Department of County Administration

ELLIOTT COTT CITY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY FRAMEWORK
Emergency Response

- 6+ inches of rain in 2 hours
- Back building Thunderstorm
- From 7pm to 1am on 7-30-16, the Howard County dispatch center handled 1,043 emergency calls.
  - That is 4 times the normal call volume.
- Majority of them were water rescues
- 2 lives were tragically lost that evening, and one was lost during the recovery efforts
Short-Term Recovery- Day 2 through Month 1

- Rebuilding: Rebuild Historic Ellicott City with an emphasis on resilient infrastructure through flood mitigation
- Temporary work over permanent work
Intermediate Recovery

- Develop Strategy
- Held Community Meetings
- Continued CAG
- Studies Underway
- Website Development
- Public Assistance Kickoff/Meetings

The Path to Recovery

- Tiber Hudson Corridor Assessment (Ongoing)
- Flood Case Study
- Hydrology and Hydraulic Study
- Community Engagement

Short Term Projects
- Master Plan Process
  Spring – Summer 2018
Intermediate—Long Term—Months 5 through 8

- Slow waiting process
- CAG Final Report
- Recovery Manager phased out
- Transition OEM to more of a coordination role
- Millworks Opened (One-stop Shop)
Long-Term Recovery - Month 8 to Today

- Recovery meetings scaled back
- OneEC Recovery Project
- Master Plan Process
  - Tiber Hudson Corridor Assessment and Flood Case Study
  - Hydrology and Hydraulic Study
  - USACE Non-Structural Floodproofing Study
- Old EC Flood Commemoration
Progress to Date

- 17 new businesses have opened with 9 on the way
- Over $10.8 million in infrastructure improvement projects have been completed
- Rebuilding is still underway for some properties and businesses
Progress to Date

- Examples of some of the infrastructure improvement projects
Progress to Date

- Four major flood mitigation projects announced
Progress to Date

1. Tiber Branch Retention Facility ($4.2M)
Progress to Date

2. New Cut Branch Retention Facility ($3.6M)
Progress to Date

3. Hudson Branch Retention Facility ($5.1M)
Progress to Date

4. Frederick Road Conveyance Improvements ($5.3M)
Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan
Presentation to Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission
November 13, 2017

Additional Updates Regarding:
PlanHoward Academy
Zoning Code Assessment

Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning
Many layers of Ellicott City history

Mill Town

River Town

Baltimore & Ohio Stop

Civil War Post

County Seat
A history of flooding

Flood of 1868

Past Floods in Ellicott City (1768-2011)

- 1768
- 1817
- 1837
- **1868** – 43 people died; destroyed 14 homes
- 1901
- 1917
- 1923
- 1942
- 1952
- **1972** – Hurricane Agnes
- 1975
- 1989
- **2011** – Tropical Storm Lee
WHY A WATERSHED MASTER PLAN FOR ELLICOTT CITY?

Ultimate goal: rebuild Ellicott City as a model resilient community
**Studies and Plans Prior to 2016 Flood**

- Flood Working Group report, 2015
- Main Street Maryland Application, 2014
- Flood study, 2013
- Downtown Ellicott City Revitalization Initiative Process Summary, 2013
- Tiber Hudson Subwatershed Restoration Plan, 2013
- Sustainable Community Application, 2012
- Versar’s Concept Plan for Old Ellicott City LID Project, 2012
- Downtown Ellicott City Parking Study, 2009
- Improvements to Patapsco River Open Space – Concept Design, 2005
- Ellicott City Plan, 2003
- Ellicott City Improvements: Recommendations, 1988
- Ellicott City Master Plan, 1981
- Ellicott City: New Life for an Old Town, 1977

**Efforts Since 2016 Flood**

- Ellicott City “Progress To Date”
- Four major flood mitigation projects announced
- Hydrology and Hydraulics Study
  - Appendix A1, A2, A3, A4
  - Appendix B
  - Appendix C
  - Appendix D
  - Appendix E
- ECstrong.org
- Meeting Summaries
- Project Idea Themes
- Current studies underway
- Economic Impact of the 2016 Ellicott City Flood
- Story map
- Master plan press release
- Community Advisory Group Final Report
- ULI Ellicott City TAP Report
Framing the Master Plan

The Master Planning Process is:

1. An On-Going Process
2. Building Upon Efforts to Date
3. Seizing the Opportunity to Make Ellicott City Better
4. Focused on Implementation – Balancing Short and Long-Term Goals
5. Developing a “Game Plan”- Using the H&H Study (and other studies) as a Tool
Framing the Master Plan

Scope: Integrated Approach to Building Resiliency and Reducing Risk over the Long-Term

- Physical Planning | Land Use | Zoning
- Urban Design | Placemaking | Parks
- Transportation | Parking
- Infrastructure Improvements | Stormwater Management
- Economic Development | Community Marketing
- Funding Strategies | Implementation

Informed by CAG, Hydrology and Hydraulic Study (H&H), and other plans/studies
OVERALL STRATEGY
Flood Water Paths
Watershed Master Plan Scope

Integrated Approach to Building Resiliency and Reducing Risk

• Integrate the Pillars – Rebuilding, Preservation, Economic Development, Environment and Unique Place Values
Rebuilding

- **Parking** *(structure, enforcement, shuttle, etc.)*
- **Sidewalks** *(materials, crosswalks, etc.)*
- **Utilities** *(underground lines, capacity, etc.)*
- **SWM/Retention**
- **Floodproofing Buildings**
- **Stream Channel Improvements** *(channel access, maintenance, depth and width, etc.)*
- **Transit** *(Regional connections, incentives, etc.)*
- **Streets** *(traffic-calming, traffic patterns, etc.)*

- **Cleanliness**
- **Public Amenities** *(comforts, “placemaking”, etc.)*
- **Wayfinding/Signage** *(parking, attractions, etc.)*
- **Public Restrooms**
Preservation

• Historically Appropriate Restoration and Rehabilitation
  (design standards, maintain character and scale, etc.)

• Historic Preservation Education
  (increased public awareness, staff/commission training, etc.)

• Building Maintenance

• Historic Property Maintenance

• Historic Property Database
  (inventory, new designations, etc.)

• Funding
Economic Development

- Business Preparedness
- Public Access to Historic Sites
  (operation hours, programming, staff expansion, etc.)
- Small Business Assistance
  (BID, business services, business survey, etc.)
- Marketing Main Street
  (Better promotion, destination restaurants, hotel, etc.)
- Arts and Entertainment District
  (three districts, public art, programming, etc.)
- Development
  (balanced, transition zone, mixed-use development, etc.)
Environment

- Native Planting
- Adding and Improving Open Space
  (waterfront access, Patapsco River Greenway, downtown green space connectivity, expand and protect green space, recreation facilities, etc.)
- Stormwater Management and Stream Restoration
  (water quality, bank stabilization and restoration, expanded BMP facilities, green infrastructure, watershed plan, etc.)
- Environmental Education
  (best practices for private property, County set standard, etc.)
Other

• Community Engagement
• Public Safety and Health (flood mitigation on County property, application of H&H study, monitoring, etc.)
• **Regulatory Measures** (special protection zones, upstream development, etc.)
• Expansion of County Staff Resources
• Flood Insurance
• Residential Development
• Seniors
• Children and Education
What is your relationship in the Historic Ellicott City Watershed? (press all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39%</td>
<td>1. I live there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29%</td>
<td>2. I work there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16%</td>
<td>3. I own a business there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74%</td>
<td>4. I shop there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5. I worship there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33%</td>
<td>6. I own property there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41%</td>
<td>7. Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Workshop 2 Table Exercises**

As we explore opportunities for Downtown, what is important to consider for the topics below (in addition to flood mitigation ideas from H&H study). For each topic, please record important opportunities and critical concerns. One person at your table will then be a "reporter" and share one consideration for up to two topics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Key Issues to Consider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Patapsco Riverfront</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(<em>Existing ideas: better access, outfitters, riverwalk, overlook, etc.</em>)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Courthouse (Buildings &amp; Parking Areas)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(<em>Existing ideas: boutique hotel, mixed-use/residential, stormwater capture, etc.</em>)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Main Street Music Festival Input Summary

The following is a summary of the input collected during the September 23, 2017 Main Street Music Festival at the pop-up booth for the Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan.

The Place to Be | Placemaking Ideas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amenity</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Dining</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighting</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stream Daylighting</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Water</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events/Gatherings</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play Water Feature</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Art</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Parklets</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Games</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike Amenities</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planting/Color</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Seating</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Exercise</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Little Libraries</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor kiosk</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Approach in Ellicott City

H&H Provides a Useful Tool at the Macro Level. During the master plan, we will:

1. Subdivide areas into separate “reaches”.
2. Understand constrictions / pinchpoints within each reach and potential interventions to address.
3. Understand impacts that interventions have on lower reaches.

* Note: Reaches shown are for example only. Specific reach boundaries to be determined.
H&H Provides a Useful Tool at the Macro Level. During the master plan, we will:

1. Subdivide areas into separate “reaches”.
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3. Understand **impacts** that interventions have on **lower reaches**.

* Note: Reaches shown are for example only. Specific reach boundaries to be determined.
Example # 1

Sample Project: Improve Lot D  *(Could be landscape/placemaking enhancements, improved layout, structured parking, and/or infill development, etc.)*

Example of the *inter-relationship* of potential *enhancement projects* and how the *H&H Study* could *inform* the projects.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>Week of July 10th Public Workshop #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>Potential September Pop-Up</td>
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<tr>
<td>JULY</td>
<td>Week of November 13th Public Workshop #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Week of January 15th Public Workshop #4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Week of March 5th Public Workshop #5</td>
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<td>OCTOBER</td>
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<td>NOVEMBER</td>
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<td>DECEMBER</td>
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<td>JANUARY</td>
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<td>FEBRUARY</td>
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<td>MARCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**We Are Here**

Public/Stakeholder Engagement
Where We are Now

1. **November 14 and 15:** November Workshops (#3)
   
   **Focus:**
   
   - Transportation, parking, downtown opportunity sites and organization
   - Market Assessment

1. **Week of January 15:** Workshop #4 – Additional Recommendations
   
   - Opportunity sites evaluated based upon 2 D model analysis
   - West End and watershed-wide recommendations + updates and additional recommendations for core
GENERAL QUESTIONS?
THANK YOU!

Peter G. Conrad, AICP,
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Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning
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