

Plan2040
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Meeting Notes
April 17, 2019 - 5:00 PM
Chesapeake Conference Room, 2nd Floor
2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD

CAC members present: Elizabeth Rosborg (Chair), Cate Bower, John Clark, Jamie Fraser, Joel Greenwell, Patricia Huecker, Amy Leahy, Patricia Lynch, Charles Mannion, Gary Mauler, Caren Karabani, Ellen Moyer, Kristen Pauly, Will Shorter, Latoya Staten, Allan Straughan, Sophia Wahlla

Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ) Staff present: Philip R. Hager, Planning and Zoning Officer; Cindy Carrier, Acting Planning and Zoning Officer; Mark Wildonger, Long Range Planner; Don Zeigler, Long Range Planner

Visitors: Earl Bradley, Alan Grimes, Steve Miller, Harry Sinclair

Aging and Disabled Services:

Ms. Sarah Stein, Director, Aging and Disability Resource Center Planning and Programming, Department of Aging and Disabilities

Ms. Joelle Ridgeway, Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, Department of Aging and Disabilities

The Department of Aging and Disabilities (DoAD) serves older adults, adults with disabilities, caregivers, and anyone interested in planning for their future. The DoAD was created through the Older Americans Act of 1965 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The DoAD has over 100 staff members who are split between Annapolis and Glen Burnie. Due to a projected 40% increase in persons aged 60 or older in Anne Arundel County between 2015 and 2030, the amount and complexity of services and infrastructure required to serve these individuals will increase.

The Maryland Access Point (MAP) is a resource center for older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers. The program provides information about resources and services; assistance with benefits counseling, referral, and long term planning; services for family caregivers; access to services provided by the DoAD and community resources; and acts as a Customer Service Center. The DoAD operates 22 programs in 24 locations.

The Aging and Disability Resource Center Bureau is a gateway to help understand the needs of the public and then navigate them to the right service or program. They provide counseling to help individuals think about what support they need to age in place; Medicare counseling / State health insurance program (SHIP); providing family caregiver support / grandparents raising grandchildren / respite care; telephone reassurance to check in on individuals to make sure they are well; find housing and provide assistance; work with advocates for assisted living and nursing homes; and assist in adult public guardianship which is a last resort after education of the process. The County will not petition for individuals, but will assist in the process. The DoAD maintains a list of providers for the aging and disabled. An updated version will be published in mid-May and will be available online, at libraries, medical facility waiting rooms, select hair salons, as well as handed out during targeted outreach events.

The DoAD also operates seven senior activity centers in the County. The senior centers provide opportunities for socialization and activities include gardening, physical fitness, trips, and educational classes. Some of the centers have infrastructure needs. For example, the Brooklyn Park Center is currently constructing a 2,000 square-foot addition and undergoing other renovations. The DoAD has a long-term plan that identifies where the population is growing, trends, and best practices in order to identify future senior center locations and services. Criteria to determine future senior center sites include demographics and current programs being offered so as to prevent redundancy.

Nutrition is a key component of care in the community. Meals are provided at 20 community sites, including the Senior Centers. Meals are also delivered to homebound older adults. The DoAD also provides education on how to shop and coupons to individuals for healthy foods and farmer's markets. Staff noted the need for a new nutrition site in the Severn/Fort Meade/Meade Village area and that additional resources are needed for senior centers and nutrition-based programs.

The goal of the Long Term Care Bureau is to identify adults who are at risk of entering a nursing home and assist them so they may remain safely in the community for as long as possible. Evidence-based programs emphasize that with education and senior care, the elderly are able to stay in their home longer. This is a more cost-effective strategy for individuals. The Long Term Care Bureau also works with local hospitals to identify adults who be better served at local medical facilities, rather than directly going to a hospital for treatment. Other Long-Term Care

programs include senior care, in-home aide services, senior center plus, support to planning agencies, and a senior triage team who works with hospitals to prevent readmissions.

The ADA Office ensures that every program, service, and activity operated or funded by Anne Arundel County is fully accessible to, and usable by, people with disabilities. It is responsible for oversight of Anne Arundel County's Title II obligations under the ADA. The Office also provides ADA training and technical assistance for County departments/agencies, works with department/agencies' designated ADA liaisons, ensures ADA accessibility and compliance in all Capital Projects, develop plans to keep people in communities rather than institutions, develop policy and budget recommendations for improving access to people with disabilities, coordinates the Commission on Disability Issues which advises the government about disability needs from a grassroots level to spur legislation, provides resources and advocacy for Anne Arundel County Citizens with disabilities, provides assistance with navigation of barriers in the community faced by people with disabilities, and coordinates the grievance process.

The DoAD coordinates with the Office of Transportation (OOT) for transportation needs. For example, vans that provide door to door service for individuals and the voucher program are now under the OOT. Despite some barriers to effectively transport individuals, the OOT's Move Anne Arundel! Transportation Functional Master Plan will identify strategies to overcome those issues. Car-sharing opportunities are currently in pilot stages in other cities and will continued to be studied as a strategy for the County.

Given the aging demographic, the DoAD will coordinate with OPZ to ensure land use policies encourage a variety of housing types to support the aging and disabled populations.

Emergency Management Services:

Mr. Kevin Aftung, Director, Office of Emergency Management

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) coordinates and facilitates resources prior to, during, and after a man-made or natural emergency. Planning is a key aspect of their program. This planning allows OEM to provide guidance and make decisions to help other departments assisting in the emergency. For example, during a recent snow storm, OEM coordinated with Police, Fire/EMS, Aging and Disabilities, Recreation and Parks, and Public Works to transfer 93 dialysis patients.

Their strategic goals include protection and prevention; response; recovery; mitigation; planning; training and exercise; resiliency; resource management; and data and technology. OEM has developed a series of plans to address certain aspects and types of disasters. For example, they have 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. OEM has a plan for needed facilities, as well as

peninsula evacuations. These plans are often in coordination with the State. Activities to ensure the effectiveness of these plans include discussing the plan and identifying scenarios, a small-scale exercise, and a full-scale exercise.

OEM coordinates with the Fire and Police Departments to ensure responders have adequate training in a variety of emergencies, such as hazardous materials and active assailants. OEM also coordinates with outside jurisdictions and organizations, such as Fort George G. Meade, the National Security Agency, Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, the United States Naval Academy, and the City of Annapolis.

The County has four shelters – Annapolis High School, Meade High School, Severna Park High School, and Southern High School. Northeast 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. It was noted that there are no emergency shelters in the northern part of the County. OEM is continually exploring opportunities for additional shelter sites, especially in the northern part of the County. Anyone with recommendations is encouraged to contact OEM.

OEM also coordinates warming and cooling centers depending on outside temperature and conditions. Senior centers, libraries and police stations are often used for these types of centers. It is rumored that Old Mill has a tunnel system that might be able to accommodate individuals during an emergency; however, the school does not meet shelter requirements. Private buildings may work as shelters as long as the buildings meet the requirements. Houses of worship have been explored, but there may be social issues.

In the event of an emergency, individuals in the County can be notified in a variety of ways – such as the emergency telephone system, CivicReady, notifications on social media, press releases, and mobile Police and Fire loudspeakers. Individuals are also asked to check on their neighbors and assist if necessary.

OEM offered to provide a tour of their facility and review any plans with the CAC. CAC members were requested to contact Cindy Carrier if they were interested in a tour and additional details on OEM and their plans.

Fire and Emergency Medical Services:

Chief Trisha Wolford, Anne Arundel County Fire Department

Deputy Chief Ross Dinkel, Division of Planning, Anne Arundel County Fire Department

The Fire Department’s mission statement is “to provide essential emergency and non-emergency services to eliminate threats to life, property, and the environment to residents of Anne Arundel County and surrounding communities”. Services provided include emergency medical; fire

suppression; special operations such as technical rescue, hazardous materials, marine, dive; fire investigations; code enforcement; public information; and community engagement and risk reduction.

There are 31 fire stations, 881 uniformed personnel, 56 civilians, 656 operational volunteers, and 714 administrative volunteers. In 2018, there were 87,693 calls for service of which approximately 83% are medical calls. There is at least one career personnel member at every station.

The Fire Department is headquartered in Millersville. Other operations located at Millersville include 991 and dispatch, support staff, planning, operations, health and safety, EMS QA/QI, and communications. The Logistics Bureau includes operations support, training and research, risk management, and EMS QA/QI. The Planning Bureau includes the fire marshal, information management, and planning and budget. The Operations Bureau includes fleet management and training operations. The Fire Department has two fire boats stationed in Shady Side and Cape St. Claire. They also share marine resources with adjoining jurisdictions and have ample resources.

The County is divided into four battalions. The First Battalion covers the northern part of the County and includes seven stations, the Second Battalion covers the eastern part of the County and includes nine stations, the Third Battalion covers the southern part of the County and includes nine stations, and the Fourth Battalion covers the western part of the County and includes seven stations. It was noted that some stations are 60 years old and are in need of a renovation.

The Fire Department reviewed response times and identified areas where response time is greater than seven minutes. It is in these areas where there is additional need for services. Given some degree of population growth over the next 20 years, there will be increased demand for Fire Department services. The Fire Department is exploring different types of services and facilities such as the temporary facility at a water plant building on the Mayo peninsula. This type of test station will help inform the need in the Mayo area, but this example may be applied elsewhere in the County.

In the future, the Fire Department identified several areas of need – repairs, facilities, staffing, and a new training academy. The South Glen Burnie station is currently being renovated and staff has been moved to another station. All calls are coordinated and automatic vehicle location technology assists in identifying responders and redirecting them accordingly. Given the location of the existing training academy, the Fire Department prefers to identify a new site that would not adversely impact adjacent properties. The average cost of new fire station is between \$6 and \$10 million; however, there may be other options to adequately serve the community. Since most fire stations are one-story they may not be used for their highest and best use. One suggestion was to work with developers to make fire stations multi-use, for example residences or offices

above fire stations. It was noted that the noise and lights may be a nuisance, but there may be strategies to mitigate those impacts. The County charges impact fees for public safety, but how the funds are spent may need better coordination.

In regards to staffing, volunteers are appreciated, and the advantage of having volunteers is that they live and work in the community, but due to the amount of training, volunteers are expected to be consistent and reliable in order to serve.

Police Services:

Mr. Graham Lange, Strategic Planner, Anne Arundel County Police Department

There are four patrol districts – north, south, east, and west. Post sizes and boundaries are based on the following considerations: workload analysis such as number of calls for service that a non-supervisory officer can manage, proactive enforcement, community policing, and administrative duties; effectively respond to emergency calls for service; and effectively respond to assist an officer in adjoining post. The Police Department has not conducted a response time analysis in two years, but is in the process of obtaining software to conduct that analysis. Without the addition of posts on peninsulas, the updated response times are not anticipated to change.

The starting salary of an officer is \$52,500 and individuals receive an upfront signing bonus of \$1,000 up front and then \$4,000 at end of the 12-month training period. Benefits are competitive with surrounding jurisdictions. There are difficulties in retaining officers and identifying reasons why an officer will leave. As of March, the Police Department is losing 52 officers on average a year. This impacts other positions as other officers are required to work overtime and fill in when others call in sick or are otherwise not-operational. In addition, the Police Department cannot assign patrol officers to conduct intense investigations for crimes.

In the Police Personnel Section, the two goals are to strive to achieve full staffing of all Department Positions and to strive to obtain minority representation among sworn officers that is reflective of the Anne Arundel County community.

The Police Academy is currently being renovated and will be completed by summer 2019. The Criminal Investigation Division is being relocated and will be completed by summer 2019. The Police Department proposes the Police / Fire Communications be relocated and consolidated. There are several issues, such as infrastructure, cross-training, and union agreements that are delaying this project.

Regarding needs, the Police Department has identified the need for additional officers and staff, a fifth police district, and the renovation and relocation of the Northern and Western District stations. The Police Department estimates the need for a total staff of 868. They are currently

authorized for 765. A staff of 868 includes all positions, such as detectives and school resource officers.

CAC Meeting Logistics:

Ms. Elizabeth Rosborg, Chair

CAC members were reminded to indicate on a form how they would like to receive information and to submit a four- to six-sentence biography, which will be made public, to Cindy Carrier.

The first step in the CAC process is to learn about current conditions, needs, and challenges based on the current land use pattern from the County departments. This will provide baseline and context for future discussions, such as opportunities, consequences, and impacts of land use decisions. The County will then work with the various departments to understand what impact future land use decisions will have on their operations and facilities. The GDP process will address macro-decisions; however, CAC members were encouraged to remember any specific items for the area planning process to follow the GDP.

It was announced that visioning meetings will be held in each of the small areas. The first meeting will be held on April 29th at Jessup Community Hall. Each CAC member is encouraged to attend each visioning meeting in the small area they represent.

The County has contracted with a consultant for a Land Use Market Study, which will include an analysis of supply and demand forecasts, population trends in the region, and the age of the housing stock. Once this study is presented, the County and the CAC will have information on how to address County staffing needs.

It was suggested that questions from Governor Glendening's presentation on April 13th be provided to the CAC to help spur discussion and ensure the GDP is addressing certain issues. The April 13th presentation was recorded and has been uploaded to the Arundel TV YouTube channel. A summary of the meeting will also be provided and posted to the aacounty.org/Plan2040 website. All 17 small area visioning meetings will be broadcast live, uploaded to the YouTube channel, and summaries will be provided.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 1st.

Note: These meeting notes should not be considered as verbatim, but do encapsulate comments made by the Citizens Advisory Committee, Office of Planning and Zoning staff, and persons who offered comments.