



# News from the Chamber

February 25, 2010

## Maryland Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown Meets With MCCC Board for Dialogue on Business, Economic Issues



**Maryland Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown (center) with William G. Robertson, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare and MCCC vice president and Economic Development Committee chair; and Gigi Godwin, MCCC president and CEO.**

Maryland Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown met with members of the MCCC Board of Directors on February 19 and spoke to a wide range of topics, including the Governor's recently announced 10-point plan for small businesses, economic development efforts to attract headquartered companies such as Northrop Grumman to Maryland, education and transportation funding issues, and the state's fiscal reality.

Chamber board members advocated for aggressive economic development (to strengthen the tax base required to support public facilities and infrastructure) balanced with initiatives to create a business friendly regulatory climate. They alerted the Lieutenant Governor to their concerns on specific issues, such as proposed legislation for combined reporting on corporate income taxes (which would negatively impact headquarter companies, in particular) and on broader subjects, such as how the economic downturn has reduced costs (notably, in construction) that can economically boost growth.

## Sen. Garagiola Talks Transportation Funding, Budget Crisis, Other Issues with Members

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**State Senator Rob Garagiola (District 15) addresses the MCCC Legislative Committee.**

As the midway point of the 90-day Maryland General Assembly neared, State Senator Rob Garagiola (District 15) met with the MCCC Legislative Committee on Feb. 22 to discuss issues spanning from transportation funding to unemployment insurance cost stabilization, and from the state budget deficit to economic development and job creation initiatives.

Sen. Garagiola briefed members about his recently introduced bill to establish a Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding (SB229/HB 710). The proposed commission is designed to recommend both short-term and long-term solutions for growing the revenue stream for the state's rapidly depleting transportation trust fund, which supports road and transit projects across the state. The Chamber has been spearheading efforts, for several months, to bring together the Montgomery County and Prince George's County state delegations for a series of meetings aimed at developing a joint transportation funding strategy. The legislation for the Blue Ribbon Commission is one of several initiatives resulting out of those discussions and has wide-ranging legislative support.

Each year in Annapolis, the Chamber monitors and tracks hundreds of pieces of legislation that could impact the business community and provides advocacy on a variety of bills, based on positions adopted by the Legislative Committee. If you have any questions about state legislative issues or wish to share your views, contact MCCC Vice President of Public Affairs, Lisa Fadden at 240-403-3505 or email her at [lfadden@mcccmd.com](mailto:lfadden@mcccmd.com). The Chamber's 2010 Legislative Agenda is posted on the MCCC

web site.

## Green Business Certification Up and Running; County, MCCC and MoCo DEP Explain Process



**Doug Weisburger (center), of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, oversees the new Green Business Certification program.**

On February 17, MCCC Executive Vice President Barbara Ashe described why "Green Business is Good Business" and Doug Weisburger, the program manager for the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development informed the MCCC Small Business Committee about the Montgomery County Green Certification program and the voluntary, easy-to-use online application and verification process.

Complete details on how the certification program works, and information on how to register for the Montgomery College "crash courses" and webinars on the certification process can all be found at [www.mcgreenbiz.org](http://www.mcgreenbiz.org). Or find the "All Things Green" links on [www.mcccmd.com](http://www.mcccmd.com).



**State Senator Rich Madaleno (District 18), chair of the Montgomery County Senate Delegation, addressed the crowd on hand for the Montgomery County Chamber's annual legislative reception in Annapolis on February 1. A complete photo album of the event is found on the Chamber's Facebook page. (See the article below!)**

**Become a Fan and Keep Up On All Of the Latest Chamber Happenings!**

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Yes, the Chamber is on Facebook! One of the many ways you can keep up with what's happening with your Chamber and to network with your colleagues is by [becoming a Facebook "fan"](#) on the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce page. Check out photo albums and updates from our meetings and events, learn about upcoming programs and activities, and share your feedback with us!

To view the page, simply go to our web site at [www.montgomerychamber.com](http://www.montgomerychamber.com) and click on the "Find Us on Facebook" button. Or, just search for Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (Md.), if you are a Facebook user.

**Say "Yes" to the Year's Best Events!**

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## New & Prospective Member Orientation

Thursday, March 4, 2010

8:30am - 10:30am, MCCC Board Room

[Register for Member Orientation](#)

## Crash Course on How to Become a Montgomery County Green Certified Business

Tuesday, March 9th, 2010

8:00am - 11:00am, Montgomery College

[Register for Crash Course](#)

## 36th Annual Public Safety Awards Luncheon

Friday, March 12, 2010

11:00am - 2:00pm, Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center

*This event is selling out fast! Call now to ask about available sponsorships or ticket sales.*

Be sure to join us for our 36th Annual Public Safety Awards Luncheon on Friday, March 12, as we recognize the extraordinary acts of courage and community service by individuals and departments from Montgomery County Fire and Rescue, Police, Sheriff, Park Police, and Correction and Rehabilitation. The largest event of its kind in the metropolitan area, the annual luncheon attracts more than 1,000 guests, including business leaders, community members, elected officials, public safety personnel, and families of the awardees. ABC 7/WJLA-TV News anchors Leon Harris and Alison Starling will be the guest emcees for the ceremony.



## 2010 Congressional Procurement Conference and Expo

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., The Universities at Shady Grove, Rockville

Sponsored by Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and GovConNet

Honorary Chair: U.S. Congressman Chris Van Hollen



Join over 900 business professionals as they engage in a robust day of commerce. Learn how to do business and win contracts with federal, state and local agencies and prime contractors in over 30 concurrent workshops. Take advantage of the opportunity to network with more than 80 private and government vendors in the Expo Hall. Bring plenty of business cards! Sponsorship and booth opportunities are available, both for Chamber members and non-members.

Visit [www.mcccmd.com](http://www.mcccmd.com) or call 301-738-0015 for more details on these or any upcoming MCCC events!

## Welcome to Our New and Renewing Members!

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[WELCOME NEW MEMBERS](#)

[THANKS TO RENEWING MEMBERS](#)

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