



News Release
U.S. General Services Administration
Mid-Atlantic Region

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U.S. General Services Administration Announces Preferred Site and Public Meetings for the U.S. Department of State's Foreign Affairs Security Training Center

Philadelphia – The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and the U.S. Department of State (DoS) have identified the approximately 2,000 acre Hunt Ray/Crismer Farms located in Queen Anne's County, Maryland, as the preferred site for the DoS Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC). GSA is conducting further analysis in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA require federal agencies to document and assess the impacts of the proposed projects on the natural, social and cultural environments.

The Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) is a project partially funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The FASTC will replace several leased, contracted and geographically separated training locations with a modern and efficient facility to train personnel from multiple U.S. Government agencies who are assigned to America's diplomatic missions abroad.

"GSA and DoS are pleased to be part of a project that will put people back to work," said GSA Acting Regional Administrator Linda Chero. "When this fully secured facility is completed, it will provide state-of-the-art training to those who are involved in protecting our national interests abroad."

There will be a public project overview meeting on Tuesday, January 5 which will allow the public to learn general information about the project and have an opportunity to provide feedback.

On Thursday, January 7, a public scoping meeting will be held which has a limited focus specific to the NEPA and NHPA process.

The schedule for the two meetings is as follows:

- **GSA Public Project Overview Meeting:** Tuesday, January 5, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Queen Anne's County High School located at 125 Ruthsburg Road, Centreville, MD.
- **GSA Public Scoping Meeting For Purposes of NEPA/NHPA:** Thursday, January 7, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Queen Anne's County High School located at 125 Ruthsburg Road, Centreville, MD.

Please call 215.446.4815 or send an email to FASTC.info@gsa.gov for inquiries and comments.

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GSA provides a centralized delivery system of products and services to the federal government, leveraging its enormous buying power to get the best value for taxpayers.

- Founded in 1949, GSA manages more than 11 percent of the government's total procurement dollars and \$30 billion in federal assets, including 8,600 government-owned or leased buildings and 213,000 vehicles.
- GSA's mission to provide superior workplaces, expert technology solutions, acquisition services, purchasing and E-Gov travel solutions and management policies, at best value, allows federal agencies to focus on their core missions.