Wes Moore
Governor

Aruna Miller
Lt Governor

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

Atif Chaudhry
Secretary

Nelson E. Reichart
Deputy Secretary

Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Meeting

Thursday September 28, 2023, 11:00 A.M.

Virtually Held

Purpose: Special Meeting of the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee (GPC) to Propose Four New Specifications for Adoption.

Designees

GPC Membership			
Emily Soontornsaratool, DGS (Chair)	Present	Dionne Washington, **MDH**	Present
Sam Linton, DGS (Staff)	Present	Carla Thompson, **DOIT**	Present
Joseph Consoli, **DBM**		Blessing Gunden, **DNR**	Present
Brenda Lee, **Commerce**		Joseph Sedtal, **DPSCS**	
Frank Conway, **MSDE**	Present	Cissy Blasi, **Treasurer's Office**	Present
Amanda Hutchinson, **MDE**	Present	Eddie Lukemire, **MDOT**	Present
		Tom Hickey, **USM**	Present

Other Participants

Philip Davidson - MDA
Intikhab Haider - SHA
John Krouse - SHA
Shannon McDonald - MDE
Ellen Robertson - DGS
Darren Swift - MPA
Jason Browne - Denali
Joshua Gliptis - Howard County

Minutes:

I. House Bill 586 Overview - presented by Emily Soontornsaratool

- Emily gave a brief overview of a recent legislation that passed in 2023, HB586: Compost, Mulch, Soil Amendments, and Aggregate. This bill requires the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee to develop specifications for compost, mulch, soil amendments, and aggregate produced from recycled or organic materials. This includes municipal solid waste, food waste, dredged material, construction waste, yard waste, clean wood waste, or other recycled or organic materials. The specifications shall be published on October 1, 2023.

II. Compost specification, presented by Sam Linton

- This proposed specification includes the following minimum requirements:
  1. Must be registered by Department of Agriculture COMAR 15.18.04.02
  2. Must be sourced locally in Maryland from a compost facility permitted by the Department of Environment.
  3. Acceptable sources of compost include food waste, yard waste, and clean wood waste.
  4. STA certification requirement for compost derived from food waste & yard waste.
  5. Must not exceed concentration limits for heavy metals and pathogens listed in COMAR.15.18.04.05.
- Tom Hickey with the University System of Maryland motioned to approve the specification. Dionne Washington with the Department of Health seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.

III. Mulch

- This proposed specification includes the following minimum requirements:
  1. Must be sourced locally in Maryland from a Solid Waste Facility or Natural Wood Waste Facility permitted by the Department of Environment.
  2. Acceptable sources of mulch includes yard waste and clean wood waste.
  3. Mulch must not contain more than 0.1% of deleterious materials such as rocks, glass, plastics, metals, clods, weeds, weed seeds, coarse objects, sticks larger than the specified particle size, salts, paint, petroleum products, pesticides or chemical residues harmful to plant or animal life.

4. Must not exceed concentration limits for heavy metals and pathogens listed in COMAR.15.18.04.05

- Dionne Washington motioned to approve the specification. Tom Hickey seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.

IV. Soil Amendments

- This proposed specification includes the following minimum requirements:
  1. Must be registered by Department of Agriculture COMAR 15.18.04.02.
  2. Must be sourced locally in Maryland from an organics recycling facility permitted by the Department of Environment.
  3. Acceptable sources of soil amendments include municipal solid waste, food waste, yard waste and clean wood waste.
  4. Soil amendments generated from MSW must meet the concentration limits in the EPA Biosolids Rule (EPA 503).
- Dionne Washington asked why the terminology between soil amendments and soil conditioners are being used interchangeably. Sam Linton responded that it is defined in COMAR as a soil conditioner instead of soil amendment.
- Dionne Washington motioned to approve the specification. Tom Hickey seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.

V. Aggregates

- This proposed specification includes the following minimum requirements:
  1. Acceptable sources of aggregates include dredged materials and construction waste.
  2. Aggregate products used for SHA projects shall comply with the SHA Standard Specification for Construction and Materials (Section 900).
  3. Aggregate products from dredged material must adhere to the Maryland Department of Environment's Innovative Reuse and Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Guidance Document.
  4. Stormwater management projects that include aggregates shall include recycled content as defined in the MDE) Guide to Common Construction Materials and Components Document.
- Tom Hickey motioned to approve the specification. Dionne Washington seconded the motion, and the specification was approved.

VI. Conclusion

- Emily thanked all the attendees and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Linton,
Staff, MD Green Purchasing Committee

Emily Soontornsaratool
Designee, MD Green Purchasing Committee