The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program accelerates investment in our nation’s water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects.

ELLOCOTT CITY SAFE & SOUND PLAN

BORROWER: Howard County, Maryland
LOCATION: Ellicott City, Maryland
WIFIA LOAN AMOUNT: $75,000,000
TOTAL WIFIA PROJECT COSTS: $187,417,409
POPULATION SERVED BY PROJECT: 328,000 people
NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED: 890

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Ellicott City Safe & Sound Plan is a comprehensive series of projects that will greatly reduce the impact of flooding by providing resilient infrastructure, managing stream debris, and increasing green space in Ellicott City, Maryland. Howard County is pursuing these projects after Ellicott City experienced several devastating 1000-year floods between 2016 and 2018. The projects include constructing of dry flood mitigation facilities, improving flood mitigation for the Lower Main Street area, planning and hydraulic modeling efforts, and constructing a tunnel that will intercept stormwater from the Hudson Branch to the Patapsco River. By implementing these projects in Ellicott City, Howard County will protect public safety, preserve the historic and cultural value of Main Street, and encourage economic development.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Supports resilience to the impacts of flooding events and climate change.
- Protects public safety and preserves buildings in the Main Street area.
- Saves Howard County approximately $13 million by financing with a WIFIA loan.