

**Plan2040 – General Development Plan
Citizens Advisory Committee
October 17, 2018 – 4:30pm
Chesapeake Conference Room, 2nd Floor
2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD
Meeting Notes**

Members Present: Leo Wilson (Chair), Anthony Brent, Hamilton Chaney, Christy D’Addario, James Fraser, James Krapf, Amy Leahy, Michael Linynsky, Patricia Lynch, Caren McPhatter, Douglas Nichols, Kerry Petz, David Povlitz, Elizabeth Rosborg, Allan Straughan

Public: Jerry Pesterfield, Janet Holbrook, Earl Bradley, Ellen Moss

County Staff: Philip R. Hager, Lynn Miller, Cindy Carrier, Patrick Hughes, Mark Wildonger, Allan Graves, Ross Dinkel, Graham Lange, Christina Cornwell

Convene

Mr. Leo Wilson, Chair

Approval of Meeting Notes

Since the October 3rd meeting notes were not distributed to the CAC members prior to the meeting, they will be approved at the next meeting on November 7th.

Open Meetings Act

Ms. Carrier confirmed the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is subject to Open Meetings Act. The CAC will hold discussions related to the development of Plan2040 during their scheduled meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Emails will be used for administrative purposes such as scheduling and sending agendas, minutes, questions, etc.

Review of 2009 General Development Plan Implementation Report

Ms. Lynn Miller, Assistant Planning and Zoning Officer – Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ)

The 2009 General Development Plan (GDP) Implementation Report provides a summary and list of updates to the GDP’s more than 200 action recommendations. The report includes the 32 recommended land use map changes. The GDP recommendations were prioritized by the degree to which they were raised during the 2009 GDP public outreach process, state mandated items, and level of criticalness.

There were eight broad topics from the 2009 GDP - Balancing growth, development and land preservation; targeting new development toward identified growth areas; commercial revitalization; historic resource preservation; watershed protection; land conservation; agricultural preservation; and improved transportation services. Ms. Miller reiterated the County Executive’s statistic of an even split of suburban/urban and rural lands in the County and that this ratio is important to the administration and the Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ).

There are several policies that help keep this balance and direct development to growth areas, like growth tiers, priority funding areas (PFA), planned utility service areas, town centers, and revitalization areas. The County established an anti-sprawl policy that 80% of residential development would occur in the PFA. A recent report has confirmed that County is meeting this goal. The Odenton Town Center, a targeted growth area, has a greater holding capacity for development. The Parole Growth Management

Area is closer to being built out since infill projects, like Annapolis Towne Centre at Parole, have been completed. The BWI corridor from Ft. Meade to BWI Airport has been an area for more intense development. Recent projects include Live! Casino and Hotel, Arundel Preserve, Parkside, National Business Park and Shannon's Glen. There is a shift from traditional development to mixed-use development, where buildings have a mix of retail and residential. The County has hired a consultant to conduct a land use market analysis which will indicate anticipated future demand. The County does not necessarily analyze projected revenues for changes to land use; however, Anne Arundel County Economic Development Corporation may have data on how growth impacts the regional economy.

The County currently has nine Commercial Revitalization Areas and three designated Sustainable Communities. These designated areas have seen a decline in investment and need to be re-energized by façade or building improvements. A designation makes projects within the area available for more state financial assistance programs. One example of how the programs are being implemented is through the Greater Baybrook Alliance, a partnership between the County and partners, to help revitalize communities in the Baltimore area by identifying revitalization projects and applying for grant funding.

The County has a Historic Preservation Tax Credit which will help offset expenses related to rehabilitation on historic landmarks in the County. County staff has several tools to help inventory historic resources, track, review, and comment on development projects that may impact historic and cultural resources. The County also provides a variety of education opportunities to the public.

Regarding watershed protection, the Department of Public Works and other departments have upgraded all water reclamation facilities (WRF) to incorporate enhanced nutrient removal. These improvements will help reduce pollutant loads to the Chesapeake Bay required by the Environmental Protection Agency. The County has also completed watershed management plans for all county watersheds. It has completed the Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) which provides more specific local action to achieve applicable water quality standards. The County's capital improvement program budget now includes a dedicated line item for watershed improvement projects. The County has also implemented a fee to fund stream restoration and stormwater retrofits and developed a septic taskforce to analyze the possibility of twelve communities that were developed with septic and are contributing some significant nutrient loads, to connect to public sewer.

The County has increased protected land acreage in priority areas, like the South River Greenway, Jug Bay, Magothy Critical Area, and Greys Bogs Land. The County is currently updating its Greenways Master Plan to be renamed the Green Infrastructure Master Plan. The County has also developed a grant program to fund forest conservation easements in collaboration with the Chesapeake Bay Trust and the Scenic Rivers Land Trust.

Since 2009, the County has placed approximately 2,100 acres of land under protective easements and approximately 14,000 acres of land in agricultural preservation easements. Three programs are used to secure easements within the County – the Agricultural and Woodland Preservation program, the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) and the Rural Legacy Program. The County began a new initiative, the Agriculture, Farming, and Agritourism Commission to help the local farming community. The Commission is currently working on changes to the County code to allow agritourism activities and appropriately manage large-scale solar facilities. Agritourism includes activities like hayrides, educational activities, corn mazes, homemade goods, and farm to table meals. The uses relate to agriculture in order to help promote the knowledge of farming.

Five major transportation studies have been completed since 2009. The Corridor Growth Management Plan analyzed 13 major and minor arterials and provided concept-level solutions with impacts and costs. The Complete Streets Policy Guidance document includes recommendations to modify the County's

standard policies, parameters, and procedures regarding bicycle, pedestrian, and transit modes; and templates were developed for how to apply Complete Street strategies. The study is being used to inform an update to the County's Design Manual. Additional studies include the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update, the Major Intersections and Important Facilities plan, and the Transit Development Plan Update. The Transportation Functional Master Plan (TFMP), in process now, will integrate five component studies and recommend improvements to the County's transportation network to enhance mobility and accessibility within local and state fiscal constraints and certain components. Some elements of the TFMP will be folded into Plan2040. All studies have addressed the adequacy of infrastructure to some level and have included the necessary stakeholders, including the State Highway Administration (SHA) given that most arterials in the County are under their jurisdiction. Since 2009, there is a new Office of Transportation. The transportation planning functions were previously housed within OPZ.

Review of Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources Background Report

Ms. Jane Cox, Senior Planner, Cultural Resources Section, OPZ

The Anne Arundel County Inventory of Historic Properties (AAIHP) informally began in the 1960s, when the National Historic Preservation Act was passed. It has grown over the years to include over 2,000 structures and over 1,600 archaeological sites. Since then, the County has created a Cultural Resources Division that assists in the protection of historic and cultural sites, cemeteries, and scenic and historic roads by reviewing development applications; site surveying; conducting historic research; maintaining and updating documentation; evaluating site significance; maintaining and enhancing public access to data; acting as an inter- and intra- agency liaison; administering a tax credits / incentives program; conducting public outreach and education; conducting archaeological research and curation; managing the research lab; and supporting non-profits and affinity groups.

There are nearly 700 buildings currently recorded by the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places that would meet the Code definition of "Historic Resources", of which 57 Individual Buildings are formally listed on the National Register. There are four National Register-Listed historic districts with several hundred "contributing" historic buildings. These historic districts are Woodwardville, Linthicum Heights, Owensville-Sudley, and Davidsonville. The County has 35 local historic survey districts. Examples include Galesville, Odenton, Glen Burnie, and Ft. Smallwood Park. There are more than 1,650 archaeological sites, 648 private family / community historic cemeteries identified or reported, and 153 designated scenic and historic roads.

When development is proposed, historic resources must be identified on the application. The County review process can be found in Article 17, Title 6 of the County code and is based on the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106. Historic Resources are properties, buildings, structures, districts, and archaeological sites that represent County history, that are associated with the lives of historically significant persons, that have historically significant architectural value, or that are capable of yielding information important to the County's history or prehistory.

The national standard for designating a building "historic" is that it must be older than 50 years old, but it must have other redeeming qualities and integrity to make it "historic". Buildings or districts listed on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) automatically trigger a review by OPZ.

At the point of permitting, OPZ undertakes research to determine if the resource has a place within a local historic context and identify its value to understanding whether it was significant in the County's history or prehistory. Criteria used for evaluating historic significance include: association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of County history; associated with the life of a significant person or persons; embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of

construction; represents the work of a master; possess high artistic values – whether it is architecturally significant; and whether it has yielded or has the potential to yield information important in history or prehistory – whether it is archaeologically significant.

Assessment and evaluation of historic buildings and contributing buildings in a historic district are made on a case by case basis and are based on three criteria - historic integrity, structural integrity, and the ability to convey significance. The Planning and Zoning Officer is granted the authority to determine whether preservation is feasible. If preservation is feasible, then preservation requirements as found in Article 15 will apply and demolition is not allowed. Rehabilitation, upgrades, and additions to the historic resource are allowed as per the Secretary of Interior guidelines.

Regarding the Johns Hopkins birthplace, an individual is pursuing an opportunity to restore it and turn it into a museum. The County may be asked to provide technical advice, such as grant opportunities and licensed contractors.

Documentation of historic properties goes back to the 1970s; however, research may change what is historic. For example, the County has several beach resort communities that were popular in the 1920s and help tell a story about the County. Research has also led to the discovery of the Wilson house in Galesville which was a home built by a manumitted slave.

Archaeological sites are evaluated for significance based on the same Nationally-accepted criteria. Historically significant buildings must be retained; however, if disturbance of archaeological sites cannot be avoided, the developer or applicant has the option to perform a “Data Recovery” excavation to mitigate the destruction of the site, at which point development can move forward. Historic cemeteries must be retained with a 25-foot buffer and placed under protective easement. Cemeteries are required to be saved in place and cannot be moved per the County code. The County does not have jurisdiction over cemeteries located on federal ground, but may offer technical support.

The public can check to see if a property is an historic resource or is listed on the MIHP by going to the OPZ website and clicking on the Cultural Resources link. Users will need a tax identification number, street address, resource name, or state inventory number. The State does not allow a pinpoint location of the resources to avoid looting. If an individual thinks there is a historic site that the County has not inventoried, they are asked to contact the County to discuss its merits.

The County has begun a County-wide “heritage theme” initiative. The project involves research into topics such as - early County settlers, the Generals Highway Historic Corridor, the Jug Bay Native American Complex, The Historic Village of Galesville, and hazard mitigation planning.

The Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program provides an incentive to encourage revitalization of resources and helps retain of sense of place. It establishes “Landmark” buildings and districts, and provides a property tax credit in the amount of 25% of qualified expenses for certain historic residential or income-producing properties, or 5% for a qualified new construction in a Landmark Historic District. The maximum amount of the tax credit is \$50,000, which can be claimed over a 5-year period.

Review of Public Safety Background Report

Fire / EMS

Mr. Allan Graves, Chief, Anne Arundel County Fire Department

Ross Dinkel, Deputy Fire Chief, Anne Arundel County Fire Department

The County operates a combination fire department, meaning it is comprised of career and volunteer firefighters. There are 21 County-owned and 10 volunteer fire stations. Volunteer fire stations own the building and the County provides support. There are approximately 900 career firefighters and 500 operational volunteers among the 31 stations. The Fire department provides fire, emergency medical services, advanced life support, and basic life support. The Fire Department responds to approximately 82,000 calls a year of which most are for emergency medical services. The opioid epidemic has led to an increase in the number of calls. The Fire Department anticipates the call volume to continue to rise as the County grows.

They project staffing to increase as the number of calls increases. The Fire Department receives between 2,000 and 3,000 employment applicants per year. Candidates are required to take a written test, participate in an oral interview, a physical test, and undergo a background check. A training class can range between 50 and 75 candidates. There is often a two-year waitlist. Training lasts approximately nine months, where six months are in the classroom and three months are in the field for training.

The Fire Department is in the process of completing a response time study. The County follows the National Fire Protection Association 1710 which is the standard that specifies requirements for effective and efficient organization and deployment of fire suppression operations, emergency medical operations, and special operations to the public by career fire departments to protect citizens and the occupational safety and health of fire department employees. Calls are categorized and prioritized by criticality and there are different benchmark times for each priority. The initial report shows there is a need for more resources due to the challenges of the geography of the County. There is a constant need to balance the number of calls with resources needed. The Fire Department estimates there is a need for an additional \$6 to \$7 million dollars for staff and equipment.

The Fire Department has two test stations, including one in Mayo. The test in Mayo was anticipated to end in October 2018, but the study will continue. The relocation of the Herald Harbor Fire Station is in the planning stages. It may move to an old station, community hall, or other facility along Generals Highway. The Fire Chief stated that upon moving the firehouse out of the Herald Harbor community, they would be a candidate for an EMS substation. Funding for future fire station renovations or other capital projects are determined by the Planning Advisory Board through the capital planning process

Firefighters are required to have at least basic life support training. Some areas of the County, such as the northern area, receive more calls than others. Responders are sometimes challenged by geography, but automatic vehicle location (AVL) helps shift vehicles based on calls. Anecdotally, response times have decreased based on AVL, but the Fire Department is still analyzing the data.

The Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Station is interested in rebuilding. Since they own the land, they are considering rezoning part of the property to commercial and leasing retail pad sites. Leasing commercial space will allow them to fund a new fire station.

Police

Mr. Graham Lange, Strategic Planning Unit, Anne Arundel County Police Department

There are 131 active crossing guards and have 180 authorized positions. The positions are not filled because there is not an immediate need. If an immediate need were to arise, an officer can be used. The Criminal Investigation Division, currently located on the Crownsville Hospital site, will be relocated to a former Lockheed Martin/NSA building on Veterans Highway, leaving the former building vacant. The vacant building will be retained by the County's Central Services department. The Police Department has a facility at Live! Casino and Hotel and officers there respond to calls.

According to a study by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the recommended level of sworn officers in the County should be 824. The current number of sworn officers is 754. This figure reflects officers that are operational, meaning they are trained, not on leave, or on active duty. On average, approximately 30 officers a month are not able to patrol. Officers require approximately 12 months of training to become fully operational. Applications to become a police officer are down, so the County is always looking for candidates. The County loses approximately 52 police officers a year to attrition, which is a rate of about 18%.

Emergency Management

Ms. Christina Cornwell, Deputy Director, Anne Arundel County Office of Emergency Management

The Office of Emergency Management is comprised of eight staff members and is responsible for emergency management planning, training and exercises, and administering grants from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Office also relies on other departments and volunteers to assist in planning and mobilize during emergencies.

Their strategic goals include protection and prevention; response; recovery; mitigation; planning; training and exercise; resiliency; resource management; and data and technology. The Office has developed a series of plans to address certain aspects and types of disasters. For example, the Office has prepared an Emergency Operations Plan, and Evacuation Plan, and Extreme Temperature Plan, a Fixed Nuclear Facility Emergency Response Plan, a Long-Term Recovery Plan, a Mass Care Sheltering Plan, and a Mitigation Plan.

The County has four shelters – Annapolis High School, Meade High School, Severna Park High School, and Southern High School. Northeastern High School and Crofton High School will be available as shelters once improvements and construction is complete, respectively. Severna Park and Annapolis are the primary shelters since they have a backup generator.

Ms. McPhatter asked why there were no shelters located in the northern part of the County. Ms. Cornwell said that if there was an incident, the objective would be to evacuate residents from the area. The Office of Emergency Management and the Office of Transportation coordinate with other agencies during an emergency to ensure residents are able to get to a shelter or find safety. There is an emergency plan in place to evacuate areas of the County, including the northern area. The Office continually works with schools and other organizations, like churches and private businesses, to identify additional shelter and warehousing opportunities. Per the Red Cross, there are specific standards that shelters and facilities need to meet. The Office is also open to suggestions for shelters in the County. Ms. McPhatter asked that the Office conduct additional outreach and be more proactive in soliciting ideas for shelters, especially in underserved areas.

Next Steps

Ms. Cindy Carrier, Planning Administrator, Long Range Planning Section, OPZ

Ms. Carrier noted a meeting is scheduled for November 21st, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. She asked the CAC to let her know if members are unable to attend and based on responses, she could look into alternative dates. Ms. Carrier will be emailing the next two background reports – Environmental Protection and Resource Conservation and Water Resources but to let her know if anyone would like a hard copy. She asked the CAC to send questions about the reports prior to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for November 7th.