

# Partners in Inmate Deconstruction



Secretary Gary D. Maynard

Maryland Department of Public  
Safety and Correctional Services



# Goals of Inmate Deconstruction

- Save taxpayer dollars through recycling of materials and use of inmate labor
  - Over 1 million brick to start
- Create private sector employment for contractors and MBE opportunities
- Apprenticeship type program – certified contractor would work directly with inmate to give hands on experience. Skills like:
  - Soft skills (working with supervisor, etc.)
  - Reuse/Recycling of materials
  - Removal of hazardous materials
  - Equipment operation
- Inmate involvement in deconstruction = structured training for offenders to improve employability upon release

# House of Correction Deconstruction - Status

- Since first meeting of Deconstruction partners, DPSCS has laid the groundwork:
  - MOU signed with MD Historical Trust
  - Hazmat environmental study completed
  - Developed inmate training curriculum
  - Identified pool of eligible inmates
  - DBM approval with DLS agreement
- Necessary Approvals:
  - Deconstruction contract approved by BPW April 3, 2013



# House of Correction Deconstruction - Partnerships

- Stakeholders play a key role in MHC deconstruction
  - \$150,000 in vocational construction and safety courses funded by the Abell Foundation.
  - None of the inmates going through this program have been released yet, but contractors working with them on site have expressed a strong interest in hiring them once they are released.



# Vision for Inmate Participants

- 120 inmates will have completed training by mid-September
- As many as 65 working onsite any given day



# Vision for Inmate Participants

- Participants of the MHC Deconstruction will leave with:
  - 200+ hours of training
    - Construction Orientation and Retention for Employment (CORE)
    - OSHA
    - Hazmat
    - On the job training
  - Marketable skills in the construction field
  - One-on-one employment readiness counseling
  - Connections to jobs on the outside



# Saving Taxpayer Dollars/ Green Initiative

- Deconstruction and reuse costs \$5 million total instead of \$10 million to demolish and remove to a landfill
- The Department removed more than \$280,000 worth of materials prior to the contractor starting to distribute to other DPSCS facilities for reuse.
- Inmates have removed copper wiring, disassembled plumbing pipes and fixtures, abated asbestos tile and window glazing, sorted metals for recycling, demolished block walls, cut away metal gates, and removed light fixtures.



# Where Do We Go From Here?





# Where Do We Go From Here?

- Public Safety Works contributed 617,000 hours of labor to communities throughout the state:
  - Building ADA compliant sidewalks
  - Gleaning over 1 million pounds of produce for Maryland's Food Bank
  - Helping build oyster cages to help restore oysters to the Chesapeake Bay
  - Painting City Pools to keep them open
  - Removing logjams threatening bridge pilings from the Jones Falls Waterway
- We could:
  - Demolish and recycle materials from vacant houses in Baltimore City
  - Tear down unused state hospitals
  - Participate in emergency demolition and deconstruction of properties statewide.
  - Renovate houses for at-risk populations or the homeless

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