CORRESPONDENCE - October 03, 2022

The Honorable Larry Hogan  
Governor  
State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Bill Ferguson  
President  
Senate of Maryland  
State House, H-107  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones  
Speaker  
Maryland House of Delegates  
State House, H-101  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Report required by Education Article § 5-325 (MSAR #12715) - Update on the Evaluation of the Life Cycle Costs of Public School Buildings

Dear Governor Hogan, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones,

Education Article § 5-325, HB 1/Chapter 20, 2020 requires that:

(a) The Interagency Commission or, if required under subsection (b) of this section, the Maryland Stadium Authority shall evaluate the life cycle costs of public school buildings over a 50-year period, including:

(1) An evaluation, based on a 50-year period, of the cost and efficiency of using alternative energy systems, including geothermal, solar, wind, and energy storage compared to a traditional energy system;

(2) An energy consumption and systems replacement analysis, based on a 50-year period, of each major piece of equipment in any of the following systems serving the public school building:

   (i) The cooling system;
   (ii) The heating system;
   (iii) The hot water system;
   (iv) The lighting system;
   (v) The ventilation system; or
   (vi) Any other major system that uses energy; and

(3) The impact of innovative building design and materials on energy consumption, including white roofs and green roofs.

(b) The Interagency Commission or the Maryland Stadium Authority, as applicable, may contract with a third party to conduct the evaluation under subsection (a) of this section.

(c)(1) The evaluation required under subsection (a) of this section shall be conducted and submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article on or before October 1, 2023.

(2) On or before October 1, 2020, and each October 1 through 2022, the Interagency Commission or the Maryland Stadium Authority shall provide annual updates on the progress of the evaluation to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.
On July 23, 2021, the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) and the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA) entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) as required by 2020 MD. Laws, Ch. 20. The MOU established that the IAC will be responsible for evaluating the life cycle costs of public school buildings over both a 30-year and 50-year period, including:

1. An evaluation, based on 30-year and 50-year periods, of the cost and efficiency of using alternative energy systems, including geothermal, solar, wind, and energy storage compared to a traditional energy system;
2. An energy consumption and systems replacement analysis, based on a 50-year period, of each major piece of equipment in any of the following systems serving the public school building:
   (a) The cooling system;
   (b) The heating system;
   (c) The hot water system;
   (d) The lighting system;
   (e) The ventilation system; or
   (f) Any other major system that uses energy; and
3. The impact of innovative building design and materials on energy consumption, including white roofs and green roofs.

To meet the requirements of this legislation, the IAC has initiated a working group with the Department of General Services and developed a project charter for the development of a life cycle cost library (LCCL) that will be the foundation of the life cycle cost analysis (LCCA) evaluation. The establishment of the LCCL is scheduled for early 2023 such that a base of data will exist to support the required LCCA. The IAC will then work to hire contractual employees or an outside consultant to conduct the evaluation required under this section of law.

This letter serves as the IAC’s annual update on the progress of the evaluation due to the General Assembly on or before October 1, 2022. The IAC shall submit the final evaluation to the General Assembly on or before October 1, 2023.

Please contact me at 410-767-0102 or via email Alex.Donahue@maryland.gov if you have any questions regarding this material or if you need any additional information.

Best Regards,

Alex Donahue
Acting Executive Director
Interagency Commission on School Construction

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)