



**APPENDIX C:  
INVENTORY OF STATE CLIMATE- AND  
RESILIENCE-RELATED ADVISORY BODIES**



# Inventory of State Climate- and Resilience-Related Advisory Bodies

## Agency Resilience Liaisons (ARLs)

**Mission:** Formerly the Resilient MD Leadership Council work group, the ARL group provides high-level input and feedback to the Maryland Office of Resilience (MOR) about our major initiatives, including the statewide resilience strategy.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Office of Resilience

**Meeting Frequency:** At least twice per year (aims to meet quarterly)

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Weigh in on big picture items, elevate key pieces to Department Secretaries if/when needed, and maintain cross-agency visibility and coordination. Participants in the leadership group can offer input and help shape key initiatives led by MOR, including the Resilient Maryland Strategy. This group sees early drafts and ideas and offers their commentary.

## Adaptation and Resiliency Working Group (ARWG)

**Mission:** The ARWG supports the MD Commission on Climate Change (MCCC) by developing a comprehensive strategy for reducing climate change vulnerability, providing state and local governments with tools to plan for and adapt to the more extreme weather and rise in sea levels anticipated as a consequence of climate change.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Recommend adaptation and resilience related actions to be incorporated into the annual MCCC annual report. These actions are intended to guide the state's priorities both legislatively and otherwise.

**Website:** <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/climatechange/mccc/pages/arwg.aspx>

## Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) to Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP)

**Mission:** The AAC focuses on high-level policy issues, ensuring its scope complements, but does not overlap, the technical work conducted by other groups within the CBP partnership. Consisting of farmers, urban farmers, agribusiness representatives, and technical professionals who help farmers fund and implement conservation practices, the AAC is a voice for producers and industry.

**Lead Agency:** Chesapeake Bay Program

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Advise the Executive Council, Principals' Staff Committee, and Management Board on strategies and opportunities for agricultural operations to more effectively meet the Chesapeake Bay watershed's restoration and conservation goals.

**Website:** <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/group/agricultural-advisory-committee#members>

## Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Watershed Council

**Mission:** The council coordinates and accelerates the restoration of the state's waterways with a collective goal to create healthy watersheds that benefit the environment, economy, and communities.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Provide regular recommendations to the Governor on watershed management. Promote interagency coordination and program integration. Promote equity by connecting healthy watersheds to the overall health of Maryland's environment, economy, and people. Ensure that restoration investments also contribute to climate resiliency. Develop strategies to manage the environmental impact of population growth on Bay restoration. Develop and oversee environmental, cultural, and natural resources infrastructure, seeking innovative partnerships and funding. Solicit input from Maryland citizens and stakeholders with a focus on underserved and overburdened communities.

**Website:** [https://governor.maryland.gov/Lists/ExecutiveOrders/Attachments/15/EO\\_01.01.2023.11\\_accessible\\_7-21-23.pdf](https://governor.maryland.gov/Lists/ExecutiveOrders/Attachments/15/EO_01.01.2023.11_accessible_7-21-23.pdf)

## CBP Principals' Staff Committee

**Mission:** The Principals' Staff Committee works on behalf of the Chesapeake Executive Council to translate their vision into policy and action.

**Lead Agency:** Chesapeake Bay Program

**Meeting Frequency:** Monthly/Bi-Monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Accept items for Executive Council consideration and approval, set agendas for Executive Council meetings, provide briefings to the signatories of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, and provide policy and program direction to the Management Board.

**Website:** <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/group/principals-staff-committee>

## Climate Subcabinet

**Mission:** Created by Executive Order in June of 2024, the Subcabinet was formed to address climate change and coordinate State agency efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in accordance with Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of the Environment

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Pursue federal funding opportunities for State climate programs and ensure application of the federal Justice40 Initiative through federal funds. To flow to disadvantaged communities, the Justice40 Initiative directs 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain federal investments. Opportunities include investments in clean energy and energy efficiency; clean transit; affordable and sustainable housing; training and workforce development; remediation and reduction of legacy pollution; and development of clean water infrastructure.

**Website:** <https://msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/08conoff/cabinet/html/climate.html>

## CoastSmart Council

**Mission:** The CoastSmart initiative is dedicated to assisting Maryland's coastal communities address short- and long-term coastal hazards. The Council adopts CoastSmart siting and design criteria that address impacts of sea level rise and coastal flooding on future capital projects.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Refine the CoastSmart Construction Program, which includes guidelines and other directives applicable to the planning and construction of proposed capital projects to anticipate and avoid sea level rise and coastal flood impacts. The program currently applies to state and local capital projects that meet the minimum funding and structural standards triggering a CoastSmart review. Recommend regulations for adoption.

**Website:** [https://dnr.maryland.gov/climateresilience/pages/cs\\_council.aspx](https://dnr.maryland.gov/climateresilience/pages/cs_council.aspx)

## Commission on Environmental Justice & Sustainable Communities (CEJSC)

**Mission:** The CEJSC is a twenty member body that is tasked with advising State government on environmental justice and analyzing the effectiveness of State and local government laws and policies to address issues of environmental justice (EJ) and sustainable communities.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Planning

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Advise State government agencies on EJ and analyze the effectiveness of State and local government laws and policies to address issues of EJ and sustainable communities. Develop criteria to assess what communities in MD may be experiencing EJ issues. Recommend options for addressing EJ issues to the Governor and the General Assembly; include prioritized areas of the State that need immediate attention.

**Website:** <https://planning.maryland.gov/Pages/OurWork/CommissionEnvJustice.aspx>

## Comptroller's Climate Advisory Council

**Mission:** Climate Advisory Council is charged with helping the Office of the Comptroller to position Maryland as a national leader on climate resilience and sustainability.

**Lead Agency:** Comptroller of Maryland

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Provide advice about strategies for Maryland to increase consideration of climate change and sustainability in state procurement, to assess and reflect the true cost of climate change to Maryland, and to best align the state's economic and fiscal policies with climate change considerations. The council will include subject matter experts, professionals, and advocates in the climate, sustainability, environmental justice, and resilience fields.

**Website:** <https://www.marylandcomptroller.gov/about/get-involved/work-groups.html>

## **Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays**

**Mission:** The Critical Area Commission meets to formally consider State and local development projects in the Critical Area, local Critical Area Program changes, regulatory updates and other items of business.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Meeting Frequency:** Every 6 weeks

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Provide oversight to the local critical area management programs which are administered by the 64 local governments whose jurisdictions are partially or entirely within the Critical Area. Develop regulations and guidance to address development in the Critical Area. Review projects proposed by state and federal agencies as well as local governments to assure consistency with the Critical Area law and regulations. Provide technical assistance and education to local governments, state agencies, and the general public regarding the Critical Area program.

**Website:** <https://dnr.maryland.gov/criticalarea/Pages/Commission.aspx#roles>

## **Statewide Digital Infrastructure Group (DIG)**

**Mission:** The Maryland Digital Infrastructure Group (DIG) was established through an Executive Order to enhance collaboration among Maryland state, county, and local entities, ensuring a strategic approach to broadband expansion and digital connectivity.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Information Technology

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Eliminate silos and reduce financial inefficiencies in broadband expansion, ensure best management practices for state resources and assets, develop Maryland's first unified "Single View" GIS platform to display public sector broadband assets for proactive planning, and identify opportunities for public-private partnerships.

**Website:** <https://doit.maryland.gov/About-DoIT/Boards-Committees-Commissions/Pages/Maryland-Digital-Infrastructure-Group.aspx>

## **Energy Resilience and Efficiency Working Group**

**Mission:** The Energy Resilience and Efficiency Working Group is primarily composed of representatives of electric energy companies. Members will focus on energy infrastructure improvements, transmission efficiency, and battery backups.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of the Environment

**Meeting Frequency:** Monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Advise the commission on issues and opportunities related to energy infrastructure improvements, transmission efficiency improvement, and battery backup viability. Conduct a study to examine state-level methods to boost electricity storage research and grid security. This includes finding ways to support distributed renewable energy projects and energy storage so they can power critical facilities during major outages. It also aims to explore potential electric grid transformation projects, the viability of developing clean energy on previously used project sites, and the lifespan of non-greenhouse gas-emitting energy facilities in the state.

**Website:** <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/MCCC/Pages/EREWG.aspx>

## **Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council (GEMAC)**

**Mission:** The GEMAC is created by statute and is charged with advising the Governor on all matters that relate to emergency management in Maryland.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Emergency Management

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** The GEMAC serves as an independent advisory body, comprised of subject matter experts from a wide range of disciplines, backgrounds, and geographic areas, including local emergency responders and individuals broadly representative of business interests, public utilities, and other communities throughout Maryland.

**Website:** <https://mdem.maryland.gov/pages/gemac.aspx>

## **Governor's Interagency Commission on Agriculture (GICA)**

**Mission:** The Commission shall work to promote the economic profitability of agriculture in the State by ensuring that all appropriate State agencies work in a cooperative, coordinated manner with local government and industry groups in planning, implementing, overseeing and evaluating intergovernmental initiatives related to agricultural affairs of the State.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Agriculture

**Meeting Frequency:** Semiannually

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Promote a clear and consistent business-friendly climate for agriculture in the State by serving as a liaison between the Governor and local governments and industry organizations. Develop an annual, coordinated intergovernmental plan for services and functions dealing with the agricultural affairs of the State. Develop procedures for identifying and assessing agricultural developments with a potential for impact on the State and on local governments. Make recommendations for programs and policies, if appropriate, in order to ensure that the needs and goals of the State's agricultural strategy are met and accomplished. Undertake the establishment of an "agricultural affairs information center" that serves as the first point of contact regarding agricultural issues impacting farmers in the State.

**Website:** [https://mda.maryland.gov/about\\_mda/pages/gica.aspx](https://mda.maryland.gov/about_mda/pages/gica.aspx)

## **Grid Resiliency Task Force**

**Mission:** The mission of the Grid Resiliency Task Force is to solicit input and recommendations from experts on how to improve the resiliency and reliability of the Maryland electric distribution system.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Energy Administration

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Evaluate the effectiveness & feasibility of undergrounding supply and distribution lines, other options for infrastructure investments to improve resiliency of the grid and options for financing and cost recovery for capital investment. Develop a report with a set of specific technology, infrastructure, regulatory, & process recommendations to improve the resiliency of Maryland's distribution grid.

**Website:** <https://energy.maryland.gov/pages/gridresiliencytf.aspx>

## **MARBIDCO Monday**

**Mission:** Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) Monday allows attendees to network, share programmatic updates, and to discuss new ideas that relate to assisting Maryland's farm, forestry, and seafood businesses.

**Lead Agency:** MARBIDCO

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Support the sustainability of the state's agricultural, forestry, and seafood businesses, most of which are family-run enterprises. Help to ensure the viability of the rural working landscape that Marylanders so greatly cherish. Help sustain a safe and healthy local food supply, clean air and water, thriving rural communities, and productive pastoral scenic vistas for future generations.

**Website:** <https://www.marbidco.org/>

## **Maryland Agricultural Commission (MAC)**

**Mission:** Formulate and make proposals for the advancement of Maryland agriculture by serving as an advisory body to the Secretary on matters pertaining to agriculture.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Agriculture

**Meeting Frequency:** Bi-monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Serve as an advisory body to the secretary and deputy secretary of agriculture. Encourage the agricultural community to be more pro-active on issues affecting agriculture and rural life. Evaluate farm/agriculture industry labor and regulations. Increase public awareness of food safety. Support the department's efforts to promote agriculture.

**Website:** [https://mda.maryland.gov/about\\_mda/pages/md-ag-commission.aspx](https://mda.maryland.gov/about_mda/pages/md-ag-commission.aspx)

## **Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC) Advisory Council**

**Mission:** The Maryland Clean Energy Center is a corporate instrumentality of the state, which serves as Maryland's green bank. The MCEC Advisory Council assists in developing strategic objectives for the MCEC, advises the Executive Director, and informs the Board of Directors.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Clean Energy Center

**Meeting Frequency:** Annually

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Guide the Maryland Clean Energy Center by advising the Executive Director and Board of Directors. Help set strategic goals, review policies, build key relationships, and raise awareness of our mission. Identify and remove barriers in the energy sector, driving progress toward a cleaner, more sustainable future.

**Website:** [https://www.mdcleanenergy.org/about/advisory-council/roles-responsibilities-and-committee-charges/?\\_gl=1\\*1kg06m\\*\\_ga\\*MjE0MTUwMzMwNi4xNzU5Nzc0MDQy\\*\\_ga\\_WN5HY36VYH\\*czE3NjA2NDUzNzYkbzQkZzEkdDE3NjA2NDU0NDgkajYwJGwwJGgw](https://www.mdcleanenergy.org/about/advisory-council/roles-responsibilities-and-committee-charges/?_gl=1*1kg06m*_ga*MjE0MTUwMzMwNi4xNzU5Nzc0MDQy*_ga_WN5HY36VYH*czE3NjA2NDUzNzYkbzQkZzEkdDE3NjA2NDU0NDgkajYwJGwwJGgw)

### **Maryland Commission on Climate Change (MCCC)**

**Mission:** MCCC is charged with advising the Governor and General Assembly on ways to mitigate the causes of, prepare for, and adapt to the consequences of climate change.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of the Environment

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Represent various groups in advising the Governor and General Assembly. Produce several new reports and create four additional working groups, which add an extensive list of required representatives.

**Website:** <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/MCCC/Pages/index.aspx>

### **Maryland Commission on Disabilities (MCOD)**

**Mission:** MCOD serves as the advisory body for the Maryland Department of Disabilities, which is charged with unifying and improving the delivery of services to people with disabilities.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Disabilities

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** MCOD plays an instrumental role in the development of the State Disabilities Plan, a comprehensive multi-year strategic plan that sets performance goals for all agencies in Maryland which serve people with disabilities. The Commission includes 19 members appointed by the Governor and representatives from the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates.

**Website:** <https://mdod.maryland.gov/mcod/Pages/MCOD-Home.aspx>

### **Maryland Cybersecurity Coordinating Council**

**Mission:** To advise on and oversee a consistent cybersecurity strategy for Maryland State government agencies and institutions under the higher education governing board.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Information Technology

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Advise and consult with the Legislative and Judicial branches of State government to improve the state's cybersecurity strategy. In consultation with the Attorney General, MCC develop guidance for consistent cybersecurity strategies for counties, municipal corporations, school systems, and all other political subdivisions of the State. Advise the State Chief Information Security Officer regarding the strategy and implementation of cybersecurity initiatives and recommendations. Provide advice and recommendations for building and sustaining the State's capability to identify, mitigate, and detect cybersecurity risk and how to respond to and recover from cybersecurity-related incidents.

**Website:** <https://doit.maryland.gov/About-DoIT/Boards-Committees-Commissions/Pages/Maryland-Cybersecurity-Coordinating-Council.aspx>

## **Maryland Cybersecurity Council (MCC)**

**Mission:** The commission was charged with conducting an overview of federal and state cybersecurity laws and policies. It considered Maryland's role in promoting cyber innovation and recommended strategies for cybersecurity innovation and excellence, including recovery from cyber attack.

**Lead Agency:** University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC)

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** The MCC works with the National Institute of Standards and Technology and other federal agencies, private sector businesses, and private cybersecurity experts to assess cyber attack risk, identify categories of damage, assist infrastructure to comply with federal cybersecurity guidance, examine inconsistencies, recommend a State strategic plan, and recommend legislative changes.

**Website:** <https://www.umgc.edu/administration/leadership-and-governance/boards-and-committees/maryland-cybersecurity-council>

## **Maryland Food Systems Resiliency Council (FSRC)**

**Mission:** Established by Maryland H.B. 831/S.B. 723, the FSRC is a formally appointed body that meets regularly to spearhead a multiagency, collaborative initiative: engaging experts in food resiliency across Maryland in better addressing food insecurity and food resilience issues across the state.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Emergency Management

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Address the food insecurity crisis in the State of Maryland resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic crisis. Develop equity and sustainability policy recommendations to increase the long-term resiliency of the food system. Expand the impact of existing food council stakeholder organizations. Develop a strategic plan to increase the production and procurement of Maryland certified food.

**Website:** <https://mdem.maryland.gov/pages/food-resilience.aspx>

## **Maryland Resiliency Partnership**

**Mission:** The Maryland Resiliency Partnership is an informal collaboration of public and private partners to leverage funding, personnel, and projects to support efforts that integrate hazard mitigation, floodplain management, and coastal and climate resilience.

**Lead Agency:** Rotating Lead Agencies

**Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** The Maryland Resiliency Partnership leverages funding, personnel, and projects among member agencies, integrates floodplain management, hazard mitigation, and coastal resiliency efforts, conducts outreach workshops, and provides information on grant programs and mitigation best practices.

**Website:** <https://md-resiliency-partnership-maryland.hub.arcgis.com/pages/about>

## **Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC)**

**Mission:** The Maryland Forest Service administers the MUCFC to promote the health, growth, and sustainability of urban and community forests throughout the state. MUCFC serves as a coordinating body for programs that support tree planting, forest education, and public recognition of community forestry efforts.

**Lead Agency:** Forest Service, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Award grants for tree planting and forest education projects on public lands such as parks, school campuses, and streetscapes. In partnership with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), provide reforestation grants to support tree replanting in areas where canopy was lost due to transportation infrastructure projects. Eligible areas include communities impacted by the Purple Line construction, urban heat islands, or environmental justice concerns. Managing the PLANT Award Program for communities that demonstrate exceptional tree care and stewardship.

**Website:** <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/pages/programs/urban/mcfc.aspx>

## **Maryland Zero-Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC)**

**Mission:** The ZEEVIC priorities includes installing more Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) and ensuring EV readiness through strategic infrastructure planning, maximizing the use of grant and alternative funding opportunities for EV/EVSE in Maryland, and continuing ZEV education and outreach with a focus on diversity and equity.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Transportation

**Meeting Frequency:** Monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Develop policies, recommendations, and incentives that increase awareness of ZEVs, support the ownership of ZEVs, and promote investment by the private sector in ZEVs. Develop recommendations for a statewide EV charging and hydrogen refueling infrastructure plan. Develop other potential policies to promote and facilitate the successful integration of ZEVs into Maryland's transportation network.

**Website:** <https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/tso/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=81>

## **MDOT Resiliency Task Force**

**Mission:** The Resiliency Task Force functions as a community of practice dedicated to enhancing resilience, performance, and collaboration within and between the modal administrations. The Resiliency Task Force supports MDOT's ongoing resilience improvement program.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Transportation

**Meeting Frequency:** Monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Support MDOT's ongoing resilience improvement program by providing a structured platform for identifying efficiencies, interdependencies, documenting vulnerability, and identifying resource gaps. Recommend strategies and projects for improving resilience and promote enhanced collaboration to facilitate quicker implementation of resilience measures.

**Website:** [https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/OPCP/MDOT\\_TRIP\\_Report\\_2024\\_Final.pdf](https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/OPCP/MDOT_TRIP_Report_2024_Final.pdf)

## **Food and Agriculture Regional Member (FARM) Policy Committee**

**Mission:** The mission is to support the development of a resilient, secure, equitable, and connected food and farm economy across the metropolitan Washington region.

**Lead Agency:** Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Advocate for policy changes such as in the federal Farm Bill, develop strategic plans, work programs, and budgets for regional food system initiatives, and address or discuss food security and healthy food access issues.

**Website:** <https://www.mwcog.org/committees/food-and-agriculture-regional-member-policy-committee-farm/>

## **Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR)**

**Mission:** The MIRR's goal is to work on the Resilient MD Defense Communities project. This project will engage Maryland's local, state, military, and other stakeholders to develop a framework that outlines how stakeholders can collaborate on preserving military assets off base through the lens of "one community" to address shared resilience challenges.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Commerce

**Meeting Frequency:** Bi-weekly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Facilitate cooperative strategic planning among military installations, local communities, and state agencies. Identify resilience challenges such as coastal flooding, aging infrastructure, lack of affordable off-base housing units for military personnel, and transit safety issues threatening the readiness and emergency response capabilities. Develop recommendations and implementation plans to enhance military installation resilience.

**Website:** <https://commerce.maryland.gov/media/federal-funding-supports-military-installation-resilience-in-maryland>

## **Outdoor Learning Partnership (OLP)**

**Mission:** OLP is tasked with empowering all of Maryland's youth to grow as environmental stewards that access, conserve, and restore our natural resources to ensure a climate-ready Maryland.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland State Department of Education

**Meeting Frequency:** Bi-monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Conduct a review of current environmental and climate change education efforts in Maryland. Foster collaboration, coordinate resources, and deliver equitable recommendations to decision makers. Engage with networks to ensure that environmental education is equitably implemented and sustainably funded across Maryland. Support state leadership in the implementation and tracking of relevant Chesapeake Bay Program priorities. Report to and advise the Governor on the status of the Partnership's work.

**Website:** <https://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Environmental-Education/Outdoor-Learning-Partnership.aspx>

## **Public Conference 44 (PC44)**

**Mission:** With a goal of ensuring that Maryland's electric grid is customer-centered, affordable, reliable and environmentally sustainable, the Public Service Commission (PSC) initiated Public Conference 44 (PC44) to launch a targeted review of electric distribution systems in Maryland.

**Lead Agency:** Public Service Commission

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Explore issues that will maximize benefits and choice to Maryland electric customers and, in particular, assess how the evolving electric grid impacts low- and moderate-income ratepayers. Establish guiding principles and amend topics to better align with possible long-term outcomes.

**Website:** <https://www.psc.state.md.us/transforming-marylands-electric-grid-pc44/#>

## **Resilient MD Executive Stakeholders**

**Mission:** The Resilient MD Executive Stakeholders work group provides high-level direction to key resilience initiatives as laid out in the work plan. They will review the previous year's work plan and approve direction for the following year.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Office of Resilience

**Meeting Frequency:** Annually

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Secretaries or Executive Stakeholders from key resilience-related state agencies and the Governor's office will be in attendance and responsible for decisions made in the meeting.

## **Resilient MD Operations & Planning**

**Mission:** The Resilient MD Operations & Planning work group meets monthly and provides input and feedback to the MOR about our major initiatives, including the statewide resilience strategy. Convened by MOR.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Office of Resilience

**Meeting Frequency:** Monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** This group will have the opportunity to share data, give input, and work hand-in-hand with MOR on its projects. Because the RMOP will meet on a monthly basis, its participants will be looped into MOR's drafting process and will help ground the work in the needs and realities of communities.

## **Rural Legacy Board and Rural Legacy Advisory Committee**

**Mission:** The purpose of the Rural Legacy Program is to preserve large, contiguous tracts of land and to enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry and environmental protection while supporting a sustainable land base for natural resource based industries. The Board and Advisory Committee make recommendations on grant funding to protect working farms and forests throughout the state.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Meeting Frequency:** Annually

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Oversee the administration of the Rural Legacy Program with assistance and advice from the Rural Legacy Advisory Committee. Annually recommend Rural Legacy Area designations and recommends annual grant award allocations to the Board of Public Works for approval. Review the annual Rural Legacy Sponsor applications in a fair and consistent manner and make recommendations for funding to the Rural Legacy Board.

**Website:** <https://dnr.maryland.gov/land/Pages/RuralLegacy/Rural-Legacy-Board.aspx>

### **Soil Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)**

**Mission:** The SHAC is charged with providing any recommendations to MDA for the continued development of the Maryland Healthy Soils Program, including activities and potential incentives necessary to increase the adoption of health soils practices.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Agriculture

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Provide recommendations for the development and implementation of the Healthy Soils Program, including identifying activities and potential incentives to increase the adoption of healthy soil practices by farmers. Evaluate and prioritize the specific conservation practices to be included in the program. Make recommendations to help improve the health, yield, and profitability of state soils, increase biological activity and carbon sequestration, and promote education on healthy soil practices.

**Website:** [https://mda.maryland.gov/resource\\_conservation/counties/Final\\_SHACReport-%20Accessible.pdf](https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/counties/Final_SHACReport-%20Accessible.pdf)

### **State Agency Saltwater Intrusion Team**

**Mission:** An informal workgroup composed of multiple Maryland state agencies and subject matter experts, which was convened by the MDP to address the complex problem of saltwater intrusion and salinization in the state.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Planning

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Develop and update Maryland's Plan to Adapt to Saltwater Intrusion and Salinization. Implementation of this plan, including assessments of vulnerability, monitoring of environmental change, the development of forecasting tools, and adoption of effective adaptation measures, is essential to minimize the economic, social, and environmental disruption to Maryland's economy, coastal communities, and ecological health.

**Website:** <https://planning.maryland.gov/Documents/OurWork/RRP/envr-planning/Marylands-plan-to-adapt-to-saltwater-intrusion-and-salinization.pdf>

### **State Soil Conservation Committee (SSCC)**

**Mission:** To provide leadership statewide, guide and direct the Maryland Department of Agriculture and coordinate among represented

agencies and others in matters related to soil conservation and water quality policy and program development to ensure environmental goals are met with programs that are economically, technically and socially feasible.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Agriculture

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Adopt regulations, manage and dispose of federal grants, provide funds and staff to Soil Conservation Districts (SCD), advise SCDs and MDA, and provide information and education. Make recommendations to MDA on programs and policies related to soil conservation and water quality, provide information, and facilitate interchange and coordination among a network of local, state, and federal agencies.

**Website:** [https://mda.maryland.gov/about\\_mda/pages/md-soil-conservation-committee.aspx](https://mda.maryland.gov/about_mda/pages/md-soil-conservation-committee.aspx)

### **Sustainable Forestry Council**

**Mission:** The Sustainable Forestry Council advises the Department of Natural Resources on timely forest conservation issues and appropriate actions to help Maryland implement a no net loss of forest policy (as of 2023, now a “net gain” policy).

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Advise the Department on all matters related to sustainable forestry management in the State, the expenditure of funds from the Woodland Incentive Fund, existing regulatory and statutory policies that are perceived as economic barriers to a viable forest products industry, new markets to enhance forest health, including renewable energy development through biomass energy, to offset fossil fuel consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, creative strategies to help privately owned forest lands better compete with real estate market values that are driving forest conversion and fragmentation, the means to promote forest-based economies and processing capability that contribute to economic and employment growth, and assigning a nutrient benefit to forest stewardship plans and other forest conservation management plans.

**Website:** <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/pages/sfcouncil.aspx>

### **Sustainable Growth Principles - Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for Resilience**

**Mission:** MDP serves as the leads and technical advisors for this work. The TAG group effort will develop an implementation guide for planners to identify and incorporate resilience best practices themselves.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Planning

**Meeting Frequency:** Bi-weekly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Develop guidance and metrics for measuring the proposed eight (8) sustainable growth principles, including Resilience. The intent of the TAG is to promote the integration of resilience measures which minimize the impacts of rapid and unexpected natural- and human-caused threats on communities.

## **Sustainable Growth Subcabinet**

**Mission:** This subcabinet advances sustainable growth and development practices. Monthly meetings.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Planning

**Meeting Frequency:** Monthly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** The Subcabinet helped implement the state's Smart Growth Policy, making recommended changes in state law, regulations, and procedures to the governor needed to support the policy. The Sustainable Growth cabinet continues this implementation effort and work to create, enhance, support, and revitalize sustainable communities across Maryland.

**Website:** <https://planning.maryland.gov/Pages/OurEngagement/SGSubcabinet/smart-growth-subcabinet.aspx>

## **Urban Agriculture Advisory Committee**

**Mission:** The purpose of this initiative is to increase the viability of urban farming and improve access to urban grown foods.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Agriculture

**Summary of Responsibilities:** The advisory committee focused on MDA's Urban Agriculture program. Tasked with recommending guidelines, policies, and practices for the implementation of the Urban Agriculture Grant grant program.

**Website:** <https://news.maryland.gov/mda/press-release/2023/10/16/maryland-department-of-agriculture-seeks-urban-agriculture-grant-advisory-committee-members/>

## **US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Silver Jackets**

**Mission:** Silver Jackets teams are collaborative state-led interagency teams, continuously working together to reduce flood risk at the state level. Through the Silver Jackets program, the USACE, FEMA, additional federal, state and sometimes local and Tribal agencies provide a unified approach to addressing a state's priorities.

**Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

**Summary of Responsibilities:** Facilitate strategic life-cycle flood risk reduction. Create or supplement a continuous mechanism to collaboratively solve state-prioritized issues and implement or recommend those solutions. Improve processes, identifying and resolving gaps and counteractive programs. Leverage and optimize resources. Improve and increase flood risk communication and present a unified interagency message. Establish close relationships to facilitate integrated post-disaster recovery solutions.

**Website:** <https://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Portals/43/docs/partnering%20opportunities/CW%20Silver%20Jackets%20Program.pdf?ver=Vkr6hoKGMrzNciIgr5vGeQ%3D%3D>

## **Whole Watershed State Management Team**

**Mission:** This group implements the Whole Watershed Act. Its intent is to foster innovative and collaborative approaches to watershed restoration.

**Lead Agency:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**Meeting Frequency:** Bi-weekly

**Summary of Responsibilities:** The management team selects the five watersheds for the pilot program, provides technical and financial assistance to program sponsors, helps develop implementation and finance plans for restoration projects, works to find efficiencies in project permitting and funding, and measures project results and supports monitoring.

**Website:** <https://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/whole-watershed-fund.aspx>

**\*\* End of Appendix C \*\***