

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) today announced the inclusion of \$57.7 million for the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) consolidation project at White Oak, Maryland in the FY08 Financial Services Appropriations bill which passed the House of Representatives today.

The FDA project at White Oak involves the consolidation of 18 different existing FDA facilities across the Greater Washington area into a state-of-the-art 130-acre campus where over 7,700 employees will eventually have offices. To date, Rep. Hoyer has helped secure more than \$678 million for project. Specifically, this latest installment of funding will go towards a data center, employee parking facilities, and the design of critical office space and laboratories.

"Consolidating FDA's offices and laboratories at White Oak will allow some of the world's top researchers to move out of dilapidated working conditions and into state-of-the-art facilities," stated Rep. Hoyer. "I am proud to have secured this investment, which is necessary to keep the project moving forward and ensure the operating efficiencies of the consolidation are realized."

The House Financial Services Appropriations bill now awaits passage of the Senate's companion legislation. In the next stage of the appropriations process, a House-Senate conference will meet to reconcile the differences so one bill can be brought to both chambers for a final vote.

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