

November/December 2020 GreenPort Newsletter

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OUTREACH

DMMP Annual Meeting Held Virtually

A record 115 attendees participated in the first virtual Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) Annual Meeting on November 6, 2020. Guests were welcomed with a virtual exhibit hall experience and then remarks from [Maryland Department of Transportation \(MDOT\)](#) and [MDOT Maryland Port Administration \(MPA\)](#) officials, including MDOT Secretary Gregory Slater, MDOT MPA Executive Director William P. Doyle, and MDOT MPA Office of Harbor Development Director Kristen Fidler. MDOT MPA Deputy Director of Planning Dominic Scurti reflected on the Port's activities during 2020, noting that despite the pandemic, business at the Port of Baltimore remains strong. President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Dr. Peter Goodwin presented the [DMMP Annual Report](#) and recommendations to advance the DMMP. MDOT MPA Chief of Outreach, Policy and Permitting Dave Blazer led a commemoration of the Dredged Material Management Act, which was enacted in 2001, during which a [video was shared](#) of stakeholders reflecting on the progress and achievements of the DMMP. Fidler concluded the meeting with a discussion of the future, including MDOT MPA's commitment to remain engaged with stakeholders during these times of physical distancing.

The Office of Harbor Development launched a new DMMP digital portal ([Maryland-dmmp.com](#)), where stakeholders can remain connected and stay informed during this time of virtual connections.

"While 2020 has been a difficult and challenging year for everyone, it was still a year of notable achievements and proof of the strength of our program and the resiliency of our team," said Fidler. "During this time when we cannot be together, we were very pleased with the attendance and interest in our virtual meeting. We hope that stakeholders will visit our new digital portal and explore the virtual tours of our sites."

Attendee Anita Kestel noted, "I take so much pride in being a part of the [Masonville Cove](#) Citizens' Advisory Committee. The cooperative environment among the stakeholders is indeed outstanding."

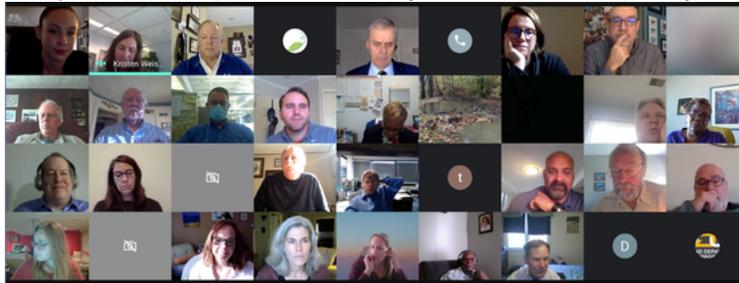


Photo: Here are just a few of the 2020 DMMP Annual Meeting virtual attendees.

DREDGING

Dredged Material Could Keep Us Safer on the Road and Protect Shorelines

In November, the [Maryland Board of Public Works](#) approved a contract with [Northgate Environmental Management, Inc.](#) to study the use of dredged sediment from Port of Baltimore shipping channels for manufacturing concrete traffic barriers for local transportation projects and structures to protect shorelines.

This marks the second contract awarded in response to a request for proposals (RFP) issued in November 2019 for research and development projects to advance the innovative reuse of dredged material with a focus on cost-effectiveness and scalability. [Belden Eco-Products LLC](#) was awarded the first contract in response to this RFP to study the use of dredged sediment for manufacturing bricks and permeable pavers.

"We're excited to see progress on these new innovative ideas to reuse dredged material," said MDOT MPA Innovative Reuse Program Manager Kristen Keene. "We thank the Board of Public Works for their support as we work to advance sediment management options. As a result, we hope to both recover capacity and extend the lifespan of sediment containment facilities such as Cox Creek."

A minimum of six contracts will be awarded, each not to exceed \$300,000. To date, ten proposals have been received.



*Photo: During the innovative reuse material drying operation, material excavated from the DMCF is placed on set drying pads to dry prior to stockpiling for reuse.
Photo Credit: Maryland Environmental Service (MES)*

ENVIRONMENT

Port of Baltimore's Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Efforts Highlighted

The [Environmental and Energy Study Institute \(EESI\)](#) held a virtual congressional briefing, entitled "[Ports Leading the Way on Mitigation and Resilience](#)" as part of its briefing series, "By Air, Land, and Sea: Navigating the Climate Future." The November event included guest speakers MDOT MPA Manager of Strategic Planning and Special Projects Jill Lemke and Innovative Reuse Program Manager Kristen Keene.

Their presentation highlighted many of the Port's efforts concerning climate change adaptation and resiliency. As a port of national significance, many look to Baltimore's innovative solutions in considering plans for climate change adaptation.

[Climatewire](#), a publication of E & E News, reported on the presentation. "Climate change for us largely means sea-level rise and flooding from storm surge, but we also suffer the impacts of extreme rain events, extreme temperatures impacting operations, high winds, snow, ice and hail events," said Lemke.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Our meetings are open to the public. Since these meetings are virtual, if you are not on a meeting distribution list and would like to attend, please send a request for the link to [Greenport](#).

Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee Meeting - January 13th, 2021 at 5:30PM

Virtual

For questions or to confirm attendance please contact [Greenport](#).

Hart-Miller Island Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting - January 19th, 2021 at 6:30PM

Virtual

For questions or to confirm attendance please contact [Greenport](#).

[MDOT MPA Website](#)

[Port of Baltimore Magazine](#)

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GreenPort Newsletter is the Maryland Department of Transportation's Maryland Port Administration's bi-monthly update of projects and programs that help the agency contribute to a thriving economy, environmental stewardship, and community partnerships. As always, we thank the many private sector businesses, government leaders, communities, and individual citizens who have helped make these achievements a reality.



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