



Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Meeting

Thursday February 8, 2023, 10:00 A.M.
Virtually Held

Purpose: Quarterly Meeting of the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee (GPC)

Attendees:

GPC Membership			
Emily Soontornsaratool, DGS (Chair)	Present	Carla Thompson, DOIT	Present
Victoria Nellis, DGS (Staff)	Present	Samantha Buchanon, DNR	
Sam Linton, DGS (Staff)	Present	Joseph Sedtal, DPSCS	
Joseph Consoli, DBM	Present	Cissy Blasi, Treasurer’s Office	
Rachel Cruse, Commerce	Present	Eddie Lukemire, MDOT	
Jenna Meinl, MSDE		Tom Hickey, USM	Present
Amanda Hutchison, MDE		Dionne Washington, MDH	Present

Other Participants:

Atif Chaudhry, DGS
 Danielle Adams, SDAT
 Cole Beauchat, DPSCS
 Melane Boltz, MDH
 Nick Cavey, DGS
 Shawn Campbell,
 Seaboard Asphalt
 Deborah Cook-Slade,
 DHS
 Rachel Cruse, DOC
 Jack DeHart, DHCD
 Paul Dickman, DHCD
 MaryAnn
 Dogo-Isonagie, DPSCS
 Hilal Efe, DGS

Sabrina Fields, MDH
 Chanel Franze,
 Towson University
 Dyvor Gibson, DPSCS
 Juanita Gray, MDOT
 Matt Hink
 David Hollens, MDOT
 Joselyn Johnson, Towson
 University
 Stuart Kaplow, Green
 Building Council
 Tim Kerr, MDE
 Christian Kramer, PSC
 Hugo Lam, MDOT
 Steve Lauria, DGS
 Arhea Lazzelle, BISM

Luis Luna, DGS
 Elizabeth Main, DGS
 Julissa Marcano, DGS
 Kimberly McAllister, DGS
 Tanya Mekeal, MDOT
 Johnathan Medlock, DGS
 Emmanuel Nwodo, Global
 Electronics Council
 Shania Peacock, MDOT
 Tien Peng, Green Building
 Council
 Kim Pezza, Comptroller
 Tina Quinichette, MDOT
 Marsha Rowe, DGS
 Gennadiy Shoykhedbrod,
 DGS

Minutes:

I. Welcome, DGS Secretary Atif Chaudhry.

- Secretary Chaudhry welcomed Committee members and participants to the meeting. He thanked them for their continuous efforts to leverage the purchasing power of the State while supporting Maryland's climate goals. He congratulated the Committee for documenting approximately 58 million dollars spent on environmentally preferable products in FY23.

II. Presentation: *Low Carbon Concrete in State Projects*, Steve Lauria, DGS.

- Steve Lauria gave an overview of the State's goals for setting requirements for purchasing and using low carbon concrete on State projects. The passing of HB 261 Buy Clean Maryland Act orders the State to set standards for the Global Warming Potential (GWP) of concrete products used for construction projects. The Green Building Council will develop these standards. They are currently in the early stages of this initiative and are looking to provide low-carbon solutions that are consistent. The deliverables include GWPs, Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) requirements, and procurement requirements.
- Steve mentioned that the Green Building Council will start having public engagement meetings for industries and end-users to join their meeting and receive guidance for allocating and using low carbon concrete. This will tentatively start in the Summer.
 - Rod Johnson with DGS procurement asked if low carbon concrete will provide positive effects to maintaining water quality and reducing runoff. *Answer:* Low carbon concrete primarily targets the carbon emissions in the manufacturing process.

III. Presentation: *Presentation: Introducing EPEAT Climate+*, Emmanuel Nwodo, Global Electronics Council

- Emmanuel introduced a new product level designation for the EPEAT ecolabel. EPEAT Climate+ includes not only the requirements for EPEAT registered IT products, but additionally meets specific climate criteria that include corporate level requirements. This is a broader range of criteria that is not limited to the product itself. It may include transparency from the producers to publicly disclose their emissions and set reduction targets.
- A number of EPEAT Climate+ requirements are directly aligned with the Federal Sustainability Plan. There are currently over 1,000 products available online that meet these EPEAT Climate+ requirements.
 - Sam Linton asked if EPEAT Climate+ was a tier rating above EPEAT Gold in terms of environmental benefits. *Answer:* No, EPEAT Climate+ does not have more environmental benefits than EPEAT Gold because the additional requirements are exclusively non-product

- David Hollens with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) asked if the initiatives for EPEAT Climate+ align with the end-of-life of a product to achieve zero waste. *Answer:* Some manufacturers signed in the climate pledge to offer a take-back program where the electronics will be properly handled for reuse, remanufacturing, or recycling.
- For more information, the GEC website can be found [here](#).

IV. GPC Business & Activities Update - provided by Emily Soontornsaratool.

- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - The GPC meeting minutes for November were motioned to approve by Tom Hickey with the University System of Maryland. Carla Thompson with the Department of Information Technology seconded the motion, and the meeting minutes were approved.
- GPC Staffing Updates
 - The GPC recently hired Victoria Nellis as the new Green Purchasing Program Manager and main staff member. She has 10 years experience in procurement and has a background in environmental management. Vicki was an active participant in GPC meetings and events prior to her joining the team.
- Green Purchasing Annual Report
 - The GPC has published the FY2023 [Annual Report](#) to their website. Over 57 million dollars spent on green products.
 - Sam Linton mentioned that the total green spend had increased by about 20% from last fiscal year, emphasizing the State is making progress and the Green Purchasing Program continues to grow.
- Legislative Session
 - The FY2024 [GPC legislative tracker](#) is available to show the proposed legislation that is relevant to green purchasing.
 - HB130 - State Buildings and Facilities - Energy Conservation and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions.
 - Alters the energy reduction goal for State buildings from 10% by 2029 to 20% by 2031.
 - HB91 - Fossil Fuel Powered Lawn Equipment - State Purchase, Use, and Contracts - Prohibition
 - Prohibiting the State from using and contract renewal of fossil fuel-powered lawn and garden care equipment by January 1, 2025.
 - Prohibiting the State from using fossil fuel-powered lawn equipment by January 1, 2030.
 - HB173 - State Buildings and State Highways - Collection of Yard Waste
 - Prohibiting a person from disposing yard waste collected on State grounds in a plastic container, and requiring they discard it in a compostable container.
 - HB168 - Environment - Plastic Products - Postconsumer Recycled Content Program
 - MDE is required to create a post consumer recycled content program and fund through a fee.
 - Covers household cleaning products and personal care products.
 - Verification of recycled content is required.
 - HB1 - Maryland Paint Stewardship
 - Requires producers of architectural paint or representative organization to submit a Paint Stewardship Program plan to MDE by July 1, 2025.

V. Specifications - provided by Sam Linton.

- Two specifications were presented for the Committees consideration.
 - Landscaping Supplies (updated)
 - Tom Hickey motioned to approve the specification. Carla Thompson seconded the

motion, and the specification was approved.

Access the document [here](#).

- Sealants (new)
 - Tom Hickey motioned to approve the specification. Carla Thompson seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.
Access the document [here](#).
- Upcoming Specifications
 - Textiles and Uniforms
- Green Purchasing Resources and Events - provided by Victoria Nellis.
 - Agency reporting recorded training to be published on the website.
 - Green Purchasing Specialization: Next cohort tentatively scheduled for May 2024. Register by filling out the [interest form](#).
 - Maryland Procurement Forum: A workshop on how procurement can make an impact on sustainability through green purchasing.
 - March 11, 2024, 8:30am-4:00pm.
 - Maryland Judicial Center, 187 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis MD, 21401.
 - Registration opens Monday, February 12th.
 - Landscaping Workshop: A virtual training session designed to go over when and how to use current landscaping specifications.
 - Link to register:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tZ2DLeiAqnjDG0r3YibtWb6fx_rnqsyI-O_hu8UW0Rg/edit?usp=drive_web.
 - Meeting link:
<https://meet.google.com/xki-xurc-gbe?authuser=0&hs=122&ijlm=1708986347078>
 - DGS Earth Day Event.
 - April 24th, 2024, 11:00am-1:00pm.
 - Held at State Center Complex in Baltimore.
 - Vendors, EV displays, activities, and more!

VI. Agency Updates

- MDE Food Summit 2024 - provided by Victoria Nellis.
 - March 19th, 2024 at Towson University.
 - Registration coming shortly.

VII. Upcoming GPC Meetings

Date	Time	Meeting Type
April 11, 2024	1:00 - 3:00 pm	GPC Working Meeting
May 9, 2024	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	GPC Quarterly Meeting
July 11, 2024	1:00 - 3:00 pm	GPC Working Meeting

August 8, 2024	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	GPC Quarterly Meeting
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IX. Conclusion

- Emily thanked all the attendees and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Linton,
Staff, MD Green Purchasing Committee