State of Maryland
Procurement Improvement Council (PIC)

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Meeting ID: meet.google.com/qem-kcvr-xbg
Phone Number (US): +1 347-201-6950 (PIN: 652 849 128#)

PIC Meeting Agenda

	Topics for Discussion	Time
1	**Welcome and Introductions of the PIC Members and Attendees** *Wallace Sermons II, Chief Procurement Officer (CPO)* *Note: Members and Guests should type their name and agency/organization in the Google Chat for attendance records.*	1:00 PM
2	**Updates from Previous Meeting** *Wallace Sermons II, Chief Procurement Officer (CPO)*	1:10 PM
3	**Policy Communications** *Amit Khardori, Deputy Chief Procurement Officer, DGS-OSP* *Natalie Grasso, Director of Contract Oversight, DGS-OSP*	1:15 PM
4	**Policy Development** *Amit Khardori, Deputy Chief Procurement Officer, DGS-OSP* *Lyudmila Bond, Director of Policy, DGS-OSP*	1:25 PM
5	**System Implementation** *Jamie Tomaszewski, Senior Procurement Director, DGS-OSP*	1:35 PM
6	**Open Discussion**	1:45 PM
7	**Closing Remarks** *Wallace Sermons II, Chief Procurement Officer (CPO)*	1:55 PM
8	**Adjournment**	2:00 PM

FYI: Maryland Efficient Grant Application (MEGA) Council ***LINK*** *– Nonprofit Organizations that are PIC members should provide updates of any grant issues that may also affect procurements for these entities.*

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Procurement Improvement Council (PIC) Members

PIC Member Title	Agency or Organization	Name of Member or Designee
Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) Chair of PIC	Department of General Services (DGS), Office of State Procurement (OSP)	Wallace Sermons II
State Treasurer or Designee	State Treasurer's Office	Dereck Davis Jon Martin Cissy Blasi
Chancellor of USM, Designee	University System of Maryland (USM)	Thomas Hickey
Secretary of DoIT or Designee	Dept. of Information Technology (DoIT)	Carla Thompson
Secretary of Transportation, Designee – MDOT Chief of Procurement	Maryland Dept. of Transportation (MDOT)	Valerie Radomsky
Procurement Advisor of the Board	Board of Public Works (BPW)	Gabe Gnall
Special Secretary for GOSBA or Designee	Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA)	Maria Martinez / Nichelle Johnson
Secretary of Juvenile Services, Designee	Dept. of Juvenile Services (DJS)	Kara Aanenson Ronald Colbert Tiffany Johnson
Secretary of Human Services, Designee – Director of Procurement	Dept. of Human Services (DHS)	Nneka Willis-Gray
Secretary of Health, Designee – Director of Procurement	Dept. of Health (MDH)	Calvin Johnson Alison Barry
State Superintendent of Schools, Designee	Maryland State Dept. of Education (MSDE)	Jenna Meinl

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Senate Member	Maryland General Assembly	Senator Nick Charles
House of Delegates Member	Maryland General Assembly	Delegate Kenneth Kerr
The Comptroller or Designee	Office of the Comptroller	Brooke Lierman Jasmine Clemons
The Attorney General or Designee	Office of the Attorney General	Anthony Brown Zenita Hurley
Local Government Member with Expertise in Local Procurement Matters*	Director of the Montgomery County Office of Procurement	Avinash (Ash) Shetty *Appt. Confirmed 4/7/23* *Term 1/1/23 – 12/31/25*
Social Services Member #1*	Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC)	Barbara Ashe *Appt. Confirmed* *Term 7/1/2025 – 6/30/2029*
Social Services Member #2*	*Vacant*	*Vacant*
Veteran-Owned Business Member*	*Vacant*	*Vacant*
General Public Member with Expertise in State Procurement Matters**	Dashiell Law Office	Robert Fulton Dashiell
Minority-, Women- or Veteran-Owned Business Member **	Ellis Industries USA	Lisa Michelle Ellis *Appt. Confirmed* *Term 7/1/2025 – 6/30/2029*
Minority-, Women- or Veteran- Owned Business Member **	Alaco Consulting	Ed Tay

**Appointed by Governor with advice and consent of Senate*

***Appointed by the Presiding Officers of the General Assembly*

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PIC Statutory Responsibilities

(1) Ensure that the State's procurement system is utilizing the most advanced procurement methods and management techniques, including policies, procedures, and forms for all procurement activity and contract management;

(2) Effect and enhance communication between State units on procurement matters, with an emphasis on disseminating information on current developments and advances in procurement methods and management;

(3) Provide a forum for the discussion of specific procurement issues and problems that arise, including:
   i. Procurement officer training;
   ii. Risk analysis and insurance requirements;
   iii. Management of *eMaryland Marketplace* and other Internet procurement resources;
   iv. Use of *eMaryland Marketplace* and compliance with State Finance and Procurement Article (SFP) §17–502;
   v. Use of intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreements;
   vi. strategies to increase the participation of small, minority-owned, and women- owned businesses in procurement contracts; and
   vii. Any other issues or problems identified by the Council;

(4) Advise the Board on problems in the procurement process and make recommendations for improvement of the process;

(5) Review existing procurement regulations to:
   i. Determine whether they fulfill the intent and purpose of the law, especially as it relates to fostering broad–based competition; and
   ii. Make recommendations on the regulations, if revising and restructuring them will result in easier understanding and use; and

(6) Advise the General Assembly on proposed legislation in order to enhance the efficiency and transparency of State procurement.