



News Release

Comptroller Lierman Visits Western Maryland to Mark One-Year Anniversary of Devastating Floods

*Visit highlighted ongoing recovery efforts and continued state support for
Allegany County communities*

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (May 13, 2026) — Comptroller **Brooke E. Lierman** traveled to Westernport and Lonaconing today to mark the one-year anniversary of the devastating flash floods that struck Allegany County on May 13, 2025, causing extensive damage to homes, businesses, and public institutions across the region.

During the visit, Comptroller Lierman met with local officials, business owners, and community leaders before touring several sites impacted by the flooding and ongoing recovery efforts, including Port West Restaurant, the Westernport Library, Boal's Funeral Home, and the Potomac Fire Department.

“One year later, the resilience of this community continues to inspire me,” **said Comptroller Lierman**. “While the floodwaters may have receded, the work of recovery continues. I wanted to be here today to listen, to learn, and to reaffirm that the State of Maryland stands with and is ready to support the people and businesses of Westernport, Lonaconing, and Allegany County.”

The May 2025 flooding followed more than five inches of rainfall over a short period of time, devastating portions of Western Maryland. Although FEMA denied emergency

recovery funding, state agencies and local partners mobilized to provide relief and recovery support to impacted communities.

In the days following the flooding, the Maryland Office of the Comptroller announced tax relief measures for affected businesses in Allegany County. The agency waived penalties and interest on business tax payments due between May 10 and June 30, 2025, providing business owners with additional flexibility as they navigated recovery efforts.

"The flood changed lives in a matter of hours, and one year later the recovery is still ongoing, but so is the resilience of this community," **said Westernport Town Administrator Laura Freeman Legge**. "Over the past year we've seen incredible collaboration from volunteers, nonprofits, local governments, and state partners working together to help people rebuild. Today's visit serves as an important reminder that Western Maryland has not been forgotten and that continued support remains critical as recovery efforts continue."

Comptroller Lierman also acknowledged the federal, state, and local investments that have supported rebuilding efforts throughout Allegany County over the past year, including support by Governor Moore, the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, Department of Natural Resources, Department of the Environment, and Congresswoman April McClain Delaney. The Governor and General Assembly's FY27 budget includes \$12 Million to fund infrastructure repairs, economic development initiatives, and funding dedicated to flood mitigation and community recovery.



Comptroller Lierman discusses Westernport recovery efforts with Town Administrator Laura Freeman Legge (left) and Finance Commissioner Allen Shapiro (middle).



From the left: Lonaconing Town Administrator Tyler Rayner, Lonaconing Water Commissioner, Lonaconing Town Mayor Jack Coburn



Comptroller Lierman speaks with Westernport Library Service Leader Kathy Murphy during a tour of the vacant Westernport Library impacted by the 2025 flood.



Comptroller Lierman looks out at George's Creek which surged to 12.41 ft severely damaging the Westernport Fire Station.

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