

# 2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Manufacturing Extension Partnership Advisory Board

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## 1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

## 2. Fiscal Year

2025

## 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Manufacturing Extension Partnership  
Advisory Board

## 3b. GSA

## Committee No.

2013

## 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

## 5. Current Charter

10/17/2022 10/17/2026

## 6. Expected Renewal Date

## 7. Expected Term Date

## 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

## 8b. Specific Termination Authority

## 8c. Actual Term Date

## 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

## 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

## 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

## 11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

## 12. Specific Establishment Authority

by 15 U.S.C. § 278k(m)

## 13. Effective Date

08/09/2007

## 14. Committee Type

Continuing

## 14c. Presidential?

No

## 15. Description of Committee

## 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for  
this Fiscal Year

## 17a. Open

0

## 17b. Closed

0

## 17c. Partially Closed

0

## Other Activities

0

## 17d. Total

0

## Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

Current Next  
FY FY

<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

Based on informational briefings by NIST MEP staff, MEP Center representatives and external presenters at regular Board meetings, the MEP Advisory Board is able to provide informed, objective feedback and strategic advice. Through their expertise and external perspectives, the Board helps ensure that MEP's plans, policies, and performance align with the evolving needs of the manufacturing sector. This guidance allows the program to make more informed decisions, prioritize initiatives, and refine program strategies to enhance impact. Additionally, the Board helps identify emerging trends and challenges, ensuring that MEP remains responsive and adaptive and achieves its mission to improve the

competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

MEP strives for a diverse and balanced membership with members from different areas of the manufacturing industry from all over the country. The membership consists of Board member representation ranges from CEOs and executives with various small and medium-sized manufacturers to academic leaders located at various institutions of higher education. At least two members serve on advisory boards for MEP centers. At least 5 members represent small manufacturing establishments. At least 1 member represents a community college. Additional members represent stakeholders involved in industrial extension through academia, technology deployment, and workforce activities. MEP actively seeks nominations for Board members from partners, MEP centers and other stakeholders. The diverse membership of the Board assures perspectives reflecting the full breadth of the Board's responsibilities, and, where possible, the Department of Commerce will also consider the ethnicity, race, and gender diversity and various abilities of the United States population.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Board meets at least biannually, but usually three times each year. Additional meetings may be called by the NIST Director. These meetings are often held in conjunction with other MEP-National Network events to provide Board members the opportunity to interact with representatives from individual MEP centers. These interactions provide the Board with the

perspectives and feedback from a key stakeholder group.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The Board provides the critical advisory role necessary for a program focused on the needs of the manufacturing industry, in particular smaller manufacturers. The Board provides a key role by assessing the performance of the program against its plans and strategies and provides advice on policy, long-term strategy, and program implementation. Only an external Board with a membership firmly planted in the multiple dimensions of industrial extension could provide this needed feedback.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

No

**21. Remarks**

Notes on Meetings: Meeting minutes are posted to the NIST MEP Website:

<https://www.nist.gov/mep/about-nist-mep/advisory-board/meetings-minutes-agendas-and-preser>

Notes on Members: During the June 2024 board meeting, MEP Director announced that Patricia Moulton's term expired on June 15, 2024.

**Designated Federal Officer**

Jennifer Teeter Rosa Senior Communications Specialist

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Bafford, Elizabeth	05/22/2023	05/21/2026	Vice President Strategy	Representative Member
Bockoven, Donald	10/22/2019	10/21/2025	Fiber Industries LLC; CEO	Representative Member
Chang, Winston	03/01/2024	03/01/2027	Chief Technology Officer	Representative Member
Ford, Jermaine	03/01/2024	03/01/2027	President	Representative Member

Foreman, Louis	05/22/2023	05/21/2026	Founder and Chief Executive Officer	Representative Member
Friedberg Rottenstrich, Gail	05/22/2023	05/21/2026	Chief Executive Officer	Representative Member
Garvey, Michael	07/11/2023	07/11/2026	President and CEO	Representative Member
Hawes, Bernadine	07/16/2021	07/15/2027	Senior Advisor, Econsult Solutions, Inc.	Representative Member
Ketter, Sean	02/13/2023	02/12/2026	Vice President, Global Procurement & Supply Chain	Representative Member
Kmetzo, Miriam	07/16/2021	07/15/2027	Executive Vice President, Welding Technology Corp.	Representative Member
Mathews, G. Christopher	05/04/2022	05/03/2025	Chairman, National Custom Hollow Metal Doors Maple Leaf Awning and Canvas	Representative Member
Parker, Annette	05/04/2022	05/03/2025	President, South Central College	Representative Member
Smith, Candice	03/01/2024	03/01/2027	Director	Representative Member
Smith, John	09/12/2023	09/12/2026	Chief Executive Officer	Representative Member
Smith, Tyrome	02/13/2023	02/12/2026	Director of Strategic Partnerships	Representative Member
Vasko, David	05/22/2023	05/21/2026	Independent Consultant	Representative Member

## Number of Committee Members Listed: 16

### Narrative Description

The MEP Advisory Board provides guidance and advice on the MEP program from the perspective of manufacturers and manufacturing stakeholder groups. They provide input and guidance on the direction of the MEP program with a focus on growth services, technology acceleration, workforce development and expanded partnerships.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Outcome Comments

NA

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Cost Savings Comments

N/A

### What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

105

### Number of Recommendations Comments

For FY2024, the MEP Advisory Board provided ten recommendations focused on strengthening the Network and empowering U.S. manufacturers through, guidance and

advice on current activities in the MEP National Network 2023-2027 Strategic Plan with focus on three National Network primary goals: narrow the workforce gap, mitigate supply chain vulnerabilities, and leverage technology. The Advisory Board provided feedback on the current strategic plan and recommendations to help set the future strategic vision. Recommendation also included ways to measure and refine MEP's metrics that measure it's 2023-2027 MEP National Network strategic goals and expansion award pilot program strategy.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

65%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

The Board made progress and reported on these objectives creating detailed implementation plans which have a number of tasks detailed in the publicly available meeting minutes posted on the MEP website:

<https://www.nist.gov/mep/meeting-minutes-agendas-presentations>

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

35%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

N/A

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

**Agency Feedback Comments**

Written reports and verbal presentations at meetings.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>

Approved grants or other payments

☐

Other

☐

### **Action Comments**

The MEP Advisory Board provides guidance on the prioritization of program activities and initiatives as well as advice on the allocation of new resources. The Board is one of several stakeholder groups MEP seeks input and feedback from when considering these decisions.

### **Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

### **Grant Review Comments**

NA

### **How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO

☒

Online Agency Web Site

☒

Online Committee Web Site

☒

Online GSA FACA Web Site

☒

Publications

☒

Other

☐

### **Access Comments**

NA