

SCOPE— Field Hearing, Ellicott City.

At TIME TBD on Monday, August 20, 2018, the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works will hold a field hearing in The George Howard Building, Banneker Room, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21403 entitled, “Oversight Hearing on Repeated Flooding Events in Ellicott City, MD: Reviewing the Federal Role in Preventing Future Events.”

Purpose: The purpose of this hearing is to inform Committee members and their staff about the 2016 and 2018 floods in Ellicott City, and examine the federal role in flash flood events like these throughout the country.

Scope: The scope of this hearing is to discuss EPA Region 3 and US ACE’s response to both the 2016 and 2018 floods in Ellicott City, and examine the federal role in flash flood events like these throughout the country.

Potential Witnesses:

First Panel: House Members

- a) Congressmen Sarbanes and Cummings would be invited to testify briefly.

Second Panel: Government witnesses

- a) EPA Region 3
- b) USACE

Third panel: local witnesses

- a) Karen Besson, President of the Ellicott City Partnership - the Ellicott City Partnership is the primary organization handling economic revitalization, historic preservation, and flood relief to residents, property owners, and business owners. They have been heavily involved in the Watershed Master Planning process and are the best approximation of the local Chamber of Commerce.
- b) Grace Kubofcik, President, Patapsco Heritage Greenway. PHG's mission is to preserve, protect, interpret and restore the environment, history and culture of the Patapsco River Valley. Grace has also been very involved in the Watershed Master Planning Process.
- c) Mark DeLuca is the Chief of the Bureau of Environmental Services in the Howard County Department of Public Works. He and his team administer storm water management in the County.

Format:

1. Tour of Ellicott City with local officials to show Senators the effects of the 2016 and 2018 floods – Depending on the scheduling needs of the Senators, this may take place after the hearing instead.
2. Opening statements by the Chair and Ranking Members (no clock but Chair and Ranking Member agree to try to limit to roughly 5 minutes each)
3. First Panel: House Members
 - a. Congressmen Sarbanes and Cummings would be invited to testify briefly.

4. Second Panel: Government Witnesses
 - a. Witness Oral Statement – 5 minutes
 - b. Members' Questions to Witnesses – 5 minutes per member per round (additional round at the discretion of the Chair)
5. Second panel: local witnesses
 - a. Opening Statements by the Chair and Ranking Member
 - b. Witness Oral Statement – 5 minutes
 - c. Members' Questions to Witnesses – 5 minutes per member per round (additional round at the discretion of the Chair)