



## Governor's Economic Competitiveness Subcabinet

*The mission of the subcabinet is to advise the Governor on, and identify and recommend policies, regulations, strategies, and actions that strengthen Maryland's economic competitiveness and growth on an ongoing basis; review proposed policies and procedures by executive departments and agencies impacting economic development and workforce development; coordinate the implementation of executive directives and legislation that support business and talent development in the state; track the progress of the cross-agency implementation of the Economic Strategic Plan approved by the Maryland Economic Development Commission; track the progress of the cross-agency implementation of the economic goals under the Moore-Miller Administration's Maryland State Plan; and on a biannual basis, develop and publish a consolidated economic competitiveness plan that incorporates strategies and action plans from every executive department and agency represented on the Subcabinet.*

### Members

Agriculture (AG)	Secretary Kevin Atticks, (Steve Connelly)
Budget and Management (DBM)	Secretary Helene Grady
Commerce	Secretary Harry Coker, Chair, (Jerel Registre)
Education	State Superintendent of Schools Carey Wright (Lisa Sparr & Alex Reese)
Environment (MDE)	Secretary Serena McIlwain, (Scott Goldman)
General Services	Secretary Atif Chaudhry
Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women's Affairs (GOSBA)	Secretary Y. Maria Martinez, (Eduardo Hayden)
Higher Education Commission (MHEC)	Secretary Sanjay Rai
Housing & Community Development (DHCD)	Secretary Jake Day, (Rosa Cruz)
Labor	Secretary Portia Wu, (Ashley Sharp)
Maryland Clean Energy Center	Executive Director Katherine Magruder (Mary Sirios & Pamela Powers)
Maryland Economic Development Corporation	Executive Director Tom Sadowski
Maryland Technology Development Corporation	CEO Troy LeMaile-Stovall
Natural Resources (DNR)	Secretary Josh Kurtz (David Goshorn)
Planning (MDP)	Secretary Rebecca Flora, (Joe Griffiths)
State (SoS)	Secretary Susan Lee, (Alexandria Liu)
Transportation	Secretary Paul Wiedefeld (Joe McAndrew & David Zaidan)
University System of Maryland (USM)	Chancellor Dr. Jay Perman (Diane Walters)

**July 14, 2025**  
**401 E. Pratt Street, 17th Floor Conference Room, Baltimore**  
**1:00 – 3:00pm**  
**DRAFT Minutes**

**Attendance**

Subcabinet:

- Harry Coker, Secretary (Chair), Commerce
- Kevin Atticks, Agriculture
- Atif Chaudhry, General Services
- Rebecca Flora, Planning (MDP)
- Josh Kurtz, Natural Resources (DNR)
- Phil Lasser, Education (MSDE)
- Susan Lee (Alexandria Liu), State
- Troy LeMaile-Stovall, TEDCO
- Katherine Magruder, Maryland Clean Energy Center
- Maria Martinez (GOSBA)
- Serena McIlwain, Environment (MDE)
- Jay Perman, University Systems of Maryland
- Sanjay Rai, Maryland Higher Education Commission
- Tom Sadowski, MEDCO
- Troy LeMaile-Stovall, TEDCO
- Portia Wu (Erin sharp), Labor

Guests:

- Richard Auxier
- Rosa Cruz
- Suzanne Dorsey
- Josh Kurtz
- Phil Lasser
- Rachel Parker
- Jacqueline Slade
- Jacqueline Nash-Young

Commerce:

- Ricardo Benn
- Cori Duggins
- Jayson Knott
- Jim Palma
- John Gilstrap
- Jerel Registre
- Judy L. Smith

## **I. Meeting called to Order**

Secretary Harry Coker called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

## **II. Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2025**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, meeting minutes from June 9, 2025 were approved.

## **III. Chair's Report**

The Secretary reported on the following topics:

- CNCC state rankings were discussed. Improvement in infrastructure and workforce categories were highlighted.
- “Winning the Decade” Strategy aims to reduce the reliance on federal spending by attracting private capital and foreign direct investment.
- Commerce plans to meet with CareFirst, The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) and the Greater Washington Partnership (GWP) on July 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss best practices in pipeline management, strategic communications, and business account management.
- The Return on Investment (ROI) plan was submitted to the Governor’s Office on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Progress has been made on the bi-annual consolidated economic competitiveness plan. A template from MDE will be leveraged for the data collection portion of the task. The goal is to consolidate input from the subcabinet members by October/November for a final delivery in November/December.
- An update on trade missions to the UK, Ireland and Scotland were presented. Two international firms expanding to the US via the global gateway program: Safe Tech (UK) and a German quantum computing startup.
- The importance of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) was discussed. FDI will become increasingly important to pursue since public capital is becoming scarce.
- Pipeline Update as of July 8<sup>th</sup>: 49 total opportunities which includes 24 attractions, 19 expansions and 6 foreign direct investments. These totals represent a potential of 11, 178 jobs and approximately \$14.2 billion in capital expenditure.
- Commerce plans to visit every county to focus on their economic development needs. Recent visits to Prince George’s and Dorchester Counties were highlighted.
- CEO dinners are being held in Baltimore City. During the last dinner, the main discussion was on the convention center funds challenges and the need for more strategic planning for the central business district.

## **IV. Strategic Plan Phase Two Update**

Ms. Smith reviewed the status of the Strategic Plan Phase II activities.

- Commerce generated and submitted a Procurement Office Determination (POD) to the OSP.
- OSP reviewed Commerce’s POD and had no feedback.
- OSP will generate an OSP POD.

- We are now awaiting the final approval of the OSP POD.
- Once the OSP POD is approved, Commerce will release the Strategic Plan Phase II Request for Proposal (RFP).

## **V. Working Session – Research Projects Discussion**

Mr. Palma reviewed and distributed the proposed research topics for the University of Maryland's Quest Honors Program. Subcabinet members were encouraged to provide feedback on the research topics, including additions or deletions. The list of topics was:

- FDI Tracking
- Capital Investment and Employment Tracking
- Federal Contact Tracking
- Industrial Land Tracking
- State Economic Metrics
- Commerce Dashboard
- Increase Private R&D Activities within Maryland

## **VI. Legislative Discussion – Economic Development Related Concepts**

Secretary Coker presented the Department of Commerce's top four legislative concepts. The Subcabinet was encouraged to provide feedback on the topics.

- Energy
  - Grid Resilience
  - Meeting and Balancing Current and Growth Demands
  - Natural Gas Infrastructure Promotion
- Smart Regulation
  - Balancing State and Local Priorities
  - Permitting
- Private Capital Investment
  - Venture Capital
  - Sovereign Wealth Funds
- Entrepreneurship/Small Business
  - Procurement Reform
  - Expanding Opportunities
  - Commercialization of tech from colleges, universities and federal facilities

## **VII. Good of the Order**

The Secretary thanked the team for their joint efforts in Garrett County.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18PM.