



Town of Sykesville

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#FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE#

Sykesville recipient of \$2,000,000 State capital grant award

(October, 2022) – The Town of Sykesville is the recipient of a \$2,000,000 capital grant that was approved in the 2022 Maryland legislative session. The funding is designated for infrastructure improvements, specifically for the adaptive reuse of the B.F. Shriver Cannery building located in South Branch Park. The park is leased by the Town from Howard County and has been the focus of many capital improvements over the years including a large pavilion, play structure, skate park and, most recently, a 56-space parking lot.

“This funding will go a long way in helping Sykesville achieve our decades-long desired goal of seeing the Cannery building put back into productive public use. The Town will work diligently to develop options on the future reuse of the building while ensuring that the public plays a part in the final say,” said Mayor Stacy Link, Town of Sykesville. “This funding would not have happened without the strong partnership the Town has with Howard County and the work of senators Guy Guzzone, Cory McCray, Craig Zucker, and especially Senator Katie Fry Hester. Their support in this project will now ensure its success.”

Howard County Executive Calvin Ball stated “there is no better example of our work to forge strong partnerships and deliver results than right here at South Branch Park in Sykesville. Working with strong leaders like Sen. Katie Fry Hester and Mayor Link, we have delivered new parking, walkways, ramps, benches, flowers and trees for this beautiful and historically significant park. With today’s transformative \$2 million State grant, we look forward to the creative vision for the adaptive reuse of the B.F. Shriver Cannery coming to fruition.”

“I am extremely excited to bring home funds that will stimulate economic growth and provide good jobs for Marylanders,” said Sen. Hester. “Main Street is the heart and soul of Sykesville, and I’m proud to have worked with my colleagues in the legislature to prioritize our community’s infrastructure. This project will ensure that, as Sykesville continues to grow, we have space for new jobs, safe pedestrian access, and parking in the Coolest Small Town in America.”

The Town will begin investigating potential reuse options with the goal being to create a space designed to facilitate creative expression. The Sykesville Town Council has approved a contract with the Devos Institute of Arts Management at the University of Maryland to help facilitate the process.