



HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

3430 Courthouse Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 ■ 410-313-2022

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FAX 410-313-3390

December 23, 2020

Joel Hurewitz  
[joelhurewitz@gmail.com](mailto:joelhurewitz@gmail.com)

Dear Mr. Hurewitz:

The following is in response to your two emails to Howard County Government's Office of Public Information, requesting information in accordance with the Maryland Public Information Act, 4-101 *et seq.* of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (the "PIA"), which this office received on December 10, 2020 and December 11, 2020.

In your first email, you specifically asked for "... documents related to which specific Safe and Sound plans showed the effect of water depth and/or velocity on Main Street if **ONLY** the portion of the building at 8049 Main Street (Phoenix Emporium) which is solely over the Tiber channel culvert (the portion of the building located at the corner of Main Street and Maryland Avenue) were to remain in place or the deck as presented in Figure 150 of the Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan were to be constructed with the other portions of 8049 and the other three buildings at 8055, 8059, and 8069 Main Street removed."

In your second email, you specifically asked for "... documents showing in detail the support structure for the portion of the building at 8049 Main Street, Ellicott City aka the Phoenix Emporium which is suspended over the Tiber channel and documents regarding the prospect of raising (not razing) and/or relocating this portion of the building."

In response to your first email, the County has no records responsive to your request.

In response to your second email, detailed information on the structure was included in [Attachment D](#) and [Attachment H](#) of HPC-20-83 application, presented at the [Historic Preservation Commission's](#) December 3, 2020 meeting. The County has no additional records responsive to your request.

While Howard County has the right to charge a copying fee of \$0.25 per page for a black and white paper copy, as mentioned on page 10 of [Howard County Council Resolution No. 71-2020](#), electronic copies of the responsive records exist and are therefore free of charge. In addition, Howard County has the right under the Public Information Act to charge you for search time in excess of two hours; however, no more than two hours was expended on your request.

Pursuant to MPIA § 4-362, you are entitled to seek judicial review of this decision by filing a complaint in the Circuit Court for Howard County or the Circuit Court in Maryland in the County where you reside or maintain a principal place of business. You may also refer any concerns about this decision to the Public Access Ombudsman pursuant to MPIA § 4-1B-01 *et seq.*

Sincerely,

Alexandra Bresani  
Office of Public Information