



April 12, 2022
Old Post Office, 1st Floor Conference Room, 1 Church Circle, Annapolis
10-11:30am

Attendees:

Cabinet Members:

R. Michael Gill, Secretary, Department of Commerce, Chair
Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Department of Environment (MDE)
Mark Crampton, Assistant Secretary for Jim Ports, Secretary, Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Robert McCord, Secretary, Department of Planning (MDP)
Jim Fielder, Secretary, Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)
Michael Higgs, Director of Assessments & Taxation (SDAT)
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Joe Bartenfelder, Secretary, Department of Agriculture (MDA)
Wendi Peters, Special Secretary, Smart Growth

Guests:

Allison Mayer, Office of the Governor
Gretchen Hardman, Governor's Office of Interagency Affairs (GOIA) – Eastern Shore Region Team Leader – Call in
Deputy Secretary Horacio Tablada MDE
Greg Dewart, MIA – Customer Service Workgroup Co-Lead
David Dahlstrom, Planning – Eastern Shore Region Team Leader – Call in
Todd Scott, DHCD - Washington Metro Region Team Leader – Call in
Joe Griffiths, MDP – Regional Resources Workgroup Leader – Call in
Kamil Wills, DNR
Jamie Williams – Kent County ED – Call in
Cassie Shirk – MDA

Commerce Staff:

Julie Woepke
Kyle McColgan
Jayson Knott
Brigitte Peters – Baltimore Metro Region Leader – Call in
Nancy LaJoice – Call in
Marcie Ross – Call in

I. Call to Order

Secretary R. Michael Gill called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

II. Review and approval of February 16, 2022

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the February 16, 2022 meeting approved.

III. Infrastructure Subcabinet

Secretary Gill introduced Allison Mayer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor who has been named the Director of the Infrastructure Subcabinet. The Subcabinet is comprised a several Commerce Subcabinet State Agencies and has been meeting to discuss priority funding areas and projects. She began her presentation by giving an overview of the bipartisan infrastructure law signed by President Biden in November, 2021. She explained that the \$1.2 trillion in funding will be distributed over fiscal years 2022-2026 for new, formula and provisional programs.

Ms. Mayer described the 10 priority funding areas, and stated that Maryland is to receive \$7.5 billion. She added that the funds would be earmarked for transportation, energy, and environment, and broadband. It will include near-term discretionary grants opportunities for airports, transit, highways and ports. She explained the Subcabinet process is to assess, plan, present and execute.

Ms. Mayer answered questions from the Subcabinet. Presentation on file.

IV. Chair Update

Secretary Gill briefed the Subcabinet on the Rural 50 Fund and the opportunities it will bring to economic development projects in rural communities. He stated the \$50 million will be distributed to the five (5) Regional Councils to work with the counties to develop programs, projects or initiatives of significant economic impact. He stated the intention is to support attraction of private sector investment; talent and jobs; foster entrepreneurship and innovation; and develop capacity of communities to be more resilient and economically vibrant. He then reminded the Subcabinet members the importance to finish the year strong by focusing on the wins and collaborations.

Senior Director Mr. Jayson Knott addressed the Subcabinet and provided an overview of business attractions and expansion opportunities. He presented recent wins; existing pipeline; and several opportunities, capital expenditures, opportunities and prospective jobs by region. All presentations on file.

V. Legislative Updates

The Subcabinet Secretaries present provided updates on the bills passed in the 2022 Legislative Session that have an impact on business and economic development. Discussion occurred among the Secretaries.

VI. Subcabinet Workgroups

The Customer Service, Job Creators and Regional Resources Workgroups provided updates. Presentations and reports are on file.

VII. Good of the Order

No additional information was exchanged.

VIII. 2022 Meetings – June 30, August 18, October 4, December 15

IX. Adjournment

There being no further discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 11:30am.