

## **Work Begins on Mistletoe Hall Commerce-Business Park Easton and Talbot County awarded grants to complete project infrastructure.**

**EASTON, Md.** — The Town of Easton announced today that it will begin work on a new commerce/business park at the Mistletoe Hall Farm property located on Goldsborough Neck Road north of town.

The 86.25-acre farm which is comprised of seven parcels offers a prime location to encourage entrepreneurial activity and support business expansion and attraction. The land was set aside many years ago for business and industrial use and has long been part of Easton's long-range plans for growth.

In addition to funding from the Town of Easton, the project received additional investment funds through a grant from the United States Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration. The federal agency announced in early October that it had awarded Easton a grant for \$2,282,750 to complete the infrastructure improvements necessary for the park's development.

The funding will allow for the roads, storm water management, and utilities to be constructed resulting in a "pad" space available for short or long-term lease. The project is expected to take approximately 24–36 months to complete.

This undertaking relies on intergovernmental cooperation and public/private sector partnerships. Various parties have been instrumental in collaborating to ensure Mistletoe Hall Commerce-Business Park will facilitate a successful economy.

"This investment will create jobs and help our businesses grow and prosper," says Easton Mayor Bob Willey. "The Mistletoe Hall project will help ensure that Easton will flourish in coming years, and we are grateful to all who assisted in making this happen."

In partnership with the Town of Easton, Talbot County applied for and received a \$250,000 Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund

infrastructure grant through the Rural Maryland Council to begin working on the first phase of improvements to Goldsborough Neck Road to support this project. The road from Glebe Road to the entrance of Mistletoe Hall will be widened and improved to allow for the traffic that will be generated by the property's development.

Portions of both Goldsborough Neck and Airport roads have been slated for future improvements to accommodate the development of a new regional hospital site off Route 50 near the Talbot County Community Center.

"We are committed to helping our municipalities create vibrant business communities and to providing jobs for Talbot County residents," says Talbot County Council President Jennifer Williams. "The Council is delighted to partner with the Town of Easton on the Mistletoe Hall project."

The Mid-Shore Regional Council was instrumental in helping both Easton and Talbot County secure the grant funding for this project. "The Mistletoe Hall project has been listed for many years in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for this region," says MSRC Chairman Walter Chase. "This project strengthens the Mid-Shore's business environment and resources, and we are pleased to have played a role in securing the funding."

For more information about this and other Town of Easton projects and events, visit [www.eastonmd.gov](http://www.eastonmd.gov).

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