



LARRY HOGAN
Governor
BOYD K. RUTHERFORD
Lt. Governor
KENNETH C. HOLT
Secretary

November 23, 2020

The Honorable Nancy King, Chair
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis MD 21401

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair
Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Room 121
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair
House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senators and Delegates:

This report is intended to satisfy the requirements of the Department of Housing and Community Development to detail certain food desert activity under the Neighborhood BusinessWorks program (NBW) for the FY 2020 reporting year, pursuant to Chapter 228 of the 2014 Laws of Maryland.

The food desert designation was created in 2014 to allow NBW to finance food projects in Priority Funding Areas, to help ensure easy access to healthy foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables. To receive a food desert designation under this program, a local government must submit an application for inclusion. To date, there have been no such applications from any political subdivision of the state of Maryland. As there are no designated food deserts, there are no designated food desert projects to report upon.



Thank you for your interest in this very important matter. If I may be of assistance on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-429-7796 or by email at matthew.heckles @maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matthew Heckles".

Matthew Heckles
Assistant Secretary
Division of Development Finance

Enclosure