

U.S. Economic Development Administration
Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Tech Hubs)
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Review Team,

The Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB) of Maryland is pleased to support the Baltimore Tech Hub Phase II application and provide this letter of commitment to align our resources in support of this effort if designation is received. The GWDB is prepared to support and accelerate implementation by leveraging its unique capacity as a platform for business-driven, cross-sector collaboration to align state and local workforce development partners, programs and resources toward the goals laid out in this proposal.

The GWDB serves as the Governor's chief strategy and policy-making body for workforce development by engaging key business, labor, education, community, and State and local government leaders to collaborate and advise the Governor on business-led workforce approaches that advance Maryland's economic competitiveness and build pathways to work, wages and wealth for all Marylanders. The GWDB serves as Maryland's federally-recognized state workforce development board under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, and includes a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee tasked under state law a strategic leadership and oversight role in Maryland's CTE and youth apprenticeship system. A core element of the GWDB's mission under the Moore-Miller administration is to design and accelerate implementation of industry-driven talent development strategies for Maryland's critical and emerging economic sectors, such as biotechnology.

To support the Baltimore Tech Hub, the GWDB will engage business leaders, State agencies, secondary and postsecondary education leaders, and other stakeholders to support the goals laid out in this proposal. The GWDB will also assist in identifying opportunities for workforce development programs and resources to support the Tech Hub, and for engaging Maryland's 13 local workforce development areas and 33 American Job Centers to help ensure that employment opportunities created through the Tech Hub are accessible to a diverse range of job seekers. The GWDB will also offer its Executive Director, who has over ten years of workforce development experience, to provide support and liaise with the consortium on behalf of the GWDB as needed.

If selected, the Baltimore Tech Hub will play a pivotal role in meeting the goals of the Moore-Miller administration, which include boosting the economic competitiveness of our State while connecting Marylanders to good jobs. We look forward to working with the consortium to collaborate, innovate and drive unprecedented and equitable economic and workforce development through this transformative initiative.

Should you require additional information, please contact Rachael Stephens Parker at rachael.parker@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Carim Khouzami, Chair, Governor's Workforce Development Board

CC: Rachael Stephens Parker, Executive Director, Governor's Workforce Development Board