



Larry Hogan | Governor
Boyd Rutherford | Lt. Governor
Kelly M. Schulz | Secretary of Commerce

March 17, 2021

National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW
Suite 500N
Washington DC 20004

Re: April 1, 2021 Meeting – Action Item 8243 Bureau of Engraving and Printing Currency Production Facility

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Maryland Department of Commerce, I wish to express our support for the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing's (BEP) proposed replacement currency production facility to be located on the USDA Beltsville Agriculture Research Center (BARC) in Beltsville, Maryland. The BEP production relocation, bringing 1,600 highly skilled jobs, would have a significant impact to Prince George's County, the region and the state economy.

The construction of a new technologically advanced currency production operation, versus the renovation of an aged facility, will result in a cost savings of \$600 million to the taxpayers. Also, the U.S. Department of Treasury and BEP have a commitment of green development and design of a sustainable facility.

The construction of the proposed building is expected to employ approximately 1,712 construction workers resulting in estimated total earnings of \$105,428,082 over the life of the construction project. The 1,600 employees will have a yearly average salary of approximately \$99,000 per employee, resulting in total earnings of \$15,840,000 per year. With 65 percent of the current workforce residing in Maryland with 43 percent living locally in Prince George's County, most of the workers will benefit from this location. These employees will also have a positive impact on the local economy as there are 2000 retailers with 25,000 employees within a five-mile radius of BARC.

Maryland's support of this project began in 2018 when Governor Hogan wrote to key congressional Senators and Representatives to encourage the passage of bills to authorize the transfer of land for and the construction of the Currency Production Facility on the BARC campus. In 2019, the Department of Commerce Secretary Kelly Schulz sent a letter of support during the scoping process. Several months ago, Governor Hogan again expressed his support of the relocation during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement comment period.

Maryland is home to over 60 federal facilities and 12 military bases, and we are committed to support, grow, sustain and partner with them. We stand ready to assist in the development of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's replacement currency production facility at BARC.

Respectfully,

Helga Weschke
Director, Federal Business Relations

CC: Secretary Kelly Schulz, Maryland Department of Commerce