

**SUMMARY OF THE DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
INNOVATIVE REUSE COMMITTEE (IRC) MEETING
November 12, 2024, 5:30 PM In-Person and Virtual Meeting**

Attendees:

Alliance for the Chesapeake City Bay: Laura Todd*
Anchor QEA: Billie-Jo Gauley*, Walt Dinicola
Baltimore Port Alliance: Rupert Denney
Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability: David Riter
Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF): Gussie Maguire*
Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee: Gary Gakenheimer
EA Engineering, Science, and Technology (EA, Engineering): Kandice Sermon*, Frank Barranco*
EcoLogix Group: Steve Pattison
Gahagan & Bryant Associates: Benjamin Cushing*
GEI Consultants: Reggie Graves, Nancy Straub*
HarborRock: Jeffrey Otto*
Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Maggie Cavey
Maryland Department of Transportation The Secretaries Office (MDOT TSO): John Denniston*
Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Dallas Henson, Saeka Foreman, Robert Natarian
Maryland Port Administration (MPA): Joe Ross, Darren Swift, Kelvin Moulden, Rachael Gilde, Danielle Fisher*
Nature Conservancy: Isaac Hametz
Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA): Andrew Kays*
Northgate Environmental Management: Jacob Lacy, Sam Merrill*
Remline: Michelle Puszcz*
Rock Creek Community: Greg Sliviak*, Ruth Sliviak*
Rummel, Klepper and Kahl (RK&K): Sari Rothrock, Ed Tinney*
Stancills Inc: Chris Siciliano
Stoney Beach Community: John Garofolo*
The Bulldog Group: Miguel Lambert*
The Terrapin Institute: Marguerite Whilden*
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES): Elizabeth Price*

*Denotes attendees that participated virtually

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Sari Rothrock, RK&K

Ms. Rothrock welcomed attendees, briefed participants on the agenda for the evening, and led introductions for in-person and virtual attendees.

2.0 Meeting Summary Approval

Sari Rothrock, RK&K

Ms. Rothrock advised participants that meeting notes from May and August have been distributed in hard copy packets provided to in-room participants. Ms. Rothrock requested comments on the notes

by Monday, November 18th. If no comments are provided, the notes will be approved for publication on the website.

3.0 IRC Updates

Darren Swift, Kelvin Moulden, and Joe Ross, MPA

Mr. Swift provided two general Maryland Port Administration (MPA) updates. First, he alerted participants that the Office of Harbor Development is being renamed the Office of Navigation, Innovation, and Stewardship. The name change better reflects the department's role overseeing and maintaining the navigation channels through the application of state-of-the-art approaches and an overriding commitment to stewarding the resources of the Chesapeake Bay in collaboration with its stakeholders. Following this announcement, Mr. Swift introduced Mr. Kelvin Moulden, the new Chief of Innovative Reuse Strategy and Partnerships at MPA.

Mr. Moulden provided an update on the Innovative Reuse (IR) Research and Development (R&D) projects. The latest R&D project to be approved by the Board of Public Works is from Harbor Rock. The kickoff meeting was held in late October 2024. The project will investigate converting dredged material into supplementary cementitious material and lightweight aggregate. Results are expected in late 2025.

Mr. Moulden also introduced the idea of updating the Innovative Reuse Strategy in the coming year. The Innovative Reuse Strategy was developed in 2020 and is due for updates and revisions.

Mr. Ross provided an update on the Swan Creek Nature Trail. The groundbreaking for the trail was held at the October 19, 2024, Cox Creek Open House, marking the transition from planning and design to construction. The Swan Creek Nature Trail stemmed from recommendations of the Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee and community stakeholders. The trail will be located in the Cox Creek Forest Conservation Easement Area and will feature a two-mile loop with boardwalks, a bridge, outdoor classrooms, and signage. The project has received federal funding and is set to begin construction in 2025, with plans to open to the public later that year.

Mr. Ross also provided an update on Category 1 material used on the existing Shoreline Access Road at Cox Creek. This shoreline access road fortified with innovative reuse material will be incorporated into the upcoming Swan Creek Nature Trail.

4.0 Lightning Talks

Sari Rothrock, RKK

Ms. Rothrock introduced the concept of lightning talks, which are short, focused presentations intended to provide bursts of information and spark conversation and collaboration. MPA asked several regular IRC participants to give four-minute presentations describing who they are, where they work, why they are involved in the IRC, and where they see MPA innovative reuse of dredged material going in the future. The MPA organized lightning talks in response to feedback received regarding the committee's interest in networking and hearing more from IRC participants. Brief summaries of all lightning talks have been provided below.

- Kelvin Moulden, MPA

Mr. Moulden introduced himself again as the new Chief of Innovative Reuse Strategy and Partnerships at MPA and spoke about a formative experience related to dredged material. Mr. Moulden told the story of how he had participated in the US Navy Cadets program, and a

family friend who was a Chesapeake Bay pilot invited him on a trip on an amphibious assault vehicle. The ensuing trip sparked a conversation about the importance of dredging the Bay, which fueled his interest in dredged material. Mr. Moulden worked on quality assurance and quality control in a materials laboratory at the State Highway Administration after college, eventually becoming the Director of Laboratory Services. There, Mr. Moulden met Mr. Swift on a project testing cement stabilization of dredged materials to increase densities and engineering properties. Mr. Moulden is looking forward to his involvement with the program and hopes to support the further advancement of beneficial use of dredged material at the Port.

- Isaac Hametz, The Nature Conservancy
Mr. Hametz's current professional focus is on wetland preservation emphasizing the use of dredged material. Mr. Hametz is also an Assistant Professor of Practice at the University of Virginia (UVA) School of Architecture and was formerly a principal and partner at Mahan Rykiel. Mr. Hametz's interest in innovative reuse began in 2016 through involvement with a summer internship program called "Design with Dredge." The program was run in tandem by MPA and Mahan Rykiel and explored the history of shoreline change in the Harbor and how it was shaped through dredging. The program won the National Landscape Award in 2018 from the American Society of Landscape Architects. Additionally, Mr. Hametz contributed to the 2023 Patapsco Beneficial Use Framework Report developed with The Nature Conservancy, which looked at wetland restoration in the Harbor and the Chesapeake Bay. The focus was on private terminals and the report took a market-based approach to leverage how dredged material could be a revenue source and contribute to wetland restoration. Mr. Hametz's hope for the future of the IRC is to further explore beneficial use of dredged material.
- Maggie Cavey, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Ms. Cavey is a beneficial use planner with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the Chesapeake and Coastal Zoning Unit. Within the Chesapeake and Coastal Zoning Unit the team manages the Waterway Improvement Fund (which provides funding for dredging and waterway infrastructure), the Resiliency Through Restoration initiative, and the Coastal Zone Management Program. Ms. Cavey is hoping to support beneficial use of dredged material in Maryland and wants to explore further integrating DNR and IRC efforts in order to benefit Maryland.
- Rupert Denney, Baltimore Port Alliance
Mr. Denney represents the Baltimore Port Alliance (BPA), previously worked for C. Steinweg and Company, and has been involved with the IRC since its inception. The BPA represents the private sector, which contributes to the Innovative Reuse program. Originally, the priority of the MPA was to their own facilities and their expansion. Over the years this focus started to change after Ms. Kathy Broadwater became Assistant Director. The contributions of the private sector to the economy of the state via private terminals were realized and broadened. Mr. Denney spoke about the private sector terminals and their importance to commerce and the Port, and the challenges they face regarding dredging.
- Gary Gakenheimer, Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee
Mr. Gakenheimer is the chair of the Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee and President of the Chestnut Hill Cove Association. His community recently completed a shoreline restoration project and will start a stream restoration project soon. On October 19, 2024, over 200 people attended the Cox Creek Open House. There were tours of the Cox Creek Sediment

Technology and Reuse Facility (STAR), exhibitors, and birdwatching opportunities. A groundbreaking ceremony was also held for the Swan Creek Nature Trail. Mr. Gakenheimer looks forward to continued involvement in the IRC to support innovatively reusing dredged material.

- **Andrew Kays, Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority**
Mr. Kays is the executive director of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA). The NMWDA encompasses eight jurisdictions, which covers two-thirds of the state's total population. It is a regional governmental agency, governed by a Board of Directors and members from each jurisdiction. It is funded by members and can enter into public-private partnerships. Mr. Kays noted that his agency's initial involvement with the IRC was with a goal to keep dredged material from ending up in landfills, however they are now working in support of innovative reuse and beneficial use. In the future, Mr. Kays hopes for continued collaboration between the IRC and stakeholders and wants to continue identifying ways to offset the use of virgin material in construction projects. Mr. Kays is always looking for opportunities to bring information from this group to his agency.
- **David Riter, Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability**
Mr. Riter supervises the Waterway Restoration program, whose primary role is shoreline stabilization and enhancement, dredging, and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) monitoring. The Waterway Restoration program has 28 channels in Baltimore County and has completed 37 dredging projects since 1988. The dredging projects are funded by County Bonds and the DNR Waterway Improvement Funds. Mr. Riter then described Baltimore County's dredging process. Baltimore County used to rely heavily on taking material to the Hart-Miller Island (HMI) DMCF, but HMI stopped receiving dredged material in 2009. While Baltimore County has two other DMCFs, they are at capacity. Baltimore County is now looking at other options, like beneficially using the material. Mr. Riter has experience with beneficial use projects – in 2011 the Waterway Restoration program began a beneficial use project at Pleasure Island. Currently the program is working on the Pleasure Island Channel 'cut,' dredging Shallow Creek, and conducting bathymetric surveys in the channels to determine which waterways need to be dredged. The dredged material from these projects will be beneficially used, including as marsh enhancement and beach nourishment.

Upon conclusion of the lightning talks, the presenters took questions.

Question	Answer
Mr. Denney to Mr. Riter: Where are your DMCF's?	The DMCF's are located at Shallow Creek and Bowerman Road.
Mr. Denney to Mr. Kays: How are you financed? Does each county give you a budget to run the authority?	A committee was created to monitor funding which comes from County membership fees or project-based funding.

5.0 Announcements and Adjourn

Ms. Rothrock announced that the DMMP Annual Meeting is on December 6, 2024. Participants can access the registration page via QR code or online at Maryland-DMMP.com/2024AnnualMeeting.

Ms. Rothrock then took additional questions from participants to the lightning talk presenters.

Question	Answer
Mr. Austin Bamford asked about a timeline for updating the Innovative Reuse strategy and how to get involved.	Mr. Moulden stated MPA is currently accepting recommendations for making updates and that upcoming IRC meetings will be focused on updating the document.
Ms. Whilden asked if there was any progress on working with quarries to fill exploited areas.	Mr. Swift noted transportation costs to the defunct quarries are a challenge.
Ms. Whilden asked if there has been any progress in testing products, like the shoreline stabilization structures.	Mr. Swift stated those projects were proof of concept projects and are not under full production at this time. MPA has two of the devices now and could test with them in the future.

Mr. Denney offered a recommendation that communities neighboring Port facilities be engaged in conversations on innovative reuse and beneficial use to support positive relationships.

The next IRC meeting will be on February 4, 2025. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.