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Living Canopies Ltd is a Maryland-based corporation that is commercializing green technology invented and patented at the University of Maryland College Park (UMD) in 2016.

The green technology integrates nature-based solutions with smart devices to revolutionize the way cities approach sustainability and equity to co-manage mobility, green space, carbon emissions and storm water. Our flagship product, the Cool Green Shelter for Bus Stops, is designed to address the growing needs for public mobility options in cities and provide sustainable and equitable economic opportunities for all city residents. Our patent-protected design increases ridership, enhances customer experience, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions, making it a viable and attractive solution for cities and transit authorities. Our innovative Green Shelters incorporate solar power, a living green roof, device charging and rainwater harvesting technologies that will result in GHG reduction of 8000 MT-CO₂/y, 5.8 million new rides per year, storage of 9.3 million liters of stormwater per year, production of 2.5 GWh of solar electricity per year and a total cooling reduction of 1.3 million cooling degree-days by 2027. We believe the Green Shelter will revolutionize the way cities create equity and sustainability in the mobility space, and we are excited to bring our vision to life.

HB 911/ SB 900- Maryland Clean Energy Center – Climate Technology Founder’s Fund

Hearing Dates: 3/14/2023 House Appropriations Committee
Recommendation: FAVORABLE REPORT

As a green-tech startup company, Living Canopies relies on public and private investment to advance the research and development of its technology and to commercialize its resulting products. We have benefited greatly from the generosity and mentorship offered by the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator (MEIA) during 2022. MEIA has provided us with \$10,000 in non-dilutive funding that provided us with the expertise of a seasoned executive. This executive helped us develop a new business model and investor pitch deck. This has prepared us to seek private investment.

Private investment is not only necessary to execute our sales and marketing strategy, but it opens access to several of the State’s technology-based business investment funds, like those managed by TEDCO and MTEch/DNR. However, while we seek private investment, we fall prey to a funding gap that jeopardizes our momentum. This gap can be filled by the creation of the MCEC Founder’s Fund.

Additionally, the MCEC Founder’s Fund would provide needed 1:1 matching for Living Canopies so we can seek investments offered through the USM Momentum Fund and TEDCO’s SEED Fund.

Living Canopies has an agreement with the City of Hyattsville to purchase several of our unique, Green Shelters. This project has a 10-year lifetime value of \$715,000 for Living Canopies. As a physical product, our Green Shelters require metal fabrication, which will result in manufacturing jobs in Maryland.

Living Canopies urges your favorable support of HB911/ SB900 and thanks, Chairman Barve, Delegates Vogel and Qi for their leadership in sponsoring this legislation.