

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT FINANCE**

Public Notice is hereby given in accordance with 29 *Delaware Code* §10004, 29 *Delaware Code* §8707A, 29 *Delaware Code* §8755A, and Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”), that the Council on Development Finance (the “Council”) of The Delaware Economic Development Authority (the “Authority”) will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Buena Vista Conference Center, 661 South DuPont Highway in New Castle, Delaware 19720, with respect to the matter and application described below for financial assistance from the Authority in connection with the proposed financing of the project, in the amount and on behalf of the applicant identified below. The public is invited to attend and participate in the hearing. In advance of the hearing, additional information concerning the matter and application to be considered at the hearing may be obtained from, and written comments may be submitted to, the Council in care of the Authority, Attn: Andrea Wojcik, Division of Small Business, at business@delaware.gov. The Council reserves the right to conduct a part of the hearing in one or more executive sessions closed to the public for the purpose of discussing certain confidential commercial and financial information submitted by the applicant for assistance that is not a public record within the meaning of 29 *Delaware Code* §10002. The agenda for the hearing, which is subject to change, is as follows:

1. **Applicant: FR First Park New Castle, LLC**– The applicant is requesting a Level II Site Readiness Fund grant of \$1,400,000 for their project in New Castle, Delaware.
2. **Applicant: Merck Sharp & Dohme, LLC**– The applicant is requesting a Delaware Strategic Fund grant in the amount of \$30,234,075 to establish its operation in Wilmington, Delaware.
3. **CDF Secretary Designation Request** – The Director of the Division of Small Business, C.J. Bell, requests the appointment of the Senior Financial Analyst, Joanna Colson, as the Secretary of CDF for the purpose of compliance with 29 *Del. C.* §§ 8707A and 8756A.
4. **Executive Session** – The Council may enter into Executive Session pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* § 10004(b) to conduct a strategy session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice or opinion from an attorney-at-law, with respect to pending or potential litigation related to grant terms and conditions, application content, applicant responses, “clawback” practices, and debt collection issues related to current or prior application approvals which if conducted in an open meeting, would have an adverse effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the Authority, or to discuss documents which do not constitute “public records” within the meaning of 29 *Del. C.* § 10002(l).
5. **All Other Matters That May Come Before the Council**