

410-313-3600 / ECFloodRecovery@HowardCountymd.gov

August 30, 2016

Kittleman announces Preservation Resource Center to help with historic Ellicott City recovery

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman today announced that Preservation Maryland will open a temporary resource center in Ellicott City to assist owners of historic properties in their recovery efforts from the July 30 flash flood.

The center will provide technical assistance to help owners rebuild damaged historic properties along Main Street, connect them with consultants and contractors, help them with the historic district review process and provide them with information on relevant local, state and federal financial assistance and tax credit programs.

“Preservation Maryland has been here from the beginning, helping us to document Ellicott City’s historical value,” said Kittleman. “I have lived in Howard County my entire life and I want to make sure that future generations will have the chance to enjoy Ellicott City for many, many years to come.”

The center will be located at a yet-to-be-determined location on Main Street and is expected to operate for nine months. It will be overseen by Renee S. Novak who was hired by Preservation Maryland specifically for this effort. In addition to the technical assistance, the center is expected to conduct workshops and talks on specific preservation topics during the fall.

Nicholas Redding, executive director of Preservation Maryland, said the resource center is being partially funded through donations to Preservation Maryland’s Flood Recovery Fund as well as contributions from several corporations. Redding said the full amount needed to operate the center has yet to be raised and that interested donors are encouraged to go to www.presmd.org/ecflood.

“Its history, its character, its charm is a large part of Ellicott City,” said Redding. “It wouldn’t be Ellicott City moving forward if that history and character were not part of this place.”

Ellicott City’s Main Street is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a local, state and national historic district. It is also part of The Historic National Road, the first major improved highway in the United States and it was named a Maryland Main Street Community.

“We’re going to rebuild to make us stronger and Preservation Maryland can be a big help,” said Kittleman. “We’re not giving up on Ellicott City because this town is too important to us, not just to those of us in Howard County but everyone in the region and throughout the state.”

Also today, Kittleman announced plans to solicit nominations of those whose significant actions on the evening of the July 30 flood deserve recognition. Those nominations may be made at www.howardcountymd.gov/ECNomination.

“We saw on Facebook a lot of heroic actions that night,” Kittleman said. “But there were a lot of people who did some really amazing things that no one knows. I want to make sure we find a way to thank those individuals who made a difference that night and in the weeks that followed.”

In the near future, Kittleman said the county plans a special “thank you” for those selected from these nominations

###