



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Calvin Ball, Chairperson
District 2
Jon Weinstein, Vice Chairperson
District 1
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3
Mary Kay Sigaty
District 4
Greg Fox
District 5

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CONTACT: Eric Solomon – Public Information Officer
esolomon@howardcountymd.gov
(410) 313-1143

Councilman Ball and Weinstein to File Amendment Extending Residential Property Tax Credit Boundaries to Help Flood Victims

Ellicott City, MD (October 14, 2016) – Today, Howard County Council Chairperson Calvin Ball and Vice-Chairperson Jon Weinstein announced their plans to file an amendment to Council Bill 66-2016, that would extend the boundaries for the “Ellicott City Strong Tax Credit” for residential property owners, from Ellicott City to all of Howard County. The residents must have been affected by flood or sewage damage from the July 30, 2016 historic event.

Many residents experienced significant property damage, which would be very expensive, time-consuming, and difficult to overcome,” said Council Chairperson Calvin Ball. “We are Howard County strong and together we will rebuild, overcoming any challenge or obstacle that mother nature may put in our path. By working together, my hope is that through this legislation, we will establish a partnership that helps lessen the financial burden for those seeking to reinvest back into our communities.

The proposed tax credit will be granted in an amount of 100% of the cost to repair, rehabilitate, restore, or redevelop the property, up to the full amount of the County property tax. A qualified applicant may receive the credit for tax years 2017 and 2018. The legislation states that a property owner would submit an application to the Department of Finance to receive the Ellicott City Strong Tax Credit and this would be granted in taxable years beginning after June 30, 2016 and ending before July 1, 2018.

“This amendment addresses feedback we have heard by people supporting the legislation. The bill, if passed with the amendment, will allow all residential properties in the County that were impacted by the historic storm to take advantage of this financial benefit to aid their road to recovery,” said Councilman Weinstein. “For those who have already written to us, we thank you for your testimony. Those who were planning to join us for our Public Hearing to advocate for an amendment can rest easy knowing Dr. Ball and I have committed to this relief.”

Testimony on the CB 66-2016 legislation will be accepted at the regularly scheduled public hearing on October 17. To sign up to testify, visit <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/otestimony/>. If you would like to submit your testimony electronically, email councilmail@howardcountymd.gov.

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