



Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2023

Call to Order:

Chair Kasemeyer called the video-conference meeting of the Interagency Commission on School Construction to order at 9:02 a.m.

Members in Attendance:

Edward Kasemeyer, Appointee of the President of the Senate, Chair
Linda Eberhart, Appointee of the Speaker of the House, Vice-chair
Secretary Atif Chaudhry, Maryland Department of General Services
Superintendent Mohammed Choudhury, Maryland State Department of Education
Michael Darenberg, Appointee of the Governor
Secretary Rebecca Flora, Maryland Department of Planning
Gloria Lawlah, Appointee of the President of the Senate

Members Not in Attendance:

Brian Gibbons, Appointee of the Speaker of the House

Revisions to the Agenda:

There were no revisions to the agenda.

Public Comment:

None.

IAC Correspondence:

Letter from Cheryl Bost, President, Maryland State Education Association to support the importance of fine and performing arts spaces in Maryland's public school facilities.

1. Executive Director Report – [Informational Only]

Alex Donahue, IAC Executive Director, provided an update on several IAC initiatives. The FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program Publication was released and published on the IAC website, listing the details of the final allocations approved at the May 11, 2023 IAC meeting. The IAC is in the process of updating the State-Local Cost Share figures for FY 2025 and 2026 which will be presented at a future meeting. The Assessment & Maintenance Group is currently conducting the second refresh cycle of the Statewide Facilities Assessment, with completion projected in August and the third cycle beginning in November. Stakeholder meetings with Superintendents and County officials have been progressing positively and will continue in the coming months. The Blueprint Facilities Workgroup has generated helpful input from LEAs on space needs for community schools and schools serving communities with a concentration of poverty upcoming meetings will address proposed adjustments to the Gross Area Baselines. Finally, the IAC is working with the Department of Budget & Management to assist in the transition to being an Independent Unit of State Government. The office move to Camden Yards is projected to be in September.

2. Consent Agenda – [Motion Carried]

Upon a motion by Vice-chair Eberhart, seconded by Mr. Darenberg, the IAC voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approval of the May 11, 2023 Minutes

To approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023 Interagency Commission on School Construction Meeting.

B. Contract Awards

To approve contract procurement as presented.

C. Approval of Revisions to Previously Approved Contract

To approve the revisions to previously approved contract awards as presented to accurately reflect the project type, adjustments to the State and local participation in the contract amounts, and/or corrections to project allocation information.

3. FY 2024 Capital Budget & HB 458 Presentation – [Informational Only]

Cassandra Viscarra, Deputy Director for Administration, provided an overview of the FY 2024 Capital Budget and the provisions of House Bill 458.

4. Maximum State Allocation Revision and Built to Learn Program Funding Requests - Anne Arundel County Public Schools - Old Mill Middle School South Replacement – [Motion Carried]

Melissa Wilfong, IAC Capital Projects Supervisor, presented an increase to the Maximum State Allocation for the Anne Arundel County Public Schools' Old Mill Middle School South replacement project. The project's initial Built to Learn (BTL) funding was approved at the December 8, 2022 IAC meeting with a 50% State cost share. Due to recent amendments in statute that offer an incentive for schools that received a maintenance effectiveness rating of adequate and for which an average achieved lifespan of all systems in the school is at least 120% of the expected useful lifespan, the project is eligible to receive an increase in the State cost share percentage to 55%.

Upon a motion by Ms. Lawlah, seconded by Mr. Darenberg, the IAC voted unanimously to approve Anne Arundel County Public Schools' requests for the Old Mill Middle School South (PSC 02.133) Replacement project to amend the Maximum State Allocation to include the maintenance incentive of 5% for a revised Maximum State Allocation of \$34,264,000 and to allocate an additional \$3,115,000 of Built to Learn funding for a revised total allocation of \$34,264,000.

5. Maximum State Allocation and Built to Learn Program Funding Increase Requests - Baltimore County Public Schools - Lansdowne High School Replacement – [Motion Carried]

Gene Shanholtz, IAC Lead Capital Projects Manager, presented Baltimore County Public Schools' request to increase BTL funding for the Lansdowne High School replacement project due to bids being higher than anticipated because of market conditions and escalation of construction costs. Commission members asked for more description of the problem, and IAC staff explained that LEAs across the State have received numerous bids for projects that have seen an increase in costs.

Commission members requested further information on the soil condition on the site. IAC staff confirmed that Baltimore County has done the necessary testing and has confidence in the site location. The State does provide funding and support to conduct technical surveys of the land.

Upon a motion by Secretary Chaudhry, seconded by Secretary Flora, the IAC voted unanimously to approve Baltimore County Public Schools' requests for the Lansdowne High School replacement project to amend the Maximum State Allocation from \$86,589,000 to \$95,476,000, based upon bids received pursuant to COMAR 14.39.02.07C as reflected in the presented project worksheet and to allocate an additional \$8,887,000 of Built to Learn funding for a revised total allocation of \$95,476,000.

6. FY 2023 Capital Improvement Program Rescission and Built to Learn Program Funding Request - Montgomery County Public Schools - Parkland Middle School Addition – [Motion Carried]

Arabia Davis, IAC Fundings Programs Manager, presented Montgomery County Public Schools' request to rescind funding for the Parkland Middle School Addition project from the FY 2023 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and request funding through the Built To Learn program (BTL).

Upon a motion by Secretary Chaudhry, seconded by Vice-chair Eberhart, the IAC voted unanimously:

1. To approve rescission of \$367,000 allocated to the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Parkland Middle School (PSC 15.212) addition project in the FY 2023 Capital Improvement Program and transfer the rescinded funds to the LEA's reserve account; and
2. To approve a Built to Learn Program allocation of \$6,693,000 to MCPS for the addition project of 27,510 gross square feet at Parkland Middle School.

7. Built to Learn Program Funding Increases - Montgomery County Public Schools - Neelsville Middle School and Woodward High School – [Postponed]

This item has been postponed until the July 13, 2023 IAC meeting. Commission members remarked on the unique circumstances of these requests. The item will be separated into two items for further consideration and discussion.

8. FY 2022 Capital Improvement Program Project Rescission - Queen Anne's County Public Schools - Kennard Elementary School Roof – [Motion Carried]

Ms. Davis and Mr. Shanholtz presented Queen Anne's County Public Schools' (QACPS) request to rescind funding of the Kennard Elementary School roof replacement project due to higher than anticipated bid results and transfer those funds to the LEA's reserve account to be made available for the Kent Island High School roof replacement project, which also received high bids. QACPS plans to resubmit this project in a future fiscal year to request funding at a larger State share.

Commission Members requested information concerning Kent Island High School project and the bids received there. IAC staff stated that the bids received for that project came in at \$75 - \$85 per square foot. Other LEAs are also receiving bids at \$70 - \$80 per square foot. Members asked if solar power is being considered on roof projects. At this time, specific roof projects have not been identified for solar during planning but the IAC is working with the Maryland Energy Administration to analyze and determine solar power opportunities. All major renovation and new construction projects are being assessed to determine the appropriateness of solar panels during project design.

Upon a motion by Ms. Lawlah, seconded by Vice-chair Eberhart, the IAC voted unanimously to approve the rescission of the FY 2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding approval of \$663,000 for the Queen Anne's County Public Schools (QACPS) Kennard Elementary School (PSC 17.012) roof replacement project and transfer of the rescinded funds to the LEA's reserve account.

9. FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program Amendment - Frederick County Public Schools - Brunswick Middle School Roof – [Motion Carried]

Ms. Davis presented an amendment to the FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program to increase the State allocation for the Brunswick Middle School Roof project by \$38,000, using funds from the LEA's reserve account.

Upon a motion by Mr. Darenberg, seconded by Secretary Chaudhry, the IAC voted unanimously to approve an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) allocation for the Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) Brunswick Middle School (PSC 10.055) Roof project to increase funds by \$38,000 from the FCPS Reserve Account, thereby increasing the State Share from \$494,000 to \$532,000

10. FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program Amendment - St. Mary's County Public Schools - Chopticon High School Renovation – [Motion Carried]

Ms. Davis presented an amendment to the FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to include local planning approval for the Chopticon High School limited renovation project. The project eligibility was confirmed after the FY 2024 CIP was approved at the May 11, 2023 IAC meeting.

Upon a motion by Secretary Flora, seconded by Vice-chair Eberhart, the IAC voted unanimously to approve an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to include Local Planning (LP) approval for the Chopticon High School limited renovation project.

11. FY 2022 Healthy School Facility Fund Project Cancellations – [Motion Carried]

Ms. Davis presented the cancellation of three Healthy School Facility Fund (HSFF) projects, in Allegany County Public Schools (ACPS), Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS), and the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB). ACPS's Beall Elementary plumbing project was addressed with local funds. FCPS addressed the Thurmont Elementary roof project as part of the FY 2023 and 2024 CIP limited renovation project. MSB's roof project is ineligible for State funding as the project was completed without Minority Business Enterprise participation and so became ineligible for State funding.

Commission members asked if elevated lead levels were resolved at Beall Elementary, and IAC staff confirmed that the LEA had replaced fixtures and installed filters to address the lead issue.

Upon a motion by Mr. Darenberg, seconded by Vice-chair Eberhart, the IAC voted unanimously to approve the rescission of three FY 2022 Healthy School Facility Fund projects as presented totaling \$1,277,155 and transfer of the funds to the Statewide HSFF Reserve Account. These funds will be combined with funding available for the FY 2024 HSFF Program.

12. FY 2023 Healthy School Facility Fund Project Approvals - Baltimore City Public Schools – [Motion Carried]

Mr. Shanholtz presented Baltimore City Public Schools request for \$20 million for Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning projects.

Upon a motion by Ms. Lawlah, seconded by Vice-chair Eberhart, the IAC voted unanimously to approve Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools) Fiscal Year 2023 Healthy School Facility Fund (HSFF) project allocations as presented totaling \$20,000,000 of funds provided through the FY 2023 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning projects.

13. Pass-Through Grant Funding Approval - Kent County - Kent County High School – [Motion Carried]

Ms. Davis presented Kent County Public Schools' request to accept a late Pass-Through Grant application for the Kent County High School stadium lighting project totaling \$18,459.

Upon a motion by Mr. Darenberg, seconded by Vice-chair Eberhart, the IAC voted unanimously to accept a late application from Kent County and to apply \$18,459 from the Pass-Through Grant program (PTG) for the Kent County High School Stadium Lighting project, subject to reconciliation and potential adjustment at project closeout.

Announcements:

There were no announcements.

Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Ms. Lawlah, with a second by Secretary Flora, the IAC voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m.