Office of the Planning Director Prince George's County Planning Department 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 TTY: (301) 952-4366 www.mncppc.org/pgco 301-952-3595 D13-052401

June 25, 2013

Mr. Joseph F. McCauley Chief, Division of Realty Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service 300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley, MA 01035-9589

> RE: Land Exchange at Patuxent Research Refuge in Prince George's County, Maryland FWS/Region 5/NWRS-RE (MR-1315A)

Dear Mr. McCauley:

The Prince George's County Planning Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed land exchange between the Patuxent Research Refuge and Emmanuel Baptist Church. The purpose of the proposed project is to make possible the construction of a stormwater management structure for the church, and a turning lane, which will address drainage and traffic safety issues respectively, off of State Highway 197.

The proposed project does not include any impacts to any historic or known archeological resources and no further information is requested. The transportation impact of this construction will have very little effect on traffic flow, and should improve traffic safety and operations.

The intent of the land exchange is consistent with the spirit and vision of the 2010 Subregion 1 Master Plan and the 2002 Prince George's County Approved General Plan. The proposed project involves no urban design issues and has already been approved by the applicable agencies.

In conclusion, we appreciate the care you have taken to maintain an equivalent amount of forested wildlife habitat under permanent protection in the National Wildlife Refuge System as a result of the proposed project.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment on the proposed land exchange. If you should have any additional questions or need additional information, please contact Fatimah Hasan, Planner

Mr. Joseph F. McCauley Page 2 June 25, 2013

Coordinator, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division, at 301-952-3580 or at Fatimah.Hasan@ppd.mncppc.org.

Sincerely,

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c: Derick Berlage, Chief, Countywide Planning Division Maria Martin, Planning Supervisor, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division Fatimah Hasan, Planner Coordinator, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division Eric Foster, Planning Supervisor, Transportation Planning Section, Countywide Planning Division Howard Berger, Planning Supervisor, Historic Preservation Section, Countywide Planning Division Katina Shoulars, Planning Supervisor, Environmental Planning Section, Countywide Planning Division

Cynthia Fenton, Acting Planning Supervisor, Community Planning Division Ruth Grover, Planner Coordinator, Urban Design Section, Development Review Division Redis C. Floyd, Clerk of the Council, Prince George's County Council