

Summary of Key Recommendations

The following are some of the key recommendations contained in the *Annapolis Neck Small Area Plan*. These recommendations should be given high priority with regard to implementation.

Regional Planning

- Develop a framework that will mandate and facilitate inter-jurisdictional cooperation between the County and City on issues of regional concern including land use planning, development, transportation planning, environmental protection, public safety, and annexation of properties.
- Complete a Regional Transportation Study in conjunction with the City of Annapolis, State of Maryland, and Naval Academy to identify all aspects of transportation system deficiencies and make recommendations for improvements.
- Work with the City of Annapolis to establish mutually agreeable boundaries. Seek changes in State law if necessary.

Natural Resources

- Develop a Natural Area Network by preserving areas of important natural resources and linking them to create a network which will provide for safe and adequate wildlife movement throughout the Annapolis Neck.
- Acquire and create new parkland, including wildlife and bird sanctuaries. Create more small neighborhood parks. Establish an “Adopt a Park” program to help with maintenance and landscaping.
- Work with existing, and assist in creating new, conservation and land trusts for the Annapolis Neck to permanently protect and preserve undeveloped land where appropriate and to restore degraded natural areas.
- Establish a program for property owners to plant additional native species trees in non-forested areas on the Annapolis Neck. Develop a County program to provide property owners with technical assistance regarding tree planting and maintenance.
- Identify and inventory natural resources on the Annapolis Neck to serve as a baseline for the implementation of land use decisions and policies on the peninsula including preservation, restoration, mitigation banking, and acquisition.

- Inventory shoreline areas for restoration of submerged aquatic vegetation and other innovative methods of erosion control.
- The natural resources and amenities of the Annapolis Neck Peninsula should be regarded as a system of renewable and non-renewable resources not to be exhausted or critically reduced, but to be managed and, when appropriate, preserved such that decisions regarding land use and other activities pertaining thereto are made with the goal of maintaining a sustainable yield.
- Establish and enforce a baseline policy of “no net loss” of natural resources in the Annapolis Neck and develop incentives for achieving a “net gain” of tidal and nontidal wetlands.
- Amend the reforestation program to allow mitigation funds to be applied toward the purchase of undeveloped parcels for preservation.

Land Use

- Update and refine the Parole Transportation Model with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) Model 2000 base year and forecast 2025 projections. Use the updated Parole Transportation Model to assist in developing a transportation plan for the peninsula and in determining appropriate land use densities for the Annapolis Neck and the Parole Town Center. Defer comprehensive zoning for the Annapolis Neck Small Area and the Parole Town Center until this update is completed.
- Focus growth in designated activity centers. Activity centers should encompass the full range of needs for business sites and employment opportunities. Encourage a mix of residential, employment and commercial uses in these centers.
- Embody the planning concepts normally associated with bus and van transit modes. At stops or stations provide adequate site area for dedicated vehicle boarding and discharge lanes, bicycle storage racks and shelters. Arrange stops for easy and direct pedestrian access from nearby retail and residential areas.
- Pursue additional funding for the purchase of land for the Annapolis Neck Greenway, Natural Area Network, and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan if easements and other strategies prove inadequate. Identify sites for investigation, such as the vacant land adjacent to Quiet Waters Park, Homeport Farm, Bestgate Road area, along Weems Creek, and Priest Point.
- Evaluate an inclusionary housing program which would require some affordable and

subsidized housing in all new residential developments. Use proven and nationally recognized available models.

- Amend the Adequate Public Facilities (APF) ordinance to address the unique transportation constraints on peninsulas.
- Report to the public on the status of implementation of the *Annapolis Neck Small Area Plan* every two years.

Transportation

- Continue to explore options to relieving traffic congestion on Forest Drive and present reasonable and feasible alternatives for consideration at public forums.
- Complete the extension of Harry S. Truman Parkway to Admiral Cochrane Drive.
- Complete the proposed extension of MD 2 to Jennifer Road and improvement of the MD 2/ MD 50 interchange. Give a high priority to designing and constructing cost effective connections. Provide bikeways along the MD 2 connection to Jennifer Road.
- Complete the State feasibility study for locating a regional multi-modal transportation center and coordinate location of the center with the State and City of Annapolis so that transportation facilities in the Greater Annapolis area effectively support residents, visitors, businesses, and government and enable through traffic without excessive congestion.
- Investigate the feasibility of a two-tiered transit system, using a paratransit operation to provide on-call service in neighborhoods, feeding into an express bus system at activity centers. The hub of the system would be a regional transportation center.
- Create an integrated City-County network of pathways that link neighborhoods, parks, schools, stream valleys, waterways, and activity centers on the Annapolis Neck with one another and with regional and national trails. Pathways should serve both transportation and recreational needs.

Services and Facilities

- Determine the maximum feasible capacity for the Annapolis Wastewater Treatment Plant. Utilize this information to ensure that comprehensive zoning for the Annapolis Neck Small Area and the Parole Town Center does not exceed the stated feasible capacity. Adjust planned densities, types of development, and phasing of development to match actual capacities.
- Identify locations on the Annapolis Neck for additional active recreation, such as

basketball courts and ball fields.

- Fund the design and engineering necessary to expand Peninsula Park to the adjacent acquired property in order to build needed ballfields and parking facilities.
- Plan for alternative community activities in the underused space at the Annapolis Middle School. Expand use of all public schools for alternative activities.
- Increase police patrol activity along major roads during rush hours on a case by case basis where problems have been identified.
- During the design phase for the Outer Neck activity center, work with library representatives and Hillsmere residents to determine the best location of the proposed hiker-biker trail connecting Old Annapolis Road and Hillsmere Road via the Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library property.
- Designate, plan, and budget the Bay Ridge Road/ Arundel on the Bay Road property as a joint usage fire and police facility for City and County use.