC
riscai i eai		General	IVI	anagement	WSIC	State	IVI-	NCFFC
2015	\$	725,143	\$	38,102	\$ 21,050	\$ 82,832	\$	216,026
2014		704,813		37,592	20,734	81,875		212,594
2013		769,416		39,600	21,652	84,913		222,092
2012		831,246		43,283	23,381	92,218		239,655
2011		941,591		47,915	26,501	105,560		270,974
2010		953,434		48,987	26,721	106,426		273,531

Source: Office of Finance

The top 10 principal taxpayers within the County for fiscal year 2015 are as follows:

Principal Taxpayers June 30, 2015					
Taxpayer		teal Property Assessment		sonal Property Assessment	Total Assessment
Potomac Electric Power Co	\$	7,777,900	\$	603,123,800	\$ 610,901,700
Gaylord National LLC	•	562,000,000	•	,,	562,000,000
Verizon-Maryland				297,879,330	297,879,330
Empirian Village of Maryland, LLC		274,190,368		1,565,870	275,756,238
Washington Gas Light Company		6,276,400		241,405,500	247,681,900
JKC Stadium (FedEx Field)		208,927,300			208,927,300
Greenbelt Homes, Incorporated		181,544,483			181,544,483
Genon Chalk Point LLC		166,602,400			166,602,400
Baltimore Gas & Electric Company				165,459,430	165,459,430
Summerfield Housing LTD Partnership		150,929,700			150,929,700

Totals \$1,558,248,551

5.4%

\$ 1,309,433,930

4.5%

\$2,867,682,481

9.9%

Source: Office of Finance

Percentage of Assessable Base

# **Statutory Debt Limit**

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Express Powers Act, the statutory debt limit of the County is a total of 6% of the assessable base of real property of the County and 15% of the County's assessable base of personal property and operating real property described in Section 8-109(c) of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of MD, as amended. State law authorizes certain exclusions. Obligations issued by the Revenue Authority, the Industrial Development Authority and the Local Government Insurance Trust are excluded from the County's statutory limit. The current debt limit of the County is shown in the following table.

<b>Statutory Debt Limit<sup>(1)</sup></b> June 30, 2015	
County General Obligation Bonds	\$ 1,458,930,000
Maryland Development Debt	49,867
Maryland CDA Infrastructure Financing Bonds	339,000
County Solid Waste Revenue Bonds	-
Total Debt of the County	1,459,318,867
Less: Portion of Debt Excludable by State Law:	
County General Obligation Bonds for:	
Mass Transit Facilities	9,025,576
Stormwater Facilities	153,060,000
Solid Waste Projects	36,923,000
School Facilities Surcharge-Supported	291,880,000
School Facility Supported by Telecommunication Tax	23,115,000
Maryland Development Debt	49,867
Maryland CDA Infrastructure Financing Bonds	339,000
County Solid Waste Revenue Bonds	-
Total Excludable Debt	514,392,443
County Debt Subject to Statutory Debt Limitation	944,926,424
Assessable Base of Real Property Taxation (FY2014) Assessable Base of Personal Property and Operating	73,425,415,435
Real Property Taxation (FY2014)	2,755,349,219
Debt Limit (a total of 6% of Real Property Assessable Base	2,733,343,219
and 15% of Assessable Base of Personal Property) (FY2014)	4,818,827,309
Less: County Debt Subject to Debt Limitation	944,926,424
County Debt Margin	3,873,900,885
(1)Unaudited	3,070,000,000
Source Office of Finance	

Source: Office of Finance.

#### FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE

- SECTION 1. *Purpose of the Disclosure Certificate*. This Disclosure Certificate is being executed and delivered by the Commission for the benefit of the holders from time to time of the Bonds and the beneficial owners from time to time of the Bonds and in order to assist the Underwriter (defined below) in complying with the Rule (defined below).
- SECTION 2. *Definitions*. In addition to the definitions set forth above, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:
- "Annual Report" shall mean any Annual Report provided by the Commission pursuant to, and as described in, Sections 4 and 5 of this Disclosure Certificate.
- "Disclosure Representative" shall mean the Chief Financial Officer of the Commission or her designee, or such other person as the Commission shall designate from time to time.
- "Dissemination Agent" shall mean the Commission or any Dissemination Agent designated in writing by the Commission.
- "EMMA" means the Electronic Municipal Market Access system maintained by the MSRB for purposes of the Rule.
  - "Listed Events" shall mean any of the events listed in Section 6(a) of this Disclosure Certificate.
  - "MSRB" shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, and its successors.
- "Rule" shall mean Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time.
- "Underwriter" shall mean the original underwriter(s) of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with the offering or sale of the Bonds.
  - SECTION 3. Scope of Agreement.
- (a) The disclosure obligations under this Disclosure Certificate relate solely to the Bonds. Such disclosure obligations are not applicable to any other securities issued or to be issued by the Commission.
  - (b) The Commission is the only "obligated person" with respect to the Bonds within the meaning of the Rule.
- SECTION 4. *Provision of Annual Reports*. The Commission shall, not later than March 31 after the end of the fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, provide to the MSRB in an electronic format and accompanied by identifying information as prescribed by the MSRB an Annual Report which is consistent with the requirements of Section 5 of this Disclosure Certificate. In each case, the Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may cross-reference other information as provided in Section 5 of this Disclosure Certificate; provided that the audited financial statements of the Commission may be submitted separately from the balance of the Annual Report.
- If the Commission is unable to provide the annual financial information and operating data within the applicable time periods specified herein, the Commission shall send in a timely manner a notice of such failure to the MSRB.
- SECTION 5. *Content of Annual Reports*. The Commission's Annual Report shall contain or incorporate by reference the following:

- Comprehensive audited financial statements for the immediately preceding fiscal year, prepared in accordance
  with generally accepted accounting principles, unless the audited financial statements are not available on or
  before the date of such filing, in which event said audited financial statements will be promptly provided when
  and if available and the Commission will provide unaudited financial statements as part of the Annual Report;
  and
- The information provided in the Official Statement prepared and delivered by the Commission with respect to the Bonds, under the headings "Washington Suburban Sanitary District -Employees' Retirement Plan," -Leases and Agreements," "Bonded Indebtedness of the District," "District Financial Data," "Summary of District Ad Valorem Taxes and Other Charges and Revenues Therefrom," "Capital Improvements Program," and "Water and Sewerage Facilities, Service Centers and Statistics," and updated as of a date no earlier than the last day of the immediately-preceding fiscal year.

#### SECTION 6. Reporting of Significant Events.

- (a) In a timely manner, not in excess of 10 business days, the Commission will provide to the MSRB notice of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds:
  - (i) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
  - (ii) non-payment related defaults, if material;
  - (iii) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
  - (iv) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
  - (v) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
  - (vi) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Obligations, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Obligations;
  - (vii) modifications to rights of holders of the Bonds, if material;
  - (viii) bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
  - (ix) defeasances;
  - (x) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the securities, if material;
  - (xi) rating changes;
  - (xii) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Commission;
  - (xiii) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Commission or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Commission, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material; and
  - (xiv) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material.

The Commission hereby acknowledges that certain of the above-enumerated events do not, and are not ever expected to, apply to the Bonds. Nevertheless, the Commission intends to provide the Underwriter with complete assistance in complying with the Rule. Therefore, the Commission covenants to provide notice of all of the above-enumerated events should they occur.

SECTION 7. *Termination of Reporting Obligation*. The Commission's obligations under this Disclosure Certificate shall terminate when there are no longer any Bonds outstanding.

- SECTION 8. *Dissemination Agent*. The Commission may, from time to time, appoint or engage a Dissemination Agent to assist it in carrying out its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate, and may discharge any such Dissemination Agent, with or without appointing a successor Dissemination Agent.
- SECTION 9. *Amendment; Waiver*. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Commission may amend this Disclosure Certificate, and any provision of this Disclosure Certificate may be waived, provided that the following conditions are satisfied:
  - (a) said amendment or waiver may only be made in connection with a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, change in law, or change in the identity, nature, or status of the Commission, or type of business conducted by the Commission;
  - (b) said provision, as amended or waived, would, in the opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel, have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the initial offering of the Bonds after taking into account any amendments or interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances; and
  - (c) said amendment or waiver does not materially impair the interests of holders of the Bonds, as determined either by nationally recognized bond counsel or by an approving vote of the holders of 25% of the outstanding aggregate principal amount of the Bonds.

The reasons for any amendment and the impact of the change, if any, in the type of operating data or financial information being provided will be explained in information provided with the Annual Report containing the amended operating data or financial information.

- SECTION 10. Additional Information. Nothing in this Disclosure Certificate shall be deemed to prevent the Commission from disseminating any other information, using the means of dissemination set forth in this Disclosure Certificate or any other means of communication, or including any other information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is required by this Disclosure Certificate. If the Commission chooses to include any information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrences of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is specifically required by this Disclosure Certificate, the Commission shall have no obligation under this Disclosure Certificate to update such information or include it in any future Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event.
- SECTION 11. *Default.* Failure to comply with this Disclosure Certificate shall not be deemed to be a default or an event of default with respect to the Bonds.
- SECTION 12. *Filing with EMMA*. Unless otherwise required by the MSRB, all filings with the MSRB shall be made with EMMA and shall be accompanied by identifying information as prescribed by the MSRB.
- SECTION 13. *Beneficiaries*. This Disclosure Certificate shall inure solely to the benefit of the Commission, the Dissemination Agent (if any), the Underwriter, and the holders and beneficial owners from time to time of the Bonds, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.
- Section 14. *Limitation of Forum.* Any suit or other proceedings seeking redress with regard to any claimed failure by the Commission to perform its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate must be filed in the Circuit Courts of Montgomery County, Maryland or the Circuit Court of Prince George's County, Maryland.
- Section 15. *Law of Maryland*. This Disclosure Certificate and any claims made with respect to performance by the Commission of its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate shall be subject to and be construed according to the laws of the State of Maryland (without regard to provisions on conflict of laws) or federal laws.

By:		
	Yvette R.D. Downs	
	Chief Financial Officer	

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

#### FORM OF OPINION OF BOND COUNSEL

[Closing Date]

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Laurel, Maryland

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In connection with the issuance and sale of \$390,000,000 Washington Suburban Sanitary District, Maryland Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2015 dated \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015 (the "Bonds"), maturing annually on June 1 in the years 2016 through 2045, inclusive, in the amounts set forth therein and bearing interest, payable semi-annually on June 1 and December 1 in each year, beginning June 1, 2016, we have examined:

- (i) Titles 16 through 25, inclusive, of Division II of the Public Utilities Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (herein sometimes called the "Act");
- (ii) Resolution No. 2016-2095 adopted by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (the "Commission") on August 19, 2015 (the "Resolution");
  - (iii) the form of Bond;
  - (iv) relevant provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"); and
  - (v) other proofs submitted to us relative to the issuance and sale of the Bonds.

The terms of the Bonds are contained in the Resolution and the Bonds.

We have made no investigation of, and are rendering no opinion regarding, the title to real or personal property.

In rendering this opinion, we have relied without independent investigation on certifications provided by the Commission with respect to certain material facts within the knowledge of the Commission relevant to the tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that, under existing statutes, regulations and decisions:

- (a) The Commission is a validly created and existing public corporation of the State of Maryland.
- (b) The Bonds are valid and legally binding general obligations of the Washington Suburban Sanitary District, all the assessable property within which is subject to the levy of an ad valorem tax, without limitation of rate or amount, to pay the Bonds and the interest thereon.
- (c) Interest on the Bonds and profit from the sale or exchange thereof is exempt from taxation by the State of Maryland and its counties and municipalities; no opinion is expressed as to estate or inheritance taxes or any other taxes not levied or assessed directly on the interest on the Bonds.
- (d) Assuming compliance with the covenants referred to herein, interest on the Bonds will be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes. It is noted that under the provisions of the Code, there are certain restrictions that must be met subsequent to the delivery of the Bonds in order for interest on the Bonds to remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes, including restrictions that must be complied with throughout the term of the Bonds. These include the following: (i) a requirement that certain earnings received from the investment of the proceeds of the Bonds be rebated to the United States of America under certain circumstances (or that certain payments in lieu of rebate be made), (ii) other requirements applicable to the investment of the proceeds of the Bonds, and (iii) other requirements applicable to the use of the proceeds of the Bonds and the facilities financed or refinanced with the proceeds of the Bonds. Failure to comply with one or more of these requirements could result in the inclusion of the interest payable on the Bonds

in gross income for federal income tax purposes, effective from the date of their issuance. The Commission has made certain covenants regarding actions necessary to maintain the exemption of interest on the Bonds from federal income taxation purposes of interest on the Bonds. It is our opinion that, assuming compliance with such covenants, the interest on the Bonds will remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under the provisions of the Code.

(e) Interest on the Bonds is not includable in the alternative minimum taxable income of individuals, corporations or other taxpayers as an enumerated item of tax preference or other specific adjustment. However, for purposes of calculating the corporate alternative minimum tax, a corporation subject to such tax will be required to increase its alternative minimum taxable income by 75% of the amount by which its "adjusted current earnings" exceed its alternative minimum taxable income (computed without regard to this current earnings adjustment and the alternative tax net operating loss deduction). For such purposes, "adjusted current earnings" would include, among other items, interest income from the Bonds. In addition, interest income on the Bonds will be subject to the branch profits tax imposed by the Code on foreign corporations engaged in a trade or business in the United States.

The opinions expressed above are limited to the matters set forth above, and no other opinions should be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. We assume no obligation to supplement this opinion if any applicable laws or interpretations thereof change after the date hereof or if we become aware of any facts or circumstances that might change the opinions expressed herein after the date hereof.

Very truly yours,

#### **Book-Entry System**

General. The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC") will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Bond will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds in principal amount equal to the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such Bonds to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Bonds. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Issuer as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Principal and interest payments on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Commission or the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent, on payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's. Payments by Direct and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Direct or Indirect Participant and not of DTC, DTC's nominee, the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent or the Commission, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Commission or its Bond Registrar and Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants shall be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners shall be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

Book-Entry Only System — Miscellaneous. The information in the Section "Book-Entry Only System — General" has been obtained from DTC. The Commission takes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness thereof. The Commission will have no responsibility or obligations to DTC Participants or the persons for whom they act as nominees with respect to the payments to or the providing of notice to the DTC Participants, or the Indirect Participants, or Beneficial Owners. The Commission cannot and does not give any assurance that DTC Participants or others will distribute principal and interest payments paid to DTC or its nominees, as the registered owner, or any redemption or other notices, to the Beneficial Owners, or that they will do so on a timely basis or that DTC will serve and act in the manner described in this Official Statement.

Discontinuation of Book-Entry Only System. DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Commission. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor securities depository is not obtained, Bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered. The Commission may also decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Bond certificates will be printed and delivered.

In the event that the Book-Entry Only System is discontinued, the Bonds in fully certificated form will be issued as fully registered Bonds without coupons in the denomination of \$5,000 each or any integral multiple thereof. Such Bonds will be transferable only upon the registration books kept at the principal office of the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent, by the registered owner thereof in person, or by an attorney duly authorized in writing, upon surrender thereof together with a written instrument of transfer in the form attached thereto and satisfactory to the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent, and duly executed by the registered owner or a duly authorized attorney. Within a reasonable time of such surrender, the Commission shall cause to be issued in the name of the transferee a new registered Bond or Bonds of any of the authorized denominations in an aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of the Bond surrendered and maturing on the same date and bearing interest at the same rate. The new Bond or Bonds shall be delivered to the transferee only after due authentication by an authorized officer of the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent. The Commission may deem and treat the person in whose name a Bond is registered as the absolute owner thereof for the purpose of receiving payment of or on account of the principal or redemption price thereof and interest due thereon and for all other purposes.

In the event that the Book-Entry Only System is discontinued, the Bonds may be transferred or exchanged at the principal office of the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent. Upon any such transfer or exchange, the Commission shall execute and the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent shall authenticate and deliver a new registered Bond or Bonds without coupons of any of the authorized denominations in an aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of the Bond exchanged or transferred, and maturing on the same date and bearing interest at the same rate. In each case, the Bond Registrar and Paying Agent may require payment by any holder of Bonds requesting exchange or transfer of Bonds of any tax, fee or other governmental charge, shipping charges and insurance that may be required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer, but otherwise no charge shall be made to the holder of Bonds for such exchange or transfer.

The Bond Registrar and Paying Agent shall not be required to transfer or exchange any Bond after the mailing of notice calling such Bond or portion thereof for redemption as previously described; provided, however, that the foregoing limitation shall not apply to that portion of a Bond in excess of \$5,000 which is not being called for redemption.

NEITHER THE COMMISSION NOR THE BOND REGISTRAR AND PAYING AGENT WILL HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATION TO DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, TO INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER WITH RESPECT TO 1) THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC, ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANT OR ANY INDIRECT PARTICIPANT; 2) THE PAYMENT BY DTC, ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANT OR ANY INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OF ANY AMOUNT WITH RESPECT TO THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, OR INTEREST ON THE BONDS; 3) ANY NOTICE WHICH IS PERMITTED OR REQUIRED TO BE GIVEN TO BONDHOLDERS; 4) ANY CONSENT GIVEN BY DTC OR OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS BONDHOLDER; OR 5) THE SELECTION BY DTC, ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANT OR ANY INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OF ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER TO RECEIVE PAYMENT IN THE EVENT OF A PARTIAL REDEMPTION OF BONDS.

# NOTICE OF SALE

# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, MARYLAND

#### **BOND SALE**

# \$390,000,000\* CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS OF 2015

# **Dated Date of Delivery**

Electronic bids, via BiDCOMP/Parity Competitive Bidding System ("*PARITY*") only, will be received until **10:30 A.M., prevailing Eastern time**, on **October 14, 2015**, by the Chief Financial Officer (or, in her absence, the General Manager), or other officer of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (the "**Commission**") designated by the Commission (either such officer being the "**Designated Officer**"), for the above-referenced bonds (the "**Bonds**") of the Washington Suburban Sanitary District (the "**District**").

Terms of the Bonds

The Bonds shall be dated the date of their delivery (expected to be October 28, 2015). The Bonds will mature serially June 1, in the following years and principal amounts:

	Principal		Principal
<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Amount</u> *	<u>Maturity</u>	Amount*
2016	\$ 6,100,000	2031	\$12,615,000
2017	7,080,000	2032	13,120,000
2018	7,290,000	2033	13,645,000
2019	7,585,000	2034	14,190,000
2020	7,885,000	2035	14,755,000
2021	8,200,000	2036	15,345,000
2022	8,610,000	2037	15,960,000
2023	9,040,000	2038	16,600,000
2024	9,495,000	2039	17,265,000
2025	9,970,000	2040	17,955,000
2026	10,370,000	2041	18,670,000
2027	10,785,000	2042	19,420,000
2028	11,215,000	2043	20,195,000
2029	11,660,000	2044	21,005,000
2030	12,130,000	2045	21,845,000

The Bonds are to be issued for the purpose of providing funds for certain construction programs of the District, as more fully set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement related to the Bonds (the "Preliminary Official Statement"). All such Bonds are to be issued under and in full compliance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland, including the Public Utilities Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

The Bonds will be issued in denominations of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof as fully registered bonds (without coupons). Payment of the semi-annual interest on each Bond shall be made on June 1 and December 1, beginning June 1, 2016, and shall be made by the Bond Registrar, The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N. A., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on each interest payment date to the person appearing on the registration books of the District as the registered owner of such Bond at the close of business on the record date of such interest, which shall be the 15th day of the calendar month next preceding such interest payment date, by check or draft mailed to such person; payment of the principal of each Bond shall be made to the registered owner thereof upon the presentation and surrender of such Bond, as the same shall become due and payable, to the Bond Registrar at the office of its affiliate, The Bank of New York Mellon, in New York, New York or Dallas, Texas, and the transfer or exchange of any Bond may be registered upon said books upon surrender of the Bond to the Bond Registrar.

#### **Optional Redemption**

The Bonds which mature on or after June 1, 2025, are callable for redemption prior to their respective maturities, at the option of the Commission, from any moneys that may be made available for such purpose, either in whole or in part on any date not earlier than June 1, 2024, at the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, with interest thereon accrued to the date fixed for redemption, without premium.

#### Book-Entry System

One bond representing each maturity of the Bonds will be issued to and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), as registered owner of the Bonds and each such bond shall be immobilized in the custody of DTC. DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases will be made in book-entry form only, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof. Purchasers will not receive physical delivery of certificates representing their interest in the Bonds purchased. The winning bidder, as a condition to delivery of the Bonds, will be required to deposit the bond certificates representing each maturity with DTC.

#### **Bid Parameters**

No less than 100% of par, no oral bid and no bid for less than all of the Bonds described in this Notice, will be considered. The Bonds are expected to be awarded no later than 4:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern time on October 14, 2015. All proposals shall remain firm until the time of award.

Bidders are requested to name the interest rate or rates in multiples of  $^{1}/8$  or  $^{1}/20$  of 1% and the highest rate may not exceed the lowest rate by more than 3%. For maturities from 2026 through 2045, inclusive, no interest rate may be bid that is lower than the interest rate in the immediately preceding year (i.e. interest rates must ascend or remain level from a base year of 2025). A zero rate may not be named. No Bond shall bear more than one rate of interest which rate shall be uniform for the life of the Bond.

#### Basis of Award

As promptly as reasonably possible after the bids are opened, the Designated Officer will notify the bidder to whom the Bonds will be awarded, if and when such award is made, and such bidder, upon such notice, shall advise the Designated Officer of the initial reoffering prices to the public of each maturity of the Bonds (the "Initial Reoffering Prices"). Such Initial Reoffering Prices, among other things, will be used by the Commission to calculate the final aggregate principal amount of the Bonds and the final principal amount of each annual payment on the Bonds (the "Final Aggregate Principal Amount" and the "Final Annual Principal Amount", respectively; collectively, the "Final Amounts"). The Final Amounts will be communicated to the successful bidder by 5:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern Time on the date of sale and will not reduce or increase the amount of the Bonds by more than 10% from the amount bid upon. Such changes may result in the elimination of one or more maturities of the Bonds. The dollar amount bid by the successful bidder will be adjusted proportionally to reflect any reduction or increase in the Revised Amounts of the Bonds in determining the Final Amounts. Such adjusted bid price will reflect changes in the dollar amount of the underwriters' discount and original issue discount or premium, if any, but will not change the coupon rates and the initial public offering prices specified by the successful bidder. ALL BIDS SHALL REMAIN FIRM FOR FIVE (5) HOURS AFTER THE TIME SPECIFIED FOR THE OPENING OF THE BIDS. An award of the bonds, if made, will be made by the Designated Officer within such five (5) hour period of time. The Final Amounts will be communicated to the successful

bidder as soon as possible, but not later than 3:00 p.m. the day after awarding the bond. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MAY NOT WITHDRAW ITS BID OR CHANGE THE INTEREST RATES BID OR THE INITIAL REOFFERING PRICES AS A RESULT OF ANY CHANGES MADE WITHIN THESE LIMITS.

The award, if made, will be made as promptly as possible after the bids are opened to the bidder naming the lowest true interest cost for all the Bonds in any legally acceptable proposal. The lowest true interest cost will be determined with respect to each proposal by doubling the semi-annual interest rate, compounded semi-annually, necessary to discount the debt service payments to the date of the Bonds and to the price bid. Each bidder shall include in its bid a statement of the true interest cost offered in its bid, but this statement shall not be deemed to be part of the bid. Where the proposals of two or more bidders result in the same lowest true interest cost, the Bonds may be apportioned between such bidders, but if this shall not be acceptable to the Commission, the Designated Officer shall have the right to award all of such bonds to one bidder. THE RIGHT IS RESERVED TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICER TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IRREGULARITIES IN ANY OF THE PROPOSALS. The judgment of the Designated Officer shall be final and binding upon all bidders with respect to the form and adequacy of any proposal received and as to its conformity to the terms of this Notice of Sale. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER SHALL MAKE A BONA FIDE PUBLIC OFFERING OF THE BONDS AT THE INITIAL REOFFERING PRICES AND SHALL PROVIDE THE RELATED CERTIFICATION DESCRIBED BELOW. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MUST REASONABLY EXPECT TO SELL TO THE PUBLIC 10% OR MORE IN PAR AMOUNT OF THE BONDS FROM EACH MATURITY AT THE INITIAL REOFFERING PRICES.

#### Electronic Bids

Bids will only be received electronically via *PARITY*, in the manner described below, until 10:30 a.m., prevailing Eastern time, on October 14, 2015. Bids must be submitted electronically via *PARITY* pursuant to this Notice until 10:30 a.m., prevailing Eastern time, but no bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified above. To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in *PARITY* conflict with this Notice, the terms of this Notice shall control. For further information about *PARITY*, potential bidders may contact the *PARITY* Help Desk at 212-849-5067.

#### Disclaimer

Each prospective electronic bidder shall be solely responsible to register to bid via *PARITY* as described above. Each qualified prospective electronic bidder shall be solely responsible to make necessary arrangements to access *PARITY* for the purpose of submitting its bid in a timely manner and in compliance with the requirements of this Notice of Sale. Neither the Commission nor *PARITY* shall have any duty or obligation to undertake such registration to bid for any prospective bidder or to provide or assure such access to *PARITY* to any qualified prospective bidder, and neither the Commission nor *PARITY* shall be responsible for a bidder's failure to register to bid or for proper operation of, or have any liability for any delays or interruptions of, or any damages caused by *PARITY*. The Commission is using *PARITY* as a communication mechanism, and not as the Commission's agent, to conduct the electronic bidding for the Bonds. The Commission is not bound by any advice and determination of *PARITY* to the effect that any particular bid complies with the terms of this Notice of Sale and in particular the "Bid Parameters" hereinafter set forth. All costs and expenses incurred by prospective bidders in connection with their submission of bids via *PARITY* are the sole responsibility of the bidders; and the Commission is not responsible, directly or indirectly, for any of such costs or expenses. If a prospective bidder encounters any difficulty in submitting, modifying, or withdrawing a bid for the Bonds, such bidder should telephone *PARITY* New Issues Desk at 212-849-5067 and notify the Commission's Financial Advisor, Public Advisory Consultants, Inc. by facsimile at 410-581-9808.

#### **Bidding Procedures**

Electronic bids must be submitted for the purchase of the Bonds (all or none) via *PARITY*. Bids will be communicated electronically to the Commission at 10:30 a.m., prevailing Eastern time, on October 14, 2015. Prior to that time, an eligible prospective bidder may (1) input the proposed terms of its bid via *PARITY*, (2) modify the proposed terms of its bid, in which event the proposed terms as last modified will (unless the bid is withdrawn as described herein) constitute its bid for the Bonds, or (3) withdraw its proposed bid. Once the bids are communicated electronically via *PARITY* to the Commission, each bid will constitute an irrevocable offer to purchase the Bonds on the terms therein provided. For purposes of the electronic bidding process, the time as maintained on *PARITY* shall constitute the official time.

No bids will be accepted in written form, by facsimile transmission or in any other medium or on any system other than via *PARITY*. No bid will be received after the time for receiving such bids specified above.

#### Good Faith Deposit

After receipt of bids is closed and prior to the award, the apparent successful bidder indicated on *PARITY* must submit a good faith deposit of \$3,900,000 to the Commission by wire transfer as instructed by the Commission or its financial advisor no later than 4:00 PM on the day of the award. The award to the apparent successful bidder is contingent upon receipt of the good faith deposit, and the Bonds will not be awarded to such bidder until the Commission has confirmation of receipt of the good faith deposit. If the good faith deposit is not received in the time allotted, the bid of the apparent successful bidder may be rejected. No interest will be allowed on any good faith deposit. In the event the successful bidder shall fail to comply with the terms of its bid, the good faith deposit may be retained as and for full liquidated damages.

### Approving Legal Opinion; Closing Papers

The approving legal opinion of McKennon Shelton & Henn LLP, Bond Counsel, will be furnished to purchasers without cost. There will also be furnished the usual closing papers and, in addition, a certificate signed by appropriate officers of the Commission, certifying that there is no litigation pending or, to the knowledge of the signers of such certificate, threatened affecting the validity of the Bonds and that on the date of the Official Statement mentioned below and at the time of delivery of the Bonds the statements and information contained in such Official Statement which are made and provided by the Commission are and will be true, correct and complete in all material respects and the Official Statement does not and will not omit any statement or information which is required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements and information therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading or incomplete in any material respect.

# Preliminary Official Statement; Continuing Disclosure

The Commission has deemed the Preliminary Official Statement to be final as of its date for purposes of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission, except for the omission of certain information permitted to be omitted by said Rule. The Commission agrees to deliver to the successful bidder for its receipt no later than seven business days of the date of sale of the Bonds, such quantities of the final official statement (the "Official Statement") as the successful bidder shall request; provided, that the Commission shall deliver up to 200 copies of such Official Statement without charge to the successful bidder.

The Commission has made certain covenants for the benefit of the holders from time to time of the Bonds to provide certain continuing disclosure, in order to assist bidders for the Bonds in complying with Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such covenants are described in the Preliminary Official Statement.

#### Procedures for Principal Amount Changes and Other Changes to Notice of Sale

The preliminary aggregate principal amount of the Bonds and the preliminary principal amount of each annual payment on the Bonds as set forth in this Notice of Sale (the "Preliminary Aggregate Principal Amount" and the "Preliminary Annual Principal Amount", respectively; collectively the "Preliminary Amounts") may be revised before the receipt and opening of the bids for their purchase. ANY SUCH REVISIONS made prior to the opening of the bids (the "Revised Aggregate Principal Amount" and the "Revised Annual Principal Amount", respectively; collectively, the Amounts") WILL **MADE** AVAILABLE ON THE BiDCOMP/PARITY/WWW.I-"Revised  $\mathbf{BE}$ DEALPROSPECTUS.COM SYSTEM OR PUBLISHED ON THOMPSON MUNICIPAL MARKET MONITOR ("TM3") (www.tm3.com) NOT LATER THAN 9:30 A.M. (PREVAILING EASTERN TIME) ON THE ANNOUNCED DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS. In the event that no such revisions are made, the Preliminary Amounts will constitute the Revised Amounts. Bidders shall submit bids based on the Revised Amounts and the Revised Amounts will be used to compare bids and select a winning bidder.

#### Delivery

The Bonds will be delivered on or about October 28, 2015, through the facilities of DTC in the City of New York, New York, against payment therefor in federal or other immediately available funds.

SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH OR BEFORE DELIVERY OF THE BONDS, THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER SHALL FURNISH TO THE COMMISSION A CERTIFICATE ACCEPTABLE TO BOND COUNSEL TO THE EFFECT THAT (I) THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER HAS MADE A BONA FIDE PUBLIC OFFERING OF THE

BONDS AT THE INITIAL REOFFERING PRICES, (II) AS OF THE DATE OF THE SALE OF BONDS, THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER REASONABLY EXPECTED TO SELL A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF THE BONDS THE PUBLIC (EXCLUDING BOND HOUSES, BROKERS AND OTHER INTERMEDIARIES) AT THEIR RESPECTIVE INITIAL REOFFERING PRICES, AND (III) A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF THE BONDS WAS SOLD TO THE PUBLIC (EXCLUDING BOND HOUSES, BROKERS AND OTHER INTERMEDIARIES) AT THEIR RESPECTIVE INITIAL REOFFERING PRICES OR SUCH OTHER FACTS REGARDING THE ACTUAL SALE OF THE BONDS AS BOND COUNSEL SHALL REQUEST, AS DESCRIBED BELOW. Bond Counsel advises that (i) such certificate must be made on the best knowledge, information and belief of the successful bidder, (ii) the sale to the public of 10% or more in par amount of the bonds of each maturity at the initial reoffering prices would be sufficient to certify as to the sale of a substantial amount of the bonds, and (iii) reliance on other facts as a basis for such certification would require evaluation by Bond Counsel to assure compliance with the statutory requirement to avoid the establishment of an artificial price for the Bonds.

# Postponement of Sale

The Commission reserves the right to postpone the date established for the receipt of bids at any time before the bids are open. In the event of a postponement, the new date and time of sale will be announced via BiDCOMP/Parity/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 at least 24 hours prior to the time proposals are to be submitted. On any such alternative sale date, bidders may submit bids for the purchase of the Bonds in conformity with the provisions of this Notice of Sale, except for any changes to this Notice of Sale, the change of the date of sale and the changes described in the next sentence. If the date fixed for receipt of bids is postponed, the expected date of delivery of Bonds also may be postponed; if the sale is postponed to a later date, then the date of the Bonds, the dates of the semiannual interest payments and annual principal payments, and the optional redemption dates also may be changed. Such changes, if any, will be announced via BiDCOMP/Parity/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 at the time any alternative sale date is announced.

The Right to Reject any or all Bids or Revise Notice of Sale is Reserved.

The Commission reserves the right, on the date established for the receipt of bids, to reject any and all bids.

NOTE: The Commission may revise this Notice of Sale by written notice available to prospective bidders by publishing notice of any revisions via BiDCOMP/Parity/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 at or before the time for submission of bids. Any bid submitted shall be in accordance with, and incorporate by reference, this Notice of Sale including any revisions made pursuant to this paragraph.

Miscellaneous

CUSIP identification numbers will be applied for by the Commission's Financial Advisor with respect to the Bonds, but the Commission will assume no obligation for the assignment or printing of such numbers on the Bonds or the correctness of such numbers, and neither the failure to print such numbers on any Bond nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the successful bidder to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds in accordance with the terms of this Notice of Sale.

Copies of the Official Statement and the Notice of Sale for Bonds may be obtained from the undersigned at Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, Maryland 20707 (301-206-7069) or Public Advisory Consultants, Inc., Financial Advisor, 25 Crossroads Drive, Suite 402, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117 (410-581-4820).

# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

By:	/s/ Yvette R.D. Downs
	Chief Financial Officer