SMART GROWTH SUBCABINET

December 1, 2023

10:00 to 11:00 PUBLIC MEETING

(virtual access available to the public through pre-registration)

THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED AND POSTED TO THE

SMART GROWTH SUBCABINET WEBSITE ALONG WITH TODAY'S PRESENTATION

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- Submit general thoughts or comments to the Subcabinet using the **Questions** tool in the control panel and anytime during the meeting for the subcabinet consideration.

- Comments submitted through the Public Comment Form on the Smart Growth Subcabinet web page at LINK will be read during the public comment time on the agenda and ongoing at monthly meetings.

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PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

10:00	Welcome, Logistics Overview & SGSC Roll Call
10:05	Smart Growth 2023 Year in Review
10:20	2024 SGSC New Initiatives
10:35	Public Comment through the Registration and Web Comment Form
10:50	Closing Round of SGSC Members
11:00	Adjourn

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ROLL CALL

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SUBCABINET MEMBERS

Secretaries of:

- Agriculture: **Kevin Atticks**
- Budget & Management: Helene Grady (**Alison Verba**)
- Commerce: Kevin Anderson (**Jim Palma**)
- Environment: Serena McIlwain (**Les Knap**)
- General Services: **Atif Chaudhry** (Wendy Scott-Napier)
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- Invited non-voting Secretaries based on expressed interest: Sec Savage, Sec Strickland

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2023 YEAR IN REVIEW
RE-INVIGORATING THE SMART GROWTH SUBCABINET

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2023 YEAR IN REVIEW
ACTIVITIES

- Researched and reviewed the history, policy, and impact
- Oriented all new SGSC (all current members are new)
- Held extended working meeting to identify relevant issues
- Surveyed SGSC members to prioritize initiatives for 2024
- Held two Public Meetings (including today), conducted input forms and solicited comments that were utilized to inform policy and priorities
- Finalized 2024 SGSC Priority Initiatives (others occurring directly in agency work)
- Re-invigorated the SGSC participation
- Provided oversight and response to 2023 Legislative directives
- Confirmed Governor Moore's commitment to the SGSC continuance and evolution
- Drafted the 2024 proposed amendment to the Smart Growth Subcabinet reference in the Code (§9-1406 of the State Government Article)

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2023 YEAR IN REVIEW
SGSC LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT OVERVIEW

Maryland was an early leader in Smart Growth strategies to address the growing impacts of sprawl development.

After 25 years of successfully implementing programs to encourage compact development practices around existing population centers.

We are proposing that our approach evolve to the more comprehensive model of Sustainable Growth.

The Sustainable Growth model considers HOW we build in addition to WHERE we build by advancing growth that balances economic, equity and environmental values.

Through this amendment, the Moore administration is making a renewed commitment to the newly named Sustainable Growth Subcabinet and its cross-agency forum.

The Sustainable Growth Subcabinet has been re-invigorated in 2023 and is working collaboratively to create thriving communities for all.

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2023 YEAR IN REVIEW
SGSC LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT – KEY ITEMS

- Name Change from Smart to Sustainable to reflect evolution from "where" we grow to also include "how" we grow and develop land.

- Focus more heavily on neighborhood vitality rather than conservation focus that is often viewed as no growth.

- Addition of Resiliency and Equity as cross-cutting elements of our work.

- Change in Leadership designees to better reflect the strong partnership required between MDP and DHCD to advance thriving communities.

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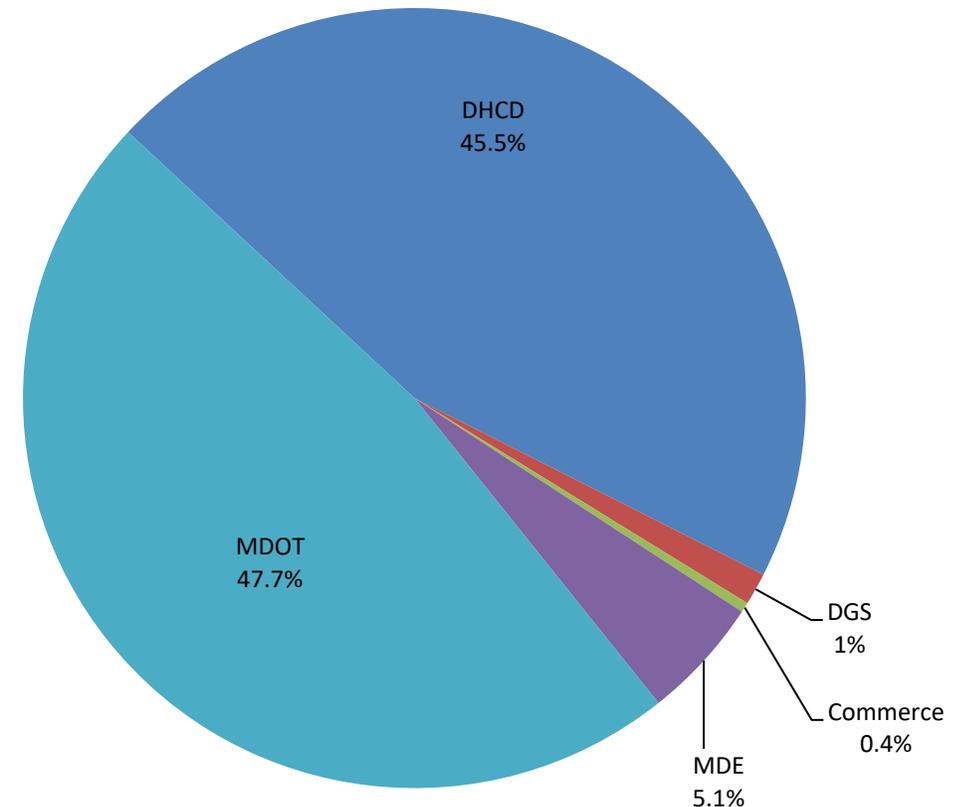
2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

PROGRESS REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

- Preservation and Reuse of Historic Complexes Study - DHCD
- Maryland the Beautiful Plan (SB470) – DNR
- Equitable and Inclusive Transit-Oriented Development Enhancement Act (HB 12) – MDOT

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Annual PFA Spending Report – Current Smart Growth Metric

- FY23 PFA growth-related spending totaled $2,099,617,362

- 65% of spending was within PFAs

- 1% of spending was outside PFAs

- 34% of the spending associated with MDOT and MDE projects that were not place-specific

DHCD 45.5%
MDOT 47.7%
MDE 5.1%
DGS 1%
Commerce 0.4%

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2024 NEW INITIATIVES

2024 SGSC NEW INITIATIVES

- Affordable Housing Barriers & Solutions (DHCD)
- Sustainable Communities Framework Update (DHCD)
- Model Complete Streets (MDOT)
- Sustainable Growth
  - Sustainable Growth Policy/Visions Update (MDP)
  - Sustainable Growth Metrics (MDP)
  - Sustainable Growth Awards Re-envisioning (MDP)
  - Sustainable Growth Policy Research – Sustainable Growth Indicator Tool (NCSG)
  - State University Sustainable Growth Policy Research Cooperative (NCSG)

2024 ACTION PLAN
STATE BARRIERS TO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT & SOLUTIONS (DHCD)

Purpose:

Understanding the interaction between state-level regulations and residential housing development. This may include state permitting processes, state growth boundaries (such as Priority Funding Areas), state-owned land disposition processes, among others.

Objectives:

1. Identify state regulatory frameworks that interact with housing development.
2. Identify ways to mitigate state regulatory frameworks that impact residential housing development without trading off other key objectives.

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2024 ACTION PLAN
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN UPDATE (DHCD)

Purpose

Updating the Sustainable Communities plan to reflect current best practices in equitable neighborhood revitalization and community planning, Governor Moore's priorities, and the Smart Growth Subcabinet's evolving approach to sustainable growth.

Objectives

1. Revise the Sustainable Communities reinvestment plan framework to guide local community goal setting.
2. Increase interagency collaboration on the Sustainable Communities program and other related State programs and initiatives.

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2024 ACTION PLAN
MODEL COMPLETE STREETS INITIATIVE (MDOT)

Purpose:

Improving safety and access to transportation for users of all ages, abilities and income levels by modeling the best practices in sustainable transportation planning and multimodal facility design to advance Maryland towards its Vision Zero and carbon reduction goals.

Objectives

1. Elevate multimodal and non-motorized projects that expand the low-stress network
2. Make Context Driven the default approach by establishing a statewide Complete Streets Program

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2024 NEW INIITIATVES
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH POLICY & VISIONS (MDP)

Purpose

Adopted in 2009, the State Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Policy (§5–7A–01 SFPA) and the 12 Planning Visions (§1–201 LUA), collectively referred to as Maryland's Smart Growth Policy needs to be updated to better reflect Maryland's changing growth concerns and relabeled as the state's "Sustainable Growth Policy."

Objectives

1. Engage a broad cross section of Maryland planning stakeholders in developing the next generation of Sustainable Growth Policy inclusive of accountable and measurable outcomes.
2. Ensure that equity, environment, and economics, the pillars of sustainable growth, contribute to an updated and holistic view of sustainability.
3. Establish clear direction and processes through which state agencies and local governments can use the Sustainable Growth Policy to guide decision making and implement sustainable growth and development.

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2024 ACTION PLAN
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH METRICS (MDP)

Purpose

The Sustainable Growth Metrics are intended to measure Maryland's effectiveness advancing the state's Sustainable Growth Policy as developed through the Sustainable Growth Policy-Vision initiative.

Objectives

1. Establish short- and long-term measures of sustainable growth that have a direct and recognized understanding by state agencies and local governments can be used as a reference.

2. Establish metrics that are inclusive of the work of the Subcabinet agencies and be used to complement each agency's reported measures.

3. Ensure broad participation by all Subcabinet agencies in the SG Metrics development process.

4. Establish SG Metrics that can be used by state agencies to measure the effectiveness of state programs and policies to advance sustainable development

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2024 ACTION PLAN
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AWARDS (MDP)

Purpose

The Sustainable Growth Awards honor and celebrate significant achievements by individuals, businesses, organizations, and local governments in their efforts to realize sustainable growth in Maryland.

Objectives

1. Transition the existing awards process from a MDP award to a SGSC award.
2. Amend the scoring criteria to align with the proposed Vision and Policy amendments.
3. Heighten recognition of the very best sustainable growth practices occurring in Maryland.
4. Strengthen inter-agency collaboration to advance sustainable communities and best practices.

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2024 ACTION PLAN
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH POLICY RESEARCH (MDP)

Purpose

Sustainable Growth Policy Research is intended to buttress the Subcabinet's policy initiatives that may be in their formative stages (either in terms of legislative or program development) or to evaluate the effectiveness of existing policies, regulations and programs.

Objectives

1. Identify research topics that address the challenges impeding sustainable and equitable growth in Maryland.

2. Collaborate with state agencies and Maryland's higher education institutions to investigate policies and programs that advance sustainable development.

3. Establish a robust research peer review process that engages state agencies and local governments to ensure broad acceptance of the conclusion and recommendations.

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2024 ACTION PLAN
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH INDICATOR TOOL (NCSG)

Purpose:

The National Center for Smart Growth at UMD will build, publish, and update a sustainable growth indicator tool. This tool will provide statewide public information on key sustainable growth indicators linked to statewide priority issues: land use, sustainable development, housing construction, housing instability and other elements discussed based on policy priorities and available data.

Objectives:

1. Create a tool for local government to use to easily evaluate the trade-offs between increasing housing production and density versus resource and land conservation.
2. Create a tool that assists in targeting state resources to localities to achieve state objectives: targeting preservation of open space, production of green energy, etc.
3. Creates a tool that can be used for research by academic partners.

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2024 ACTION PLAN
STATE UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABLE GROWTH POLICY RESEARCH COOPERATIVE (NCSG)

Purpose:

The National Center for Smart Growth will lead a partnership of USM Universities that are addressing research questions pertaining to sustainable and smart growth.

Objectives

To build a consortium of statewide researchers focused on local and statewide research to support policy to preserve open space, build strong connections to transportation, reduce vehicle miles traveled, and the development of affordable and accessible housing, among other policy goals.

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PUBLIC COMMENT
REVIEW OF SUBMITTED QUESTIONS

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CLOSING ROUND & RESPONSE

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THANK YOU!

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