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## **Executive Kittleman announces next steps in recovery process for Ellicott City's Main Street**

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman today announced the next steps in Ellicott City's recovery that will increase access, restore commerce, reduce anxiety and provide predictability for the merchants and residents of Main Street.

Beginning Wednesday, a portion of the western end of Main Street that sustained minor or no damage will be reopened.

"Despite the challenges and difficulties many have faced since July 30, we have seen unprecedented levels of patience, cooperation and resilience," said Kittleman. "Together, we take another step along the road to recovery."

Kittleman said the county will open access at two locations, effectively shrinking the perimeter of Main Street's "no-access" area. Access will be restored at the top of Main Street from Ellicott Mills Drive to Court Avenue, and on Old Columbia Pike down to Main Street.

These changes will allow businesses at the western end of Main Street and along Tonge Row a chance to reopen. On-street parking on Main Street continues to be prohibited and parking in general will be tight. Limited parking will be available on parking Lot "D" by Roussey Lane to accommodate employees and customers of those accessible businesses.

For an updated map of the new access points and parking lots, [click here](#).

Later this week, weather permitting, the county will repave Merryman and Hill streets. While the repaving operation is underway, credentialed residents of those streets will be allowed to park on Lot "F" near the top of Main Street. Then Saturday, again weather permitting, half of Lot "F" will be re-opened to the public.

"Main Street remains a major construction site," said Kittleman. "Please, if you don't have a real reason to be here, don't come just to gawk or sightsee. Many have asked, 'How can I help?,' Well, that's one of the ways."

Kittleman said the county will also provide seven days of credentialed access to those businesses on Tiber Alley on the eastern part of Main Street to give more time to

continue cleaning up. This access is not intended for customers or the public and access will be controlled by security.

Over the next few weeks, Kittleman expects the no-access perimeter to continue shrinking. Again depending on the weather, the county and State Highway Administration officials are hopeful that the bridge that spans the Patapsco River from Baltimore County will reopen. When this happens, Kittleman said the perimeter can move west of Maryland Avenue, allowing pedestrian and vehicle traffic to the very bottom of Main Street and up Maryland Avenue.

Yet as the county continues to reopen sections of Ellicott City, Kittleman cautions that there is still much work to be done. More sidewalks must be installed, buildings still need to be shored up, significant stabilization and repair work is needed along Hamilton Street and major work must be done in front of Salon Marielle.

Kittleman added that BGE will be installing a new, 4-inch natural gas line on Main Street from Court Avenue to Maryland Avenue. During this extensive repair, BGE will be connecting this line to nearly 70 properties along Main Street.

“Since the earliest moments after this flood, we have all been united under the banner of ECSTRONG,” said Kittleman. “As you’ve seen, it’s already proven to be more than just a slogan. It is a reflection of the values that define us as a community and it is a true testament to our collective resolve that will serve us well moving forward.”

### **KEY DATES AT A GLANCE:**

Wednesday, Aug.24:

- Main Street reopens from Ellicott Mills Drive to Court Avenue
- Old Columbia Pike reopens down to Main Street
- Main Street parking still prohibited
- Seven days of credentialed access for businesses on Tiber Alley

Thursday, Aug. 25/Friday, Aug. 26

- Merryman and Hill streets to be re-paved

Saturday, Aug. 27

- Half of Parking Lot “F” to reopen

Early September

- Reopening of Patapsco River bridge
- Perimeter moves west of Maryland Avenue on Main Street

