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## **Howard County Executive Kittleman applauds Governor's disaster declaration request**

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – The possibility of financial assistance for businesses and property owners impacted by the July 30 flooding in Ellicott City gained momentum today when Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan officially asked the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to issue a physical disaster declaration for Howard County.

Hogan made the request to the SBA following the devastating storm that displaced hundreds of merchants, business owners and residents along Main Street. If granted, the declaration will allow for low-interest disaster loans to be made available to repair or replace real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory or business assets that were damaged or destroyed by the flood.

“Governor Hogan has been in our corner right from the start,” said Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman. “We appreciate his action today to make this type of financial assistance possible. Ellicott City cannot rebuild alone but we can rebuild together.”

In other recovery news:

Kittleman submitted a request today for financial and technical assistance to remove debris and repair damaged river walls in the Tiber River, Hudson Branch and Sucker Branch through the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. The program is administered by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Earlier in the day, county staff from the Department of Public Works and the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits inspected the waterways in downtown Ellicott City along side staff from the NRCS.

The County's #ECStrong Volunteer Reception Center will relocate from the Walmart parking lot on Ridge Road to the Disaster Assistance Center (DAC) located at the Ellicott City 50+ Center (9401 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042). The Volunteer

Reception Center will be closed through Friday and will reopen on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 13 and 14 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A comprehensive resource list regarding recovery efforts can be found at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/ECStrong-Recovery-Resources>.

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