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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**DATE: 12/14/2023**

### **WORCESTER COUNTY:**

**Pocomoke:** State funding has been set aside for downtown building façade upgrades. Money will be for property owners.

**Berlin:** The Berlin planning commission has tabled the proposed Wawa on the corner of RT 50 and main street. Wawa to appeal.

### **WICOMICO COUNTY:**

**Salisbury:** The city council had a relatively uneventful meeting with the exception of proposing more “surplus” lots to be sold.

**Salisbury:** CAR had a meeting with state and county officials regarding septic issues. Discussions of past studies and data regarding septic systems in Wicomico county was reviewed. Further collaboration between CAR, the county, and the state agencies will be organized. Further fundraising for studies and education was also discussed and possible CAR involvement may occur.

**SOMERSET COUNTY:** Crisfield will also be the recipient of state funding to continue long overdue Hurricane Sandy reconstruction.



**MARYLAND:** The General Assembly has made moves to add more taxes and fees into this years legislative session. These proposals are being made to plug the \$322 million budget gap in this years budget. Projections show the gap continuing to grow in fiscal 2026 and 2027 to \$376 million and \$436 million respectively. By fiscal 2028, the gap would grow to nearly \$1.8 billion followed by a nearly \$2.1 billion deficit the following year.