

Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 13th, 2025, 10:00 A.M.

Virtually Held

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

Attendees:

GPC Membership			
Victoria Nellis, DGS (Chair)	Present	Theresa Bees, DNR	Present
Sam Linton, DGS (Staff)	Present	Lynna Atkins, DPSCS	Present
Larntina Teaseley, DBM	Present	Cissy Blasi, Treasurer's Office	Present
Rachel Cruse, Commerce		Eddie Lukemire, MDOT	Present
Jeremy Wilson, MSDE	Present	Tom Hickey, USM	
Acacia Lang, MDE	Present	Dionne Washington, MDH	Present
Josey Schwartz, MDE	Present	Keasha Brown, DoIT	

Other Participants

Aaron Peterson, MDOA	Falena Robinson, DHS	Rod Johnson, DGS
Akia Wheeler, MDTA	Henry ThorStraten, DHS	Rosetta Sabb, MDH
Aleisha Khan, REEF	Jessica Knott, DGS	Sabrina Fields, MDH
Angela Ober, UMB	Jaunita Gray, MDOT	Samuel Durai Pandian, MHEC
Arhea Lazzelle, BISM	Keon Pompey, DJS	Scott Versteegh, UMB
Brandford Quartey, DGS	Kimberly McAllister, DGS	Shania Peacock, MDOT
Caitlin Hippler, DNR	Kyanna Bright, DoIT	Shawn Campbell, Seaboard Asphalt
Carlesia Byrd-Evans, DGS	Lance Wolf, MDH	Sherida Studwood, MDH
Charlene Cooke, SHA	Marsha Rowe, MJUD	Shirlita Lee, MHEC
Charles Clark, DGS	Mary Mandela, MAA	Tanya Mekeal, Treasurer's Office
Cheryl Howard-Bond, DGS	Maureen Loiseau, DGS	Tishana Adams, DHS
Christian Riordan, MDE	Maya Bond, Baltimore City	Tom Johnson, DVMF
Cindy Osorto, MDE	Michael Keegan, MDOT MPA	Toni Latimore, MSA
Danielle Adams, SDAT	Nakia Howell, MDH	Tristam Coffin, effecterra
David Hollens, MDOT	Natasha Ramsundar, DGS	Vandhanaa Sivashankar, DoIT
Donna Powell, TU	Olusegun Daniel, DGS	
Dyvor Gibson, Commerce	Pam Malech, Judiciary	

Minutes:

I. Welcome

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

II. Presentation: *Supercharge Green Purchasing through Refrigerants*, Aleisha Khan and Tristam Coffin, Efecterra

- Aleisha started the presentation introducing REEF (Refrigerant Emissions Elimination Forum) and their mission to reduce GHG emissions targeting refrigerants to make them higher performing and environmentally preferred. She explains the demand for refrigerants is increasing, while refrigerants are the top growing contributor to GHG emissions. REEF envisions a world where there is zero climate impact from cooling and heating pump technologies.
 - Watch Aleisha's full presentation [here](#) (1:21 - 16:58)
 - Vicki remarked that the SPLC document Aleisha referenced in the presentation contains the same requirements as the updated HVAC GPC specification.
- Tristam gave a presentation about Efecterra, a public benefit corporation that helps many entities around the country to provide consulting services to drive positive change in climate impact. They are designed to bring all stakeholders together to help with their GHG footprint in reducing and tracking emissions. Efecterra targeted refrigerants as well, to find better solutions for many organizations that are looking to reduce their environmental impact.
 - Watch Tristam's full presentation [here](#) (17:46 - 43:50)
 - *Question: Are refrigerants used for data centers being considered? Tristam explained that the overwhelming focus on refrigerants is on uses for power, and less focused on data centers.*
 - *Question: If you could choose one cost saving measure for refrigerants, what would be your first initial step? Answer: Build the inventory and have an understanding of what you are going to need to procure.*

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

- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - The GPC meeting minutes for November were motioned to approve by Dionne Washington with the Department of Health. Acacia Laing with the Department of Natural Resources seconded the motion, and the meeting minutes were approved.
- GPC Activities Update
 - Poplar Island on August 19th - The tour taught the history of the island and the multiple strategies and types of work done to preserve the island
 - Maryland NEW Green Purchasing Specialists- The certification course (GPS) was taught in September. A total of 23 specialists across 14 agencies became certified! The graduation ceremony is tentatively scheduled for April.

- State Archives Tour on November 3rd - The GPC learned about the history of the State Archives agency and the great work they do on a daily basis.
- Trainings and Events
 - Green Purchasing Specialization - The next cohort will start in March 2026. Those on the waitlist for the class will be hearing from GPC staff soon.
 - Sign up [here](#)
 - Green Office Supplies Specification Training, November 20th, 2025
 - Virtual workshop designed to go over the requirements listed in the Office Supplies specification.
 - Watch recording [here](#).
 - LEED Platinum Building Tour, December 4th, 2025
 - A tour of the first ever LEED Platinum building located in Maryland to learn about the building features that support sustainability.
 - Durable Medical Equipment Tour, January 27th, 2026 (Tentative)
 - 10:30am - 12:00pm
 - The MD Department of Aging runs a durable medical equipment program. This is an opportunity to tour the facility and learn how they store, sanitize, and repair this equipment.
 - Link to register [here](#)

IV. Specifications - provided by Vicki Nellis

- HVAC (update)
 - Including legislation with the most up to date language.
 - Refrigerant prohibitions.
 - Minimum requirements about Boilers to align with MD Zero-Emission Heating Equipment Standard.
 - Expanding refrigerant collection to all refrigerants.
 - Removing 2018 IECC tables and adding 2024 IECC tables.

Dionne Washington motioned to approve the specification. Acacia Laing seconded the motion, and specification was approved. The specification will be posted to the GPC website on the specifications [page](#).

V. Reporting Update

- Agency Reporting Update
 - In FY2025, a total of 43 agencies complied with reporting requirements, and 27 of those reports contained green products.
 - The total green spend from agencies for FY2025 is ~\$13.2 million. Electronics and IT was the primary green spend category, contributing to 76% of the green spend.

- The list below shows the following agencies in compliance for FY2025.

Bowie State University
Coppin State University
Department of Aging
Department of Budget and Management
Department of Environment
Department of General Services
Department of Housing and Community Development
Department of Natural Resources
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Department of Transportation
Department of Veterans & Military Families
Maryland Aviation Administration
Maryland Port Administration
Maryland Stadium Authority
Maryland State Retirement and Pension System
Maryland Transit Administration
Maryland Transportation Authority
Military Department
Motor Vehicle Administration
State Board of Elections
State Department of Education
The Secretary's Office (MDOT TSO)
Towson University
University of Baltimore
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Maryland Global Campus
University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus
State Highway Administration
Board of Public Works
Comptroller of Maryland
Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce
Department of Disabilities
Department of Health
Department of Human Services
Department of Information Technology
Frostburg University
Office of the People's Counsel
Salisbury University
State Department of Assessments and Taxation
State Police
State Treasurer's Office
University of Maryland Eastern Shore

- Vendors Reporting Update

- In FY2025, 20 total vendors reported their commodities sold on statewide contracts.
- In those reports, a total of ~\$44.5 million in green spend was recorded, and a % green spend of ~47%.
- Electronics & IT, office supplies, and janitorial supplies were the highest green spend categories, each over \$4 million.

- FY2025 Reporting Achievements

- Compared to last year's data, compliance improved from 24 responsive agencies to 43.
- The number of agencies that reported green products grew from 16 to 27.
- The reports had been completed more accurately and required less follow-up action compared to last year's results.
- A number of agencies submitted green purchasing reports for the first time since FY2022.

- Bowie State
- Coppin State

- Department of Aging
 - Department of Budget and Management
 - Department of General Services
 - Department of Natural Resources
 - Department of Veterans and Military Families
 - State Department of Education
- Green landscaping supplies data was gathered for the first time ever in the program's history. This shows significant progress for future reporting of commodities.

VI. Member Announcements & Agency Updates

- Watch agency updates [here](#) (1:27:29 - 1:34:32)
- Upcoming GPC meetings

Date	Time	Meeting Type
January 8, 2026	1:00pm - 3:00pm	GPC Working Meeting
February 12, 2026	10:00am - 12:00pm	GPC Quarterly Meeting
April 9, 2026	1:00pm - 3:00pm	GPC Working Meeting
May 14, 2026	1:00pm - 3:00pm	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