

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER

GARLIN GILCHRIST II LT. GOVERNOR

June 26, 2020

Mr. Kem R. Fleming, Director U. S. Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance Field Operations Center – East 101 Marietta Street NW, Suite 700 Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2725

Dear Mr. Fleming:

I request that the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) declare an SBA Administrative (Agency) Declaration for Muskegon County, Michigan.

On May 18, 2020, Muskegon County and the surrounding counties experienced heavy rain, resulting in widespread flooding and damage to numerous homes. A detailed virtual damage assessment survey conducted of Muskegon County by the SBA from June 16-23, 2020 revealed that 35 homes incurred major damage because of the flooding. These structures sustained sufficient uninsured losses that meet or exceed the 40 percent of the pre-disaster fair market value criteria.

Based on this information, I request that the SBA declare an Administrative Declaration for Muskegon County, so that long-term, low interest loans may be made available to the affected property owners. The counties of Kent, Newaygo, Oceana, and Ottawa are contiguous to Muskegon County, and they also incurred flooding damage from this intense rain. I ask that these counties be included in the disaster declaration under the SBA's contiguous county provision. The State will not seek Individual Assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for this incident.

If you require additional information regarding these assessments, please contact F/Lt. Gabe Covey of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, at 517-284-3989, or email coveyg@michigan.gov. Your consideration of this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Whitmer

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Governor