

Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 8th, 2025, 10:00 A.M.

Virtually Held

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

Attendees:

<u>GPC Membership</u>			
Victoria Nellis, DGS (Chair)	Present	Theresa Bees, DNR	Present
Sam Linton, DGS (Staff)	Present	Lynna Atkins, DPSCS	Present
Joseph Consoli, DBM		Cissy Blasi, Treasurer's Office	Present
Rachel Cruse, Commerce	Present	Eddie Lukemire, MDOT	
Jeremy Wilson, MSDE	Present	Tom Hickey, USM	Present
Acacia Lang, MDE	Present	Dionne Washington, MDH	
June Dwyer, MDE		Carla Thompson, DoIT	

Other Participants

Danielle Adams, SDAT

Tishana Adams, DHS

Charlesia Byrd-Evans, DGS

Paul Dickman, DHCD

Samuel Durai-Pandian, MHEC

Dominic Edet, TU

Dyvor Gibson, Commerce

Jaunita Gray, MDOT

Nicole Gray, CPPDA

Corteze Grimes, SHA

David Hollens, MDOT TSO

Richard Keller, Balt Co

Jessica Knott, DGS

Arhea Lazzelle, BISM

Shirlita Lee, MHEC

Elizabeth Main, UMB

Pam Malech, Judiciary

Shannon McDonald, MDE

Yasin Mohammed, DGS

Wendy Nabb, MDH

Shania Peacock, MDOT

Tina Quinichette, MDOT

Aaron Peterson, MDOA

Keon Pompey, DJS

Elizabeth Richardson, MDOT

Marsha Rowe, Judiciary

Kristen Sampson, MES

Gennadiy Shoykedbrod, DGS

Emmanuel Smith, DGS

Erica Stuckey, DJS

Scott Versteegh, UMD

Patricia Watson, TU

Yolanda Waugh, DHS

Alex Webb, Towson

Sara Weitzel, MDE

Minutes:

I. Welcome

- Vicki Nellis thanked all the attendees to the quarterly Green Purchasing Committee meeting and reviewed the agenda. She informed attendees that this meeting will be recorded.

II. Presentation: MES Services & Solutions Overview, MES

- Krsitin Sampson gave a presentation of MES. Here are some highlights of the work that MES provides:
- MES is a not-for-profit business unit of the State of Maryland
- MES provides multi-disciplinary environmental compliance services to: State and local governments in Maryland, Federal government, industry, and private sector partners
- MES combines public sector commitment to environmental protection with the efficiencies, flexibility, and quick response of the private sector.
- MES' unique governmental status allows it to:
 - Streamline and assist with permitting processes
 - Provide fast procurement
 - Respond nimbly to the needs of partners and clients
 - *Watch presentation [here](#) (1:43-9:44).*
 - *Questions on presentation (9:44-13:38).*

III. GPC Business & Activities Update - provided by Vicki Nellis.

- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - The GPC meeting minutes for November were motioned to approve by Thomas Hickey with the Department of Health. Theresa Bees with the Department of Natural Resources seconded the motion, and the meeting minutes were approved.
- GPC Activities Update
 - PG County Compost Facility Tour 4/1
 - The GPC and attendees visited the Compost Facility in PG County. They learned about their waste management processes and how they take food scraps and yard waste to create the LeafGro Gold compost.
 - Earth Day at State Center
 - The Green Purchasing Team and the EV Team partnered to host the annual Earth Day event on 4/30. This year over 20 vendors and agencies talked about their sustainability efforts, including OSP, MDOT, DNR, and the Department of Aging. Cookies and popcorn were sold to raise money for the Maryland Charities Campaign!
 - State fleet vehicles were on display like the Mustang Mach E, Chevy Bolt, and our friends at MES brought a fleet Ford Lightning F-150. A Rivian R1S (SUV) and a Rivian R1T (truck) and a Chevy Blazer EV available to test drive so state employees became familiar with driving common EV models and their charging needs. A great time was had by all that attended this event.
 - Better Buildings Summit
 - On May 1st DGS presented at the Better Buildings Summit hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy. The session was on maximizing refrigerant capabilities, and it was a great opportunity to highlight the GPC Green [HVAC Specification](#).

- Legislative Update 2025 - provided by Vicki Nellis
 - [HB114](#): Pesticide and Pest Control - Revisions to Pesticide Applicator's Law and Repeal of Obsolete Provisions
 - Establishing requirements for the commercial application of general use pesticides, the commercial application of restricted use pesticides, and the private application of restricted use pesticides;
 - requiring a certified private applicator to ensure that certain individuals working under the certified applicator's supervision meet certain requirements;
 - specifying the responsibility and liability of certified applicators for the application of certain pesticides; etc.
 - *This bill has been passed and approved by the governor. The GPC will review the bill and its relation to the Landscaping Supplies and Services specifications to make sure the applicator requirements are up to date with new legislation.*
 - [HB277](#): Environment - Water Bottle Filling Stations - Requirement
 - Requiring a water bottle filling station or a combined water bottle filling station and drinking fountain to be installed in certain new construction or as part of certain renovations beginning October 1, 2025, subject to certain exceptions;
 - Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of the Act; and applying the Act prospectively.
 - *This bill does not directly affect any of the current GPC specs, but is worth noting in case this bill applies to newly developed specs.*
 - [HB452](#): Outdoor Lighting - Guidance and Use of State Funds
 - Requiring the Maryland Green Building Council, on or before October 1, 2026, to update or develop guidance for the purchase of outdoor lighting fixtures in consideration of certain recommendations;
 - Prohibiting State funds from being used to install or replace certain permanent outdoor luminaires for lighting unless certain requirements are met;
 - Altering the requirements for the use of State funds for the installation or replacement of certain permanent outdoor luminaires for lighting; applying the Act prospectively; etc.
 - *This bill calls on the Green Building Council, however the GPC will ensure that their lighting specification is compliant with these requirements.*
 - [SB901](#): Environment - Packaging and Paper Products - Producer Responsibility Plans
 - Requiring certain producers of covered materials, individually or as part of a producer responsibility organization, to submit a certain covered materials producer responsibility plan to the Department of the Environment for review and approval on or before July 1, 2028, and every 5 years thereafter, in accordance with certain requirements, or to develop an alternative collection program;

- Requiring a producer responsibility organization to pay certain costs to the Department; etc.
 - *This bill does not have much bearing on what the GPC produces, but will be monitored so that the requirements are included in any specs that cross into this subject of Producer Responsibility Plans.*

IV. Specifications - provided by Sam Linton

- The GPC has six specifications for approval. Three are updated specifications and the other three are new standalone specifications.
 - Appliances (updated)
 - Additional requirement that air purifiers, dishwashers, steam cookers, and water coolers must be compliant with the Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards and listed in the [State Appliance Standards Database \(SASD\)](#).
 - Thomas Hickey with the University System of Maryland motioned to approve the specification. Theresa Bees seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.
 - Batteries
 - Categories include rechargeable batteries, single-use batteries, battery chargers, disposal.
 - Requirements for batteries include battery chemistry, mAh minimums, and battery charger and disposal.
 - Thomas Hickey with the University System of Maryland motioned to approve the specification. Theresa Bees seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.
 - Landscaping Supplies
 - Additional requirement that spray sprinkler bodies must be compliant with the Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards and listed in the [State Appliance Standards Database \(SASD\)](#).
 - Thomas Hickey with the University System of Maryland motioned to approve the specification. Theresa Bees seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.
 - Paper
 - Categories cover general paper, writing use, newsprint, paperboard & packaging, janitorial use, miscellaneous, and verification
 - Requirements include the minimum recycled content numbers broken down by paper types
 - *Question from Richard Keller at [31:30](#).*
 - Thomas Hickey with the University System of Maryland motioned to approve the specification. Theresa Bees seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.

- Plumbing & Water Fixtures
 - Additional requirement that spray sprinkler bodies must be compliant with the Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards and listed in the [State Appliance Standards Database \(SASD\)](#).
 - Thomas Hickey with the University System of Maryland motioned to approve the specification. Theresa Bees seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.
- Toner
 - Categories cover general toners, remanufactured toners, and take-back services
 - Requirements include high yield or remanufactured toners as priority, standard testing methods for remanufactured, and requiring the vendor offer a take back program
 - Thomas Hickey with the University System of Maryland motioned to approve the specification. Theresa Bees seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.

V. Upcoming Training & Events - provided by Sam Linton

- Green Purchasing Specialization: Next cohort tentatively scheduled to start September 2025. We are almost at full capacity of students, so procurement officers who are interested should please sign up as soon as possible!
 - *Interest form for signup [here](#).*
- Green Janitorial Supplies Specification Workshop:
 - May 22, 2025, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM. Virtual workshop designed to go over the requirements listed in the current Janitorial Supplies specifications.
 - *Watch recording of the training [here](#)!*
- Advancing Procurement Professionals through Maryland's Green Purchasing Specialization Program:
 - May 14, 2025, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 - Webinar hosted by SPLC/NIGP on MD Procurement Academy and our Green Purchasing Specialization program
- TurboHaul (Mattress Recycler) Facility Tour:
 - July 23, 2025, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, touring a mattress recycling facility and learning about their operations.
 - Link to register [here](#).
- Additional Potential Field Trip Opportunities:
 - Department of Aging - Durable Medical Equipment Facility
 - Electronic Recycler
 - Site exhibiting native landscaping or smart pond technology
 - Material Recovery Facility (MRF)

Send any suggestions you might have to DGS.BuyGreen@maryland.gov

VI. Reporting Update

- Quarter 3 reports are due MAY 16 (January 2025 - March 2025).
- 18 agencies have reported green data for quarters 1 and 2 in FY2025

Department of Budget and Management
Department of Environment
Department of Housing and Community Development
Department of Transportation
Department of Veterans Affairs
Maryland Aviation Administration
Maryland Port Administration
Maryland Stadium Authority
Maryland Transit Administration
Maryland Transportation Authority
Military Department
Motor Vehicle Administration
State Highway Administration
The Secretary's Office (MDOT TSO)
Towson University
University of Baltimore
University of Maryland Global Campus
University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus

- The reporting template can be found here on the GPC website under [Agency Reporting](#).

VI. Member Announcements & Agency Updates

- *Watch member announcements [here](#) (1:00:00)*
- Upcoming GPC meetings

Date	Time	Meeting Type
July 10, 2025	1:00pm - 3:00pm	GPC Working Meeting
August 14, 2025	10:00am - 12:00pm	GPC Quarterly Meeting
October 9, 2025	1:00pm - 3:00pm	GPC Working Meeting
November 13, 2025	10:00am - 12:00pm	GPC Quarterly Meeting

IX. Conclusion

- Victoria Nellis, GPC staff, thanked all the attendees and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Linton,
Staff, MD Green Purchasing Committee