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IN THE MATTER OF SPARROWS POINT PARK
CONTAINER TERMINAL PROJECT

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The hearing in the above-entitled matter was held
on February 27, 2025, virtually via Microsoft Teams,
commencing 3:01 p.m.

Court Reporter: Ernie Magness
Transcription Service By: CRC Salomon
Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording;
transcript produced by transcription service.

P R O C E E D I N G S

[3:01 p.m.]

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MS. ASHLEY: Good afternoon and welcome to the Joint Public Hearing for the Sparrows Point Container Terminal.

My name is Angie Ashley, and I will be facilitating today's virtual hearing.

The US Army Corp of Engineers Baltimore District and Maryland Department of the Environment are conducting two public hearings on this project. This is the second two joint public hearings on the proposed Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project in Baltimore County. This joint public informational hearing will provide members of the public the opportunity to present views, opinions and information that the Corp and MDE will consider in evaluating the impacts of the proposed project on the public interest.

Before we get started, we'll review a few housekeeping items. This hearing is being recorded. Live captioning is available should you want it. Please

1 refer to the graphic on the slide in front of you. To
2 turn on closed captioning, click the more icon, scroll
3 down and select language and speech and then select show
4 live caption.

5 During this presentation, you will not be able
6 to turn on your cameras or your microphones until the
7 public hearing portion of the meeting. Once the
8 presentation is complete, and we open the hearing for
9 public testimony, if you are providing testimony you will
10 be able to unmute and turn on your camera.

11 To provide public testimony today, please use
12 the raise hand function if you would like to speak. You
13 will be given access to unmute yourselves and turn your
14 camera on in the order that your hand is raised. To
15 unmute you will need to agree to use your audio and video
16 in the recording and transcription and co-piloting. If
17 you have joined by phone and would like to provide public
18 testimony, you will be able to press *6 to unmute when
19 called on. Oral testimony will be limited to four
20 minutes or less per person depending on the number of
21 commenters.

1 This hearing will end shortly after all
2 comments have been received. You may only testify once,
3 but you have the opportunity to provide your testimony in
4 writing. We will share more information about that in
5 future slides.

6 If you are here for informational purposes and
7 do not wish to comment or cannot stay for the entire
8 meeting, you can learn more on the project websites.
9 Those websites were presented on the slide previously,
10 and we will post them in the chat momentarily.

11 Again, if you would like to make a comment
12 after the program today, please use the raise hand icon.
13 You can begin doing that now, and we will be calling you
14 in the order that you raised your hand.

15 Just to review the agenda for today's hearing,
16 we will start with the welcome and some introductory
17 comments from the Maryland Department of Environment and
18 US Army Corp of Engineers. We will then have a brief
19 presentation from the Applicant.

20 Finally, I will review the ground rules for the
21 hearing. At that point, we will start taking public

1 comments. I would now like to introduce Jon Stewart,
2 acting Chief of the Maryland Department of Environment
3 Tidal Wetlands Division.

4 Jon?

5 MR. STEWART: Good afternoon. My name Jon
6 Stewart, and I am the acting Chief of the Tidal Wetlands
7 Divisions and the Wetlands and Waterways Protection
8 Program within the Water and Science Administration at
9 the Maryland Department of Environment.

10 I will be the Hearing Officer for tonight's
11 virtual public informational hearing. Also in attendance
12 from the Department is Matt Wallick, Tidal Wetlands
13 Division Project Manager.

14 We are conducting a virtual public information
15 hearing pursuant to §5-0204 of the Environment Article
16 Code of Maryland Regulations, 26-24-01-05 in COMAR
17 26.08.02.10F §. The purpose of this virtual public
18 informational hearing is for the Applicant to present the
19 proposed project in Tidal Wetlands impacts that may be
20 associated with proposed activity as well as any impact
21 to water body.

1 In addition the hearing provides the Department
2 with an opportunity to solicit additional information
3 from interested persons. This hearing is not a contested
4 case hearing under Maryland's Administrative Procedure
5 Act. The statutory authority for the additions of a
6 Tidal Wetlands license is Title 16 of the Environment
7 Article Ann. Code of Maryland as implemented under COMAR
8 §23.02.04 and Subtitle 26.24.

9 State Tidal Wetlands license is issued by the
10 Board of Public Works consisting of the Governor, State
11 Treasurer and Comptroller of the State of Maryland based
12 upon a report and recommendations submitted to the Board
13 by the Department. In accordance with the Maryland
14 Constitution, the Board is the sole body with authority
15 over State property including State Tidal Wetlands. In
16 its proprietary authority, the Board has the right to
17 grant a third party to license, construct or conduct an
18 activity in State Tidal Wetlands.

19 According to Section 16-202 of the Environment
20 Article, the Secretary of the Department shall assist the
21 Board in determining whether to issue a license to dredge

1 or fill State Wetlands. The Secretary shall submit a
2 report indicating whether the license should be granted
3 including any recommended terms, conditions and
4 consideration after consultation with the applicable
5 Federal, State and local entities, issuance of sufficient
6 public notice, and conducting any requested hearing,
7 consideration of any public comments received, and
8 consideration of any other information the Secretary
9 thinks is advisable.

10 In making its decision the Board is guided by
11 the Public Policy of the State considering applicable,
12 ecological, economic, developmental, recreational, and
13 aesthetic values to reserve Tidal Wetlands and prevent
14 their destruction.

15 I will now read briefly from the regulations so
16 that is clear how we are going to proceed:

17 An Applicant and any interested person shall be
18 given an opportunity at the informational hearing to
19 present facts and make statements supporting or opposing
20 the license. Questions may be asked of and directed to
21 the Hearing Officer by cross examination will not be

1 conducted. The hearing is not a contested case hearing
2 under Maryland's Administrative Procedure Act. The order
3 of the presentation is determined by the Hearing Officer
4 and may be conducted as follows:

5 Introduction of the activity and participants
6 by the hearing officer. Presentation of the proposed
7 project by the Applicant. Questions about the activity.
8 Statements by Public Officials. Statements on
9 oppositions. Statements and support in closing the
10 public informational hearing by the Hearing Officer.

11 The Hearing Officer has the authority and duty
12 to conduct a full and fair public informational hearing,
13 act to avoid unnecessary delay and to maintain order,
14 regulate the course of the hearing and the conduct of the
15 participants, extend the time period for providing
16 supplemental written comments or information for
17 inclusion in the hearing record, and rule upon request
18 for continuance of the hearing.

19 At the close of the public comment period, the
20 Hearing Officer shall prepare an official record of the
21 public informational hearing and comments. It is also

1 the responsibility of my office to evaluate requests for
2 water quality certifications under §401 of the Clean
3 Water Act which requires Maryland as a certifying
4 authority to determine whether this charge associated
5 with US Army Cores of Engineers Permits Application in
6 AV-022023-61200 complies with the State's water quality
7 standards.

8 The Department's authority is found in Subtitle
9 9 of the Environmental. Each certification request
10 received through our regulatory program has specific and
11 unique issues and impacts that must be considered with
12 regard to the Maryland's water quality standards. The
13 Department is neither a proponent nor an imponent of any
14 project.

15 In summary the Maryland Department of
16 Environment is conducting a virtual public informational
17 hearing for State's Wetlands application number 23-WL-
18 0762 submitted on August 22, 2023, and the Clean Water
19 Act §401 Water Quality Certification Requests 24-WQC-0045
20 which was requested December 3, 2024. The project
21 summary is as follows:

1 The trade point TIL Terminals LLC has applied
2 for the construction of a new container terminal in the
3 Port of Baltimore. The Sparrows Point Container Terminal
4 will be located at the Coke Point Peninsula of Tradepoint
5 Atlantic and consists of approximately 3,000 foot
6 marginal wharf with up to 9 to ship to shore cranes, a
7 containing yard, gate complex, intermodal railyard, and
8 various support structures. To provide vessel access to
9 the wharf, the project includes deepening and widening
10 the existing Sparrows Point channel and turning base
11 which would require mechanical dredging and placement of
12 approximately 4.2 million cubic yards of dredged
13 material.

14 The maximum proposed dredging depth would be
15 52.22 feet at mean low water. A proposed project would
16 include the construction of a 19.6 acre offshore dredged
17 material container facility on the west side of Coke
18 Point in the existing in water cold pier channel to
19 provide placement capacity for approximately 750,000
20 cubic yards in dredged material. Of the remaining
21 dredged material, approximately 1.2 to 1.7 million cubic

1 yards would be placed on site at the Upland High Head
2 Industrial Basin, approximately 1.25 million cubic yards
3 would be placed at the existing mason bill, DMCF dredged
4 material containment facility in Cox Creek DMCF owned by
5 the Maryland Port Administration.

6 Ane approximately 1.5 million cubic yards will
7 be barged to Norfolk Ocean Disposal Site, a designated
8 offshore disposal area located in the Atlantic Ocean,
9 approximal 17 miles from the entrance to the Chesapeake
10 Bay. Mitigation is being assessed for the impacts to
11 open water.

12 Thank you, and now I'm going to turn over to
13 Mr. Joseph DaVia with the Army Corp.

14 MR. DAVIA: Thank you, Jon. Good afternoon,
15 ladies and gentlemen. My name is Joseph DaVia, and I am
16 Chief of Maryland North Section in the Regulatory Branch
17 of the US Army Corp of Engineers Baltimore District. On
18 behalf of Colonel Francis Pera, the Baltimore District
19 Commander, I will be serving as the Hearing Officer for
20 the Corp of Engineers §10, §44 Permit Evaluation
21 requirements of today's hearing.

1 With me here today are the Corp of Project
2 Managers, Maria Terese (phonetic) and Nicole Mastiff
3 (phonetic) of Corp Baltimore District. We welcome you to
4 this Corp and MBE Public Hearing on the Sparrows Point
5 Container Terminal Project.

6 I would like to thank Tradepoint TIL Terminals
7 LLC for providing the support services to allow us to
8 hold this virtual public hearing and thank you for
9 participating in our regulatory review process.

10 It is the responsibility of my office to
11 evaluate applications for Department of the Army permits
12 for any proposed work in waters of the United States
13 including Wetlands. The Corp authority is found in §44
14 of the Clean Water Act and §10 of the Rivers and Harbors
15 Act. The Corp is also reviewing this project under §14
16 of the Ribers and Harbors Act, 33 US(c) §408 and §103 of
17 the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of
18 1972.

19 Each application received through our
20 Regulatory Program has specific and unique issues and
21 impacts that must be considered in relationship to

1 weighing the potential benefits and detriments of the
2 project. Please note that the Corp is neither a
3 proponent or co-proponent of any project.

4 The purpose of today's hearing is to inform you
5 of this project and allow you the opportunity to provide
6 comments to be considered in our Corp Regulatory Public
7 interest review of the proposed work. This venue was for
8 you to provide comments on the project and the Corp and
9 MBE will not be responding to comments.

10 In compliance with the National Environmental
11 Policy Act, the US Army Corp of Engineers, the Lead
12 Federal Agency for the project in cooperation with other
13 agencies (indiscernible) impact statement for the
14 proposed project. Further, at the conclusion of the Corp
15 of Review process, the Corp will be preparing a statement
16 of findings and record of decision of the project in
17 which your comments will be included and addressed. Your
18 comments are important in the preparation of this
19 document and in our evaluation of this permit
20 application.

21 The decision on whether or not to issue a

1 permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable
2 impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed
3 activity on the public interest and compliance with the
4 Clean Water Act §404 B1.license. That decision will
5 reflect the national concern for both protection and
6 utilization of important resources, the benefits which
7 may reasonably be expected to accrue from the proposal
8 will be balanced against is reasonably foreseeable
9 detriments.

10 All factors that may be relevant to the
11 proposal are considered. Among these are conservation,
12 economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns,
13 Wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values,
14 flood hazards, flood plane values, land use, navigation,
15 shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply
16 and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety,
17 food and fiber production, mineral needs, threatened and
18 endangered species, cumulative impacts, consideration of
19 property ownership, and in general the needs and welfare
20 of the people.

21 Under this action and based on the current

1 level of design, the placement of fill and structures for
2 the entire project consist of an approximate 3,000 foot
3 marginal wharf with up to 9 ship to shore cranes, a
4 container yard, gate complex, intermodal rail yard, and
5 various support structures. To provide access to the
6 wharf, vessel access to the wharf, the project would
7 include deepening and widening the existing Sparrows
8 Point Channel and turning basin which would require
9 mechanical dredging and placement of approximately 4.2
10 million cubic yards of dredged material.

11 The maximum proposed dredging depth with -2
12 feet of over depth would be -52 feet at mean lower low
13 water, and that would be -52.22 feet at mean low water.
14 Following construction, main stretching of the Sparrows
15 Point Channel would be required. The project would
16 include the construction of an offshore dredged material
17 containment facility on the West side of Coke Point in
18 the existing in water Cole Pier Channel to provide
19 placement for approximately 750,000 cubic yards of
20 dredged material. The dredged material containment
21 facility would permanently fill approximately 19.6 acres

1 of tidal waters.

2 Of the remaining dredged material,
3 approximately 1.2 to 1.7 million cubic yards would be
4 placed onsite at the Upland High Head Industrial basin
5 material containment facility. Approximate 1.25 million
6 cubic yards would be placed at the existing Mason Bill
7 dredge material containment facility located in Baltimore
8 City, Maryland and/or Cox Creek DMCF located in Anne
9 Arundel County, Maryland, both owned by the Maryland
10 Employee Administration. And approximately 1.5 million
11 cubic yards would be barged to the Norfolk Ocean Disposal
12 site, a designated offshore disposal area located in the
13 Atlantic Ocean near the mouth of Chesapeake Bay.

14 Container vessels accessing the new terminal,
15 would utilize the Brewerton Federal Navigation Channel as
16 the turning basin. Compensatory mitigation for
17 unavoidable tidal water impacts associated with this
18 project, is proposed to be satisfied through a
19 combination of permit responsible mitigation projects
20 including restoration, creation and enhancement of tidal
21 open water, emergent tidal wetlands and shallow water

1 habitat areas on the Tradepoint Atlanta property and that
2 the PDP West (indiscernible) removal of derelict crab
3 traps in the middle of Chesapeake Bay and oyster
4 restoration and seeding in the Chesapeake Bay.

5 The comment period for this project extends to
6 March 21, 2025. Comments received today and throughout
7 the comment period will be considered. The time required
8 to reach a department of the Army permit decision is
9 dependent upon necessary coordination of concerns with
10 resource agencies, careful evaluation of all subsident
11 comments, and ensuring statutory requirements are met.

12 Again, thank you for attending this virtual
13 public hearing and participating in the Corp regulatory
14 review process. I will now turn it over to Angie.

15 MS. ASHLEY: Thank you, Joe. Now we will hear
16 from the project applicant. We are joined today by Aaron
17 Tomarchio, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs
18 from Tradepoint Atlantic, who will provide an overview of
19 the proposed Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project.

20 After this, we will begin with your public comments.

21 Aaron, over to you.

1 MR. TOMARCHIO: Thank you, Angie, and thank you
2 to the Maryland Department of Environment and the Army
3 Corp of Engineers for working with us throughout this
4 year in this permitting process.

5 Ten years ago Tradepoint Atlantic made a
6 commitment to revitalizing Sparrows Point, cleaning up
7 the legacy of the former steel mill, and turning it into
8 a global center for commerce and trade with 50 world-
9 class tenants employing 13,000 people. Building on the
10 success of the last 10 years, the Sparrows Point
11 Container Terminal takes the next logical step in
12 realizing a fully revitalized Sparrows Point.

13 In the fall of 2022, we announced a joint
14 venture partnership. Sparrows Point Container Terminal
15 with Terminal Investment Limited, a subsidiary of
16 Mediterranean Shipping Company, the world's largest
17 shipper, to build a state of the art container terminal
18 here in Baltimore. From here, MSC will grow their east
19 coast service and elevate Baltimore as a primary east
20 coast container port moving Baltimore from the 6th to 3rd
21 largest container port in volume on the east coast.

1 SPCT is a one billion private investment and a
2 big bedlam Baltimore in the State of Maryland. It will
3 bring 8,000 jobs, 1,100 of them Union paying jobs that
4 will work the wharf with an additional 7,000 jobs induced
5 into our state and region. The project will also be
6 built with the help of union labor and skilled trades
7 from around the region. Maryland wins big and this will
8 help the opportunity to grow the economy in a very
9 sustainable and meaningful way.

10 In 2023, we submitted plans to federal and
11 state agencies to transform the desolate 330 acre Coke
12 Point Peninsula into a thriving hub for commerce. Those
13 plans require an extensive public process to analyze all
14 elements of the project. Tonight's hearing is part of
15 that process. Over the last two years, the project team
16 has met with numerous community organizations and
17 stakeholders to discuss the project and share
18 information. We have attended over 30 community
19 meetings, met individually with community leaders and
20 elected officials to share information and receive
21 feedback.

1 We have issued press releases and relevant
2 studies to share dredge material testing results with the
3 public and provide regular updates. We have set up and
4 promoted the website, SPCTMD.com, which serves as an
5 information portal and repository of studies and
6 information about the project. The site links to all
7 federal and state sites about is project, and we
8 encourage you to visit that site and use it as a source
9 of information.

10 We have also published a frequently asked
11 questions document, which is available online, and we can
12 also have hard copies sent to you. Please feel free to
13 send us an email if you would like one.

14 Over the last 10 years, we have worked with the
15 community to share in a vision for a revitalized Sparrows
16 Point, one that is cleaner, greener, and better
17 positioned for the future. The SPCT project helps grow
18 and complete that vision. The timing and success in this
19 project given the current economic uncertainty facing our
20 state is more critical now than ever. We appreciate the
21 support and engagement from the community that has helped

1 clean up Sparrows Point and restore economic activity and
2 jobs to the area.

3 We thank you, and we appreciate your interest
4 in this project, and we appreciate your feedback this
5 afternoon. I'm going to hand it now back to Angie Ashley
6 for the rest of the hearing. Thank you.

7 MS. ASHLEY: Thank you, Aaron.

8 The purpose of the hearing today is for the US
9 Army Corp of Engineers and Maryland Department of
10 Environment to receive oral or written comments that will
11 enable them to evaluate the proposed projects impact on
12 the public interest. As the hearing facilitator, my role
13 is to conduct a professional and orderly public hearing.
14 I am dedicated to ensuring that members of the public
15 have the opportunity to share their comments in an
16 organized, fair and respectful atmosphere. We look
17 forward to hearing your prospectives, however, please be
18 courteous. Offensive or profane language will not be
19 tolerated.

20 Neither I nor the presenters will respond to
21 any of your questions or comments. We are here to listen

1 today. We are interested in hearing comments related to
2 the Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project from all
3 interested individuals. There may be additional concerns
4 related to issues that are beyond the scope of this
5 particular hearing. I ask that for this hearing today we
6 remain focused on issues associated with the proposed
7 Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project.

8 Please remember that this hearing is being
9 recorded. If you would like to provide public testimony
10 today, please use the raise your hand function. When I
11 call your name, speak clearly and provide your full name,
12 spell your name and please note if you're representing
13 any organization. Please be advised that it is not
14 necessary to read a statement to make it part of the
15 official record. Written comments are also being
16 accepted and will receive the same consideration as any
17 oral statement provided today.

18 There will be a four minute time limit for
19 public testimony to ensure that everyone can be heard.
20 This time will be displayed on the screen as we begin
21 public testimony. The time will start after you turn on

1 your camera, unmute and introduce yourself. I will
2 remind you when you have 30 seconds remaining so you can
3 being to wrap up your testimony. If you are unable to
4 conclude your comments at the end of the time period,
5 your microphone will be muted, and we will move on to the
6 next speaker. Again you will always have the opportunity
7 to provide comments in writing and we will share more
8 information about how to do that on the slides.

9 I will now call upon members of the public who
10 would like to make public statements. Again, if you are
11 interested in making a public comment today, please use
12 the raise your hand function. I will now -- we will go
13 in order of hands raised. When I call your name your
14 microphone will be unmuted then state your name, spell
15 your name, and let me know if you're here representing an
16 organization. Again you will have four minutes to
17 provide your public testimony.

18 First up today providing comment will be
19 Andrew, followed by Holly M. Andrew, would you please
20 unmute your microphone and turn on your camera, and I
21 will go on mute, and you can provide your testimony?

1 MR. WEST: It should be on I believe.

2 MS. ASHLEY: Yes. We can hear you. Would you
3 please state and spell your name?

4 MR. WEST: Andrew West. A-N-D-R-E-W W-E-S-T.

5 I am a -- first I want to welcome Aaron, Tradepoint, MED
6 and the Army Corp of Engineers for doing this. I
7 represent what I feel is my community as well as the
8 environment. That's my main concern. I also secondly
9 represent both the Yacht Clubs that are somewhat of an
10 impact to this, Pleasant Yacht Club and North Point Yacht
11 Club, plus I think I represent the entire yacht club
12 community which consists of about 85,000 members over 100
13 clubs.

14 But first and foremost I want to speak to the
15 environment and also make mention the Tradepoint I feel
16 has always been, at least for our community, a very good
17 steward of the environment. So I'll start.

18 Although we greatly are in favor of the
19 Tradepoint Atlantic Development at Sparrows Point
20 Container Terminal and realize its positive impact on the
21 economic growth in Maryland, we cannot support the

1 recommended mitigation efforts, specifically those
2 intended to remove existing, non-distressed land in Jones
3 Creek. I believe there are other mitigation efforts that
4 can be used and will be more beneficial to the surrounded
5 and effected communities in the entire Bay ecosystem.

6 I'm sure you will all see and hear the term
7 BMP, which is Best Management Practices, throughout the
8 entire aspect of this project, but I don't believe you'll
9 see them, nor do I believe they are being considered with
10 regards to the mitigation plan. In the project section
11 mentioned here, it says there will be no recreational
12 impact to the local community. It also includes the
13 environmental justice section regarding the executive
14 order and the revitalizing of our nation's environmental
15 justice for all. There is a statement in the project
16 construction section again stating the project won't
17 produce disproportionate impacts on recreation for the
18 underserved communities.

19 This is true in all aspects of the project
20 except for the mitigation aspect. Please remember, we're
21 in full support of the project, but believe it can

1 proceed on schedule and on time but with better
2 mitigation efforts. I believe there is a better way to
3 mitigate the open water loss areas that are proposed in
4 Section 10.1. The removal of the five acres at North
5 Point and Pleasant, the removal of the 2.1 manmade lake
6 at Craig Hill, and the removal of the Southeast
7 peninsula.

8 The first two of these options are not restored
9 damaged lands due to the steel making. These two areas
10 are natural lands that have always existed and should be
11 considered for removal. Not be considered. These two
12 parcels of land always have existed and act as a natural
13 break water to Jones Creek. The removal of the Southeast
14 peninsula finger will remove a manmade natural break
15 water that has been protecting this peninsula since it's
16 been in in Jones Creek.

17 Second I think there's far more beneficial ways
18 to reach mitigation credits than the proposed ones they
19 have such determine an impact on the local boating
20 community and recreation and two of these more 75 year
21 old clubs. The yacht clubs represent the poster child

1 for environmental justice.

2 I'm going to jump real quick because I'm
3 running out of time. One of the remediation efforts I'd
4 like them to consider, and I'll touch on the innovated
5 methods for mediation as fast as I can, and also I'm sure
6 you know if mitigation credits. I'm sure you understand
7 mitigation preference. And what I'm going to say is
8 based on the crab part section of the \$90,000 per acre.

9 I'm going to run out of time so a lot of this
10 is going to be, I guess, in my written report that you
11 along with a bunch of other mitigation efforts. I
12 realize I'm running out of time. I agree --

13 MS. ASHLEY: Thank you, Mr. West. I appreciate
14 that you were finishing up your comments and trying to
15 wrap up, and it sounds like you're well aware of how to
16 provide your additional comments in writing. Thank you
17 very much for your testimony today.

18 Next up we have Holly Marcin. Holly, do you
19 mind unmuting, turning your camera on and you should be
20 able to provide your testimony.

21 MS. MARCIN: Good afternoon. Sorry about my

1 voice. I'm slowly losing it. My name is Holly Marson,
2 M-A-R-C-I-N. I'm the vice president of the operations at
3 White Marsh Transport. Good afternoon again.

4 Many here today have heard from me before
5 whether in person this week or previously in writing
6 about my unique perspective on this incredible joint
7 opportunity between Tradepoint Atlantic and Terminal
8 Investments Limited. As the second generation of a
9 family owned and operated trucking company,
10 (indiscernible) Sparrows Point, my family nearly employs
11 100 people who live, have children actively participating
12 in the school system and enjoying the fruits of TPA's
13 community efforts, we proudly stand behind their good
14 faith and stewardship.

15 I am hopeful today allows us to gracefully
16 think about the impacts versus these distractions this
17 grand project can have on your future, the future of your
18 legacy, and the future of many generations to come.
19 Today I would like to emphasize the opportunities and
20 improved infrastructure which are being spearheaded by
21 Tradepoint's current project for the container terminal.

1 This week's recent community meeting shared
2 many concerns about increased truck traffic and the
3 impact on surrounding neighborhoods. Although the focus
4 was on the current and past few years of incredible
5 traffic and congestion from the point of Baltimore in
6 Dundalk and through local neighborhoods or backroads. No
7 one spoke of the large proposals and state highway
8 projects currently being implemented. I understand this
9 frustration and inconvenience as well as the incredible
10 safety concerns that all have regarding the current and
11 added workflow the container terminal could have.

12 Fortunately one key focus of this project has
13 been an efficient and distinct traffic pattern by
14 offering truck volume direct access onto 695 and
15 ultimately 95 highways. These proposals, which are
16 easily accessible to the public and regularly updated,
17 illustrate the conscious effort by TPA to accommodate the
18 community's concerns as much as feasible. Likewise,
19 Tradepoint has spearheaded the application of an
20 anticipated revenue for additional Baltimore County
21 infrastructure to all police resources for community and

1 traffic enforcement to the area. The FOP and TPA have
2 taken much of the community's concerns into consideration
3 when implementing new and improved resources to the
4 Sparrows Point Area.

5 Finally, many here from the recent community
6 meetings and expressing concerns, question the
7 authenticity of those of us who do not currently reside
8 in this zip code, but I would like to bring attention to
9 the fact that many of those zoned people have children
10 and grandchildren, brothers and sisters, who no longer
11 reside in this zip code either. I'm not mentioning this
12 to throw stones but rather to bring attention to my
13 greatest concern.

14 Many of those who proudly talked they worked at
15 the steel mill, they know this ground inside and out, and
16 all of these neighborhoods and concerns, this is why you
17 can still afford to live here. Many have a pension or
18 settlement from the old steel mill. But rather, many of
19 those who have to choose to move out or relocate have
20 done so for opportunities elsewhere, careers, for the
21 safety and betterment of communities for their children.

1 I wholeheartedly ask for you to please consider
2 this when considering the future of this project.
3 Consider the future of this community, not just heritage.
4 I ask you to consider the unemployment rate and the
5 desperation of a once thriving steel mill that employed
6 31,000 jobs. I ask you to consider how many families and
7 homes 7,000 careers can impact. How many lives can be
8 saved and cycles broken for a better tomorrow simply with
9 the pride one has in a career, a steady income and
10 establishing a stable home life.

11 The Sparrows Point Container Terminal is an
12 intracule part of completing this bold vision to the
13 redevelopment of the once barren and desolate steel mill
14 site, and I ask that you stand in solidarity with
15 Tradepoint Atlantic, Terminal Investments, and MSC and
16 the future of this community by keeping the generational
17 prosperity here in this zip code.

18 MS. ASHLEY: Thank you, Ms. Marcin. We
19 appreciate your public comment. Okay, if there's anyone
20 else joining us today who would like to provide
21 testimony, all you need to do is press the raise hand

1 function, the little hand black and white icon that says
2 raise, and you will be able to provide testimony today,
3 and we'll go in the order that folks raise their hand.

4 I'm going to go on mute and wait to see if
5 anyone raises their hand.

6 Once again, if you've just signed on, welcome
7 to the joint public hearing for the proposed Sparrows
8 Point Container Terminal Project. We've concluded our
9 speakers' program and are here to take public comment and
10 testimony on the project. If you would like to provide
11 testimony, please use the raise hand function, and we
12 will go in the order that you raised your hand. We'll
13 keep this platform open, so please raise your hand if
14 you'd like to provide testimony.

15 All right, David Thomas. I see that you would
16 like to provide public testimony. If you would unmute
17 and raise your hand -- if you would unmute and turn your
18 camera on, it would provide four minutes of public
19 testimony.

20 MR. THOMAS: Okay. All right. Can you hear
21 me?

1 MS. ASHLEY: Yes. Thank you so much. Loud and
2 clear.

3 MR. THOMAS: My name is David D-A-V-I-D T-H-O-
4 M-A-S, and I have been for the last 15 years the
5 Legislative Director of the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club
6 Association which consist of over 100 yacht clubs in 5
7 different states and the District of Columbia. Two of
8 those clubs include the North Point Yacht Club, where I
9 am now, and the Pleasant Yacht Club next door. I think
10 you can see behind me, the row of past (indiscernible) of
11 the Yacht Club, and then off to the side you can see the
12 various materials that they have in terms of --

13 MS. ASHLEY: Mr. Thomas, your camera is not on.

14 MR. THOMAS: Oh it isn't? Okay.

15 MS. ASHLEY: No.

16 MR. THOMAS: Well we'll submit photography in
17 the follow up to what I'm saying here today, and the
18 point is that this is an active community of boaters that
19 will be impacted and we're very much hoping that there
20 can be ways that the mitigation credits for the tidal
21 waters that are being taken away can be compensated for

1 in the alternatives such as crab traps, abandoned
2 derelict vessels, oyster bars, waterway improvement,
3 waterfront mitigation so that the impact of the proposal
4 as it now stands which will be take and remove the
5 complete properties of these two yacht clubs bringing
6 them out of existence.

7 So the effort here is to save the environment
8 and that would include the land and occupants fee and
9 usage of the area by these yacht clubs. My understanding
10 from the Commadore, Andrew West here of the North Point
11 Yacht Club, is that the proposal to take out the docks
12 and the slips and the yacht club itself will involve
13 further dredging at a cost I'd put at some 25 million
14 dollars, and it seems there are alternative mitigation
15 credits that would be more environmentally beneficial and
16 constructive than that proposal.

17 And that's what we'd like to submit further
18 materials on together with the photography of back when
19 this yacht club brought into creation the garage, the
20 docks, the clubhouse that I'm in, and started the
21 intragenerational participation in aquodic and

1 recreational boating activities here through the yacht
2 club. And I'm getting kind of a feedback on what I've
3 been saying here into the microphone. I've been doing my
4 best to ignore it. I hope there's only one version that
5 the court reporter is accurately take down, but we'd like
6 to -- we're looking forward that the record would be held
7 up until March 21st. Thank you.

8 MS. ASHLEY: Thank you, sir. We could hear you
9 loud and clear. We appreciate your testimony.

10 If there's anyone else who would like to
11 provide public testimony, if you would please use the
12 raise hand function. I'll call on you in the order that
13 you raise your hand. If you'd like to provide testimony,
14 just click the raise hand function, and we'll go in the
15 order that you're received -- that we see that you've
16 raised your hand. Once you raise your hand, if you are
17 providing public testimony, you'll be given access to
18 unmute yourself, and turn on your camera.

19 I see there's some folks who have just joined
20 us. I just want to welcome you to the Sparrows Point
21 Container Terminal Joint Public Hearing hosted by the US

1 Army Corp of Engineers and Maryland Department of the
2 Environment. My name is Angie Ashley, and I'm
3 facilitating the meeting this afternoon on their behalf.
4 We're here to accept public testimony on the proposed
5 Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project. To provide
6 comment, just use the raise hand function, and you'll be
7 able to provide four minutes of public testimony.

8 Again thank you for joining us and welcome to
9 the Sparrows Point Container Terminal joint public
10 hearing. We're here to listen to public testimony on the
11 proposed Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project. If
12 you would like to provide four minutes of public
13 testimony, you can use the raise hand function. If
14 you're having trouble using the raise hand function, we
15 are going to take everyone off mute for a minute and
16 allow you to speak in case you've been having any
17 technical challenges with today. So in about one minute,
18 we'll be taking everyone off mute and allowing folks to
19 speak if they would like to. If you would, when we come
20 of mute, if you've been struggling with the platform and
21 not able to use the raise hand function, when we take you

1 all off of mute, if you would just please your state your
2 name, we'll capture your name, and then we'll put
3 everyone back on mute and unmute you in the order so that
4 we can ensure everyone has time to provide public
5 testimony.

6 So at 3:47, we're going to unmute everyone for
7 a couple of moments and see if anyone has been struggling
8 with the platform and would like to provide public
9 testimony. Meanwhile, at any time, you can use the raise
10 hand function. Just click the little hand icon, and
11 you'll be able to provide public testimony, and we'll
12 have you in the queue. Just a reminder, at 3:47 we're
13 going to unmute everyone.

14 If you happen to be dialed in on your phone and
15 have been struggling with unmuting, you can press *6 on
16 your phone and that will unmute you to allow you to
17 provide public testimony once we allow that
18 functionality. So at 3:47, we will be unmuting everyone.
19 I just want to warn you in case you're driving. You can
20 also self select and put yourself back on mute.

21 Okay, we're going to unmute you all and see if

1 anyone would like to provide testimony. Just please
2 state your name if you would like to. Anyone wishes to
3 unmute they now have the ability to unmute. You can --
4 you will unmute yourself and you would need to agree to
5 the use of audio and video and then you may provide your
6 name when mute has been optioned for everyone, all
7 attendees.

8 Thank you so much, Andy. So if you would like
9 to unmute yourself and provide your name, we can capture
10 you in our list for the option to provide public
11 testimony today. You may also use the raise hand
12 function.

13 Hi, just a reminder this is the proposed
14 Sparrows Point Container Terminal Joint Public Hearing
15 hosted by the Maryland Department of Environment and the
16 US Army Corp of Engineers. My name is Angie Ashley.
17 We've completed our presentation for today and are here
18 keeping this forum open for anyone who would like to
19 provide public testimony. If you would like to provide
20 public testimony, just use the raise hand function, and I
21 will call on you to have you provide your testimony.

1 We're keeping the platform open, and I will go back on
2 mute, but if you would like to provide testimony, please
3 just raise your hand. Thank you so much.

4 This is the Joint Public Hearing for the
5 proposed Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project. My
6 name is Angie Ashley. I'm facilitating the meeting on
7 behalf of the Maryland Department of Environment and the
8 US Army Corp of Engineers. If you would like to provide
9 testimony this afternoon, please use the raise hand
10 function. Just press the hand icon, and you will be
11 allowed to provide public testimony. Public comment
12 period for this project is open through March 21st, and I
13 will share on the screen the methods of being able to
14 provide public comment in writing. If you would like to
15 provide oral public testimony today, please just use the
16 raise hand function. Thank you.

17 Hello, and welcome to the Sparrow's Point
18 Container Terminal Project joint public hearing hosted by
19 the US Army Corp of Engineers and the Maryland Department
20 of the Environment. We've concluded our program for
21 today, but we're here and open to take public comments.

1 If you'd like to provide a public comment, please just
2 use the raise hand function and we'll call on you, and
3 you'll be able to unmute and turn on your camera and
4 provide public testimony. Again, if you'd like to
5 provide any testimony during this hearing, please use the
6 raise hand function, and we'll call on you and you'll be
7 able to unmute, turn on your camera and provide
8 testimony.

9 We'll be keeping this meeting open until 5 pm
10 so please use the raise hand function during the next 30
11 minutes. We'll be keeping the hearing open until 5 pm.
12 Thank you.

13 Hi, Jason. I see you have your hand up. Would
14 you like to provide testimony? Hi, Jason, we're going to
15 --

16 MR. ROUSON: Can you hear me?

17 MS. ASHLEY: Yes.

18 MR. ROUSON: Okay.

19 MS. ASHLEY: Yes, I can.

20 MR. ROUSON: Okay.

21 MS. ASHLEY: Hi, would you like to provide

1 public testimony tonight?

2 MR. ROUSON: Yes.

3 MS. ASHLEY: Great. Please go ahead. Will you
4 state your name and spell your name?

5 MR. ROUSON: My name is Jason Rouson J-A-S-O-N
6 R-O-U-S-O-N. My concern with the containership or the
7 container tree point is the fact that I have over 15
8 years experience driving containers for out of Siegert
9 Terminal, and basically what I'm saying is that the
10 amount of traffic that's going to be flowing up and down
11 North Point, Sparrows Point, you know the highways,
12 Boeing Highway, because the bridge has been knocked down,
13 you have to bring those containers through the city, and
14 with most of the trucks that has to provide
15 transportation to bring those containers through the
16 city, is going to put a lot of wear and tear on the
17 public roads and streets because they was already heavy.

18 When you're talking about each container ship
19 carrying over 15,000 containers, you're looking at each
20 container has to be mounted to a truck, and you're going
21 to have 15,000 trucks going through Sparrows Point, North

1 Point, Wolf Road, trying to get those containers over
2 there, and then you know on various location. So each
3 ship carries 15,000 containers, you're going to probably
4 have about, I'm going to say 5 containers being offloaded
5 at any time, day or night. And then you're looking at a
6 lot of cars that are being shipped over seas that's going
7 to be coming into that area as well because they ship
8 cars, they ship all kinds of tractors, hazardous
9 materials, waste. Anything that they can take back and
10 forth from overseas because when the bridge went down,
11 that shut off their route because they would go straight
12 down to the harbor and drop it off at Seigert.

13 Because the bridge collapsing or being knocked
14 down, taken down, they are bringing that traffic over to
15 Sparrows Point, Wolfe Road, and you're talking about
16 15,000 containers. That's 15,000 trucks added, I'm going
17 to say about 5 ships a week, you're looking at over, you
18 know, I'm going to say, over 100,000 tractors and
19 commercial trucks going up and through Sparrows Point.
20 That is going to be a tragedy waiting to happen because
21 it's just too much traffic for that little area.

1 You're already choked down as it is. You can't
2 get back across over the bridge, 695, you can't get back
3 over the bridge going that way. So you're going to choke
4 the community up with nothing but traffic, tractor
5 trailers and other big equipment coming through here
6 hauling all the merchandise and goods to the stores going
7 on that side of the harbor. That's going to really
8 hamper the environment. That's going to really hamper
9 the traffic solution. You know, you're talking about
10 police. You're talking about all types of things that's
11 going to happen down there.

12 The jobs that they are proposing to bring to
13 the community, a lot of those jobs are going to be
14 outsourced to robots. So the robots are going to take a
15 lot of those jobs, and they're gearing up for robots as
16 we speak. So I wouldn't put any weight on worrying about
17 a lot of those jobs for the young. It's going to
18 literally go to the robots.

19 MS. ASHLEY: Thank you, sir. Appreciate your
20 comments. Is there anyone else who is on the call
21 tonight who would like to provide public testimony?

1 We're nearing the end of our meeting, if you would like
2 to provide public testimony, please use the raise hand
3 function. Okay, I'm not seeing anyone else who would
4 like to provide public comment. It seems as though
5 everyone who's indicated interest in providing public
6 testimony this afternoon has had that opportunity, but if
7 you've changed your mind and would like to provide public
8 testimony, we'll do one last call.

9 Please use the raise hand function, and you'll
10 be able to unmute and provide your testimony.

11 Okay. I'm not seeing anyone raising their
12 hands, so I would like to thank you all very much for
13 taking the time to participate in this hearing this
14 afternoon. Instructions for submitting comments can be
15 found on the websites that have been posted in the chat,
16 and more information about the project can be found on
17 those websites as well.

18 I'm going to turn the meeting over to Jon
19 Stewart of the Maryland Department of Environment and
20 Joseph DaVia of the US Army Corp of Engineers who will
21 close out the hearing.

1 Over to you, John.

2 MR. STEWART: Thank you. The formal hearing
3 record will remain open until Friday, March 21, 2025.
4 All correspondence must be post marked or emailed by this
5 date. There are slides explaining how to submit
6 additional comments. Is that slide up? Please forward
7 any additional comments that you would like to make for
8 the record to, by email at matthew.wallach.maryland.gov..
9 That's M-A-T-T-H-E-W W-A-L-L-A-C-H @maryland.gov spelled
10 out. It's on the slide right now. Or by mail to the
11 Maryland Department of Environment care of Matt Wallach,
12 Tidal Wetlands Division 1800 Washington Blvd. Suite 430,
13 Baltimore, MD 21230-1708.

14 After the hearing record closes the Department
15 will review and consider all the comments it received
16 during the comment period. If necessary, the Department
17 may request additional information from the Applicant to
18 address certain comments. After all relevant issues have
19 been resolved, the Department will make its decision and
20 final report and recommendation to the Wetlands
21 administrator for the Board who shall then present the

1 proposed budget for decision at a public meeting of the
2 Board in accordance with COMAR, Chapter 23.02.04.

3 The Board's decision will be final and there
4 will be no further opportunity for administrative review.
5 Any person with standing may petition for judicial review
6 of the Board's decision in the Circuit Court of Baltimore
7 County. The petition for judicial review must be filed
8 within 30 days of the Board's decision. The public
9 comments received will also be considered by the
10 Department when rendering a decision on certification
11 request number 24-WQC-0045. The Department is obligated
12 to issue, deny or waive certification on the project by
13 December 3, 2025.

14 The Department's decision and accompanying
15 information will be sent to the interested persons list,
16 the Applicant and the Corp. Any person who is aggrieved
17 by the Department's decision, may appeal the decision by
18 filing a request within 30 days of the publication of the
19 WQC decision in accordance with COMAR 26.08.02.10F §4.

20 If you're unsure if you're on the interested
21 persons list, you can be informed of the hearing through

1 MD's website. Please ensure your name is added to the
2 interested persons list by emailing Matt Wallach even if
3 you did not speak.

4 So thank you, we will close out the hearing.

5 MR. DAVIA: Thank you, Jon. Again this is
6 Joseph DaVia, Army Corp of Engineers. Please be reminded
7 that the public comment period of this project extends to
8 March 21, 2025. The Corp and MD thank you for attending
9 this virtual public hearing, and for your attention.

10 This virtual public hearing is now adjourned.

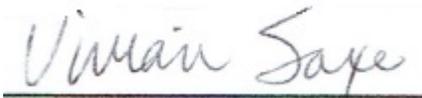
11 (Hearing adjourned.)
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I, Vivian Saxe, hereby certify that I transcribed from audio file the proceedings to the best of my ability in the foregoing-entitled matter; and I further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of the audio files produced.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have subscribed my name on March 13, 2025.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vivian Saxe". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Vivian Saxe
Transcriber

WORD INDEX

<p>< \$ > \$90,000 27:8</p> <p>< § > § 5:17 §10 11:20 12:14 §103 12:16 §14 12:15 §23.02.04 6:8 §4 46:19 §401 9:2, 19 §404 14:4 §408 12:16 §44 11:20 12:13 §5-0204 5:15</p> <p>< 0 > 0762 9:18</p> <p>< 1 > 1,100 19:3 1.2 10:21 16:3 1.25 11:2 16:5 1.5 11:6 16:10 1.7 10:21 16:3 10 18:10 20:14 10.1 26:4 100 24:12 28:11 33:6 100,000 42:18 13 48:9 13,000 18:9 15 33:4 41:7 15,000 41:19, 21 42:3, 16 16 6:6 16-202 6:19 17 11:9 1800 45:12 19.6 10:16 15:21 1972 12:18</p> <p>< 2 > 2 15:11</p>	<p>2.1 26:5 2022 18:13 2023 9:18 19:10 2024 9:20 2025 1:12 17:6 45:3 46:13 47:8 48:9 21 17:6 45:3 47:8 21230-1708 45:13 21st 35:7 39:12 22 9:18 23.02.04 46:2 23-WL 9:17 24-WQC-0045 9:19 46:11 25 34:13 26.08.02.10F 5:17 46:19 26.24 6:8 26-24-01-05 5:16 27 1:12</p> <p>< 3 > 3 9:20 46:13 3,000 10:5 15:2 3:01 1:13 2:2 3:47 37:6, 12, 18 30 19:18 23:2 40:10 46:8, 18 31,000 31:6 33 12:16 330 19:11 3rd 18:20</p> <p>< 4 > 4.2 10:12 15:9 430 45:12</p> <p>< 5 > 5 33:6 40:9, 11 42:4, 17 50 18:8 52 15:12 52.22 10:15 15:13</p>	<p>< 6 > 6 3:18 37:15 695 29:14 43:2 6th 18:20</p> <p>< 7 > 7,000 19:4 31:7 75 26:20 750,000 10:19 15:19</p> <p>< 8 > 8,000 19:3 85,000 24:12</p> <p>< 9 > 9 9:9 10:6 15:3 95 29:15</p> <p>< A > Aaron 17:16, 21 21:7 24:5 abandoned 34:1 ability 38:3 48:4 able 3:5, 10, 18 27:20 32:2 36:7, 21 37:11 39:13 40:3, 7 44:10 above-entitled 1:11 accept 36:4 accepted 22:16 access 3:13 10:8 15:5, 6 29:14 35:17 accessible 29:16 accessing 16:14 accommodate 29:17 accompanying 46:14 accretion 14:15 accrue 14:7 accurately 35:5 acre 10:16 19:11 27:8</p>	<p>acres 15:21 26:4 Act 6:5 8:2, 13 9:3, 19 12:14, 15, 16, 17 13:11 14:4 26:12 acting 5:2, 6 action 14:21 active 33:18 actively 28:11 activities 35:1 activity 5:20 6:18 8:5, 7 14:3 21:1 added 29:11 42:16 47:1 addition 6:1 additional 6:2 19:4 22:3 27:16 29:20 45:6, 7, 17 additions 6:5 address 45:18 addressed 13:17 adjourned 47:10, 11 Administration 5:8 11:5 16:10 Administrative 6:4 8:2 46:4 administrator 45:21 advisable 7:9 advised 22:13 aesthetic 7:13 aesthetics 14:12 Affairs 17:17 afford 30:17 afternoon 2:4 5:5 11:14 21:5 27:21 28:3 36:3 39:9 44:6, 14 agencies 13:13 17:10 19:11 Agency 13:12 agenda 4:15 aggrieved 46:16 ago 18:5</p>	<p>agree 3:15 27:12 38:4 ahead 41:3 allow 12:7 13:5 36:16 37:16, 17 allowed 39:11 allowing 36:18 allows 28:15 alternative 34:14 alternatives 34:1 amount 41:10 analyze 19:13 and/or 16:8 Andrew 23:19 24:4 34:10 A-N-D-R-E-W 24:4 Andy 38:8 Ane 11:6 Angie 2:7 17:14 18:1 21:5 36:2 38:16 39:6 Ann 6:7 Anne 16:8 announced 18:13 anticipated 29:20 appeal 46:17 applicable 7:4, 11 Applicant 4:19 5:18 7:17 8:7 17:16 45:17 46:16 Application 9:5, 17 12:19 13:20 29:19 applications 12:11 applied 10:1 appreciate 20:20 21:3, 4 27:13 31:19 35:9 43:19</p>
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<p>approximal 11:9</p> <p>approximate 15:2 16:5</p> <p>approximately 10:5, 12, 19, 21 11:2, 6 15:9, 19, 21 16:3, 10</p> <p>aquodic 34:21</p> <p>area 11:8 16:12 21:2 30:1, 4 34:9 42:7, 21</p> <p>areas 17:1 26:3, 9</p> <p>Army 2:9 4:18 9:5 11:13, 17 12:11 13:11 17:8 18:2 21:9 24:6 36:1 38:16 39:8, 19 44:20 47:6</p> <p>art 18:17</p> <p>Article 5:15 6:7, 20</p> <p>Arundel 16:9</p> <p>ASHLEY 2:4, 7 17:15 21:5, 7 24:2 27:13 31:18 33:1, 13, 15 35:8 36:2 38:16 39:6 40:17, 19, 21 41:3 43:19</p> <p>asked 7:20 20:10</p> <p>aspect 25:8, 20</p> <p>aspects 25:19</p> <p>assessed 11:10</p> <p>assist 6:20</p> <p>associated 5:20 9:4 16:17 22:6</p> <p>Association 33:6</p> <p>Atlanta 17:1</p> <p>Atlantic 10:5 11:8 16:13 17:18 18:5 24:19 28:7 31:15</p>	<p>atmosphere 21:16</p> <p>attendance 5:11</p> <p>attended 19:18</p> <p>attendees 38:7</p> <p>attending 17:12 47:8</p> <p>attention 30:8, 12 47:9</p> <p>audio 3:15 38:5 48:4, 7</p> <p>August 9:18</p> <p>authenticity 30:7</p> <p>authority 6:5, 14, 16 8:11 9:4, 8 12:13</p> <p>AV-022023- 61200 9:6</p> <p>available 2:21 20:11</p> <p>avoid 8:13</p> <p>aware 27:15</p> <p>< B ></p> <p>B1.license 14:4</p> <p>back 21:5 34:18 37:3, 20 39:1 42:9 43:2</p> <p>backroads 29:6</p> <p>balanced 14:8</p> <p>Baltimore 2:9, 13 10:3 11:17, 18 12:3 16:7 18:18, 19, 20 19:2 29:5, 20 45:13 46:6</p> <p>barged 11:7 16:11</p> <p>barren 31:13</p> <p>bars 34:2</p> <p>base 10:10</p> <p>based 6:11 14:1, 21 27:8</p> <p>basically 41:9</p> <p>Basin 11:2</p> <p>Basin 11:2 15:8 16:4, 16</p> <p>Bay 11:10 16:13 17:3, 4</p>	<p>25:5 33:5</p> <p>bedlam 19:2</p> <p>behalf 11:18 36:3 39:7</p> <p>believe 24:1 25:3, 8, 9, 21 26:2</p> <p>beneficial 25:4 26:17 34:15</p> <p>benefits 13:1 14:6</p> <p>Best 25:7 35:4 48:4</p> <p>better 20:16 26:1, 2 31:8</p> <p>betterment 30:21</p> <p>beyond 22:4</p> <p>big 19:2, 7 43:5</p> <p>bill 11:3 16:6</p> <p>billion 19:1</p> <p>black 32:1</p> <p>Blvd 45:12</p> <p>BMP 25:7</p> <p>Board 6:10, 12, 14, 16, 21 7:10 45:21 46:2</p> <p>Board's 46:3, 6, 8</p> <p>boaters 33:18</p> <p>boating 26:19 35:1</p> <p>body 5:21 6:14</p> <p>Boeing 41:12</p> <p>bold 31:12</p> <p>Branch 11:16</p> <p>break 26:13, 14</p> <p>Brewerton 16:15</p> <p>bridge 41:12 42:10, 13 43:2, 3</p> <p>brief 4:18</p> <p>briefly 7:15</p> <p>bring 19:3 30:8, 12 41:13, 15 43:12</p> <p>bringing 34:5</p>	<p>42:14</p> <p>broken 31:8</p> <p>brothers 30:10</p> <p>brought 34:19</p> <p>budget 46:1</p> <p>build 18:17</p> <p>Building 18:9</p> <p>built 19:6</p> <p>bunch 27:11</p> <p>< C ></p> <p>call 22:11 23:9, 13 35:12 38:21 40:2, 6 43:20 44:8</p> <p>called 3:19</p> <p>calling 4:13</p> <p>camera 3:10, 14 23:1, 20 27:19 32:18 33:13 35:18 40:3, 7</p> <p>cameras 3:6</p> <p>capacity 10:19</p> <p>caption 3:4</p> <p>captioning 2:21 3:2</p> <p>capture 37:2 38:9</p> <p>care 45:11</p> <p>career 31:9</p> <p>careers 30:20 31:7</p> <p>careful 17:10</p> <p>carries 42:3</p> <p>carrying 41:19</p> <p>cars 42:6, 8</p> <p>case 6:4 8:1 36:16 37:19</p> <p>center 18:8</p> <p>certain 45:18</p> <p>CERTIFICATE 48:1</p> <p>certification 9:9, 19 46:10, 12</p> <p>certifications 9:2</p> <p>certify 48:3, 5</p> <p>certifying 9:3</p>	<p>challenges 36:17</p> <p>changed 44:7</p> <p>channel 10:10, 18 15:8, 15, 18 16:15</p> <p>Chapter 46:2</p> <p>charge 9:4</p> <p>chat 4:10 44:15</p> <p>Chesapeake 11:9 16:13 17:3, 4 33:5</p> <p>Chief 5:2, 6 11:16</p> <p>child 26:21</p> <p>children 28:11 30:9, 21</p> <p>choke 43:3</p> <p>choked 43:1</p> <p>choose 30:19</p> <p>Circuit 46:6</p> <p>City 16:8 41:13, 16</p> <p>class 18:9</p> <p>Clean 9:2, 18 12:14 14:4 21:1</p> <p>cleaner 20:16</p> <p>cleaning 18:6</p> <p>clear 7:16 33:2 35:9</p> <p>clearly 22:11</p> <p>click 3:2 35:14 37:10</p> <p>close 8:19 44:21 47:4</p> <p>closed 3:2</p> <p>closes 45:14</p> <p>closing 8:9</p> <p>Club 24:10, 11 33:5, 8, 9, 11 34:11, 12, 19 35:2</p> <p>clubhouse 34:20</p> <p>Clubs 24:9, 13 26:21 33:6, 8 34:5, 9</p> <p>coast 18:19, 20, 21</p>
---	--	--	--	---

<p>Code 5:16 6:7 30:8, 11 31:17 Coke 10:4, 17 15:17 19:11 cold 10:18 Cole 15:18 collapsing 42:13 Colonel 11:18 Columbia 33:7 COMAR 5:16 6:7 46:2, 19 combination 16:19 come 28:18 36:19 coming 42:7 43:5 Commadore 34:10 Commander 11:19 commencing 1:13 comment 4:7, 11 8:19 17:5, 7 23:11, 18 31:19 32:9 36:6 39:11, 14 40:1 44:4 45:16 47:7 commenters 3:21 comments 4:2, 17 5:1 7:7 8:16, 21 13:6, 8, 9, 17, 18 17:6, 11, 20 21:10, 15, 21 22:1, 15 23:4, 7 27:14, 16 39:21 43:20 44:14 45:6, 7, 15, 18 46:9 commerce 18:8 19:12 commercial 42:19 commitment 18:6 communities 25:5, 18 30:21</p>	<p>community 19:16, 18, 19 20:15, 21 24:7, 12, 16 25:12 26:20 28:13 29:1, 21 30:5 31:3, 16 33:18 43:4, 13 community's 29:18 30:2 Company 18:16 28:9 compensated 33:21 Compensatory 16:16 complete 3:8 20:18 34:5 completed 38:17 completing 31:12 complex 10:7 15:4 compliance 13:10 14:3 complies 9:6 Comptroller 6:11 concern 14:5 24:8 30:13 41:6 concerns 14:12 17:9 22:3 29:2, 10, 18 30:2, 6, 16 conclude 23:4 concluded 32:8 39:20 conclusion 13:14 conditions 7:3 conduct 6:17 8:12, 14 21:13 conducted 8:1, 4 conducting 2:11 5:14 7:6 9:16</p>	<p>congestion 29:5 conscious 29:17 conservation 14:11, 16 consider 2:17 27:4 31:1, 3, 4, 6 45:15 consideration 7:4, 7, 8 14:18 22:16 30:2 considered 9:11 12:21 13:6 14:11 17:7 25:9 26:11 46:9 considering 7:11 31:2 consist 15:2 33:6 consisting 6:10 consists 10:5 24:12 Constitution 6:14 construct 6:17 construction 10:2, 16 15:14, 16 25:16 constructive 34:16 consultation 7:4 CONTAINER 1:4 2:5, 13 10:2, 3, 17 12:5 15:4 16:14 17:19 18:11, 14, 17, 20, 21 22:2, 7 24:20 28:21 29:11 31:11 32:8 35:21 36:5, 9, 11 38:14 39:5, 18 41:7, 18, 20 containers 41:8, 13, 15, 19 42:1, 3, 4, 16 containership 41:6 containing 10:7</p>	<p>containment 11:4 15:17, 20 16:5, 7 contested 6:3 8:1 continuance 8:18 cooperation 13:12 coordination 17:9 copies 20:12 co-piloting 3:16 co-proponent 13:3 Cores 9:5 Corp 2:9, 16 4:18 11:13, 17, 20 12:1, 3, 4, 13, 15 13:2, 6, 8, 11, 14, 15 17:13 18:3 21:9 24:6 36:1 38:16 39:8, 19 44:20 46:16 47:6, 8 Corporate 17:17 correct 48:6 correspondence 45:4 cost 34:13 County 2:14 16:9 29:20 46:7 couple 37:7 course 8:14 Court 1:17 35:5 46:6 courteous 21:18 Cox 11:4 16:8 crab 17:2 27:8 34:1 Craig 26:6 cranes 10:6 15:3 CRC 1:18 creation 16:20 34:19</p>	<p>credits 26:18 27:6 33:20 34:15 Creek 11:4 16:8 25:3 26:13, 16 critical 20:20 cross 7:21 cubic 10:12, 20, 21 11:2, 6 15:10, 19 16:3, 6, 11 cumulative 14:2, 18 current 14:21 20:19 28:21 29:4, 10 currently 29:8 30:7 cycles 31:8 < D > damaged 26:9 date 45:5 DaVia 11:13, 14, 15 44:20 47:5, 6 David 32:15 33:3 D-A-V-I-D 33:3 day 42:5 days 46:8, 18 December 9:20 46:13 decision 7:10 13:16, 21 14:4 17:8 45:19 46:1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 14, 17, 19 dedicated 21:14 deepening 10:9 15:7 delay 8:13 deny 46:12 Department 2:10 4:17 5:2, 9, 12 6:1, 13, 20 9:13, 15 12:11 17:8 18:2 21:9 36:1 38:15</p>
---	---	--	---	--

<p>39:7, 19 44:19 45:11, 14, 16, 19 46:10, 11 Department's 9:8 46:14, 17 dependent 17:9 depending 3:20 depth 10:14 15:11, 12 derelict 17:2 34:2 design 15:1 designated 11:7 16:12 desolate 19:11 31:13 desperation 31:5 destruction 7:14 determine 9:4 26:19 determined 8:3 determining 6:21 detriments 13:1 14:9 Development 24:19 developmental 7:12 dialed 37:14 different 33:7 direct 29:14 directed 7:20 Director 33:5 discuss 19:17 displayed 22:20 Disposal 11:7, 8 16:11, 12 disproportionate 25:17 distinct 29:13 distractions 28:16 District 2:10 11:17, 18 12:3 33:7 Division 5:3, 13</p>	<p>45:12 Divisions 5:7 DMCF 11:3, 4 16:8 docks 34:11, 20 document 13:19 20:11 doing 4:13 24:6 35:3 dollars 34:14 door 33:9 dredge 6:21 16:7 20:2 dredged 10:12, 16, 20, 21 11:3 15:10, 16, 20 16:2 dredging 10:11, 14 15:9, 11 34:13 driving 37:19 41:8 drop 42:12 due 26:9 Dundalk 29:6 duty 8:11 < E > easily 29:16 east 18:18, 19, 21 ecological 7:12 economic 7:12 20:19 21:1 24:21 economics 14:12 economy 19:8 ecosystem 25:5 effected 25:5 efficient 29:13 effort 29:17 34:7 efforts 25:1, 3 26:2 27:3, 11 28:13 either 30:11 elected 19:20 electronic 1:19</p>	<p>elements 19:14 elevate 18:19 email 20:13 45:8 emailed 45:4 emailing 47:2 emergent 16:21 emphasize 28:19 employed 31:5 Employee 16:10 employing 18:9 employs 28:10 enable 21:11 encourage 20:8 endangered 14:18 energy 14:16 enforcement 30:1 engagement 20:21 Engineers 2:9 4:18 9:5 11:17, 20 13:11 18:3 21:9 24:6 36:1 38:16 39:8, 19 44:20 47:6 enhancement 16:20 enjoying 28:12 ensure 22:19 37:4 47:1 ensuring 17:11 21:14 entire 4:7 15:2 24:11 25:5, 8 entities 7:5 entrance 11:9 Environment 2:10 4:17 5:2, 9, 15 6:6, 19 9:16 18:2 21:10 24:8, 15, 17 34:7 36:2 38:15 39:7, 20 43:8 44:19 45:11 Environmental 9:9 13:10</p>	<p>14:12 25:13, 14 27:1 environmentally 34:15 equipment 43:5 Ernie 1:17 erosion 14:15 establishing 31:10 evaluate 9:1 12:11 21:11 evaluating 2:17 Evaluation 11:20 13:19 14:1 17:10 examination 7:21 Executive 17:17 25:13 existed 26:10, 12 existence 34:6 existing 10:10, 18 11:3 15:7, 18 16:6 25:2 expected 14:7 experience 41:8 explaining 45:5 expressing 30:6 extend 8:15 extends 17:5 47:7 extensive 19:13 < F > facilitating 2:8 36:3 39:6 facilitator 21:12 facility 10:17 11:4 15:17, 21 16:5, 7 facing 20:19 fact 30:9 41:7 factors 14:10 facts 7:19 fair 8:12 21:16 faith 28:14 fall 18:13 families 31:6</p>	<p>family 28:9, 10 far 26:17 fast 27:5 favor 24:18 feasible 29:18 February 1:12 Federal 7:5 13:12 16:15 19:10 20:7 fee 34:8 feedback 19:21 21:4 35:2 feel 20:12 24:7, 15 feet 10:15 15:12, 13 fiber 14:17 file 48:4 filed 46:7 files 48:7 filing 46:18 fill 7:1 15:1, 21 final 45:20 46:3 Finally 4:20 30:5 findings 13:16 finger 26:14 finishing 27:14 First 23:18 24:5, 14 26:8 fish 14:13 five 26:4 flood 14:14 flowing 41:10 focus 29:3, 12 focused 22:6 folks 32:3 35:19 36:18 follow 33:17 followed 23:19 Following 15:14 follows 8:4 9:21 food 14:17 foot 10:5 15:2 FOP 30:1 foregoing 48:6 foregoing-</p>
--	--	--	---	--

<p>entitled 48:5 foremost 24:14 foreseeable 14:8 formal 45:2 former 18:7 forth 42:10 Fortunately 29:12 forum 38:18 forward 21:17 35:6 45:6 found 9:8 12:13 44:15, 16 four 3:19 22:18 23:16 32:18 36:7, 12 Francis 11:18 free 20:12 frequently 20:10 Friday 45:3 front 3:1 fruits 28:12 frustration 29:9 full 8:12 22:11 25:21 48:6 fully 18:12 function 3:12 22:10 23:12 32:1, 11 35:12, 14 36:6, 13, 14, 21 37:10 38:12, 20 39:10, 16 40:2, 6, 10 44:3, 9 functionality 37:18 Further 13:14 34:13, 17 46:4 48:5 future 4:5 20:17 28:17, 18 31:2, 3, 16</p> <p>< G > garage 34:19 gate 10:7 15:4 gearing 43:15 general 14:12,</p>	<p>19 generation 28:8 generational 31:16 generations 28:18 gentlemen 11:15 getting 35:2 given 3:13 7:18 20:19 35:17 global 18:8 go 23:12, 21 32:3, 4, 12 35:14 39:1 41:3 42:11 43:18 going 7:16 11:12 21:5 27:2, 7, 9, 10 32:4 36:15 37:6, 13, 21 40:14 41:10, 16, 20, 21 42:3, 4, 6, 16, 18, 19, 20 43:3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 17 44:18 Good 2:4 5:5 11:14 24:16 27:21 28:3, 13 goods 43:6 Governor 6:10 gracefully 28:15 grand 28:17 grandchildren 30:10 grant 6:17 granted 7:2 graphic 3:1 Great 41:3 greatest 30:13 greatly 24:18 greener 20:16 ground 4:20 30:15 grow 18:18 19:8 20:17 growth 24:21</p>	<p>guess 27:10 guided 7:10</p> <p>< H > habitat 17:1 hamper 43:8 hand 3:12, 14 4:12, 14 21:5 22:10 23:12 31:21 32:1, 3, 5, 11, 12, 13, 17 35:12, 13, 14, 16 36:6, 13, 14, 21 37:10 38:11, 20 39:3, 9, 10, 16 40:2, 6, 10, 13 44:2, 9 hands 23:13 44:12 happen 37:14 42:20 43:11 harbor 42:12 43:7 Harbors 12:14, 16 hard 20:12 hauling 43:6 hazardous 42:8 hazards 14:14 Head 11:1 16:4 hear 17:15 24:2 25:6 32:20 35:8 40:16 heard 22:19 28:4 hearing 1:11 2:5, 8, 14, 20 3:7, 8 4:1, 15, 21 5:10, 11, 15, 18 6:1, 3, 4 7:6, 18, 21 8:1, 3, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21 9:17 11:19, 21 12:4, 8 13:4 17:13 19:14 21:6, 8, 12, 13, 17 22:1, 5, 8 32:7 35:21 36:10 38:14</p>	<p>39:4, 18 40:5, 11 44:13, 21 45:2, 14 46:21 47:4, 9, 10, 11 hearings 2:11, 12 heavy 41:17 held 1:11 35:6 Hello 39:17 help 19:6, 8 helped 20:21 helps 20:17 heritage 31:3 Hi 38:13 40:13, 14, 21 High 11:1 16:4 highway 29:7 41:12 highways 29:15 41:11 Hill 26:6 historic 14:13 hold 12:8 Holly 23:19 27:18 28:1 home 31:10 homes 31:7 hope 35:4 hopeful 28:15 hoping 33:19 hosted 35:21 38:15 39:18 housekeeping 2:20 hub 19:12</p> <p>< I > icon 3:2 4:12 32:1 37:10 39:10 ignore 35:4 illustrate 29:17 impact 5:20 13:13 21:11 24:10, 20 25:12 26:19 29:3 31:7 34:3 impacted 33:19 impacts 2:17 5:19 9:11</p>	<p>11:10 12:21 14:2, 18 16:17 25:17 28:16 implemented 6:7 29:8 implementing 30:3 imponent 9:13 important 13:18 14:6 improved 28:20 30:3 improvement 34:2 include 10:16 15:7, 16 33:8 34:8 included 13:17 includes 10:9 25:12 including 6:15 7:3 12:13 14:2 16:20 inclusion 8:17 income 31:9 inconvenience 29:9 increased 29:2 incredible 28:6 29:4, 9 indicated 44:5 indicating 7:2 indiscernible 13:13 17:2 28:10 33:10 individually 19:19 individuals 22:3 induced 19:4 Industrial 11:2 16:4 inform 13:4 information 2:16 4:4 5:14 6:2 7:8 8:16 19:18, 20 20:5, 6, 9 23:8 44:16 45:17 46:15 informational 2:14 4:6 5:11,</p>
---	---	--	---	--

18 7:18 8:10,
12, 21 9:16
informed 46:21
infrastructure
28:20 29:21
innovated 27:4
inside 30:15
Instructions
44:14
intended 25:2
interest 2:18
13:7 14:3 21:3,
12 44:5
interested 6:3
7:17 22:1, 3
23:11 46:15, 20
47:2
intermodal
10:7 15:4
intracule 31:12
**intragenerationa
l** 34:21
introduce 5:1
23:1
Introduction
8:5
introductory
4:16
Investment
18:15 19:1
Investments
28:8 31:15
involve 34:12
issuance 7:5
issue 6:21
13:21 46:12
issued 6:9 20:1
issues 9:11
12:20 22:4, 6
45:18
items 2:20
its 6:16 7:10
24:20 45:19

< J >
Jason 40:13, 14
41:5
J-A-S-O-N 41:5

jobs 19:3, 4
21:2 31:6
43:12, 13, 15, 17
Joe 17:15
John 45:1
joined 3:17
17:16 35:19
joining 31:20
36:8
Joint 2:5, 12,
14 18:13 28:6
32:7 35:21
36:9 38:14
39:4, 18
Jon 5:1, 4, 5
11:14 44:18
47:5
Jones 25:2
26:13, 16
Joseph 11:13,
15 44:20 47:6
judicial 46:5, 7
jump 27:2
justice 25:13,
15 27:1

< K >
keep 32:13
keeping 31:16
38:18 39:1
40:9, 11
key 29:12
kind 35:2
kinds 42:8
knocked 41:12
42:13
know 23:15
27:6 30:15
41:11 42:2, 18
43:9

< L >
labor 19:6
ladies 11:15
lake 26:5
land 14:14
25:2 26:12
34:8
lands 26:9, 10

language 3:3
21:18
large 29:7
largest 18:16,
21
Lead 13:11
leaders 19:19
learn 4:8
legacy 18:7
28:18
Legislative 33:5
level 15:1
license 6:6, 9,
17, 21 7:2, 20
life 31:10
Likewise 29:18
limit 22:18
limited 3:19
18:15 28:8
links 20:6
list 38:10
46:15, 21 47:2
listen 21:21
36:10
literally 43:18
little 32:1
37:10 42:21
Live 2:21 3:4
28:11 30:17
lives 31:7
LLC 10:1 12:7
local 7:5 25:12
26:19 29:6
located 10:4
11:8 16:7, 8, 12
location 42:2
logical 18:11
longer 30:10
look 21:16
looking 35:6
41:19 42:5, 17
losing 28:1
loss 26:3
lot 27:9 41:16
42:6 43:13, 15,
17
Loud 33:1 35:9
low 10:15
15:12, 13

lower 15:12

< M >
Magness 1:17
mail 45:10
main 15:14
24:8
maintain 8:13
making 7:10
23:11 26:9
Management
25:7
Manager 5:13
Managers 12:2
manmade 26:5,
14
March 17:6
35:7 39:12
45:3 47:8 48:9
Marcin 27:18,
21 31:18
M-A-R-C-I-N
28:2
marginal 10:6
15:3
Maria 12:2
Marine 12:17
marked 45:4
Marsh 28:3
Marson 28:1
Maryland 2:10
4:17 5:2, 9, 16
6:7, 11, 13 9:3,
15 11:5, 16
16:8, 9 18:2
19:2, 7 21:9
24:21 36:1
38:15 39:7, 19
44:19 45:11
maryland.gov
45:9
Maryland's 6:4
8:2 9:12
M-A-S 33:4
mason 11:3
16:6
Mastiff 12:2
material 10:13,
17, 20, 21 11:4

15:10, 16, 20
16:2, 5, 7 20:2
materials 33:12
34:18 42:9
Matt 5:12
45:11 47:2
MATTER 1:3,
11 48:5
**M-A-T-T-H-E-
W** 45:9
matthew.wallach
.maryland.gov
45:8
maximum
10:14 15:11
MBE 12:4 13:9
MD 45:13 47:8
MDE 2:16
MD's 47:1
mean 10:15
15:12, 13
meaningful 19:9
mechanical
10:11 15:9
MED 24:5
mediation 27:5
Mediterranean
18:16
meeting 3:7
4:8 29:1 36:3
39:6 40:9 44:1,
18 46:1
meetings 19:19
30:6
members 2:15
21:14 23:9
24:12
mention 24:15
mentioned
25:11
mentioning
30:11
merchandise
43:6
met 17:11
19:16, 19
methods 27:5
39:13

<p>microphone 23:5, 14, 20 35:3</p> <p>microphones 3:6</p> <p>Microsoft 1:12</p> <p>middle 17:3</p> <p>miles 11:9</p> <p>mill 18:7 30:15, 18 31:5, 13</p> <p>million 10:12, 21 11:2, 6 15:10 16:3, 5, 10 34:13</p> <p>mind 27:19 44:7</p> <p>mineral 14:17</p> <p>minute 22:18 36:15, 17</p> <p>minutes 3:20 23:16 32:18 36:7, 12 40:11</p> <p>mitigate 26:3</p> <p>Mitigation 11:10 16:16, 19 25:1, 3, 10, 20 26:2, 18 27:6, 7, 11 33:20 34:3, 14</p> <p>momentarily 4:10</p> <p>moments 37:7</p> <p>mounted 41:20</p> <p>mouth 16:13</p> <p>move 23:5 30:19</p> <p>moving 18:20</p> <p>MSC 18:18 31:15</p> <p>mute 23:21 32:4 36:15, 18, 20 37:1, 3, 20 38:6 39:2</p> <p>muted 23:5</p> <p>< N ></p> <p>name 2:7 5:5 11:15 22:11, 12 23:13, 14, 15</p>	<p>24:3 28:1 33:3 36:2 37:2 38:2, 6, 9, 16 39:6 41:4, 5 47:1 48:8</p> <p>National 13:10 14:5</p> <p>nation's 25:14</p> <p>natural 26:10, 12, 14</p> <p>navigation 14:14 16:15</p> <p>near 16:13</p> <p>nearing 44:1</p> <p>nearly 28:10</p> <p>necessary 17:9 22:14 45:16</p> <p>need 3:15 31:21 38:4</p> <p>needs 14:16, 17, 19</p> <p>neighborhoods 29:3, 6 30:16</p> <p>neither 9:13 13:2 21:20</p> <p>new 10:2 16:14 30:3</p> <p>Nicole 12:2</p> <p>night 42:5</p> <p>non-distressed 25:2</p> <p>Norfolk 11:7 16:11</p> <p>North 11:16 24:10 26:4 33:8 34:10 41:11, 21</p> <p>note 13:2 22:12</p> <p>notice 7:6</p> <p>number 3:20 9:17 46:11</p> <p>numerous 19:16</p> <p>< O ></p> <p>obligated 46:11</p> <p>occupants 34:8</p> <p>Ocean 11:7, 8 16:11, 13</p>	<p>Offensive 21:18</p> <p>offering 29:14</p> <p>office 9:1 12:10</p> <p>Officer 5:10 7:21 8:3, 6, 10, 11, 20 11:19</p> <p>official 8:20 22:15</p> <p>Officials 8:8 19:20</p> <p>offloaded 42:4</p> <p>offshore 10:16 11:8 15:16 16:12</p> <p>Oh 33:14</p> <p>Okay 31:19 32:20 33:14 37:21 40:18, 20 44:3, 11</p> <p>old 26:21 30:18</p> <p>Once 3:7 4:2 31:5, 13 32:6 35:16 37:17</p> <p>ones 26:18</p> <p>online 20:11</p> <p>onsite 16:4</p> <p>open 3:8 11:11 16:21 26:3 32:13 38:18 39:1, 12, 21 40:9, 11 45:3</p> <p>operated 28:9</p> <p>operations 28:2</p> <p>opinions 2:16</p> <p>opportunities 28:19 30:20</p> <p>opportunity 2:15 4:3 6:2 7:18 13:5 19:8 21:15 23:6 28:7 44:6 46:4</p> <p>opposing 7:19</p> <p>oppositions 8:9</p> <p>option 38:10</p> <p>optioned 38:6</p> <p>options 26:8</p>	<p>Oral 3:19 21:10 22:17 39:15</p> <p>order 3:14 4:14 8:2, 13 23:13 25:14 32:3, 12 35:12, 15 37:3</p> <p>orderly 21:13</p> <p>organization 22:13 23:16</p> <p>organizations 19:16</p> <p>organized 21:16</p> <p>outsourced 43:14</p> <p>overseas 42:10</p> <p>overview 17:18</p> <p>owned 11:4 16:9 28:9</p> <p>ownership 14:19</p> <p>oyster 17:3 34:2</p> <p>< P ></p> <p>p.m 1:13 2:2</p> <p>parcels 26:12</p> <p>PARK 1:3</p> <p>part 19:14 22:14 27:8 31:12</p> <p>participants 8:5, 15</p> <p>participate 44:13</p> <p>participating 12:9 17:13 28:11</p> <p>participation 34:21</p> <p>particular 22:5</p> <p>partnership 18:14</p> <p>party 6:17</p> <p>pattern 29:13</p> <p>paying 19:3</p> <p>PDP 17:2</p>	<p>Peninsula 10:4 19:12 26:7, 14, 15</p> <p>pension 30:17</p> <p>people 14:20 18:9 28:11 30:9</p> <p>Pera 11:18</p> <p>period 8:15, 19 17:5, 7 23:4 39:12 45:16 47:7</p> <p>permanently 15:21</p> <p>Permit 11:20 13:19 14:1 16:19 17:8</p> <p>Permits 9:5 12:11</p> <p>permitting 18:4</p> <p>person 3:20 7:17 28:5 46:5, 16</p> <p>persons 6:3 46:15, 21 47:2</p> <p>perspective 28:6</p> <p>petition 46:5, 7</p> <p>phone 3:17 37:14, 16</p> <p>phonetic 12:2, 3</p> <p>photography 33:16 34:18</p> <p>pier 10:18 15:18</p> <p>placed 11:1, 3 16:4, 6</p> <p>placement 10:11, 19 15:1, 9, 19</p> <p>plan 25:10</p> <p>plane 14:14</p> <p>plans 19:10, 13</p> <p>platform 32:13 36:20 37:8 39:1</p> <p>Pleasant 24:10 26:5 33:9</p> <p>Please 2:21 3:11 4:12 13:2 20:12 21:17</p>
---	---	--	--	--

<p>22:8, 10, 12, 13 23:11, 19 24:3 25:20 31:1 32:11, 13 35:11 37:1 38:1 39:2, 9, 15 40:1, 5, 10 41:3 44:2, 9 45:6 47:1, 6 plus 24:11 pm 40:9, 11 POINT 1:3 2:5, 13 4:21 10:1, 3, 4, 10, 18 12:4 15:8, 15, 17 17:19 18:6, 10, 12, 14 19:12 20:16 21:1 22:2, 7 24:10, 19 26:5 28:10 29:5 30:4 31:11 32:8 33:8, 18 34:10 35:20 36:5, 9, 11 38:14 39:5, 17 41:7, 11, 21 42:1, 15, 19 police 29:21 43:10 Policy 7:11 13:11 Port 10:3 11:5 18:20, 21 portal 20:5 portion 3:7 positioned 20:17 positive 24:20 post 4:10 45:4 posted 44:15 poster 26:21 potential 13:1 Practices 25:7 preference 27:7 preparation 13:18 prepare 8:20 preparing 13:15 present 2:15 5:18 7:19 45:21</p>	<p>presentation 3:5, 8 4:19 8:3, 6 38:17 presented 4:9 presenters 21:20 President 17:17 28:2 press 3:18 20:1 31:21 37:15 39:10 prevent 7:13 previously 4:9 28:5 pride 31:9 primary 18:19 private 19:1 probable 14:1 probably 42:3 Procedure 6:4 8:2 proceed 7:16 26:1 Proceedings 1:19 48:4 process 12:9 13:15 17:14 18:4 19:13, 15 produce 25:17 produced 1:20 48:7 production 14:17 profane 21:18 professional 21:13 program 4:12 5:8 9:10 12:20 32:9 39:20 PROJECT 1:4 2:11, 13, 18 4:8 5:13, 19 8:7 9:14, 20 10:9, 15 12:1, 5, 15 13:2, 3, 5, 8, 12, 14, 16 15:2, 6, 15 16:18 17:5, 16, 19 19:5, 14, 15, 17 20:6, 7, 17, 19 21:4</p>	<p>22:2, 7 25:8, 10, 15, 16, 19, 21 28:17, 21 29:12 31:2 32:8, 10 36:5, 11 39:5, 12, 18 44:16 46:12 47:7 projects 16:19 21:11 29:8 promoted 20:4 properties 14:13 34:5 property 6:15 14:19 17:1 proponent 9:13 13:3 proposal 14:7, 11 34:3, 11, 16 proposals 29:7, 15 proposed 2:12, 17 5:19, 20 8:6 10:14, 15 12:12 13:7, 14 14:2 15:11 16:18 17:19 21:11 22:6 26:3, 18 32:7 36:4, 11 38:13 39:5 46:1 proposing 43:12 proprietary 6:16 prospectives 21:17 prosperity 31:17 protecting 26:15 Protection 5:7 12:17 14:5 proudly 28:13 30:14 provide 2:15 3:11, 17 4:3 10:8, 19 13:5, 8 15:5, 18 17:18 20:3 22:9, 11 23:7, 17, 21 27:16, 20 31:20</p>	<p>32:2, 10, 14, 16, 18 35:11, 13 36:5, 7, 12 37:4, 8, 11, 17 38:1, 5, 9, 10, 19, 21 39:2, 8, 11, 14, 15 40:1, 4, 5, 7, 14, 21 41:14 43:21 44:2, 4, 7, 10 provided 22:17 provides 6:1 providing 3:9 8:15 12:7 23:18 35:17 44:5 Public 2:5, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18 3:7, 9, 11, 17 4:21 5:11, 14, 17 6:10 7:6, 7, 11 8:8, 10, 12, 19, 21 9:16 12:4, 8 13:6 14:3 17:13, 20 19:13 20:3 21:12, 13, 14 22:9, 19, 21 23:9, 10, 11, 17 29:16 31:19 32:7, 9, 16, 18 35:11, 17, 21 36:4, 7, 9, 10, 12 37:4, 8, 11, 17 38:10, 14, 19, 20 39:4, 11, 14, 15, 18, 21 40:1, 4 41:1, 17 43:21 44:2, 4, 5, 7 46:1, 8 47:7, 9, 10 publication 46:18 published 20:10 purpose 5:17 13:4 21:8 purposes 4:6 pursuant 5:15 put 34:13 37:2,</p>	<p>20 41:16 43:16 < Q > quality 9:2, 6, 12, 19 14:16 question 30:6 Questions 7:20 8:7 20:11 21:21 queue 37:12 quick 27:2 < R > rail 15:4 railyard 10:7 raise 3:12 4:12 22:10 23:12 31:21 32:2, 3, 11, 13, 17 35:12, 13, 14, 16 36:6, 13, 14, 21 37:9 38:11, 20 39:3, 9, 16 40:2, 6, 10 44:2, 9 raised 3:14 4:14 23:13 32:12 35:16 raises 32:5 raising 44:11 rate 31:4 reach 17:8 26:18 read 7:15 22:14 real 27:2 realize 24:20 27:12 realizing 18:12 really 43:7, 8 reasonably 14:7, 8 receive 19:20 21:10 22:16 received 4:2 7:7 9:10 12:19 17:6 35:15 45:15 46:9 recommendation 45:20</p>
--	--	--	---	---

recommendation s 6:12	25:20	16:20 17:4	schedule 26:1	shore 10:6
recommended 7:3 25:1	remind 23:2	restore 21:1	school 28:12	15:3
record 8:17, 20 13:16 22:15 35:6 45:3, 8, 14	reminded 47:6	restored 26:8	Science 5:8	shoreline 14:15
recorded 1:19 2:20 22:9	reminder 37:12 38:13	results 20:2	scope 22:4	shortly 4:1
recording 1:19 3:16	removal 17:2 26:4, 5, 6, 11, 13	revenue 29:20	screen 22:20 39:13	show 3:3
recreation 14:15 25:17 26:20	remove 25:2 26:14 34:4	review 2:19 4:15, 20 12:9 13:7, 15 17:14 45:15 46:4, 5, 7	scroll 3:2	shut 42:11
recreational 7:12 25:11 35:1	rendering 46:10	reviewing 12:15	second 2:12 26:17 28:8	side 10:17 15:17 33:11 43:7
redevelopment 31:13	report 6:12 7:2 27:10 45:20	revitalized 18:12 20:15	secondly 24:8	Siegert 41:8
refer 3:1	Reporter 1:17 35:5	revitalizing 18:6 25:14	seconds 23:2	signed 32:6
reflect 14:5	Repository 20:5	Ribers 12:16	Secretary 6:20 7:1, 8	simply 31:8
regard 9:12	represent 24:7, 9, 11 26:21	right 6:16 32:15, 20 45:10	Section 6:19 11:16 25:10, 13, 16 26:4 27:8	sir 35:8 43:19
regarding 25:13 29:10	representing 22:12 23:15	Rivers 12:14	see 25:6, 9 32:4, 15 33:10, 11 35:15, 19	sisters 30:10
regards 25:10	request 8:17 9:9 45:17 46:11, 18	Road 42:1, 15	seedling 17:4	site 11:1, 7 16:12 20:6, 8 31:14
region 19:5, 7	requested 7:6 9:20	roads 41:17	seeing 44:3, 11	sites 20:7
regular 20:3	requests 9:1, 19	robots 43:14, 15, 18	Seigert 42:12	skilled 19:6
regularly 29:16	require 10:11 15:8 19:13	role 21:12	select 3:3 37:20	slide 3:1 4:9 45:6, 10
regulate 8:14	required 15:15 17:7	ROUSON 40:16, 18, 20 41:2, 5	self 37:20	slides 4:5 23:8 45:5
Regulations 5:16 7:15	requirements 11:21 17:11	R-O-U-S-O-N 41:6	send 20:13	slips 34:12
regulatory 9:10 11:16 12:9, 20 13:6 17:13	requires 9:3	route 42:11	sent 20:12 46:15	slowly 28:1
related 22:1, 4	Research 12:17	row 33:10	serves 20:4	sole 6:14
relationship 12:21	reserve 7:13	rule 8:17	Service 1:18, 20 18:19	solicit 6:2
releases 20:1	reside 30:7, 11	rules 4:20	services 12:7	solidarity 31:14
relevant 14:10 20:1 45:18	resolved 45:19	run 27:9	servicing 11:19	solution 43:9
relocate 30:19	resource 17:10	running 27:3, 12	set 20:3	somewhat 24:9
remain 22:6 45:3	resources 14:6 29:21 30:3	< S >	settlement 30:18	Sorry 27:21
remaining 10:20 16:2 23:2	respectful 21:16	safety 14:16 29:10 30:21	shallow 16:21	sound 1:19
remediation 27:3	respond 21:20	Salomon 1:18	share 4:4 19:17, 20 20:2, 15 21:15 23:7 39:13	sounds 27:15
remember 22:8	responding 13:9	Sanctuaries 12:17	shared 29:1	source 20:8
	responsibility 9:1 12:10	satisfied 16:18	ship 10:6 15:3 41:18 42:3, 7, 8	Southeast 26:6, 13
	responsible 16:19	save 34:7	shipped 42:6	SPARROWS 1:3 2:5, 13 10:3, 10 12:4 15:7, 14 17:19 18:6, 10, 12, 14 20:15 21:1 22:2, 7 24:19 28:10 30:4 31:11 32:7 35:20 36:5, 9, 11 38:14 39:5 41:11, 21 42:15, 19
	rest 21:6	saxed 31:8	shipper 18:17	
	restoration	Saxe 48:3, 13	Shipping 18:16	
		saying 33:17	ships 42:17	
		says 25:11 32:1		

<p>Sparrow's 39:17 SPCT 19:1 20:17 SPCTMD.com 20:4 speak 3:12 22:11 24:14 36:16, 19 43:16 47:3 speaker 23:6 speakers 32:9 spearheaded 28:20 29:19 species 14:18 specific 9:10 12:20 specifically 25:1 speech 3:3 spell 22:12 23:14 24:3 41:4 spelled 45:9 spoke 29:7 stable 31:10 stakeholders 19:17 stand 28:13 31:14 standards 9:7, 12 standing 46:5 stands 34:4 start 4:16, 21 22:21 24:17 started 2:19 34:20 State 6:9, 10, 11, 15, 18 7:1, 5, 11 18:17 19:2, 5, 11 20:7, 20 23:14 24:3 29:7 37:1 38:2 41:4 statement 13:13, 15 22:14, 17 25:15 statements 7:19 8:8, 9 23:10</p>	<p>States 12:12 33:7 State's 9:6, 17 stating 25:16 statutory 6:5 17:11 stay 4:7 steady 31:9 steel 18:7 26:9 30:15, 18 31:5, 13 step 18:11 steward 24:17 stewardship 28:14 Stewart 5:1, 5, 6 44:19 45:2 stones 30:12 stores 43:6 straight 42:11 streets 41:17 stretching 15:14 structures 10:8 15:1, 5 struggling 36:20 37:7, 15 studies 20:2, 5 submit 7:1 33:16 34:17 45:5 submitted 6:12 9:18 19:10 submitting 44:14 subscribed 48:8 subsident 17:10 subsidiary 18:15 Subtitle 6:8 9:8 success 18:10 20:18 sufficient 7:5 Suite 45:12 summary 9:15, 21 supplemental 8:16 supply 14:15</p>	<p>support 8:9 10:8 12:7 15:5 20:21 24:21 25:21 supporting 7:19 sure 25:6 27:5, 6 surrounded 25:4 surrounding 29:3 sustainable 19:9 system 28:12 < T > take 32:9 34:4, 11 35:5 36:15, 21 39:21 42:9 43:14 taken 30:2 33:21 42:14 takes 18:11 talked 30:14 talking 41:18 42:15 43:9, 10 team 19:15 Teams 1:12 tear 41:16 technical 36:17 Ten 18:5 tenants 18:9 Terese 12:2 term 25:6 TERMINAL 1:4 2:6, 13 10:2, 3 12:5 16:14 17:19 18:11, 14, 15, 17 22:2, 7 24:20 28:7, 21 29:11 31:11, 15 32:8 35:21 36:5, 9, 11 38:14 39:5, 18 41:9 Terminals 10:1 12:6 terms 7:3 33:12 testify 4:2</p>	<p>testimony 3:9, 11, 18, 19 4:3 22:9, 19, 21 23:3, 17, 21 27:17, 20 31:21 32:2, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19 35:9, 11, 13, 17 36:4, 7, 10, 13 37:5, 9, 11, 17 38:1, 11, 19, 20, 21 39:2, 9, 11, 15 40:4, 5, 8, 14 41:1 43:21 44:2, 6, 8, 10 testing 20:2 Thank 11:12, 14 12:6, 8 17:12, 15 18:1 21:3, 6, 7 27:13, 16 31:18 33:1 35:7, 8 36:8 38:8 39:3, 16 40:12 43:19 44:12 45:2 47:4, 5, 8 THEREOF 48:8 things 43:10 think 24:11 26:17 28:16 33:9 thinks 7:9 third 6:17 T-H-O 33:3 Thomas 32:15, 20 33:3, 13, 14, 16 threatened 14:17 thriving 19:12 31:5 throw 30:12 Tidal 5:3, 6, 12, 19 6:6, 9, 15, 18 7:13 16:1, 17, 20, 21 33:20 45:12 time 8:15 17:7 22:18, 20, 21</p>	<p>23:4 26:1 27:3, 9, 12 37:4, 9 42:5 44:13 timing 20:18 Title 6:6 today 3:11 4:12 12:1 17:6, 16 21:8 22:1, 5, 10, 17 23:11, 18 27:17 28:4, 15, 19 31:20 32:2 33:17 36:17 38:11, 17 39:15, 21 today's 2:8 4:15 11:21 13:4 tolerated 21:19 Tomarchio 17:17 18:1 tomorrow 31:8 tonight 41:1 43:21 tonight's 5:10 19:14 touch 27:4 TPA 29:17 30:1 TPA's 28:12 tractor 43:4 tractors 42:8, 18 trade 10:1 18:8 Tradepoint 10:4 12:6 17:1, 18 18:5 24:5, 15, 19 28:7 29:19 31:15 Tradepoint's 28:21 trades 19:6 traffic 29:2, 5, 13 30:1 41:10 42:14, 21 43:4, 9 tragedy 42:20 trailers 43:5 transcribed 48:3</p>
---	--	--	--	---

<p>TRANSCRIBER 48:1, 14 transcript 1:20 48:6 Transcription 1:18, 20 3:16 transform 19:11 Transport 28:3 transportation 41:15 traps 17:3 34:1 Treasurer 6:11 tree 41:7 trouble 36:14 truck 29:2, 14 41:20 trucking 28:9 trucks 41:14, 21 42:16, 19 true 25:19 48:6 trying 27:14 42:1 turn 3:2, 6, 10, 13 11:12 17:14 22:21 23:20 32:17 35:18 40:3, 7 44:18 turning 10:10 15:8 16:16 18:7 27:19 two 2:11, 12 19:15 26:8, 9, 11, 20 33:7 34:5 types 43:10</p> <p>< U > ultimately 29:15 unable 23:3 unavoidable 16:17 uncertainty 20:19 underserved 25:18 understand 27:6 29:8 understanding 34:9</p>	<p>unemployment 31:4 Union 19:3, 6 unique 9:11 12:20 28:6 United 12:12 unmute 3:10, 13, 15, 18 23:1, 20 32:16, 17 35:18 37:3, 6, 13, 16, 21 38:3, 4, 9 40:3, 7 44:10 unmuted 23:14 unmuting 27:19 37:15, 18 unnecessary 8:13 unsure 46:20 updated 29:16 updates 20:3 Upland 11:1 16:4 US(c 12:16 usage 34:9 use 3:11, 15 4:12 14:14 20:8 22:10 23:11 32:11 35:11 36:6, 13, 21 37:9 38:5, 11, 20 39:9, 15 40:2, 5, 10 44:2, 9 utilization 14:6 utilize 16:15</p> <p>< V > values 7:13 14:13, 14 various 10:8 15:5 33:12 42:2 venture 18:14 venue 13:7 version 35:4 versus 28:16 vessel 10:8 15:6</p>	<p>vessels 16:14 34:2 Vice 17:17 28:2 video 3:15 38:5 views 2:16 virtual 2:8 5:11, 14, 17 9:16 12:8 17:12 47:9, 10 virtually 1:12 vision 20:15, 18 31:12 visit 20:8 Vivian 48:3, 13 voice 28:1 volume 18:21 29:14</p> <p>< W > wait 32:4 waiting 42:20 waive 46:12 Wallach 45:11 47:2 W-A-L-L-A-C- H 45:9 Wallick 5:12 want 2:21 24:5, 14 35:20 37:19 warn 37:19 Washington 45:12 waste 42:9 Water 5:8, 21 9:2, 3, 6, 12, 18, 19 10:15, 18 11:11 12:14 14:4, 15, 16 15:13, 18 16:17, 21 26:3, 13, 15 waterfront 34:3 waters 12:12 16:1 33:21 waterway 34:2 Waterways 5:7 way 19:9 26:2 43:3</p>	<p>ways 26:17 33:20 wear 41:16 website 20:4 47:1 websites 4:8, 9 44:15, 17 week 28:5 42:17 week's 29:1 weighing 13:1 weight 43:16 welcome 2:4 4:16 12:3 24:5 32:6 35:20 36:8 39:17 welfare 14:19 well 5:20 24:7 27:15 29:9 33:16 42:7 44:17 went 42:10 we're 25:20 33:19 35:6 36:4, 10 37:6, 12, 21 39:1, 21 40:14 44:1 west 10:17 15:17 17:2 24:1, 4 27:13 34:10 W-E-S-T 24:4 Wetlands 5:3, 6, 7, 12, 19 6:6, 9, 15, 18 7:1, 13 9:17 12:13 14:13 16:21 45:12, 20 We've 32:8 38:17 39:20 wharf 10:6, 9 15:3, 6 19:4 White 28:3 32:1 wholeheartedly 31:1 widening 10:9 15:7 wildlife 14:13</p>	<p>wins 19:7 wish 4:7 wishes 38:2 WITNESS 48:8 Wolf 42:1 Wolfe 42:15 work 12:12 13:7 19:4 worked 20:14 30:14 workflow 29:11 working 18:3 Works 6:10 world 18:8 world's 18:16 worrying 43:16 WQC 46:19 wrap 23:3 27:15 writing 4:4 23:7 27:16 28:5 39:14 written 8:16 21:10 22:15 27:10</p> <p>< Y > Yacht 24:9, 10, 11 26:21 33:5, 6, 8, 9, 11 34:5, 9, 11, 12, 19 35:1 yard 10:7 15:4 yards 10:12, 20 11:1, 2, 6 15:10, 19 16:3, 6, 11 year 18:4 26:20 years 18:5, 10 19:15 20:14 29:4 33:4 41:8 young 43:17</p> <p>< Z > zip 30:8, 11 31:17 zoned 30:9</p>
--	---	---	---	--