

2024 Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Annual Report

Environment Article Section 6-810(c)

Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission
Maryland Department of the Environment

April 2, 2025



STATE OF MARYLAND

Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission

February 27, 2025

The Honorable Wes Moore
Governor
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Bill Ferguson
President
Senate of Maryland
State House, H-107
Annapolis Maryland 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
State House, H-101
Annapolis Maryland 21401

Dear Governor Moore, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones:

On behalf of the Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission (Commission), please accept this letter as the Commission's Annual Report for the calendar year 2024, as required by Environment Article, § 6-810(c), Annotated Code of Maryland. The Commission, established under Environment Article Title 6, Subtitle 8, advises the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), the legislature, and the Governor regarding lead poisoning prevention in Maryland and specifically the Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing Law.

During the 2024 Legislative Session, the Commission reviewed, discussed, and monitored several bills:

- HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling: Known as "Rudy's Law." The bill requires that beginning January 1, 2025, manufacturers of baby food shall conduct certain testing on baby food for toxic heavy metals before packaging individual units of baby food for sale or distribution in the state and require, beginning January 1, 2026, manufacturers of baby food to make certain information related to the testing and a link to certain guidance and information publicly available on the manufacturer's website and to include the test results or a certain code on the baby food product label. The bill was passed and approved by the Governor.
- HB0241/SB0308 - Housing and Community Development - Just Community Designation: This bill prioritizes existing state funding from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) going to "Just Communities." This bill authorizes the Governor, on the recommendation of the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), to designate certain areas as "Just Communities" based on certain criteria and provide for the prioritization of state funding for

“Just Communities” to increase racial, economic and health equity. The bill was passed and approved by the Governor.

- HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation: This bill included provisions that would double the fees for registration per unit annually from \$30 to \$60 for pre-1978 residential rental properties (Affected Properties). The fee of \$120 would be due every two years. This bill did not pass.
- HB0351/SB0361 - Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2024 and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023: This bill would increase the special loan program to four million dollars. This bill would authorize the creation of a state debt in the amount of \$1,792,830,000. The proceeds to be used for certain necessary building, construction, demolition, planning, renovation, conversion, replacement, and capital equipment purchases of the state, for acquiring certain real estate in connection therewith, and for grants to certain subdivisions and other organizations for certain development and improvement purposes; etc. The bill did not pass.
- HB0864 - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans: This bill would require each electric company, each gas company, and the DHCD to develop a plan for achieving certain energy efficiency, conservation, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets through certain programs and services and superseding certain existing energy efficiency and conservation goals; require the Public Service Commission to establish a working group to study and make recommendations on extending certain program assistance to certain moderate-income households. This bill was passed and approved by the Governor.
- SB0481/HB0693 - Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024: This bill would limit the security deposit to one month's rent, which eliminates the practice of requiring the first and last month's rent. This bill also included an increase in maximum surcharges for certain eviction proceedings from \$8 to \$93 and prohibiting the district court from assigning the surcharge against a tenant, altering the priority and criteria in the Statewide Rental Assistance Voucher Program that are followed by the MD-DHCD and public housing agencies for providing vouchers and housing assistance payments to families. The bill was passed and approved by the Governor.
- SB0482/HB0694 - Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program (ENOUGH Act of 2024): This bill establishes the Governor's Office for Children and the Special Secretary of the Governor's Office for Children as the head of the Office; require the Special Secretary to chair the Children's Cabinet; require the Office to staff the Children's Cabinet; require the Children's Cabinet to meet not less than four times each year; require the Accountability and Implementation Board, in consultation with certain

departments, to submit a certain recommendation to the General Assembly by December 1, 2025. This bill was passed and approved by the Governor.

- **SB0983/HB1473 - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out:** This bill requires the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to establish a certain process to phase out on or before December 31, 2026, the use of lead or lead-based ammunition for hunting; and require the Department to establish a process to certify ammunition as nonlead ammunition. The bill did not pass.

During the 2024 Reporting Period, the Commission meetings included the following Presentations/Presenters:

- **Strategic Plan:** The Commission discussed goals and objectives for the Commission to prioritize during the 2024 calendar year. Members of the Commission agreed that work performed by the Commission should determine strategies that prioritize equity and public health when evaluating the impacts to children and families impacted by lead poisoning. Recommendations were made to seek assistance from, among others, medical and academic institutions, as well as health and housing agencies. During CY 2024, representatives from the Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital, local health departments, and agency representatives held an informational and education session where challenges to lead case management and follow-up were at the forefront. Discussions revolved around transportation, housing relocation, and sources that impact case managers.
- **Update on Housing Strategic Plan on Lead:** Commissioner Williams presented to the Commission on DHCD Strategic Plan Lead Remediation Priorities. Key highlights in his presentation included: Strategic Plan Overview, Lead Remediation Components, and Three Tactics.
- **Impact of Greenhouse Gas Dollars on Lead:** Michael McKnight, Senior Vice President with Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), presented to the Commission the potential exacerbation of lead hazards and exposure that Greenhouse Gas Reduction upgrades in housing may cause – thus calling for aligned efforts to reduce lead as part of that work. Mr. McKnight discussed the greenhouse gas reduction fund, a \$27 billion investment, and its three programs: Solar for All, National Clean Investment Fund, and Clean Community Investment Accelerator. Maryland applied for \$100 million under Solar for All to retrofit homes and multi-family units with solar and address housing deficiencies over five years. The National Clean Investment Fund aimed to fund net zero building projects through Green Banks, while the Clean Community Investment Accelerator targeted local lenders for energy efficiency retrofits.
- **MDE - Compliance and Enforcement:** Dr. Banks, Program Manager, MDE, Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP), presented to the Commission a comprehensive

update on compliance and enforcement activities for the first two quarters of fiscal year 2024.

- **FY2022 Report or Update from MDE:** Dr. Banks, Program Manager, LPPP presented a PowerPoint to the Commission on the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report for calendar year 2022. The presentation highlighted the following: Preliminary Statistical Report; At-Risk Children 0-72 Months Years Old by Jurisdiction; Number and Percent of Children 0-72 Months Tested for Lead and the Number Reported to Have Blood Lead Level ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ for Calendar Years 2019-2022.
- **Thriving Communities Update:** Commission Chair Ruth Ann Norton, Green & Healthy Homes Initiative, President and CEO (Chair Norton), reported that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded GHHI a 60 million dollar contract to provide technical assistance throughout EPA Region 3. GHHI would provide Maryland with approximately 3.5 million dollars per year for two years, which will go to non-profit groups that work on lead remediation, stormwater issues, environmental issues, etc. The money is intended to build the capacity of the non-profit groups to address environmental issues. **GHHI was awarded these Cooperative Agreements in the summer of 2024.**
- **Presentation on Young, Gifted, and Green (YGG) Lead Poisoning Prevention Community-Outreach Model:** LaTrecia Adams, founder of YGG, presented a PowerPoint to the Commission. Ms. Adams discussed the efforts being made on lead safe service lines and work happening in Memphis, Tennessee, on lead that was recently covered by The Washington Post. Highlights in the presentation included: History of YGG, Canvassing/Door Knocking Campaign, Shop Talks, Black and Brown Alliance, and the YGG Model.
- **Update on Implementation of new Blood Lead Reference Level:** Commissioner Dr. Mitchell, Director of Environmental Health, Maryland Department of Health (MDH), presented on efforts to revise clinical practice guidelines for lead exposure, Maryland's adoption of the 3.5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ blood-lead reference value introduced by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and needed clinical community education.
- **Lead Funding/Unit Production:** Katherine Taylor, Director of the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development BC-DHCD, presented the status of grants administered by the BC-DHCD, including unit production, challenges, and solutions.
- **Story Map Initiative - Mapping Statewide Efforts in Housing, Equity, and Lead Prevention:** Commissioner Dr. Mitchell recommended that MD-DHCD, MDE, and MDH review statewide activities, including those in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, related to housing, Medicaid programs, and more. He suggested creating a story map focused on

housing, equity, and lead, to showcase the state's extensive efforts in these areas, emphasizing both human surveillance and lead prevention. Commissioner Williams and Tyler Abbott, former Director of the Land and Materials Administration (LMA) from MDE, noted that this idea aligns well with both the agencies' ongoing "Just Communities" and "Environmental Justice" work.

- **MDE - Compliance and Enforcement:** Dr. Banks Program Manager, LPPP presented on MDE's Compliance and Enforcement. Dr. Banks highlighted the following: Number of Estimated Rental Units in Maryland; MDE Registered Properties by County; Administrative Actions & Penalties; Compliance Inspections; Environmental Investigations.
- **EPA's New Lead Screening Levels for Soil and Play Areas:** Dr. Banks, Program Manager, LPPP, presented on EPA's newly released guidance for levels of lead in soil. Highlights included: Lower exposure levels, soil screening standards, and EPA Guidance Documents and Strategies.
- **Aviation Gas:** Commissioner Dr. Paul Rogers from the Maryland Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP) informed the Commission that the state of California recently passed a law that outlawed aviation gas. He raised the question of what the state of Maryland plans to do regarding aviation gas. Mr. Banks indicated that in 2023, MDE briefly began discussions on the subject, but there has not been any progress on the matter.
- **Lead Poisoning Prevention Week 10/20/24 - 10/26/24:** Commissioners and guests shared their successes on Maryland's celebration of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. A review of activities, which included press events, community events, and a social media campaign, transpired during the week.
- **Update on Just Communities:** Catherine Goughnour from MD-DHCD introduced the new Division of Just Communities, established under the Just Communities Act signed in April 2024. This goal is to identify "just communities"—areas in Maryland historically impacted by racial segregation, disinvestment, and environmental hazards. The designation will help prioritize state funding to improve racial, economic, and health equity. To determine these areas, MD-DHCD will analyze various indicators, including property values, housing conditions, and health risks. They are collaborating with local universities and utilizing federal tools like EPA's screening methods to refine this "just communities" map.
- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Revision to Elevated Blood Lead (EBLL):** Chair Norton explained that HUD intended to revise its EBLL thresholds to meet the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) "Reference" level of 3.5 for children under the age of six, consistent with the CDC standards of reference level and there would be an impact of moving to 3.5ug/dL. Chair Norton encouraged those at the Commission to send in comments to HUD.

- **EPA's efforts on "Get the Lead Out" Campaign:** EPA Region 3, Environmental Justice Coordinator Carol Ann Gross-Davis presented an update on the Lead and Copper Rule; Get the Lead Out (GLO); Targeting Lead Exposure 'Hotspots' as a Whole-of-Government Priority; and Novel pilot project to increase Blood Lead testing screening.
- **EPA Lead Dust Standards Update:** Wes Stewart, Senior Advisor and General Counsel/Maryland Programs Director for GHHI, gave a presentation on EPA's changes to dust lead standards (that are not attempting to be repealed by the current House of Representatives).

The 2024 meeting agendas and approved meeting minutes may be found on the Commission website:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/land/leadpoisoningprevention/pages/lppcommission.aspx>.

During the 2024 Reporting Period, the Commission created the following subcommittees and/or workgroups:

- **Legislation Subcommittee:** The Commission's Legislative Subcommittee for 2024 included the following individuals:
 - Commissioner Williams
 - Commissioner Manjula Paul, Nurse Consultant for MSDE OCC
 - Commissioner Anna Davis, Attorney for Counsel Gordon, Wolf & Carney, Chtd.
 - Mr. Abbott
 - Commissioner Dr. Rogers
 - Commissioner Jacob Benzaquen, President of JBZ Management
 - Commissioner Adam Skolnik, Executive Director for the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, Inc. (MMHA)
- **Strategies for Reducing Application Fees and Rental Obstacles Work Group:** Chair Norton discussed with Delegate Boyd Rutherford the issue of excessive rental property application fees, particularly for low-income individuals, which often amount to hundreds of dollars and are non-refundable, leading to financial strain. GHHI explored the possibility of establishing a fund to assist low-income individuals, but Chair Norton believes implementing a universal rental application for Maryland would be more effective in helping families in need of housing. She formed a work group to discuss application fees and rental barriers being faced in order to produce recommendations and suggestions to present to the Commission. This workgroup meeting included the Commissioners and guests listed below.
 - Angela Perry Hall, Case Manager-Family Advocate for GHHI
 - Chair Norton
 - Commissioner Moore
 - Mr. Stewart

- Commissioner Dr. Mitchell
 - Commissioner Williams
 - Commissioner Skolnik
 - Commissioner Benzaquen
- **Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) Contractor Education Workgroup:** Chair Norton asked Commissioner Susan Kleinhammer, President of Leadtec Services, Inc. (LSI), to convene discussions with Chair Norton and Commissioner Skolnik to discuss the MHIC Contractor Education Fees. Included in the workgroup were the following Commissioners and guests:
 - Commissioner Kleinhammer
 - Chair Norton
 - Commissioner Skolnik

Commissioner Kleinhammer met with the workgroup and reported to the Commission that contacting the MHIC should be delayed until after the current legislative session.

- **Lead Testing Kit Public Announcement Workgroup:** Commissioner Kleinhammer raised a concern regarding the unavailability of the lead testing kits typically utilized by contractors in the Residential Rehabilitation Program. Many property owners resorted to using non-approved lead check spot test kits, which are not accurate or endorsed. Commissioner Montgomery highlighted that 3M has ceased production of their lead check swabs due to a banned chemical. Dawn Joy, Training Division Manager for Aerosol Monitoring & Analysis, Inc. (AMA), confirmed this and stated that 3M discontinued production in October 2023. The only EPA-approved alternative was manufactured by D-Lead, though it is in short supply. Chair Norton proposed that Chevelle Bash, Outreach and Education Manager for GHHI, head up a workgroup with the individuals listed below. The subcommittee members collaborated to develop a public service announcement to inform homeowners and the contractor community about the sole EPA-approved lead swab available.
 - Ms. Bash
 - Chair Norton
 - Commissioner Montgomery
 - Ms. Joy
 - Chris White, Program Manager for Arc Environmental, Inc. (ARC)

Ms. Bash reported that a public announcement would be announced multiple times in 2024.

- **Rental Applications-Obstacles and Application Fees- Workgroup Updates:** Ms. Hall reported that the workgroup came up with some ideas to improve the situation. One possibility would be to waive the application fees for the Healthy Choice voucher participants. The workgroup also worked on a SharePoint with the homes that are lead-free to be able to share with the clients so they could have access to places that would be suitable for them.

- **Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (BC- DHCD)**
HUD Grant: BC-DHCD applied for the HUD Lead Hazard Reduction Program Grant (FR-6800-N-13) and requested a letter of support from the Commission to strengthen their application. If awarded, funding would enable them to implement comprehensive lead hazard reduction activities that would significantly benefit vulnerable populations, particularly children and families residing in older homes with lead-based paint hazards. Chair Norton provided a letter of support to Ms. Taylor on behalf of the Commission “Lead Commission LOS.pdf”

During the 2024 Reporting Period, the Commission had the following membership updates and changes:

- Throughout the year, the Commission made several efforts to ask the Senate and House to appoint representatives to the Commission due to the regular absences of the current appointees. In October, the Senate appointed Senator Mary Washington to replace Senator Carter on the Commission. The Commission still needs representation from the House.
- Newly appointed Commissioners: Commissioner Hart, Naadia Hutchinson, Alexandra Nestadt, Nicola Tran, Commissioner Banks, Dr. Michael Ichniowski
- Commissioner Resignations: Commissioner Dr. Rogers, Jack Daniels

Commission Awards:

Yearly, the Commission recognizes excellence, innovation, and leadership from within the Lead Poisoning Prevention community. The Commission members voted amongst the nominees previously submitted, and the following nominees received an award:

During the 2024 Reporting Period, the following individuals received awards from the Commission:

- Wendy Boone, Outstanding Child Health Environmental Advocate Award 2024
- Delegate Sandy Rosenberg, Outstanding Advocate Award 2024
- Commissioner Kleinhammer, Special Recognition Award 2024

We appreciate the opportunity to update you on the Commission's work over the past year. We look forward to continuing our work in 2024 to further the Commission's vision of a Maryland in which all children are protected from the harmful effects of lead exposure.

Sincerely,



Ruth Ann Norton
Chair

Enclosed Addendum

Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission

Annual Report 2024

Addendum

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

1800 Washington Boulevard • Suite 610 • Baltimore Maryland 21230-1719

410-537-3304 • 800-633-6101 • www.mde.maryland.gov

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION January 4, 2024 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Approved Minutes

Members Present:

Benita Cooper	Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul
Anna Davis	Barbara Moore	Paul Rogers
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	Thelonious Williams

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Senator Jill Carter	Christina Peusch
Jacob Benzaquen	Paula Montgomery	Adam Skolnik

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE	Attilah Edges-MDE	Wendy Phillips-MDE
Adewole Adegborioye-MDE	Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Frederick Banks-MDE	Felicia Graves-MDE	Andrew Roelke-MDE
Chevelle Bash-GHHI	Jason Harding-BCDHCD	Tim Rule-MDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD	Aaron Sanzenbacher-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG	Steven Homola-BC-DHCD	Margret Schnitzer-BCHD
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE	Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD	Kevin Stanley-MDE
Jack Daniels-MD-DHCD	Christopher Johnson-GES	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Christopher Denbleyker-MDE	Eunice Johnson-GES	Lori Tantlinger-JHU
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Samantha Keane-MDE	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
William Doyle-HCHD	Wade McCord-MDE	Kira Videan-MDE
Shamola Dye-MDE	Angela Perry-Hall-GHHI	Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Approved Agenda 240104
- Draft Minutes 231207

Welcome and Introductions:

The Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission (Commission) Chair, Ruth Ann Norton, called the meeting to order at 9:45 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Norton extended a warm welcome to everyone attending the January 4, 2024 Commission meeting. She emphasized the significance of maintaining the Commission's clear purpose as it enters the new calendar year. During this year, the Commission members and guests should aim to update its strategic plan, ensuring alignment with the needs of various stakeholder communities. Additionally, she highlighted the Commission's commitment to securing resources for the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) so these state departments can focus on preventive measures through education during the legislative session. Chair Norton also highlighted that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently enlisted the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) to spearhead a \$50 million fund aimed at enhancing environmental justice and addressing issues related to healthy housing in Region 3. The exciting aspect of this opportunity lies in collaborating with various organizations across the state that can contribute their expertise. GHHI will be actively seeking out such organizations to identify areas where it can make a positive impact and enhance capacity throughout Maryland.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Barbara Moore to amend the December 7, 2023 minutes. All present Commissioners were in favor of the amendments; the amended minutes were approved.

Amendments:

- “Steward” was changed to “Stewart” under Agency Hot Topics/Current Events for GHHI.
- “November 7” was changed to “November 2” under the Approval of Minutes section.

Old & New Business:

- **Commission Membership:** Chair Norton provided an update, stating that on January 3, 2024, she met with Delegate Robbyn Lewis. During the meeting, Delegate Lewis expressed her intention to explore the House's ability to appoint a potential replacement for Delegate Dalya Attar if she decides to step down from the Commissioner role. In addition, Senator Jill Carter verbally confirmed with Chair Norton that she couldn't continue serving on the Commission. Chair Norton formally requested Senator Bill Ferguson to appoint a new member from a Senate Committee. The Commission intends to ensure that the vacant appointments will be filled.
- **EPA Technical Assistance Center Presentation:** Chair Norton contacted the University of Maryland, Sacoby Wilson Group to request a representative attend the January 2024 Commission meeting and give a presentation on the EPA Technical Assistance Center. Unfortunately, a representative was unable to attend. Chair Norton gave some brief background information on the topic and indicated that she will work to reschedule the presentation for a future date.
- **Strategic Plan:** Chair Norton, alongside the Commissioners and guests, explored potential strategies for the Commission in the upcoming 2024 calendar year. Dr. Mitchell proposed that the Commission focus on strategies that prioritize equity and public health impacts. It was emphasized to take into account the varying effects of different lead levels and to identify areas with high lead concentrations, even if the impact on children is minimal. Dr. Mitchell recommended that state departments explore alternative strategies, evaluating their cost and effectiveness. Additionally, seeking assistance from academic institutions and experts was suggested, with the possibility of having these experts attend future Commission meetings to discuss and provide insights on potential strategies. Chair Norton and Dr. Mitchell will work together over the upcoming months to put together a panel of experts that can

come speak to the Commission. Also during the meeting, the Commission discussed ways to help the public and other agencies like Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, The Maryland State Department of Education's (MSDE) Office of Child Care (OCC), and others. Commissioner Moore suggested ways the Commission could assist, focusing on the challenges faced by low-income families seeking lead-free housing. She stressed the need for a practical government-established certification and registry system, accessible through a website, listing lead-free homes. This would streamline the process for families, preventing them from applying to multiple places without certainty about lead-free options. Nicole Hart from the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (BC-DHCD) shared a link to the BC-DHCD portal, which already provides some relevant information that the public could use: The link to the Baltimore City Department of Housing & Community Development Property License and Registration Search can be accessed here:

https://cels.baltimorehousing.org/reg/Reg_MFD_Search.aspx. BC-DHCD also provided a helpful link to the Baltimore Service Line Partnership Lead and Copper Rule Revision Program Frequently Asked Questions: https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/LCRR.FAQs_.pdf

- **Legislation Subcommittee:** The Commission's Legislative Subcommittee for 2024 will include the following individuals: Theo Williams, Manjula Paul, Anna Davis, Tyler Abbott, Paul Rogers, Jacob Benzaquen, and Adam Skolnik.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Tyler Abbott, Director for MDE's Land and Materials Administration, reminded the Commission that MDE has federal funding for lead service line replacements. Some of that money is available for the survey's themselves. MDE will be working with GHHI on advancing the Climate Plan. MDE will now be conducting environmental investigations based on 3.5 blood lead reference value and now with the lower level MDE expects to see a tremendous increase in the number of investigations.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Dr. Mitchell informed the Commission that MDH continues to work with MDE on all issues related to lead and the new implementation of the 3.5 blood lead reference value. Dr. Mitchell also introduced Dr. Lori Tantlinger who is MDH's new preventative medicine resident from Johns Hopkins and who will be working with Dr. Mitchell and MDE on outreach to providers. Additionally, discussions are underway regarding how many kids were affected by the contaminated applesauce. MDH and MDE will continue to remind people about the dangers of other sources of lead such as in food products.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Commissioner Theo Williams reported that MD-DHCD is still waiting to hear back from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 02/01/24, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Presentation: “How people can more readily report on things that are in products (not related to lead in paint, water, or soil)” (FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner)
- Commission Membership Updates (Wendy Phillips)
- 2024 Commission Meeting Calendar Discussion/Motion to vote (Commissioners)
- 2024 Commission Reporting Calendar (Commissioners)
- Update on Housing Strategic Plan on Lead (MD-DHCD Theo Williams/Jack Daniels)
- Impact of Greenhouse Gas Dollars on Lead (Michael McKnight/Cynthia Herrera)
- Legislation Updates (Subcommittee)

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:00a.m.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

February 1, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen	Paula Montgomery	Christina Peusch
Benita Cooper	Barbara Moore	Paul Rogers
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	Adam Skolnik
Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul	Thelonious Williams

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Anna Davis	Senator Jill Carter
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Guests Present:

Adewole Adegborioye-MDE	Attilah Edges-MDE	Tiffeny Price-MDH
Chevelle Bash-GHHI	Sheneka	Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD	Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE	Eunice Johnson-GES	Tim Rule-MDE
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE	Dawn Joy-AMA	Stephanie Soper-ARC
Christopher Denbleyker-MDE	Wade McCord-MDE	Kevin Stanley-MDE
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Michael McKnight-GHHI	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
William Doyle-HCHD	Angela Perry-Hall-GHHI	Lori Tantlinger-JHU
Shamola Dye-MDE	Wendy Phillips-MDE	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
		Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Cover Page
- Approved Agenda 240201
- Draft Minutes 240104
- MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Membership
- Meeting Schedule 2024
- MDE Lead Commission Reporting Calendar 2024
- LPPC Strategic Plan Presentation

Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton, President of the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) and Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Norton extended a warm welcome to everyone attending the February 4, 2024 Commission meeting. Chair Norton emphasized the importance of identifying lead-free housing for children who have been poisoned and need relocation, as well as preventing poisoning in children. Chair Norton discussed the below items and would like further action on the items listed:

- **Educational Programs:** Chair Norton indicated that she would like to invite the Maryland Home Improvement Commission to a future Commission meeting in order to have discussions regarding educational programs.
- **Three Workgroup Meetings:**
 - **Strategies for Reducing Application Fees and Rental Obstacles Work Group:** Chair Norton plans to discuss with Delegate Boyd Rutherford the issue of excessive application fees, particularly for low-income individuals, which often amount to hundreds of dollars and are non-refundable, leading to financial strain. GHHI plans on exploring the possibility of establishing a fund to assist low-income individuals, but Chair Norton believes implementing a universal rental application for Maryland would be more effective in helping families in need of housing. She proposed forming a work group to discuss application fees and rental barriers being faced in order to come up with recommendations and suggestions to present to the Commission. Chair Norton would like the work group to meet prior to the March Commission meeting and provide an update on progress at the March meeting. Wendy Phillips was tasked with setting up this workgroup meeting which will include the below listed Commissioners and guests. The meeting was scheduled for 03/06/24 at 12 p.m.
 - Angela Perry Hall, Case Manager-Family Advocate for GHHI
 - Chair Norton
 - Barbara Moore, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner for the Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital and Commissioner
 - West Stewart, Senior Advisor and General Counsel/Maryland Programs Director for GHHI
 - Dr. Clifford Mitchell, Bureau Director for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and Commissioner
 - Theo Williams, Special Assistant for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) and Commissioner
 - Adam Skolnik, Executive Director for the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, Inc. (MMHA) and Commissioner
 - Jacob Benzaquen, President of JBZ Management and Commissioner
 - **MHIC Contractor Education Workgroup:** Chair Norton asked Susan Kleinhammer, President of Leadtec Services, Inc. (LSI) and Commissioner to convene discussions with Chair Norton and Commissioner Skolnik to discuss the Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) Contractor Education Fees. Included in the workgroup are the following Commissioners and guests:
 - Commissioner Kleinhammer
 - Chair Norton
 - Commissioner Skolnik

- **Lead Testing Kit Public Announcement Workgroup:** Commissioner Kleinhammer raised a concern regarding the unavailability of the lead testing kits typically utilized by contractors in the Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP). Many property owners have resorted to using non-approved lead check spot test kits, which are not accurate or endorsed. Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for the Maryland Department of the Environment's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP) and Commissioner, highlighted that 3M has ceased production of their lead check swabs due to the presence of a banned chemical. Dawn Joy, Training Division Manager for Aerosol Monitoring & Analysis, Inc. (AMA), confirmed this and stated that 3M discontinued production in October 2023. Currently, the only EPA-approved alternative is manufactured by D-Lead, though it is in short supply. Chair Norton proposed that Chevelle Bash, Outreach and Education Manager for the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) head up a workgroup with the individuals listed below collaborate to develop a public service announcement to inform homeowners and the contractor community about the sole EPA-approved lead swab available.
 - Chevelle Bash
 - Chair Norton
 - Commissioner Montgomery
 - Dawn Joy
 - Chris White, Program Manager for Arc Environmental, Inc. (ARC)

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Moore to accept the January 4, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Presentation: “How people can more readily report on things that are in products (not related to lead in paint, water, or soil)”:** The FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner was unable to attend the meeting and will be scheduled for a future date.
- **Commission Membership Updates:** Wendy Phillips, Executive Associate III for the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Land and Materials Administration (LMA) provided a brief update to the Commission that there are currently two position confirmations that are awaiting approval from the Governor's Appointment Office and the Commission currently has four vacant positions. Commissioner Skolnik indicated that he will help find qualified candidates for the “Representative of a child health or youth advocacy group”.
- **Ethics Financial Filings:** Commissioner Dr. Mitchell reminded the Commission that the ethics financial filings are currently in the open period. Individuals who are required to submit their information will receive communication from the State Ethics Board.
- **2024 Commission Meeting Calendar Discussion:**
 - The following items were added to the agenda for the March Commission meeting:
 - Workgroup Updates
 - Strategies for Reducing Application Fees and Rental Obstacles Workgroup Updates (Angela Perry Hall)
 - MHIC Contractor Education Workgroup Updates (Susan Kleinhammer)
 - Lead Testing Kit Public Announcement Workgroup (Chevelle Bash)
 - Thriving Communities Update (Ruth Ann Norton)

- FDA Presentation: “How people can more readily report on things that are in products (not related to lead in paint, water, or soil)” (FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner)
 - The following items were added to the agenda for the April Commission meeting:
 - Educational Programs (Maryland Home Improvement Commission)
- **2024 Commission Reporting Calendar:** The Commission reviewed the meetings for the 2024 calendar year and voted to make changes. The Commission will no longer be breaking for June but will now meet in the community at a place to be determined. The Commission meeting breaks will now include December. Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to approve the new schedule seconded by Chair Norton and all present Commissioners were in favor of the changes.
- **Update on Housing Strategic Plan on Lead:** Theo Williams, Special Assistant for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) and Commissioner presented to the Commission on MD-DHCD Strategic Plan Lead Remediation Priorities. A copy of the powerpoint presentation was provided to the Commissioners and guests prior to the meeting. Key highlights in his presentation included: Strategic Plan Overview, Lead Remediation Components, and Three Tactics.
- **Impact of Greenhouse Gas Dollars on Lead:** Michael McKnight, Senior Vice President of National Programs with the GHFI presented to the Commission on the impact of greenhouse gas dollars on lead. Michael McKnight discussed the greenhouse gas reduction fund, a \$27 billion investment, and its three programs: Solar for All, National Clean Investment Fund, and Clean Community Investment Accelerator. Maryland applied for \$100 million under Solar for All to retrofit homes and multi-family units with solar and address housing deficiencies over five years. The National Clean Investment Fund aims to fund net zero building projects through Green Banks, while the Clean Community Investment Accelerator targets local lenders for energy efficiency retrofits. Challenges include lead exposure risks during retrofit activities and potential contractor shortages for lead work due to increased demand for energy retrofits.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates

- [HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation](#): This bill would double the fees for registration per unit annually from \$30 to \$60. The fee of \$120 would be due every two years. Additionally, the bill would authorize the Department of the Environment to charge a fee for processing and issuing on-site sewage disposal permits and individual well construction permits under certain circumstances; authorize the Department to establish a certain fee for the Responsible Personnel Training Program Certification; require a holder of a license to transfer oil into the state to pay a certain fee when oil owned by the licensee is first transferred into the state; and establish the Private Dam Repair Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; etc. Chair Norton recommended that a letter of support be sent to the House and Senate. Commissioner Moore made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Ruth Ann Norton. Abstentions were as follows: Commissioner Dr. Mitchell, Commissioner Montgomery, and Commissioner Williams. All other present Commissioners were in agreement.
- [HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling](#): This bill would require that all baby food be tested by the manufacturer monthly. This bill would require, beginning January 1, 2025, manufacturers of baby food to conduct certain testing on baby food for toxic heavy metals before packaging individual units of baby food for sale or distribution in the state; and require, beginning January 1, 2026, manufacturers of baby food to make certain information related to the testing and a link to certain guidance and information publicly available on the manufacturer's website and to include the test results or a certain code on the baby food product label.

- [HB0241/SB0308 - Housing and Community Development - Just Community Designation](#): This bill would prioritize existing state funding from MD-DHCD going to “Just Communities”. This bill would authorize the Governor, on the recommendation of the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, to designate certain areas as Just Communities based on certain criteria; and provide for the prioritization of State funding for Just Communities to increase racial, economic and health equity in the state. Chair Norton recommended that a letter of support be sent to the House and Senate. Commissioner Moore made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Christina Peusch, Executive Director of the Maryland State Child Care Association (MSCCA) and Commissioner. Abstentions were as follows: Commissioner Dr. Mitchell, Commissioner Montgomery, and Commissioner Williams. All other present Commissioners were in agreement.
- [HB0351/SB0361 - Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2024, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023](#): This bill would increase the special loan program to four million dollars. This bill would authorize the creation of a state debt in the amount of \$1,792,830,000, the proceeds to be used for certain necessary building, construction, demolition, planning, renovation, conversion, replacement, and capital equipment purchases of the state, for acquiring certain real estate in connection therewith, and for grants to certain subdivisions and other organizations for certain development and improvement purposes; etc.
- [SB0481/HB0693 - Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024](#): This bill would limit the security deposit to one month's rent. This would eliminate the first month's and last month's rent practice. This bill increasing maximum surcharges for certain eviction proceedings from \$8 to \$93 and prohibiting the district court from assigning the surcharge against a tenant; altering the priority and criteria in the Statewide Rental Assistance Voucher Program that are followed by the Department of Housing and Community Development and public housing agencies for providing vouchers and housing assistance payments to families; limiting the maximum security deposit required by a residential lease to 1 month's rent; etc.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Commissioner Dr. Mitchell wanted to give a shout out to the Washington County Health Department, the Frederick County Health Department, GHHI, MDE, DHCD, the employees at Medicaid, and MDH for their collaborative work on a case to help a family in need. MDE is implementing a new healthy homes and lead poisoning surveillance system to replace Stellar, the previous childhood lead registry. Meanwhile, MDH is collaborating with MDE and local health departments to ensure the successful rollout of this system at the local level. MDH aims to effectively utilize this system for case management, possibly replacing or integrating it with the existing Red Cap system used in MDH's home visiting program across 11 jurisdictions. Close coordination between MDH and MDE is crucial for the success of these efforts.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): Katherine Taylor, Director of the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (BC-DHCD) Lead Hazard Reduction Program reported that BC-DHCD has two grants still going. Its older grant is ending in March. BC-DHCD is expecting to do more unit production and off the quarter.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Chevelle Bash reported that GHHI is preparing for outreach events at several locations, including Head Start centers operated by the Y of Central Maryland in both Baltimore City and Baltimore County, scheduled for February and March. Additionally, GHHI will be conducting presentations for parents at Catholic Charities in Baltimore City. The Y of Central Maryland Head Starts hosts monthly parent meetings and has requested GHHI's presence to deliver presentations

on lead poisoning prevention, along with information on other available green and healthy homes initiative programs and services that parents may be eligible for. Chair Norton reported that GHHI is going to be in the workforce marketplace posting significant jobs as it expands some of its work for thriving communities including a project director for the 50 million dollar grant fund. GHHI has position openings in policy. Also GHHI intends to expand openings around its intake and community engagement.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, June 1, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- FDA Presentation: “How people can more readily report on things that are in products (not related to lead in paint, water, or soil)” (FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner)
- MDE Annual Report Review for the governor (Paula Montgomery/Wendy Phillips)
- MDE - Compliance and Enforcement (Fred Banks)
- FY2022 Report or Update from MDE (Fred Banks) [FY21 Report](#) is found on MDE webpage
- WorkGroup Updates
 - Strategies for Reducing Application Fees and Rental Obstacles Workgroup Updates (Angela Perry Hall)
 - MHIC Contractor Education Workgroup Updates (Susan Kleinhammer)
 - Lead Testing Kit Public Announcement Workgroup (Chevelle Bash)
- Thriving Communities Update (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Legislation Update (Subcommittee)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION March 7, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen	Paula Montgomery	Christina Peusch
Anna Davis	Barbara Moore	Paul Rogers
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	Adam Skolnik
Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul	

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Senator Jill Carter	Benita Cooper
		Thelonious Williams

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE	Shamola Dye-MDE	Angela Perry-Hall-GHHI
Adewole Adegborioye-MDE	Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD	Wendy Phillips-MDE
Fred Banks-MDE	Felicia Graves-MDE	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Chevelle Bash-GHHI	Jason Harding-BCDHCD	Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD	Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE	Steven Homola-BCDHCD	Andrew Roelke-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG/MDE	Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD	Tim Rule-MDE
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE	Eunice Johnson-GES	Kevin Stanley-MDE
Leslie Delcid-MDE	Dawn Joy-AMA	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Jacqueline Kozari-MDH	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
William Doyle-HCHD	Wade McCord-MDE	Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Cover Page
- Agenda March 2024
- Draft Minutes 240201
- HPSCAN_20240306122734486_2024-03-06_122821939
- MDE_LC_Q1&Q2_FY24_PM
- LPPP Calendar Year 2022

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Susan Kleinhammer, seconded by Commissioner Dr. Paul Rogers to accept the February 1, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Welcome and Introductions:

Chair Ruth Ann Norton extended a warm welcome to everyone attending the March 7, 2024 Commission meeting.

Old & New Business:

- **FDA Presentation: “How people can more readily report on things that are in products (not related to lead in paint, water, or soil)” (FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner):** Chair Norton noted that the FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner was unable to attend as planned and she will continue to work to secure their participation in a future Commission meeting for the presentation.
- **MDE - Compliance and Enforcement:** Fred Banks presented a PowerPoint to the Commission, offering a comprehensive update on compliance and enforcement activities for the first two quarters of fiscal year 2024. The presentation, titled "MDE_LC_Q1&Q2_FY24_PM," was included in the meeting materials distributed to members and guests ahead of the session.
- **FY2022 Report or Update from MDE:** Mr. Banks presented a PowerPoint to the Commission, on the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report for calendar year 2022. The presentation, titled "LPPP Calendar Year 2022," was included in the meeting materials distributed to members and guests ahead of the session. The presentation highlighted the following: Preliminary Statistical Report; At-Risk Children 0-6 Years Old by Jurisdiction; Number and Percent of Children 0-72 Months Tested for Lead and the Number Reported to Have Blood Lead Level ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ for Calendar Years 2019-2022.
- **WorkGroup Updates**
 - **Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) Contractor Education Workgroup Updates:** Commissioner Susan Kleinhammer reported that contacting the MHIC should be delayed until after the current legislative session. Meanwhile, she discussed with Jason Hessler, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Housing Community Development in Baltimore City, a program launched several years ago that allows online permit applications for work in the city. She reminded Commissioner Hessler of the previous discussion of the possibility of the City requiring documentation of Renovation, Repair, or Painting (RRP) training upon permit issuance. Previously Commissioner Hessler was hesitant to add more requirements to the permit process due to the newness of the database and program. However, in the recent conversation, he provided language related to lead in Baltimore City's permit process, which was shared with the Commission prior to the meeting in the document titled ""HPSCAN_20240306122734486_2024-03-06_122821939."

- **Lead Testing Kit Public Announcement Workgroup:** Chevelle Bash reported that a draft of a public announcement is underway and should soon be finalized in order to be announced multiple times over the next few months.
- **Rental Applications-Obstacles and Application Fees- Workgroup Updates:** Angela Perry Hall reported that the workgroup came up with some ideas to improve the situation. One possibility would be to waive the application fees for the healthy choice voucher participants. The workgroup will also be working on a sharepoint with the homes that are lead-free to be able to share with the clients so they could have access to places that would be suitable for them.
- **Thriving Communities Update:** Ruth Ann Norton reminded the Commission that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded The Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) a 50 million dollar contract to provide technical assistance throughout EPA Region 3. GHHI plans to provide Maryland approximately 3.5 million dollars per year for two years which will go to non-profit groups that work on lead remediation, storm water issues, environmental issues, ect. The money is intended to build the capacity of the non-profit groups. The first grants will be awarded in the summer of 2024.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates

- [HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation](#): Tyler Abbott reported that the bill passed 2nd reader.
- [HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling](#): Wes Stewart reported that this bill still remains in committee and has not moved.
- [HB0351/SB0361 - Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2024, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023](#): Wes Stewart reported that there has not been any movement on this bill.
- [SB0482/HB4601 - Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households \(ENOUGH\) Grant Program \(ENOUGH Act of 2024\)](#): Tyler Abbott indicated that the Maryland Department of the Environment's legislative team reached out to the Governor's Office and confirmed that a community would be able to utilize funds for lead remediation or abatement if the project was within the Enough Act jurisdiction.
- [SB0983/HB1473 - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out](#): Wes Stewart reported that the hearing for this bill was held on February 27, 2024. The house version of the bill has been in the Rules Committee for over three weeks which may mean opposition to the bill.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Tyler Abbott reported that Request for Proposals (RFP) regarding funding that was made available by the Maryland legislature in 2023 for outreach and education and legal services is currently with the Office of the Attorney General for review. Once reviewed it will then go to the Office of State Procurement.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell reported that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced its concerns regarding lead in cinnamon. You can find more information on their website:
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-takes-steps-ensure-safety-cinnamon-products-sold-us>
- **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Dr. Paul Rogers reported that the New York Times had an article about the FDA which should be doing around 19k inspections a year of international products but only did 1,200.

- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul reported that she met with MDE's Lead team regarding new opener occupied or rental applications for child care operations. The meeting was productive and useful. OCC is making some changes to its application.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor reported that one of its grants is in the holding process. It still has its 2019 grant available and it is currently taking applications.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): JulieDiGirolamo reported that her team tested 59 children recently at their testing sites. BCHD will continue to do testing throughout the spring.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton reported that GHHI will be hiring 20 new people.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

Commissioner Norton informed the Commission that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) changed the National Healthy Homes month from June to April.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Commissioner Montgomery to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dr. Mitchell. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, April 4, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Educational Programs (Maryland Home Improvement Commission)
- Legislation Outcomes Next Steps

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

April 4, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Benita Cooper	Barbara Moore	Adam Skolnik
Anna Davis	Ruth Ann Norton	Thelonious Williams
Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul	
Paula Montgomery	Christina Peusch	

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Senator Jill Carter	Paul Rogers
Jacob Benzaquen	Susan Kleinhammer	

Guests Present:

Fred Banks-MDE	Angela Hall-GHHI	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Jason Harding-BCDHCD	Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE	Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD	Tim Rule-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG/MDE	Cynthia Herrera - GHHI	Nancy Servatius-MDH
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE	Steven Homola-BCDHCD	Anastasia Solano-MDE
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD	Kevin Stanley-MDE
William Doyle-HCHD	Eunice Johnson-GES	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Shamola Dye-MDE	Dawn Joy-AMA	Lori Tantlinger-JHU
Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MDE	Wade McCord-MDE	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Felicia Graves-MDE	Wendy Phillips-MDE	Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Agenda 240404
- Draft Meeting Minutes 240307

Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton, President of the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) and Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Norton extended a warm welcome to everyone attending the April 4, 2024 Commission meeting and gave some brief reminders about the National Healthy Homes Month and upcoming events and webinars. Additionally she announced organizational changes within GHHI, including promotions and new hires.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Theo Williams to accept the March 7, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates

Wes Stewart of GHHI gave an update on the following bills:

- [HB0351/SB0361 - Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2024, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023](#): The bill has passed in the Senate.
- [HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation](#): The bill passed in the house but has not yet passed the Senate.
- [HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling](#): The bill has passed both the House and the Senate.
- [SB0983/HB1473 - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out](#): The bill does not look like it will be passing as it has not moved out of the House or Senate.
- [SB0481/HB0693 - Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024](#): The bill has passed in the House.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Fred Banks, Program Manager of MDE's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, discussed ongoing collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health on adult lead issues as well as the Key Bridge clean up which has sparked inquiries, although lead isn't a primary concern. Dr. Banks also announced a partnership with MICA for a kids' calendar on lead safety. Each month, the calendar will cover a lead safety topic. Additionally, two posters were created for social media to promote lead safety.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell commended Dr. Nancy Servatius for her dedicated work since 2008 coordinating between public health departments and state agencies regarding lead exposure. He also expressed gratitude to Barbara Moore and Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital for their efforts in a complex lead exposure case. Dr. Mitchell acknowledged the increasing lead exposure cases possibly due to COVID-related deferred care and emphasized the ongoing collaborative efforts among agencies to address this issue. Additionally, he mentioned progress in lead poisoning surveillance and discussed plans to enhance information sharing among stakeholders while considering limited resources in health departments.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Commissioner, Manjula Paul from MSDE explained that the Office of Child Care (OCC) is collaborating with healthcare providers whose patients attend childcare in Maryland but were not tested for lead. They inform out-of-state healthcare providers whose patients come to Maryland childcare facilities and provide education on the importance of lead testing. The OCC emphasized the significance of early education and development, advocating for late lead testing for these children and working with interstate healthcare providers to facilitate the process.

- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Commissioner, Theo Williams, provided updates on DHCD initiatives, including an unsuccessful healthy homes production grant application and plans for future rounds. They're developing a revised handout to accurately detail what the lead remediation program covers, focusing on critical repairs rather than general remodeling. They're also examining the program holistically to improve efficiencies and are noticing increased application numbers, especially outside Baltimore city, which they're addressing accordingly.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton reported that May 7th, there will be the annual asthma Summit happening at Bowie State University.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, May 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

1. Educational Programs (Maryland Home Improvement Commission)
2. Update on Blood Lead Reference Level (MDE/MDH: Fred Banks/Cliff Mitchell)
3. Lead Funding/Unit Production (Baltimore City: Nicole Hart/Katherine Taylor)
4. Legislation Outcomes Next Steps

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

May 2, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Benita Cooper

Anna Davis

Susan Kleinhammer

Cliff Mitchell

Paula Montgomery

Barbara Moore

Ruth Ann Norton

Manjula Paul

Paul Rogers

Adam Skolnik

Thelonious Williams

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar

Jacob Benzaquen

Senator Jill Carter

Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Sandra-Public

LaTricea Adams-WHEJC

Fred Banks-MDE

Elyce Bloomfield-GHHI

Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE

Colin Choney-GHHI

Abby Cocke-GHHI

Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE

Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE

Jack Daniels-MD-DHCD

Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD

William Doyle-HCHD

Shamola Dye-MDE

Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MDE

Felicia Graves-MDE

Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD

Samantha

Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD

Eunice Johnson-GES

Dawn Joy-AMA

Wade McCord-MDE

Joy McFadden-Public

Angela Hall-GHHI

Tasha Peterson-Public

Wendy Phillips-MDE

DeShanette Ponzo-Brown-MDE

Tiffeny Price-MDH

Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD

Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD

Tim Rule-MDE

Nancy Servatius-MDH

Reva Smith-MWPH

Anastasia Solano-MDE

Kevin Stanley-MDE

George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI

Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD

Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Agenda 240502
- Draft Minutes 240404
- Young, Gifted & Green's Lead Service Line Replacement Community-Outreach Model
- Legislative Tracking 2024
- DHCD LHRP Lead Commission
- Lead Commission Presentation 5.2.24

Website links provided in Chat:

- MHIC Website EPA RRP Rule: <https://labor.maryland.gov/license/mhic/mhicepa.shtml>
- MHIC Website: Lead Paint FAQs – EPA RRP Rule Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) - Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing: <https://labor.maryland.gov/license/mhic/mhicfaqs.shtml>
- Biden Administration Announces \$3B in Funding For Lead Pipe Replacement: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-3-billion-lead-pipe-replacement-advance-safe>
- Lead Safe Housing For Kids Act BiPartisan Legislation: <https://chuygarcia.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-garcia-senators-durbin-and-young-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-protect-children-from-lead-poisoning>

Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton, President of the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) and Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

- **7th Annual Maryland Asthma Summit 2024:** Chair Norton and Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, Health Bureau Director for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) informed the Commission that the MDH will be hosting an Asthma Summit at Bowie State University on May 7, 2024. For those interested you can find more information at the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/7th-annual-maryland-asthma-summit-2024-tickets-883418377147?aff=erlexpmlt>.
- Chair Norton recommended a letter be sent to Secretary Tisha Edwards from the Governor's Appointments Office; Senator Bill Ferguson, President of the Senate; and Speaker Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the House, in order to encourage the lead commission member nominations for the House and Senate to move forward. Chair Norton hopes to have a meeting with MDE individuals to discuss the content of the letters and get them before the next commission meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), seconded by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell to accept the April 4, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Presentation on Young, Gifted and Green (YGG) Lead Poisoning Prevention**

Community-Outreach Model: LeTricia Adams founder of YGG, presented a PowerPoint to the Commission. The PowerPoint titled, “Young, Gifted & Green’s Lead Service Line Replacement Community-Outreach Model” was included in the meeting materials and is available on the Lead Commission web page. Ms. Adams discussed efforts being made on lead safe service lines and work happening in Memphis, Tennessee on lead that was recently covered by The Washington Post. Highlights in the presentation included: History of YGG; Canvassing/Door Knocking Campaign; Shop Talks; Black and Brown Alliance; and the YGG Model.

- **Update on Implementation of new Blood Lead Reference Level:** Commissioner, Dr. Cliff Mitchell provided an update and discussed MDH’s ongoing collaboration with the Green and Healthy Home Initiative (GHHI) to revise clinical practice guidelines, the adoption of a 3.5 µg/dL blood-lead reference value by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Maryland, increased physician inquiries, the need for clinical community education, and efforts to ensure providers receive necessary testing information.
- **Lead Funding/Unit Production:** Katherine Taylor, Director of the Lead Hazard Reduction Program for Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development Baltimore City (BC-DHCD), presented a PowerPoint to the Commission. The PowerPoint titled, “DHCD LHRP Lead Commission” was included in the meeting materials and available on the Lead Commission web page. Ms. Taylor discussed lead hazard reduction grants. Highlights in the presentation included: Purpose; Unit Production Progress; Funding; Challenges and Solutions; and Expansion of the Jurisdiction Area of 2019 Lead Grant.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates

The outcome of the tracked bills for the 2024 Legislative Session are listed below:

The following bills were passed and approved by the Governor:

- [HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling](#)
- [HB0241/SB308 - Housing and Community Development - Just Community Designation](#)
- [HB0693/SB0481 - Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024](#)
- [HB0864 - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans](#)
- [SB0482/HB0694 - Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households \(ENOUGH\) Grant Program \(ENOUGH Act of 2024\)](#)

The following bills did not pass:

- [HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation](#)
- [HB0351/SB0361 - Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2024, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.](#)
- [HB1473/SB0983 - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out](#)

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Commissioner, Manjula Paul, Nurse Consultant for the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), reported that the Office of Child Care (OCC) met with MDE to discuss funding for testing and replacing water service lines for lead. OCC gave MDE the addresses of the locations using public water or well water. Discussions are ongoing regarding the implementation of this project.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Theo Williams reported that MD-DHCD recently hired a new director for their building and energy programs, who used to be the director of energy programs. With this new director, MD-DHCD is now focusing more on improving homes as a whole. They are identifying homes that need energy upgrades and those that need critical repairs, and making sure both needs are met. Currently, MD-DHCD is looking at homes that received critical repairs and checking if they also need weatherization upgrades to save energy. They have committed four million dollars in grants to work with six counties that handle local weatherization. This helps identify homes with problems like lead or mold. If a home has these issues, the local weatherization agencies, which are also the housing departments, will help connect the homeowners with MD-DHCD. MD-DHCD will then help these homeowners enroll in their critical repair program to fix these problems first. After the repairs, the homes can then get weatherization upgrades. Of the six counties, MD-DHCD has agreements with four, and is still working on agreements with the other two. Lastly, HUD has acknowledged MD-DHCD's request for a debrief but has not scheduled any meetings yet. They will contact MD-DHCD to schedule these debriefs in the future.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Nicole Hart, Homeownership and Housing Preservation Deputy Commissioner for BC-DHCD reported that they have a program called the Emergency Mortgage and Homeowner Assistance Program. This program helps people with their mortgages, taxes, and water bills, especially after COVID-19. The money for this program comes from federal COVID-19 relief funds. BC-DHCD made some changes to the program. Now, they can give more than \$5,000 in help and can assist people earning up to 120% of the area median income (AMI). They can also help renters with their water bills. If you know someone who needs help, they can find the application on the BC-DHCD website.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Julie DiGirolamo, Director for BCHD, reported that the Greater Baltimore Asthma Alliance is having a meeting on May 17 at which time it will be going over results of the 2024 legislative session as well as any updates related to asthma.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, June 6, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- EPA Technical Assistance Center Presentation (University of MD Sacoby Wilson Group)
- Educational Programs (Maryland Home Improvement Commission)
- Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Wendy Phillips)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

June 6, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen
Benita Cooper
Anna Davis
Susan Kleinhammer

Cliff Mitchell
Paula Montgomery
Barbara Moore
Ruth Ann Norton

Manjula Paul
Christina Peusch
Adam Skolnik
Thelonious Williams

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar

Senator Jill Carter

Paul Rogers

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE
Fred Banks-MDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE
Denifah Bun-Tejan-MDE
Colin Choney-GHHI
Chris Corzine-OAG
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE
Jack Daniels-MD-DHCD
Samantha DiNatale-UMBC
William Doyle-HCHD
Shamola Dye-MDE

Attilah Edges-MDE
Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MDE
Felicia Graves-MDE
Angela Hall-GHHI
Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD
Steven Homola-BCDHCD
Naadiya Hutchinson-YGG
Samantha
Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD
Eunice Johnson-GES
Dawn Joy-AMA

Wendy Phillips-MDE
Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Johnette Richardson-GHHI
Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Tim Rule-MDE
Nancy Servatius-MDH
Sandra Simmons-GHHI
Anastasia Solano-MDE
Kevin Stanley-MDE
George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

Agenda 240606

Draft Minutes 240502

Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton, President of the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) and Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions. Chair Norton introduced Johnette Richardson, the new Senior Vice President of Maryland Programs at GHHI. Ms. Richardson will be taking over the responsibilities previously handled by Wes Stewart, then Senior Advisor and General Counsel/Maryland Programs Director for GHHI, allowing Mr. Stewart to concentrate on developing and advancing GHHI's legal services work.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, Health Bureau Director for the Maryland Department of the Health (MDH), seconded by Commissioner Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to accept the May 2, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Norton reported that GHHI is adding a "Thriving Communities" page to its website, which can be found at <https://www.greenandhealthyhomes.org/thrivingcommunities/>. This information will also be available on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website. GHHI will include details about regional technical assistance centers, which provide education and capacity-building support for organizations addressing lead issues and environmental concerns like water, soil, air, and paint. Chair Norton plans to invite the University of Maryland to a future meeting.

GHHI is launching a portal on August 1st for community organizations to apply for funding to support initiatives in environment, equity, health, climate, tenant counseling, and more. This effort is in partnership with Howard University, Delaware State, Children's National, and an 11-member Advisory Board. GHHI plans to share this information with Commissioners and the public.

There will be a series of meetings in Baltimore, including a substantial Region 3 visit to the Brooklyn Curtis Bay area in July, where lead issues will be a key topic. GHHI will provide updates on these events. The meeting will also discuss the federal Inflation Reduction Act resources and the Governor's "All of Government Climate Executive Order," which includes advancing a zero-emissions heating standard in buildings. This will impact rehabilitation programs as they transition from gas to electric systems.

The state of Maryland is pursuing funding for lead initiatives, and GHHI plans to collaborate with MDE to organize a robust Lead Poisoning Prevention Awareness Week in October. They also aim to engage various regions of the state, revisiting the asset and gap analysis conducted previously.

Old & New Business:

- **Story Map Initiative - Mapping Statewide Efforts in Housing, Equity, and Lead Prevention:**
Commissioner Dr. Mitchell recommended that the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD), MDE, and MDH review statewide activities, including those in Baltimore city and county, related to housing, medicaid programs, and more. He suggested creating a story map focused on housing, equity, and lead to showcase the state's extensive efforts in these areas, emphasizing both human surveillance and lead prevention. Commissioner Theo Williams, Special Assistant for MD-DHCD and Tyler Abbott, Director of the Land and Materials Administration (LMA) from MDE,

noted that this idea aligns well with both the agencies' ongoing "Just Communities" and "Environmental Justice" work. Chair Norton asked them to provide relevant updates on their work in September.

- **Commissioner membership updates and renewals:** Wendy Phillips, Executive Assistant to MDE's LMA, reminded the Commissioners whose term expires in September to please submit their application in order to continue serving as Commissioner to the Lead Commission. Applications can be submitted here: <https://govappointments.maryland.gov/>. If anyone has any recommendations they can submit recommendations here: <https://govappointments.maryland.gov/>.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Mr. Fred Banks, MDE's Program Manager for the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP), shared LPPP's recent reporting statistics. He also reported a significant increase in confirmed cases since the blood lead reference level was lowered to 3.5. MDE is working to inform parents about steps they can take while awaiting inspections.

University of Baltimore interns are helping with data cleaning, and MDE has sent an advisory letter to labs about missing information. MDE is also collaborating with Commissioner Dr. Mitchell to ensure labs provide timely data. The Outreach and Education Request for Proposal (RFP) closes on June 14, and MDE is preparing a new multi-year, multi-lab contract to improve sample processing.

MDE is working with the Water and Science Administration, daycare centers, and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) on lead in water lines. Additionally, MDE will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the "Maryland Lead Law." Also, MDE is hiring a new staff member to focus on pregnant women, adults, and occupational lead exposure. Chair Norton requested a dashboard to display all reporting numbers that can be shared with the Commission.

- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner Dr. Mitchell acknowledged the tremendous collaborative effort by individuals who provided housing for a family for over a month, allowing them to care for their child. The family has since relocated. He also shared a case study to illustrate the complexity of some of these situations.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Commissioner Williams reported that the Board of Public Works (BPW) approved MD-DHCD's new list of contractors. He also mentioned that after their debrief with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) about the grant funds they didn't receive, they learned that their score had notably improved from previous years. The meeting provided valuable insights to help them revise their application and collaborate with the right partners to secure funding for the upcoming grant.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Mr. Stewart reported that GHHI has been conducting training sessions for new homeowners, new homes, and rental property owners on lead safety practices and responsibilities. For the next meeting, he suggested that the Commission should discuss the EPA's recent reduction in lead screening levels for soil and play areas. Chair Norton requested that Mr. Stewart, Commissioner Dr. Mitchell, and Commissioner Manjula Paul, Nurse Consultant to MSDE's Office of Child Care (OOC) collaborate and present this information at the September meeting.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, September 5, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Annual Report, 2023 (Wendy Phillips)
- Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions (Wendy Phillips)
 - Nominations due 09/13/24 & Votes due 09/20/24
- Lead Commissioner Members Update (Wendy Phillips)
- MDE - Compliance and Enforcement (Fred Banks)
- Story Map Initiative - Mapping Statewide Efforts in Housing, Equity, and Lead Prevention (MD-DHCD, Tyler Abbott)
- EPA's New Lead Screening Levels for Soil and Play Areas (Wes Stewart, Manjula Paul, Dr. Cliff Mitchell)
- Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/20/24 - 10/26/24 (Commission)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION September 5, 2024 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen	Paula Montgomery	Christina Peusch
Benita Cooper	Barbara Moore	Paul Rogers
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	Adam Skolnik
Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul	

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Senator Jill Carter	Anna Davis
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Guests Present:

Fred Banks-MDE	Carlie Furtaw-GHHI	Wendy Phillips-MDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Felicia Graves-MDE	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Tameka Brown-BCHD	Angela Hall-GHHI	Andrew Roelke-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG	Steven Homola-BCDHCD	Tim Rule-MDE
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE	Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD	Nancy Servatius-MDH
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Carrie Johnson-Public	Kevin Stanley-MDE
Samantha DiNatale-UMBC	Eunice Johnson-GES	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
William Doyle-HCHD	Wade McCord-MDE	Chris White-ARC
Attilah Edges-MDE	Shadia Musa-GHHI	Thelonious Williams - MDH
Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MDE	Allie Nestadt - Public	

Documents Distributed:

- Agenda 290905
- Draft Minutes 240606
- Lead Commission LPPP Compliance and Enforcement Presentation Sept 2024
- Maryland Lead Commission PP Presentation-EPA Lead Soil Guidance Standards 9-5-24

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chair Ruth Ann Norton, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Adam Skolnik, Executive Director for the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, Inc. (MMHA) , seconded by Commissioner Barbara Moore, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital (MWPH) to accept the June 6, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Annual Report, 2023:** Wendy Phillips, Administrative Officer III for the Land and Materials Administration (LMA) of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) provided the location to the 2023 Commission Annual Report which can be found on the Lead Poisoning Prevention website at this link [here](#).
- **Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions:** Ms. Phillips reminded the Commission about the yearly Awards and Recognition. An award will be presented for three categories during the month of October. Ms. Phillips will circulate the nomination form via email to the Commissioners and ask for nominations by September 18, 2024. The Commissioners will then vote for their choice of recipients amongst the list of nominees submitted and send in their votes by September 24, 2024. During the October 03, 2024 meeting, the Commission will announce the recipients of the awards.
- **Lead Commissioner Members Update:** Ms. Phillips reminded those Commissioners, whose membership expires at the end of September 2024, to renew their membership using the online system from the Governor's Appointments Office: [Commissioner Reappointment Application Instructions & Online Application Submittal](#). Expirations are four years from the effective date of the statutory staggering date. Ms. Phillips previously provided an updated list of all current memberships and vacancies with its expirations dates which can also be found on the Lead Commission website under [MDE Membership Positions](#). Chair Norton asked that Ms. Phillips set up an orientation meeting between herself and the new Commissioners.
- **MDE - Compliance and Enforcement:** Fred Banks, Program Manager for MDE's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP) presented on MDE's Compliance and Enforcement. Mr. Banks highlighted the following: Title 6, Subtitle 8 of the MD Environment Article Presumptions and Requirements of a Rental Owner; Number of Estimated Rental Units in Maryland; Registered Properties by County; Administrative Penalties; Compliance Inspections; Environmental Investigations; Training and Oversight; Training Summary; and Types of Lead Certificates. The presentation slideshow can be found on the Lead Commission's website under "Meeting Materials" [here](#). Additional information pertaining to Inspection Certificates can be found at this link [here](#).
- **"Lead Safe" Definition and Workgroup:** Chair Norton asked the Commission to provide feedback on their understanding of the term "Lead Safe" and whether it would be helpful for the state to establish a "Lead Safe" standard that could be easily understood by the public. She proposed forming a workgroup to explore the issue further and develop solutions. The workgroup should include legal representatives to assist with interpreting the law. Paula Montgomery indicated that "Lead Safe" is defined under Environment Article Title 6-801-Definitions and that the Commission should consider reviewing the statute when making any recommendations.

- **EPA's New Lead Screening Levels for Soil and Play Areas:** Mr. Banks presented on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) newly released guidance for levels of lead in soil. Mr. Banks highlighted the following: Lower Exposure Levels; Soil Screening Standards; Actions Taken; EPA Guidance Documents and Strategies. The presentation slideshow can be found on the Lead Commission's website under "Meeting Materials" [here](#).
- **Aviation Gas:** Commissioner Dr. Paul Rogers from the Maryland Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP) informed the Commission that the state of California recently passed a law that outlawed aviation gas. An article detailing this information can be found [here](#). He raised the question of what the state of Maryland plans to do regarding aviation gas. Mr. Banks indicated that in 2023 MDE briefly began discussions on the subject but there has not been any progress on the matter. Mr. Banks will follow up with MDE's Air Administration and report any updates.
- **Lead Poisoning Prevention Week 10/20/24 - 10/26/24:** MDE, MDH, and GHHI shared their ideas and plans for the upcoming lead week in October and indicated that plans are moving forward.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment):** Commissioner Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for MDE indicated that MDE applied for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Technical Studies Grant. The grant is around \$280k over a 3 year period. If awarded, MDE would use the funding to evaluate to better understand the value of lead risk assessments when triggered by children with Blood Lead Levels (BLL's) at or above Centers for Disease Control's (CDC's) blood lead reference value of 3.5 µg/dL.
- **GHHI (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative):** Wes Stewart, Senior Advisor and General Counsel/Maryland Programs Director for the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) reported that GHHI's Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program is now accepting grant applications and the application portal is now open for all three tiers of grants. If interested, you can apply [here](#). Additionally, Carlie Furtaw, Environmental Health Educator at GHHI provided a link to the info on the lead testing in schools update [here](#).

Adjournment:

The Commission meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, October 3, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Commissioner Updates (Wendy Phillips)
- Update on Just Communities (DHCD)
- EPA's efforts on "Get the Lead Out" Campaign (EPA Region 3 Environmental Justice Coordinator Carol Ann Gross-Davis)
- HUD Revision to Elevated Blood Lead Threshold (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Updates on Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/20/24 - 10/26/24 (Commission)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION October 3, 2024 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Susan Kleinhammer
Cliff Mitchell

Paula Montgomery
Barbara Moore

Ruth Ann Norton
Manjula Paul
Adam Skolnik

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar
Jacob Benzaquen

Benita Cooper
Senator Jill Carter

Anna Davis
Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE
Adewole Adegborioye-MDE
Fred Banks-MDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE
Denifah Bun-Tejan-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE
Jack Daniels-MDDHCD
Leslie Delcid-MDE
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD
Samantha DiNatale-UMBC
William Doyle-HCHD
Shamola Dye-MDE
Attilah Edges-MDE

Carlie Furtaw-GHHI
Catherine Goughnour-MD-DHCD
Felicia Graves-MDE
Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD
Naadiya Hutchinson-YGG
Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD
Eunice Johnson-GES
Dawn Joy-AMA
Samantha Keane-MDE
Wade McCord-MDE
Joy McFadden-GHHI
Shadia Musa-GHHI
Alexandra Nestadt-Public
Olumide Olorunnishola-Public
Adonna Patterson-MDH

Wendy Phillips-MDE
Kathleen Rhinebolt-MDE
Johnette Richardson-GHHI
Andrew Roelke-MDE
Tim Rule-MDE
Nancy Servatius-MDH
Sandra Simmons-SHHI
Kevin Stanley-MDE
George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Nicola Tran-MD-DHCD
Chris White-ARC
Latesha White-MDE
Thelonious Williams - MDH

Documents Distributed:

- 241003 Agenda
- 240905 Meeting Minutes
- MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Membership
- HUD Seeking Input on EBLL Threshold

Welcome and Introductions:

Commissioner Chair Ruth Ann Norton, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Adam Skolnik, Executive Director for the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, Inc., seconded by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, Health Bureau Director for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to accept the September 5, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation:** Yearly, the Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission aims to recognize excellence, innovation, and leadership from within the Lead Poisoning Prevention community. The Commission members voted amongst the nominees previously submitted and the following nominees received an award:
 - Wendy Boone was awarded with the Outstanding Child Health Environmental Advocate Award 2024
 - Delegate Sandy Rosenberg was awarded Outstanding Advocate Award 2024
 - Susan Kleinhammer was awarded Special Recognition Award 2024
- **Commissioner Membership Updates:** Recently appointed Commissioners: Nicoel Hart, Naadia Hutchinson, and Alexandra Nestadt introduced themselves to the Commission and told us a little of their background. Wendy Phillips, Director's Office Administrative Officer III for the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Land and Materials Administration updated the status of various Commissioner positions as follows:
 - Appointed Commissioners needing to swear in: Nicole Hart, Naadia Hutchinson, Alexandra Nestadt
 - Pending Appointments: Nicola Tran, Fred Banks, House Member, Senate Member
 - Pending Re-Appointments: Ruth Ann Norton, Barbara Moore, Anna Davis
 - Commissioner Resignations: Dr. Paul Rogers
 - Vacant Positions: American Academy of Pediatrics, MD Chapter and Representative of Owner of rental property built after 1949.
- **Update on Just Communities:** Catherine Goughnour from the Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) introduced the new Division of Just Communities, established under the Just Communities Act signed in April 2024. This division's goal is to identify "just communities"—areas in Maryland historically impacted by racial segregation, disinvestment, and environmental hazards. The designation will help prioritize state funding to improve racial, economic, and health equity. To determine these areas, MD-DHCD will analyze various indicators, including property values, housing conditions, and health risks. They are collaborating with local universities and utilizing federal tools like the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) screening methods to refine this "just communities" map. They also aim to develop a displacement risk tool to anticipate impacts of reinvestment and ensure data accessibility for state agencies and community stakeholders. Ms. Goughnour provided a description of how MD-DHCD's mapping for housing, equity, and lead relates to the EPA's distressed communities map. During the presentation the following links were shared with the Commission.
 - [House Bill 241 Housing and Community Development - Just Community Designation](#)
 - [Just Communities website and FAQ](#)
 - [Maryland Environmental and Health Data Portal](#)
- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Revision to Elevated Blood Lead Threshold (EBLL)** Chair Norton provided a hand out to the Commission titled "HUD Seeking Input on Revision to EBLL Threshold". Chair Norton explained that HUD intends to revise its EBLL thresholds to meet the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) threshold level of 3.5 for children under the age of six, consistent with the CDC standards of reference level and there will be an impact of moving to 3.5. Comments are due April 11, 2024 and GHHI is writing comments and will be happy to share with the Commission when completed. Wes Stewart, Senior Advisor and General Counsel/Maryland Programs Director for GHHI provided the following link: [HUD Public Comments Requested on Proposed Lowering of EBLL Threshold under Lead Safe Housing Rule](#)

- **Updates on Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/20/24 - 10/26/24:**

- Commissioner Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP) shared that multiple Maryland health departments, along with the Baltimore City Health Department, have been meeting weekly to plan for Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, which starts on October 20, 2024. This year's focus will not only highlight federal messages on lead prevention but also celebrate the 30th anniversary of the 1994 Lead Risk Reduction in Housing Act. This law aimed to prevent childhood lead poisoning while preserving affordable housing in older rental properties by requiring specific safety treatments. Lead Poisoning Prevention Week includes a range of activities: a press event on October 21 at 1:00 p.m. in Baltimore, followed by a community gathering, and a lead-awareness event in Prince George's County later in the week. A social media campaign will also run throughout the week, focusing on lead testing for children and expanding awareness to pregnant women or women planning to become pregnant, with a different theme each day.
- Shadia Musa, Outreach and Education Manager from GHHI announced that a press conference and Community Day will be held on Monday, October 21, with the press event from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m. at Baltimore Unity Hall in Baltimore City, followed by Community Day from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Utah Meridian Park. This event will include educational activities on lead poisoning prevention, such as a "lunch and learn" in partnership with Prince George's County and a school tour in Baltimore featuring "Derek the Dinosaur" to educate families and students. Additionally, GHHI is planning a canvassing effort with Young, Gifted, and Green to promote lead pipe testing.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Fred Banks, Program Manager for MDE's LPPP reported that LPPP is concluding a large round of violation notices, leading to a high volume of phone calls. Community response has been strong, with many property owners registering their properties and updating their compliance. He also mentioned collaborating with Baltimore City on a few challenging cases.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner Dr. Mitchell shared that MDH is actively collaborating with MD-DHCD and Medicaid on complex lead abatement and home renovation projects under the Healthy Homes for Healthy Kids program. They are also updating promotional materials and exploring ways to use Medicaid and The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funds for lead abatement in owner-occupied homes, particularly in rural areas like Washington County and the Eastern Shore, where resources are more limited. In addition, MDH is updating the Environmental Public Health Tracking portal with new data from the childhood lead registry. Dr. Mitchell noted that lead and asthma case detection rates have returned to pre-COVID levels as more people resume regular medical care.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care): Commissioner Manjula Paul, Nurse Consultant for MSDE's Division of Early Childhood OCC reported that, following an August listening session for licensed childcare providers, there has been an increase in calls about children who missed lead testing during COVID and are now entering pre-K programs. She shared news about the informal childcare program, where family members serve as unlicensed yet approved childcare providers, receiving scholarships if they qualify. This year, around 200 families in the informal childcare program must submit lead screening forms for their children. Chair Paul has been conducting training sessions on lead screening and safety for these providers and families, which will conclude this evening.

- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Nicola Tran, Director of Housing and Building Energy Programs for MD-DHCD shared that efforts are underway to streamline access to both repair and energy programs, allowing applicants to use a single process to apply for both types of funding. The website is being updated to better reflect this integration, with the new version expected to launch within a month. Additionally, they have applied for federal funding through HUD's Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program to expand lead remediation efforts and are awaiting a response.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development):
 - Nicole Hart, Deputy Commissioner, Homeownership & Housing Preservation, announced that BC-DHCD is holding its second Town Hall meeting as part of creating Baltimore's first citywide housing plan. These meetings aim to present actions, share data-driven results, and involve the community in the planning process. The upcoming meeting will be held in person at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and online this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., with details available on BC-DHCD's website. She also mentioned ongoing work on a strategy to reduce vacant properties and introduced a new Assistant Commissioner. Ms. Hart provided the following website links:
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/your-voice-matters>
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/events/citywide-housing-plan-town-hall-0>
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/news/news/2024-10-01-mayor-scott-council-president-mosby-introduce-affordable-housing-tif>
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/news/news/2024-07-17-mayor-scott-dhcd-announces-effort-establish-citys-first-ever-comprehensive>
 - Katherine Taylor, Director of Lead Hazard Reduction Program shared that BC-DHCD has applied for HUD's new Lead Hazard Reduction Grant to expand lead remediation efforts in Baltimore City and is awaiting the award decision. BC-DHCD currently has an active grant making good progress and is working to add more contractors to accelerate the work. They have also been participating in community events and recently updated their flyers and brochures to be available in five different languages.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Julie DiGirolamo, Director of Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, mentioned that her team is preparing for "Lead Week." A key activity will be testing at their immunizations clinic on Thursday, the 24th, at 1200 Fayette Street. They are focused on promoting this event.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Chair Norton announced that GHHI has received a contract worth over \$400,000, approved by the Board of Public Works on October 6, 2024. This contract aims to reinstate legal and tenant counseling services under Maryland's Lead Risk Reduction and Housing Law. GHHI will promptly begin efforts to hire a legal services attorney who will advocate for families and children, ensure effective law enforcement, and help tenants understand their rights and responsibilities.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Adam Skolnik, Executive Director at the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, Inc., made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Barbara Moore, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, seconded the motion. All Commissioners were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: November 7, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- 2025 Commission Meeting Calendar (Commissioners)
- 2025 Commission Reporting Calendar (Commissioners)
- EPA's efforts on "Get the Lead Out" Campaign (EPA Region 3 Environmental Justice Coordinator, Carol Ann Gross-Davis)
- Updates on Lead Testing in Schools: (WSA/Water Supply Program/Tim Rule)

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

November 7, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Alexandra Nestadt
Anna Davis
Barbara Moore
Benita Cooper

Christina Peusch
Cliff Mitchell
Fred Banks
Jacob Benzaquen

Manjula Paul
Mary Washington, Senator
Naadiya Hutchinson
Ruth Ann Norton
Susan Kleinhammer

Members Absent:

Adam Skolnik

Dalya Attar, Delegate

Guests Present:

Adewole Adegborioye-MDE
Adonna Patterson-MDH
Andrew Roelke-MDE
Angela Hall-GHHI
Carlie Furtaw-GHHI
Carol Ann Gross-Davis-EPA
Carrie Johnson-Public
Chris Corzine-OAG
Chris White-ARC
Dawn Joy-AMA
Denifah Bun-Tejan-MDE
Eunice Johnson-GES
Felicia Graves-MDE

George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Jack Daniels-MDDHCD
Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Joy McFadden-GHHI
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD
Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Kevin Stanley-MDE
Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE
Michael Ichniowski
Nancy Servatius-MDH
Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD
Nicola Tran-MD-DHCD

Paul Rogers-MDAAP
Paula Montgomery-MDE
Samantha DiNatale-UMBC
Samantha Keane-MDE
Shadia Musa-GHHI
Sheneka
Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD
Susan Rubinstein-Public
Thea Becton-HUD
Thelonious Williams - MDH
Tim Rule-MDE
Wendy Phillips-MDE
William Doyle-HCHD

Documents Distributed:

- Agenda - November
- Minutes - October
- Membership
- Meeting Schedule 2025
- MDE Lead Commission Reporting Calendar 2025
- MD Lead Commission gross-davis 11-7-24
- Maryland Lead Commission PP Presentation-EPA Lead Dust Standards 11-7-24

Welcome and Introductions:

- Commissioner Chair Ruth Ann Norton, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.
- Dr. Paul Rogers from the Maryland Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP) introduced Dr. Michael Ichniowski who will be the new Commissioner representing MDAAP.
- Commissioner Fred Banks, Program Manager for the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP) introduced Senator Mary Washington who will be replacing Senator Jill Carter as Commissioner representing the Senate.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Norton reminded the Commission that if anyone knows anyone who is interested in working on environmental issues in distressed and disadvantaged communities throughout the state of Maryland, that the GHHI portal is open for grants and they can visit <https://www.greenandhealthyhomes.org/thrivingcommunities/> for more information.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, Health Bureau Director for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) seconded by Commissioner Banks to accept the October 3, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Commissioner Membership Appointment Updates:** Wendy Phillips, Director's Office Administrative Officer III for MDE's LMA requested and obtained updates on the below listed positions:
 - **Member of the House:**
 - The Commission is still seeking representation from the House. Commissioner Washington recommended Delegate Terry Baker, Delegate Kenneth Kerr or Delegate Edith Patterson.
 - **3.Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development (MD-DHCD) Secretary or designee:**
 - The appointment is still pending for Nicola Tran, Director of Housing and Building Energy Programs for MD-DHCD.
 - **6.Representative of local government:**
 - The appointment has been approved for Nicole Hart, Deputy Commissioner, Homeownership & Housing Preservation for the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (BC-DHCD) and Commissioner Hart has sworn in.

- **7.Representative from a nonprofit organization:**
 - The re-appointment of Chair Norton is pending. Chair Norton is still in the process of applying for renewal.
- **8.American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter:**
 - The appointment is still pending for Dr. Ichniowski. Dr. Ichniowski's application submission is still pending.
- **11.Representative of owners of rental property built after 1949:**
 - The position is still vacant.
- **12.Representative of a child health or youth advocacy group:**
 - The appointment has been approved for Commissioner Naadiya Hutchinson, Lead Free Baltimore Community Organizer, Young Gifted and Green (YGG) and Commissioner Hutchinson has sworn in.
- **13.Health care provider:**
 - Re-appointment is still pending for Commissioner Barbara Moore, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital (MWPH)
- **14.Child advocate:** Re-appointment is still pending for Commissioner Anna Davis, Attorney for Counsel Gordon, Wolf & Carney, Chtd.
- **Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) efforts on "Get the Lead Out" Campaign:** EPA Region 3 Environmental Justice Coordinator, Carol Ann Gross-Davis provided a slide presentation which is accessible via the Commission's website in the [monthly meeting materials for November 2024](#). Ms. Gross-Davis' presentation highlighted the following topics: Introduction; Update on Final Lead and Copper Rule Improvements; October 8, 2024; Get the Lead Out (GLO) Update; Targeting Lead Exposure 'Hotspots' is a Whole-of-Government Priority; EPA/CDC/HUD Memorandum of Understanding-2024; and Novel pilots project in R3 to increase Blood Lead testing screening.
- **EPA Lead Dust Standards Update:** Wes Stewart, Senior Advisor and General Counsel/Maryland Programs Director for GHHI gave a presentation which is accessible via the Commission's website in the [monthly meeting materials for November 2024](#). Additionally, Mr. Stewart provided the following website <https://www.epa.gov/lead/hazard-standards-and-clearance-levels-lead-paint-dust-and-soil-tsca-sections-402-and-403> and also compared the Lead Dust Hazard Standards (Pre-Intervention) and Lead Dust Clearance Standards (Post-Intervention).

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment):** Commissioner Banks updated the Commission with the following highlights:
 - Lead week was a success.
 - MDE is collaborating with the EPA to host a lead workshop in July 2025 for Region 3. This workshop will focus on professional development for lead programs and professionals in the region.
 - MDE is working with the Air and Radiation Administration (ARA) to address issues related to airports and lead poisoning in Maryland. It is also collaborating with the Water & Science Administration (WSA) to tackle concerns about lead in service lines.
 - MDE is currently pursuing enforcement actions to revoke the accreditation of certain third-party inspectors.

- Compliance efforts have significantly improved, with approximately 95% of rental property owners now meeting the required standards.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner Dr. Mitchell informed the Commission that MDH received three "LeadCare II" blood lead testing systems from GHHI through EPA. MDH plans to distribute these systems to local health departments to increase lead testing in rural areas. MDH continues to collaborate with the MDE on various lead-related issues. The department is also analyzing its historical data more closely and will soon update its public health tracking portal. The updated portal will include information about the home visiting program, highlighting recruitment efforts and participation in the 11 jurisdictions with the highest numbers of children exposed to lead or affected by asthma. Once this information is made public, users will be able to view the number of children served by local health department home visiting programs statewide.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Ms. Tran relayed that MD-DHCD is in the negotiable phase with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program and it hopes to be able to implement the program early or mid 2025 which will be its 3rd lead program. MD-DHCD is in the capacity building phase to ramp up the volume of households that it can serve. It is also revising its marketing and application and internal processes to ramp up for that effort.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): Katherine Taylor, Director of Lead Hazard Reduction Program from BC-DHCD reported that it is in the negotiation phase with HUD with building its capacity for the new grant including its current one that it has now.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Shadia Musa, Outreach and Education Manager for GHHI reported the results of the successful Lead Week and press event.
- **YGG** (Young Gifted and Green): Commissioner Hutchinson reported on the challenges with Baltimore's lead service line inventory. Despite the Department of Public Works (DPW) submitting the inventory on October 16th, it had a 93% non-response rate, leaving over 200,000 homes with unknown pipe materials. Of the 5,000 homes that responded, only 32 were identified as having lead service lines. Thanks to YGG's advocacy, homes with lead are now receiving temporary lead filters, addressing earlier uncertainty about remediation steps. However, the self-survey process remains complex and confusing for residents, as seen during YGG's door-knocking campaign, which reached over 300 homes but revealed widespread lack of awareness. Moving forward, YGG plans to engage landlords and plumbers to gather more documentation for submission to the EPA.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, January 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Upcoming Legislation
- 2025 Commission Reporting Calendar vote (Commissioners)