



US Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District

BEP Replacement Facility Quarterly Newsletter

July 2024

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<https://go.usa.gov/xtC2Q>
Email: BEP-updates@usace.army.mil

This Quarter's Focus:
History of BEP

This quarterly newsletter is a collaboration between the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District, with the intent to keep the community informed of the progress on the BEP replacement Currency Production Facility (CPF) at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). USACE signed an interagency agreement with BEP in March 2019 to coordinate this replacement effort, including environmental assessments and design and construction oversight for the Main facility and supporting structures, parking and stormwater management facilities, roadway access and improvements, utility connections, security systems and access control.

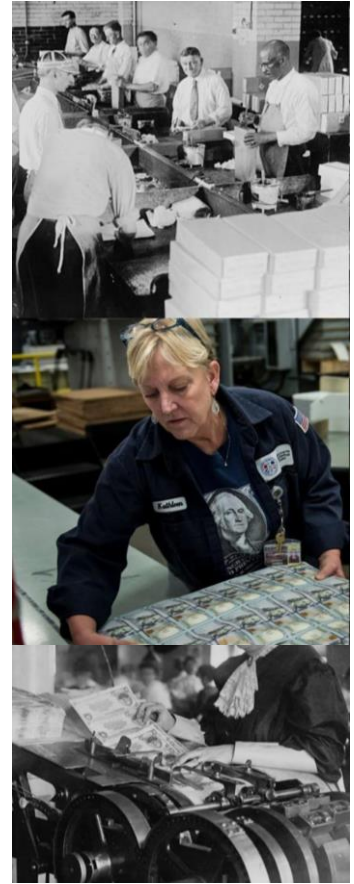
History of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing

In 1861, the first general circulation of paper money by the federal government was provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury. This currency was engraved and printed by private banknote companies and delivered to Treasury, where notes were separated, trimmed, and signed by hand before issuance. In 1862, currency processing was automated, and legislation authorized the Treasury Secretary to engrave and print currency. This act was viewed as the enabling legislation for work performed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Currency production at the Treasury Department began as a shared function with private banknote printers. By 1874, the "Bureau of Engraving and Printing" within the Treasury Department was specifically funded by Congress. In 1877, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) became the sole producer of U.S. currency.

As bank note needs increased, the Treasury Department constructed a facility specifically for BEP operations in 1880 at 14th street and B street in Washington DC.

In 1914, the BEP expanded into a new facility located between 14th and 15th street in Washington DC, now known as the 'Main Building.' Later in 1938, BEP began operations in the adjacent 'Annex Building.' At the end of the twentieth century, in 1990, the BEP began printing currency at its then new second currency printing facility in Fort Worth TX, the Western Currency Facility.

After more than 162 years, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's mission remains to develop and produce United States currency notes, trusted worldwide, and a vision to set the world standard for banknotes and document security through excellence in manufacturing and innovation.



What is the Bureau of Engraving and Printing?



The BEP is the bureau within the U.S. Department of the Treasury responsible for designing and printing U.S. currency notes issued by the Federal Reserve Board. BEP currently operates currency production facilities in Washington, D.C. and Fort Worth, Texas. BEP's current Washington, D.C. facility is more than 100 years old and limits BEP's ability to modernize its operations. Therefore the BEP, in coordination with USACE, is planning the construction and operation of a more efficient, modern facility at BARC to meet currency production needs.

Project Status Updates



Environmental

The BEP completed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), with the Record of Decision (ROD) signed in October 2021. A Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential impacts to traffic and utilities mitigation is currently ongoing.



Upcoming Events & Milestones

- April-June 2024: Public Review of Draft BEP Traffic and Utilities Mitigation Supplemental EA
- Summer 2024: Complete supplemental NEPA documentation
- Late 2024: Construction Start



Small Business Spotlight :

Throughout the CPF project, USACE and BEP aim to develop small businesses and maximizing their opportunities to participate in federal projects. Each quarter, a small business is spotlighted for their participation in the CPF design and construction project.

Spotlight's on: Rhodeside & Harwell Inc. (RHI)

Rhodeside & Harwell is a women-owned, small business providing the Capital Currency A/E Team with landscape design services. At the CPF, RHI designed a landscape highlighting native planting and meadows. RHI was critical in the development of the NCPD milestone submissions.

Aerial Rendering



Estimated Project Schedule



Site Preparation: Existing building demolition/hazardous material safely removed and disposed

Supplemental NEPA Complete

Construction Start

Construction End

Fully Operational

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