

Meeting Minutes – December 16, 2021

Call to Order:

Chair Kasemeyer called the video-conference meeting of the Interagency Commission on School Construction to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members in Attendance:

Edward Kasemeyer, Appointee of the President of the Senate, Chair
Superintendent Mohammed Choudhury, Maryland State Department of Education
Secretary Ellington Churchill, Department of General Services
Linda Eberhart, Appointee of the Speaker of the House
Gloria Lawlah, Appointee of the President of the Senate
Secretary Robert S. McCord, Maryland Department of Planning

Members Not in Attendance:

Brian Gibbons, Appointee of the Speaker of the House
Dick Lombardo, Appointee of the Governor

Revisions to the Agenda:

Cassandra Viscarra, IAC Acting Deputy Director of Administration, requested **Item 5 – Cecil County Public Schools FY22 CIP Revision** to be removed from the agenda to allow IAC staff to resolve minor issues.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

IAC Correspondence:

There was no IAC correspondence

1. Consent Agenda – **[Motion Carried]**

Upon a motion by Ms. Lawlah, seconded by Superintendent Choudhury, the IAC voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approval of the November 18, 2021 Minutes

To approve the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Interagency Commission on School Construction Meeting.

B. Summary of Contract Awards

To approve contract procurement as presented.

C. Approval of Revisions to Previously Approved Contracts

To approve the revisions to previously approved contract awards to accurately reflect the adjustments to the State and local participation in the contract amounts.

D. St. Mary's County Easement – **[Informational Only]**

2. Capital Improvement Program Overview Presentation – [Informational Only]

Ms. Viscarra presented an overview of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and its administrative process.

3. FY 2023 Capital Improvement Program 75% Project Approvals – [Motion Carried]

Arabia Davis, IAC Funding Programs Manager, presented IAC staff recommendations for 75% of the preliminary school construction allocation for the FY 2023 CIP. Staff recommended the approval of 10 planning requests and 75 funding requests, totaling \$156,000,000, for the 75% allocation round based on the Governor’s Preliminary Capital Budget.

The following LEAs submitted written appeals of staff recommendations:

- I. Baltimore County
- II. Cecil County
- III. St. Mary’s County
- IV. Washington County
- V. Wicomico County

The following LEAs presented their appeals of staff recommendations:

- I. Baltimore City
- II. Calvert County
- III. Carroll County
- IV. Charles County
- V. Frederick County
- VI. Maryland School for the Blind
- VII. Montgomery County
- VIII. Prince George’s County

IAC members noted that it appeared from LEA testimony that Career and Technical Education (CTE) schools cost more money to construct and are in a greater need across the state. IAC and MSDE staff explained that the State’s Gross Area Baseline allocates additional square feet per student for CTE program students to determine the maximum state allocated funding for comprehensive schools with CTE programs and CTE schools.

Upon a motion by Ms. Eberhart, with a second by Secretary Churchill, the IAC voted unanimously to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 75% Capital Improvement Program allocations and Planning Approvals for each school system and the Maryland School for the Blind as shown in the presented Summary of Project Requests and Recommendations and to authorize IAC staff to make adjustments to project allocations to avoid over and under funding of a project. Funding allocations to projects with a funding status of “U” are contingent upon resolution of outstanding issues.

4. Baltimore City Extra \$15 Million for HVAC Project Status Report – [Informational Only]

Jamie Bridges, IAC Planning Manager, provided an update that 16 of the 19 schools are operational with anticipated completion dates for the remaining three schools in the summer and fall of 2022. Funds have been fully allocated to the projects, 90% have been contracted, and 67% have been expended.

5. Cecil County Public Schools FY22 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Revision – [Item Removed]

This item was removed for further review by IAC staff.

6. Unspent State Allocations – [Informational Only]

Bret Waskiewicz, IAC Senior Regional Facilities Manager, presented a report showing a total of \$246.7 million of unspent state authorizations from prior fiscal years. A majority of the LEAs hold less than \$125,000 of unspent allocations. Two LEAs – Prince George’s County and Baltimore City – hold 83% of unspent allocations. Queen Anne’s unspent funding is from an approved roofing project in which the bids came in significantly higher than anticipated due to the pandemic. They were forced to rescind the project and they are bidding again early in 2022 in hopes of a more favorable result. Upon questions from Commission members regarding Howard County’s unspent allocations, IAC staff explained that there are two Howard County projects currently under construction and reimbursement requests are expected to be submitted in the near future.

7. Update on the Workgroup on the Assessment and Funding of School Facilities Presentation – [Item Postponed]

Chair Kasemeyer postponed the item due to the absence of Executive Director Gorrell.

Announcements:

There were no announcements.

Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Secretary Churchill, with a second by Ms. Eberhart, the IAC voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 AM.