



January 9, 2017

Mr. Nicholas A. DiPasquale, Director
Chesapeake Bay Program
410 Severn Ave, Suite 109
Annapolis, MD 21403

Dear Nick:

Thank you for taking the time to meet today. We appreciate the opportunity to update you on the progress of *Businesses for the Bay* and our priorities for program activities in 2017. We were delighted to learn that the Chesapeake Bay Program has agreed to be a [B4B Networking Partner](#).

As you know, *Businesses for the Bay* is an Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay membership association designed to encourage businesses in the Chesapeake region take voluntary, innovative, and measurable solutions to improve water quality and the health of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and to raise public understanding of the valuable role these businesses play in environmental restoration. The program utilizes the framework of the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement to facilitate environmental stewardship while reaching business sustainability goals. Visit the *Businesses for the Bay* website to learn more: businesses.allianceforthebay.org.

In 2016, our 32 *Businesses for the Bay* Members committed to 176 Actions, identified as “Our Member Impact”. A breakdown of this work, as it relates to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement: includes:

- 2 Conserved Lands Actions
- 17 Fisheries and Habitats Actions
- 74 Engaged Communities Actions
- 39 Clean Water Actions
- 2 Climate Change Resiliency Actions
- 42 Other Green Initiatives Actions

In addition to our members, other diverse governmental and non-profit [Networking Partners](#) like the Chesapeake Bay Program participated in *Businesses for the Bay* events, helped the Alliance network with businesses, and helped us raise awareness about *Businesses for the Bay* in the watershed. We have now added the Chesapeake Bay Program to our list of 29 Networking Partners: businesses.allianceforthebay.org/networking-partners.

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The contributions of Networking Partners are voluntary. The following are some of the ways we hope the Chesapeake Bay Program and its partners will help us advance the *Businesses for the Bay* program:

- Raise awareness of *Businesses for the Bay* and spread the word about events, Business Forums, and educational efforts related to the program.
- Participate in education of the business community, through *Businesses for the Bay* webinars and/or Chesapeake Business Forums, about current and emerging Watershed issues and expectations.
- Encourage businesses to work with us as members and facilitate introductions where appropriate.
- Work directly with the Alliance on specific *Businesses for the Bay* initiatives.

The Alliance will publicize Networking Partners on our website, in social media and newsletters, and other outreach efforts. We look forward to working with you and the Chesapeake Bay Program to encourage businesses to voluntarily go above and beyond environmental compliance.

Please let me know if you have any questions and contact Corinne Stephens, Alliance Business Partnerships Manager at 443 949 0575 or at cstephens@allianceforthebay.org for more information about *Businesses for the Bay*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Albert H. Todd', with a stylized, cursive script.

ALBERT H. TODD
Executive Director