



September 25, 2010

Dear Interested Party:

Please be advised that the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the lease consolidation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in Suburban Maryland. The Draft EA was prepared in accordance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA requires a Federal agency to provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the process of analyzing the impacts of Federal actions on the human environment. The public review period for the Draft EA will end 30 days from the date stamped on this letter.

The proposed action analyzed in the EA is the consolidation of four of HHS's current leased locations in Suburban Maryland into one location to improve functional efficiency. The number of Federal employees to be collocated is approximately 2,900. GSA would enter into a lease agreement for up to 935,401 rentable square feet of space. The delineated area for the lease is Suburban Maryland, within Montgomery County and Prince George's County, and within a three mile driving distance of a Metrorail station. It is anticipated that some of the potential locations would result in new construction. If the proposed action results in new construction, it would be privately funded and would occur on non-federally owned land.

GSA received multiple offers for potential locations to accommodate the HHS lease consolidation. The Draft EA analyzes the impact of each potential location on the natural and man-made environment. Pursuant to NEPA regulations, a no action alternative is also analyzed. The Suburban Maryland locations analyzed in the Draft EA include:

- One Largo Town Center, the site is located at the northwest corner of Lottsford Road and Arena Drive, Largo, MD;
- University Town Center, the site is located at the northwest corner of Toledo Road and Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, MD;
- New Carrollton Metro Station, the site is located at approximately 4915 Ellin Road, Hyattsville, MD;
- King Farm, the site is located at the corner of King Farm Boulevard and Piccard Drive, Gaithersburg, MD; and
- Parklawn Building, the site is located at 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD

A hard copy of the Draft EA is available for public review at the following locations: New Carrollton Library, 7414 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, MD 20784; Largo-Kettering Library, 9601 Capital Lane, Largo, MD 20774; Hyattsville Library, 6530 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782; Rockville Library, 21 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850; Twinbrook Library, 202 Meadow Hall Drive, Rockville, MD 20851. A copy of the Draft EA is also available via the internet at: www.gsa.gov/ncrnepea.

Written comments concerning the Draft EA should be submitted within 30 days of the date stamped on this letter to:

Ms. Suzanne Hill, NEPA Program Specialist
Portfolio Management Division
Public Buildings Service
National Capital Region
U.S. General Services Administration
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Should you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Ms. Suzanne Hill at (202) 205-5821.

Sincerely,

Bart Bush
Regional Commissioner
Public Buildings Service