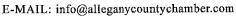
ALLEGANY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE









August 11, 2017

Jacob C. Shade, President Board of Commissioners of Allegany County Allegany County Office Building 701 Kelly Road Cumberland, Maryland 21502

Dear Commissioner Shade:

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce supports the engagement of a third party consultant to prepare an economic development strategic plan for Allegany County and commends the Board of Commissioners for taking action to begin the process at its public business meeting on July 27, 2017.

An effective strategic plan will include measurable goals and specific action items stating the what, who and when for each. Successful strategic plans also include public input ensuring community buy-in and collaboration on common goals as a result. With appropriate input, the plan will compliment regional and local initiatives currently under way and be a roadmap for all to follow.

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce appreciates the Board of Commissioner's efforts and offers our assistance to you as you move forward with this critical economic development initiative.

Sincerely,

Debra M. Langan, Chair

Board of Directors

Kim B. Leonard, Chair

Economic Development Committee

cc:

Honorable Creade V. Brodie, Jr., Commissioner

Honorable William R. Valentine, Commissioner