

Danielle Hornberger
County Executive

Steven Overbay
Director of Administration

Cecil County Government
410-996-5202

www.ccgov.org



CECIL COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
107 Chesapeake Boulevard, Suite 108
Elkton, MD 21921

Wayne L. Tome, Sr.
Director

John W. Donohue
Deputy Director

Patrick S. Campbell
Deputy Director

DES Information
410-996-5350
Fax: 410-398-0536

Website: ccdes.org

February 6, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Town of Port Deposit RAISE Grant

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

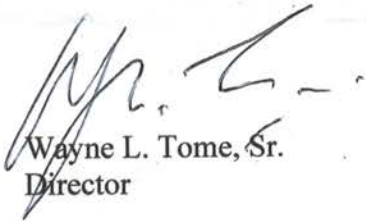
The Cecil County Department of Emergency Services is pleased to support the Town of Port Deposit's application for the FY 2023 U.S. Department of Transportation RAISE Grant to advance the design of infrastructure resilience against known flooding. Infrastructure recommendations were designed by the Army Corps of Engineers, Maryland State Highway Administration, and Port Deposit's engineering consultants. The recommended solutions and proposed projects would be the following: 1) develop upland stormwater management to capture run-off before the water flows into town limits 2) improve the drainage system along Maryland Route 222 3) maintaining strict land use and environmental design controls, and 4) strengthen the CSX railroad embankment (entrance of Vannort Drive and Netters Alley) to serve as a levee against future flooding while allowing access for daily operations.

The Town of Port Deposit is located downstream of the Conowingo Dam and can be negatively impacted by decisions made by Exelon if multiple flood gates were discharged based upon the river gauge levels. Conowingo Dam is currently rated as a "High Potential Classification" on the National Inventory of Dams. Most of the Port Deposit's Main Street is identified in the 2020 Cecil County Nuisance Flooding Plan as either known areas of nuisance flooding and or within the "100-year" flood plain zone.

Flooding caused by storm surge and upland storm drainage places both property and life at risk. Port Deposit's Main Street is the single point of egress for many town residents and nearly all commercial development and community facilities. While major events such as Hurricane Agnes and Tropical Storm Lee have captured the "headlines" of evacuation and swift water rescue, the increasing severity of once routine thunderstorms is causing frequent flash flooding with increasingly dire outcomes.

The proposed RAISE grant would improve the is a critical component in the Town's resiliency efforts. Cecil County Department of Emergency Services is committed to working with the Town of Port Deposit to continue progress on stormwater and flood controls so that the town may continue to thrive into the future.

Respectfully,



Wayne L. Tome, Sr.
Director