

## II. VISION STATEMENT

The vision for South County was developed through a process that included the participation of committee members, the public and participants at the public forums. It is the cornerstone of the plan, and depicts how South County should look and feel in 20 years. The vision was used to help guide the development of goals and policies for land use, economic development, community facilities, transportation and natural resources.

### ***South County Small Area Vision: Keep South County Rural***

#### **1. The agricultural, rural and historical qualities of South County will be preserved.**

- . The area's fields and woodlands; low density and small scale development; rural roads; quiet, slow place; and its remaining historic resources will all be preserved.
- . Continuation of an active, sustainable farm industry in South County will be a high economic priority of the County.
- . Residential and commercial development will be managed in ways that will maximize opportunities for sustained agricultural use, the retention of woodland and open space areas, and will be appropriate to the historic rural context of South County.
- . Growth will be limited to areas with adequate existing or planned infrastructure.
- . The area will retain its economic and cultural diversity.
- . The area will strive to achieve a realistic economic balance that will allow the addition of new businesses while sustaining its existing agricultural industry.

#### **2. The area will be enhanced through the preservation, protection, expansion and restoration of its existing natural resources.**

- . A high priority is placed on protecting the area's natural resources, including its wetlands, shorelines, woodlands, fields, wildlife and their habitats.

#### **3. The quality of life in South County will be improved through a greater focus on community facilities.**

- . Community facilities and services in South County will be improved and expanded, where needed, so that they are equal in quality with the rest of Anne Arundel County. These facilities include schools, community/teen centers, senior centers, and indoor and outdoor recreational facilities; and will be developed in such a way that they are appropriate in scale and character to the rural lifestyle.