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February 5, 2024

Peter Shapiro, Chair Prince George's County Planning Board

> Re: **Data Center Study**

Dear Chair Shapiro:

The potential development of data center projects in Prince George's County has raised a number of questions and concerns from the public as well as planners, developers, elected officials, and other stakeholders. In response, the Prince George's County Planning Department has been compiling a significant amount of information, data, and documentation from other jurisdictions detailing issues associated with data center development including matters such as the demands data centers impose on energy, water, sewer and other public and private utilities, environmental impacts, employment, and tax revenues.

Last year, Governor Moore signed the Critical Infrastructure Streamlining Act of 2024 to simplify the regulatory process for obtaining the approvals necessary to install backup power generators for data centers. The County Council also discussed and tabled legislation that would have streamlined the approval process for new data centers in the County. I believe further study of the available data on the impacts such projects are having in the Mid-Atlantic Region, and especially in neighboring states and counties, will assist the County in developing the proper legislative and regulatory framework to address the future development and operation of such uses.

Attached is a draft Resolution for the County Council outlining the proposed study. If the Board concurs with this proposal, I respectfully request its recommendation be transmitted to the County Clerk along with this letter and the attached draft Resolution for consideration at an upcoming meeting of the Council.

Sincerely,

Lakisha Hull (Feb 5, 2025 10:09 EST) Lakisha Hull, AICP, LEED AP BD+C

Prince George's County Planning Director

Attachment: Draft Resolution