



## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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*Maryland General Assembly Bond Bill Request  
Expanded Tiber Park - Howard County 20-21  
Amount Request: \$500,000, with \$500,000 County Match*

The Department of Public Works appreciates the opportunity to speak with you to request support for an expanded Tiber Park along Lower Main Street in Ellicott City. Throughout Ellicott City's history, Main Street and its surroundings have been subjected to numerous flood events. Most recently, flash flooding has caused significant physical and economic damage.

In conjunction with the County Executive's Office, the Department of Public Works has been working to implement flood mitigation projects through the *EC Safe & Sound Plan*. In the near future, construction will start on the Maryland Avenue Culvert, a major flood mitigation project located in the vicinity of Maryland Avenue and Main Street. While that project itself necessitates the removal of four buildings, it creates a unique opportunity to create a new and expanded Tiber Park public amenity space.

This funding request would support the implementation of the policies and recommendations made in the *Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan*, a comprehensive Master Planning effort led by the County's Department of Planning and Zoning. Improvements include pedestrian gathering areas, plantings, lighting, wayfinding, and related improvements. These improvements will be constructed in and around an expanded stream channel area – principally concealed by four existing buildings that will be removed prior to this effort.

The existing Tiber Park, constructed less than 30 years ago, was constructed on the site of the former Earle Theater – destroyed by fire in the 1940's. As part of the expanded park, a kiosk or other exhibit will be provided, conveying the history of the site to the public. This project also improves the relationship between the public areas along Main Street and reinforces the relationship between the Tiber Hudson and the development of Ellicott City over time, something that is recommended in *Ellicott City Historic District* guidelines.

Support of this project will allow the County to continue to progress other critical flood mitigation projects, while ensuring that Lower Main Street is reimagined and redeveloped for enjoyment of future generations.

The Howard County Department of Public Works sincerely appreciates your support of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions on this request.

Sincerely,

R. Zachary Hollenbeck, AIA  
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