



LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable Gavin Buckley
Mayor of Annapolis
160 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis MD 21401

October 15, 2021

Dear Mayor Buckley,

I have received your letter requesting additional state assistance in response to the September 2021 tornadoes that impacted Annapolis. On August 30, I directed that the Maryland Department of Emergency Management raise the state activation level and coordinate both response and recovery activities in support of your jurisdiction. The State of Maryland has taken decisive action to deliver aid to those affected.

After the necessary damage assessments were completed, I requested that the President declare a major disaster declaration. As you are aware, the White House denied this request on October 8, 2021. This was unfortunate, since the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has a number of programs which may have provided direct assistance to our constituents impacted by the disaster.

In the absence of federal action, I am taking a number of additional actions to provide support at the state level.

I have requested that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) declare a physical disaster declaration in Anne Arundel and Cecil counties. The SBA accompanied State of Maryland staff on preliminary damage assessments and documented damages that meet the requirements for an SBA declaration. An SBA declaration would provide flexible, low-interest loans to qualifying businesses and residents for repairs and replacement of buildings and property. An approved physical disaster declaration is also extended to those jurisdictions contiguous to the declared counties. This would include Baltimore, Calvert, Howard, Harford, Kent, and Prince George's counties, as well as Baltimore City.

I am also directing up to \$4 million to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for programs that can assist businesses and residents following a disaster. These include the Maryland Disaster Housing Assistance Program, the Maryland Disaster Relief Housing

Program, and the Maryland Business Recovery Loan program. I have directed DHCD to activate these programs for home repair, short-term rental assistance, and business loans for impacted residents.

In addition, the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) has staffed several family assistance centers and participated in both virtual and in-person “town hall” events, where they provided information to impacted residents on insurance policies and processes. To date, MIA has opened 24 files on insurance complaints, and continues to assist additional residents with questions that did not require opening a file.

I am confident that the programs listed above, combined with ongoing local jurisdiction efforts and programs, will provide the assistance needed for our Maryland communities to recover from the impacts of tropical depression Ida.

Thank you for your ongoing coordination in this matter.

Sincerely,



Governor Larry Hogan

Attachments:
SBA Disaster Declaration Request Letter



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STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Kem Fleming, Director
U.S. Small Business Administration
Field Operations Center - East
101 Marietta Street, NW - Suite 700
Atlanta, GA 30303

October 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Fleming,

This letter supersedes the previous letter I sent to you, dated October 14, 2021.

From Aug. 31 to Sept. 4, several areas in Maryland were adversely affected by the remnants of Tropical Storm Ida. Initial damage reports showed that nearly 200 homes and businesses were impacted by flooding or tornado damage. Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA) occurred in Anne Arundel and Cecil counties on Sept. 13, and in Montgomery County on Oct 14. The PDAs were jointly conducted by the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, now the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM), and representatives from Anne Arundel, Cecil, and Montgomery counties.

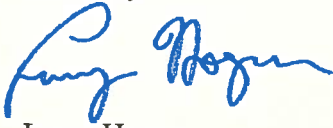
Based on the findings of the SBA PDA, sufficient damages were documented by the SBA team to request a SBA physical disaster declaration. Therefore, I am requesting a physical disaster declaration by the SBA for both Anne Arundel, Cecil, and Montgomery counties based on the PDA findings, which certify that at least 25 homes or businesses have sustained a minimum of 40% uninsured losses. It is my understanding that any contiguous jurisdiction to a primary locality will also be included in an approved declaration. In Maryland, this includes Baltimore, Calvert, Howard, Harford, Kent, and Prince George's counties, as well as Baltimore City.

On Oct. 8, the State of Maryland requested a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance which was subsequently denied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As such, Maryland does not plan to receive any assistance through FEMA disaster assistance programs for Tropical Storm Ida.

I have designated Russell J. Strickland, acting secretary of MDEM, as the point of contact for this event. If you have any questions, please contact him at (410) 517-3601 or russell.strickland@maryland.gov.

Thank you to you and your field staff for performing so admirably during the assessment process. Your prompt consideration of this request, consistent with all applicable laws and regulations, will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Hogan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" and the last name "Hogan" clearly distinguishable.

Larry Hogan
Governor