



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700
County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

SB 813 – Senator A. Washington

HB 892 – Delegate Ivey

Environment – Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program – Funding for Overburdened Communities

SUPPORT

Many communities in Prince George's County have had severe flooding in the last few years. This has been exacerbated by climate change. What used to be once in a century weather event are now existing on an almost yearly basis. Our communities and our County cannot keep up with the backlog of flood management projects. But not moving ahead with these projects is not an option. The cost in property and human resources resulting from weather events is catastrophically expensive. Something must be done.

HB 892 would double the mandated appropriation in the State Budget for comprehensive flood management grant program from \$10 million to mandated amount of \$20 million. This will help with the current backlog of projects. Since 75% will be paid and 25% by the locality it will incentives our county and our municipalities to appropriate resources for these projects. The fact that 40% of these projects will be used for projects in under-severed communities will especially benefit our County. These communities are defined as having 25% low income, 50% as nonwhite and 15% with limited English proficiency. These communities make up a large part of Prince George's County.

Prince George's County Council enthusiastically supports this legislation. This is not just a good bill it is a necessity. We must increase the amount of flood mitigation projects that we undertake, and additional state fund will make this possible. The alternative of not working on these projects is not acceptable. Please vote out this critical legislation.

Prepared on behalf of Ramirez Group, LLC on behalf of the Prince George's County Council.

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