

PORT TOWNS SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION RENEWAL

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SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION RENEWAL

Eligible Applicants:

- *Local Governments with a Sustainable Communities Designation*
- *Local Government Consortiums with a Sustainable Communities Designation*

Application must be submitted
on or before the expiration date of
Sustainable Communities designation.

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

Division of Neighborhood Revitalization

2 N Charles Street, Suite 450

Baltimore, MD 21201

410-209-5800

<http://dhcd.maryland.gov/>

LARRY HOGAN, Governor

KENNETH C. HOLT, Secretary

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD, Lt. Governor

OVERVIEW OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The Sustainable Communities Act of 2010 established a framework for reinvestment and revitalization of Maryland’s existing communities creating a single, locally designated geographic focus area. Since that time the “Sustainable Communities” designation has provided an efficient means of targeting scarce public and private resources for multiple State agency investments and prioritizations.

PURPOSE OF RENEWAL AND STREAMLINED APPLICATION

The Sustainable Communities (SC) designation must be renewed every five years. This renewal application provides an opportunity for local governments to update their existing SC action plan and report on the accomplishments made over the past five years. Through the renewal process, local governments can request additional technical assistance and highlight any areas from the original action plan for which progress must still be made.

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

If a local government has limited capacity, staff from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Department of Planning (MDP) will be available to assist local government officials through the application process.

Please contact your Regional Project Manager at DHCD if you would like to request or learn more about this assistance (see page iv for contact information).

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BENEFITS

The benefits of a Sustainable Community designation are substantial. The SC designation is a threshold requirement for application to several Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development revitalization programs (such as the Community Legacy Program and Strategic Demolition Fund listed below). Other programs from both the Department and other State agencies offer additional points or preference in the application process. The Sustainable Communities designation provides access to a suite of resources that can support housing and community development, local transportation enhancements, tax credit programs and programs to support a healthier environment. Taken together, these resources can promote safer, healthier and more attractive communities for families to live and put down roots.

Community Legacy Program is administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and provides local governments and community development organizations with financial assistance to strengthen communities through such activities as business retention and attraction, encouraging homeownership and commercial revitalization. Community Legacy funds are restricted to Sustainable Community Areas.

Strategic Demolition Fund is administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and provides grants and loans to local governments and community development organizations for predevelopment activities including demolition and land assembly for housing and revitalization projects.

The Strategic Demolition Fund catalyzes public and private investment in the reuse of vacant and underutilized sites. These funds are restricted to Sustainable Communities.

Application Eligibility and Threshold Requirements

Local governments (municipal or county) are eligible to apply.

Eligible applicants are to convene their Sustainable Communities Workgroup to discuss the accomplishments and challenges of their Sustainable Community Action Plans in addition to any update they may like to make to the Action Plan. The applicant may choose to select new members to participate in the Workgroup. The purpose of this workgroup is to continue and reinforce working relationships and collaborations among local governmental departments and better align community development priorities and strategies. In addition, this is an opportunity to assess if the Workgroup would like technical assistance from State government agencies to implement certain action items or develop strategies to address local challenges.

Threshold Requirements

All Sustainable Community applications must meet the following threshold requirements:

- 1) Sustainable Community Area boundaries must be entirely within a Priority Funding Area (PFA) and should be an area in need of renewal and reinvestment that would benefit from a targeted long-term strategy;
- 2) The proposed Sustainable Community is within or near a town center or transportation center, or there is a need for financing assistance for small businesses, nonprofit organizations or microenterprises;
- 3) The updated Plan must be consistent with other existing community or comprehensive plans;
- 4) A Sustainable Communities Workgroup is re-convened and a roster of members should be provided with the application.

Applications that do not meet these threshold requirements will not be considered.

Application Evaluation

The Sustainable Community application for renewal will be evaluated based on the reporting of the accomplishments achieved and a thorough assessment of local strengths and weaknesses and how well desired outcomes, strategies and action steps are connected to the local conditions.

Priority Funding Areas

All Sustainable Communities must be located entirely within a Priority Funding Area. Applicants can verify Priority Funding Area boundaries by visiting the MDP website at:

<http://www.mdp.state.md.us/OurProducts/pfamap.shtml>

Application Training

The Department will be hosting various webinars for communities planning to submit a renewal application. Attendance at a minimum of one application training session is strongly encouraged for all applicants. Contact your Regional Project Manager (contact information page iv) to schedule an application training or verify when the webinars will be scheduled.

Application Submission

Applications will be submitted both electronically/digitally and via postal mail. Each applicant must submit one hard copy of their application with all required attachments. DHCD reserves the right to not consider incomplete applications.

The first printed page of the electronic application is a Table of Contents (see page vii). This should also serve as a checklist and be used to provide corresponding tabs. In addition to the digital copy of the application, all pictures and maps are to be submitted on a CD-ROM or flash drive. Pictures should be burned to the CD in a JPEG format and maps should be burned to the CD in a pdf format. Please ALSO include GIS shapefiles of Sustainable Community boundaries and other GIS related data if a boundary change is requested. Be sure to label your files on the CD-ROM appropriately, i.e., “Proposed Sustainable Community Boundary,” “Current Sustainable Community Boundary,” etc.

No incomplete applications will be accepted.

Deliver Sustainable Community Applications to:
Sustainable Community Application
ATTN: Mary Kendall
Division of Neighborhood Revitalization
Department of Housing and Community Development
2 N Charles Street, Suite 450
Baltimore, MD 21201

Site Visits, Follow-up Discussion

During the application review process, the review team may make site visits, hold meetings or have follow-up discussions with applicants prior to designation approval.

Approval

Approval of applications will be made by the Governor’s Smart Growth Coordinating Committee on the recommendation of an inter-agency review team. The review team is coordinated by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Contact Information

All questions related to application content, please contact your regional project manager. Regional contacts listed in the table on the next page.

DIVISION OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION, STATE REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS REGIONAL PROJECT MANAGERS		
REGION 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwest Baltimore City • Northwest Baltimore County <p>Larry Brown Assistant Director Phone: 410-209-5819 Email: larry.brownjr@maryland.gov</p>	REGION 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northeast Baltimore City • Northeast Baltimore County <p>Garland Thomas Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5803 Email: garland.thomas@maryland.gov</p>	REGION 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southeast Baltimore City • Southeast Baltimore County <p>Olivia Ceccarelli-McGonigal Program Officer Phone: 410-209-5826 Email: olivia.ceccarelli@maryland.gov</p>
REGION 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwest Baltimore City • Southwest Baltimore County • Anne Arundel <p>Nick Mayr Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5842 Email: nicholas.mayr@maryland.gov</p>	REGION 5: <p>Western Maryland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allegany • Frederick • Garrett • Washington • Carroll <p>Sara Jackson Project Coordinator Phone: 410-209-5812 Email: Sara.jackson@maryland.gov</p>	REGION 6: <p>Washington DC Metropolitan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prince George's • Montgomery • Howard <p>Duane Felix Assistant Director Phone: 410-209-5825 Email: Duane.Felix@maryland.gov</p>
REGION 7: <p>Upper Eastern Shore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harford County • Caroline • Cecil • Kent • Queen Anne's • Talbot <p>Ashlee Green Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5815 Email: Ashlee.Green@maryland.gov</p>	REGION 8: <p>Lower Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland</p> <p>Lower Eastern Shore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorchester • Somerset • Wicomico • Worcester <p>Southern Maryland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calvert • Charles • St. Mary's <p>Jeremy Weiss Phone: 410-209-5848 Email: Jeremy.Weiss@maryland.gov</p>	

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLAN ELEMENTS

Ongoing designation as a Sustainable Community is contingent upon the continuation, expansion, and/or modification of a multi-year investment strategy that addresses the topic areas of Environment, Economy, Transportation, Housing, Quality of Life, and Land Use/Local Planning. The table below provides a non-exhaustive list of ideas that can be incorporated into each element as they are addressed in the sections that follow in this application.

ENVIRONMENT: Environmental accomplishments and objectives may include improvement of quality of land, water, air or watersheds, increased tree canopy, mitigation or adaptation to issues related to sea level rise, reduction of carbon footprint, improved energy conservation, access to local foods, green infrastructure, stormwater infrastructure/management, construction of parks, trails and other recreation facilities, recycling, improved water and sewer capacity, etc.

ECONOMY: Economic accomplishments and objectives may include increased regional accessibility, business attraction/retention, improved health of the business district and decreased commercial vacancies, improved accessibility to employment opportunities and economic drivers, adopted local policies/regulations that encourage economic growth, enhanced marketing and tourism, improvements to cultural and historic assets, etc.

TRANSPORTATION: Transportation accomplishments and objectives may include increased access to transit corridors, improved pedestrian safety and increased accessibility/sidewalks, alternative modes of transportation, such as bikeways and trails, public transit, such as bus and rail, carpooling, improved parking and road conditions, etc.

HOUSING: Housing accomplishments and objectives may include an increase in affordable, workforce or market rate housing, either for homeownership or rental, improved housing conditions and values, increase in housing programs, reduction in foreclosures and residential vacancies, increase in property values and home sale values, etc.

QUALITY OF LIFE: Quality of life accomplishments and objectives may include crime, socio-economic demographics, educational opportunities, museums, libraries, historic and cultural assets, civic amenities, faith-based organizations, economic health of households, sense of place, etc.

LAND USE/LOCAL PLANNING: Land use accomplishments and objectives may include changes to zoning, improved land use policies, increase/decrease in taxes and fees, etc.

RENEWAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Sustainable Communities application for renewal has **three** sections:

A. Contact information, General Information, Organizational Capacity:

In this section, applicants are asked to update their contact information, provide information about demographic shifts over the past five years, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of their Sustainable Communities workgroup and share any technical assistance needs the workgroup may have.

B. Qualitative and Comprehensive Report on accomplishments over past five years:

The report is an opportunity to reflect on any accomplishments achieved in the Sustainable Community area. It is a tool used to evaluate if the SC applicant achieved its intended outcomes, implemented the strategies initially envisioned and identify what resources were used. Renewal applicants are encouraged to discuss how priorities, actions, and objectives were or were not achieved across the six elements listed on the previous page (v), including how any of the elements may have interrelated during the five initial years of SC designation.

C. Sustainable Communities Action Plan Update:

The Sustainable Communities Action Plan has been revised so that it is less time consuming and focused on developing a strategic implementation plan. Renewal applicants are encouraged to use their previous Sustainable Communities applications as a basis for their updated Action Plan. You may identify which weaknesses have not yet been addressed or which strategies have not yet been implemented. Include your revitalization priorities for the next five years, basing them on your community's current strengths and weaknesses.

CHECKLIST AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPLICANT: Town of Bladensburg, MD

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: Port Towns Sustainable Community

Please review the checklist of attachments and furnish all of the attachments that are applicable.
Contents of the application should be tabbed and organized as follows:

- Section A - Sustainable Community Renewal Applicant Information
- Section B – Sustainable Community Renewal Report (Projects, Strategies and Partners)
- Section C – Sustainable Community Renewal Action Plan Update (Matrix)
- Section D – Sustainable Communities Workgroup Roster
- Section E – Signature Letter (acknowledging Disclosure Authorization and Certification)
- Section F – CD-ROM: The CD-ROM should include the following contents:
 - If requesting a boundary modification, map in pdf format of the proposed Sustainable Community
 - GIS shapefiles of the modified Sustainable Community boundary (if requesting a modification) and other GIS related data
 - Pictures (jpeg format) of your accomplished projects of the last five years (as indicated in Section B)
 - Digital copy of completed Sustainable Communities Renewal Application

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Sustainable Community:

Port Towns Sustainable Community

Name of Renewal Applicant:

Town of Bladensburg, MD (Debi Sandlin, Town Administrator)

Applicant's Federal Identification Number: 526000777

Applicant's Street Address: 4229 Edmonston Road

City: Bladensburg
Zip Code: 20710

County: Prince Georges

State: MD

Phone Number: 301-927-7048
www.bladensburgmd.gov

Fax Number:

Web Address:

Sustainable Community Renewal Application Local Contact:

Name: Debi Sandlin

Title: Town Administrator

Address: 4229 Edmonston Rd
Zip Code: 20710

City: Bladensburg

State: MD

Phone Number: 301-927-7048
dsandlin@bladensburgmd.gov

Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

Other Sustainable Community Contacts:

Name: Rod Barnes

Title: Town Administrator

Address: 505 52nd Avenue
Zip Code: 20781

City: Edmonston

State: MD

Phone Number: 301-699-8806
rbarnes@edmonstonmd.gov

Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY – General Information

A. Sustainable Community Boundary and Description

(1) Are you requesting any changes to your Sustainable Community boundary? Describe why or why not? No.

(2) Include the following in as an attachment (if requesting a modification to your current boundary):

- a. PDF or JPEG of modified Sustainable Communities boundary map,
- b. GIS shapefiles of modified Sustainable Community boundary (mapped to the parcel boundary),

(3) Approximate number of acres of entire SC Area: _____ 1,452.8 acres _____

(4) Existing federal, state or local designations:

- Main Street Maple Street
- National Register Historic District Local Historic District Arts & Entertainment District
- State Enterprise Zone Special Taxing District BRAC State Designated TOD
- Other(s): Community Legacy designated area.

(5) Describe the SC Area's current demographic trends (with respect to age, race, household size, household income, educational attainment, number of housing units, or other relevant factors). How have demographics changed in the last five years?

Town of Bladensburg – There are 9,460 people, 3,542 households, and 1,960 families residing in the town; The racial makeup of the town was 12.6% White, 65.6% African American, 0.5% Native American, 2.0% Asian, 16.6% from other races, and 2.7% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race is 26.9% of the population. The median income for a household in the town was \$34,966, and the median income for a family was \$41,394. Males had a median income of \$30,969 versus \$28,538 for females. The per capita income for the town was \$17,046. About 7.5% of families and 11.8% of the population were below the poverty line, including 9.5% of those under age 18 and 21.3% of those ages 65 or over. Educational attainment, higher degree, 17.6%, 1,036; high school diploma, 57.3%, 3,364, no high school diploma, 25.1%, 1,471.

Income: The Median household income of a Bladensburg resident is \$42,265 a year.

Town of Edmonston – there were 1,445 people, 445 households, and 305 families residing in the town; The racial makeup of the town was 27.8% White, 32.5% African American, 0.6% Native American, 2.1% Asian, 0.3% Pacific Islander, 33.2% from other races, and 3.6% from two or more

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 48.3% of the population. Educational attainment, higher degree, 21.1%, 211; high school diploma, 36.6%, 366 and no high school diploma, 42.3%, 423.

Edmonston has a median household income of \$57,969.

Town of Colmar Manor – population is 1,635 – 374 households – 282 families residing in the Town; racial make-up is comprised 27.1%white, 35% African/American, .1% Native American, 7.2% Asian, 26.8% from other races, and 3.8% from two or more races, Hispanic/Latino of any race are 45% of the population. Higher education attainment, higher degree, 23%, 234; high school diploma, 41.2%, 419 and no high school diploma, 35.7%, 363.

Colmar Manor has a median annual income of \$67,083

Town of Cottage City – population of 1,366 -467 households, and 263 families residing in the town; The racial makeup of the town was 20.7% White, 46.6% African American, 1.7% Native American, 6.9% Asian, 19.2% from other races, and 4.9% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race is 34.4% of the population. Higher education attainment, higher degree, 28.9%, 255; high school diploma, 46.1%, 406, no high school diploma, 25%, 220.

Cottage City has a median annual income of \$53,553.

Read more: <http://www.city-data.com/city/Cottage-City-Maryland.html>

B. Organizational Structure, Experience and Public Input:

- (1) Describe any changes to the Applicant's organizational structure. Specifically, how has membership of the Sustainable Communities Workgroup changed in the last five years? Who are/were the leaders, and how will/did the Workgroup advisor or staff manage implementation of the SC Area Plan?

When the original Sustainable Communities application was submitted there was a Port Towns CDC in place to manage and coordinate the implementation of the outcomes and strategies submitted in 2012. The four Port Towns communities have taken the lead to develop, manage and implement and submit the proposed 2019 Port Towns Sustainable Communities Action Plan. The four Port Towns will work collaboratively with our community partners to help with organizing and completing the various strategies.

- (2) What have been the strengths and challenges of the capacity of the Sustainable Communities Workgroup with respect to implementation of the SC Plan?

The challenges of implementing and accomplishing the 2012 plan was the broad scope of work with expectations not measureable and achievable.

- (3) How did residents and other stakeholders in the community provide input to the Sustainable Communities Action Plan update? On which existing local plans (comprehensive plans, economic development plans, sector plans, etc.) is the Sustainable Communities Action Plan based?

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

The 2019 Sustainable Communities application has been the result of the facilitation by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development working with the four Port Towns and various community partners to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the six element areas and narrowing down the top three to four priorities of each of the areas. As a result, DHCD provided the working group with draft outcomes, strategies and performance measures for the working group to consider. The working group then revised the performance measures and strategies to fit the needs of the Port Towns. In addition, the working group identified the responsible agency/organization for leading the efforts to complete the outcomes.

- (4) Would you like any technical assistance from State agencies to help expand the capacity of your SC Workgroup or implement your SC plan? Please describe which revitalization strategies you would like assistance.

Yes we would like to have assistance in implementing the plan, to include identifying resources, best practices, funding to implement various strategies, and facilitation of meetings with appropriate agencies and officials.

Strategies would like assistance include:

Environment

Outcome 1 - Strategy B: Advocate with PGC Department of Environment, Corps of Engineers, State representatives and other applicable agencies to identify funding to dredge the Anacostia River.

Outcome 2 – Strategy E – Community Legacy funding to acquire additional Big Bellies.

Outcome 3 – Strategy B – Assist with facilitation of appropriate agencies/legislatures to advocate for installation pedestrian safety improvements to the Trail system.

Economy

Outcome 1 – Strategy D – assist with identifying state resources and educational programs to help facilitate small business growth.

Outcome 2 – Strategy B – Assist with facilitating conversations with County and State legislatures to increase the grant funding available for façade improvements to strip malls.

Transportation

Outcome 2 – Strategy A and B – Assist with facilitating the discussions with SHA and other state and federal officials on improving pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure at the Peace Cross Intersection.

Outcome 3 – Strategy B - Facilitate, assist and identify funding to implement a Wayfinding signage program with the M-NCPPC.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

Housing

Outcome 1 – Strategy A, B and C – assist with identifying affordable housing programs offered through the state and county, help to increase outreach efforts (MEA Grants), identify state programs that provide possible incentives for low to moderate income home buyers.

Outcome 2 – Strategy A – assist with identifying rehab assistance programs for homeowners.

Outcome 3 – Assist with identifying incentives to attract capital investment to encourage redevelopment of the Port Towns.

Quality of Life

Outcome 1 – Strategy B – Facilitate the discussions with the appropriate County and State legislatures to help advocate for the expansion of the Bladensburg Community Center and identify funding to conduct a feasibility study into the current and future space needs.

Outcome 2 – Strategy A – Assist with identifying funding to facilitate a branding/marketing campaign to help define the Port Towns identity and to promote the benefits of living, working and visiting the area.

Land Use

Outcome 2 – Strategy D – Help coordinate discussions with County and State legislatures to discuss drafting legislation to provide the Port Towns with more say in planning and zoning decisions.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT

PART I: QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

The purpose of this assessment is to capture significant projects/ improvements that have been completed since the approval of your local government's Sustainable Communities designation.

In relation to the goals stated in your local government's Sustainable Community Action Plan, **please highlight at least three major accomplishments from the last five years**, including how you achieved them. **When writing your narrative**, consider the questions below and refer to the six elements discussed in the General Information section of this document (page iv) – Environment, Economy, Transportation, Housing, Quality of Life, and Land Use/Local Planning.

- 1) **Outcome:** Which outcomes identified in your Sustainable Community plan were you able to achieve?
- 2) **Projects:** Which projects did you implement in order to achieve the outcome? Also indicate when you started and completed these projects.
- 3) **Partners:** With whom (i.e. state agencies, local stakeholders) did you partner to complete projects?
- 4) **Impact:** What kind of measurable impact did the achieved outcome have on your community? Are there other intangible benefits?
- 5) **Pictures:** Please also include pictures that depict your accomplishments.

[EXAMPLE] Descriptive Narrative: Please list the most significant accomplishments that apply

Example – Accomplishment 1

Outcome: Improved stormwater management

Projects:

Project 1: Stormwater Retrofit Plan – In October 2014, the Town Council approved the Town's stormwater retrofit plan which outlines various strategies and capital budget expenditures over the next five years. Strategies include reducing the amount of impervious surface in the community and improving stormwater management. One of the plan recommendations is to pass an ordinance that assesses an environmental protection fee on municipal permits.

Project 2: Green Streets – The Town added green elements to approximately 600 linear feet of roadway that had been experiencing severe flooding. Specifically, bioswales were constructed and trees were planted.

Partners:

Chesapeake Bay Trust – provided technical assistance

MD DHCD – provided financial assistance in form of a Community Legacy grant (totaling \$50,000).

Impact: The implementation of the projects had a significant impact on the community by improving stormwater runoff. The streets with the newly constructed bioswales no longer experience flooding.

Descriptive Narrative: Please list the most significant accomplishments that apply.

Accomplishment 1:

Outcome: The Port Towns received a designation from the Prince George's County Department of Environment as an Eco District

Projects: Stormwater survey for each Port Town community.

Partners:

Prince George's County Department of Environment

Port Towns Community Development Corporation

Towns of Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City and Edmonston

Impact: Identified potential projects the towns could apply to receive grants for construction.

Accomplishment 2:

Outcome: Continue to leverage the Maryland Energy Administration and Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development programs where selected homes receive small grants to upgrade their homes to be more energy efficient.

Projects:

The Communities have all worked with the Port Towns Collaborative to provide weatherization grants to eligible homeowners in each community. The grants provided upgrades to make the homes more energy efficient to include adding energy star rated appliances, insulation and upgraded HVAC systems.

Partners:

Maryland Energy Administration

Town of Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City and Edmonston

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

Impact: Assisted numerous homeowners in the Port Towns with upgrades to make their homes more energy efficient. :

Accomplishment 3:

Outcome: Implement Bike Share Program

Projects: Prince George's County is implementing a county wide bike share program with Capital Bike Shares. The program is being phased in and the Port Towns will receive bike share stations in the next 1 to 3 years as funding allows.

Partners:

Prince George's County

Anacostia Heritage Trails Association

Port Town Communities

Impact: Bike share program available for residents of the Port Towns.

Accomplishment 4:

Outcome: Permanently commemorate and promote the significance of the role of the Port Towns area in the War of 1812 and bicentennial celebrations of these historic events.

Projects: The Battle of Bladensburg Task Force coordinated and planned an event telling the story of the military actions and civilian life that preceded, surrounded, and followed the Battle of Bladensburg on August 24, 1814. This was accomplished through a Visitor Center display, walking and bike tours, sites, events and signage. The Task Force worked with partners across the area to ensure visitors and the community would understand that without the Battle of Bladensburg and Prince George's County, the Star Spangled Banner and the success at Baltimore would not have occurred. The Battle of Bladensburg / War of 1812 Commemoration occurred over 2012-2014 with multiple events, activities, and sites.

Partners:

Anacostia Heritage Trails Association

Towns of Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City and Edmonston

Impact: Increase visibility for the Port Towns and saw an increase in visitors to the Bladensburg Waterfront Park.

Accomplishment 5:

Outcome: Develop and enhance tradesmanship by creating vocational opportunities for local youths. Partner with End Time Harvest Ministries, a long standing, youth-focused nonprofit partner, who connects young people to sustainable projects by systematically involving them in the economic development of the Port Towns through its Jobs-For-Youth Program.

Projects:

Health and Wellness Ambassadors from End Time Harvest Ministries promote programs in each of the communities.

Partners:

Towns of Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City and Edmonston

End Time Harvest Ministries.

ECO CITY FARMS

Port Town businesses

Impact: Developing students for vocational careers and college.

Descriptive Narrative: Please use this section to describe any major outcomes or projects from your last Sustainable Communities Action Plan that have NOT been accomplished and why.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

Outcome:

Advocating for a Marc Train Station in the Port Towns at Cottage City

Narrative:

The Port Towns has not been successful persuading MARC to add a station stop in Cottage City or to obtain funding for a feasibility study.

Outcome:

Begin construction of the Annapolis Road Green Street.

Narrative:

The support and funding from the Maryland State Highway Administration was not provided.

Outcome:

To promote farmer's markets by partnering with ECO City Farms to provide organic produce to the local community

Narrative:

The Port Towns partnered with ECO City Farms to operate a Farmer's Market in Bladensburg for the first 2 years and for 2 years in Edmonston. The Communities did not support the effort and the market was discontinued in 2018.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT

PART II: COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

The purpose of the comprehensive assessment is to capture indicators of accomplishments in each Sustainable Community. Indicators should reflect the five year time period since the adoption of the Sustainable Communities Action Plan. Thus, the following questions focus on the common outcomes that were identified in the various Sustainable Community Action Plans approved by the State. The assessment will be grouped in the sections of Environment, Economy, Transportation, Housing, Quality of Life, and Land Use.

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge.

Check “**YES**” if applicable to your community. If you answer “**YES**” please quantify the accomplishment (i.e. Q: Has there been an increase in the number of businesses in your Main Street/commercial district? A: YES 4 new businesses have opened in the past five years). If necessary, please also provide a short description of the accomplishment.

Please check “**NO**” if the question item did not have any impact on your community. If you answer “**NO**” please briefly summarize what kept you from achieving your plan’s desired outcomes.

Check “**N/A**”, if the question item does not apply to your Sustainable Community.

ENVIRONMENT				If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
YES	NO	N/A		
1. Has there been an improvement in water quality?		X		
2. Has the amount of impervious surface in your Community been reduced? (Amount in SF)		X		
3. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your park and/ or recreational green space?		X		<p>The Town of Bladensburg completed the update and renovation of the Town Park (David C. Harrington Community Park). The renovation incorporated a newer and safer Tot Lot, eight (8) exercise stations, and a new jogging/walking trail. Both the playground and the jogging/walking trail were built with an environmentally permeable surface manufactured from recycled tires to help reduce injuries from children falling, to be easier on the knees and feet when using the jogging/walking trail in the park and to help with stormwater runoff. A “Recycle” trash can (Big Belly) was also placed at the entrance/exit of the playground to encourage visitors to the park to properly dispose of their waste products. All packaging and shipping materials used for the park renovation were 100% recyclable.</p> <p>Additionally, a covered grilling area and Pavilion were included to encourage residents to take advantage of the park as an outdoor recreational asset while promoting a healthier lifestyle. The goal of the renovated park is to provide an enjoyable outdoor recreational experience for everyone living, doing business and visiting the Bladensburg community and to foster adding exercise as part of a holistic health and wellness program as part of our residents’ daily lives. The renovation of the Town Park was made possible through two MDNR grants, a \$121,000 grant and a \$149,478 grant and a \$114,624 CDBG grant for a total of \$534,102 in grant funding to completely renovate and update the David C. Harrington Community Park. The jogging/walking trail was installed by Game Time who used a manufacturer they deal directly with on their projects.</p> <p>Additionally, the Town of Bladensburg built a new Pocket Park located on Tausig</p>

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

		Road, for residents to have a place to sit and visit when out for a walk around the Town, or to just sit and relax. The Pocket Parket includes two benches, a Big Belly trash receptacle, two cherry trees as part of the Town's edible forest strategy, and several native plants to help serve as a natural environmental barrier to absorb and collect rain water while serving as a community gathering place.
4. Did the Sustainable Community implement any recycling or waste reduction programs?	X	<p>The Town of Edmonston has been successful partnering with M-NCPPC to upgrade the 47th Avenue Park to include new playground equipment, converting a tennis court to a futsal court, new fencing and a rain garden.</p> <p>Big Belly Trash Compactors- Through the Bladensburg led Prince George's Municipal Collaborative, the Town of Bladensburg successfully applied for and received Community Legacy funding to purchase solar powered Big Belly trash Compactors. These large public trash compactors are intended to reduce litter and reduce waste ending up in the sewer systems and waterways and were placed in strategic locations around the four Port Towns of Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City and Edmonston, while providing a positive message through public art. The total cost for each Big Belly is \$8,862 which includes the cost of the compactor, the software, two message panels, and liner bags. (see attached for more details) for a total costs of \$638,064, all paid through grant funding.</p> <p>2) More recently, Bladensburg submitted another grant application to purchase 10 more Big Bellies in 2020.</p>
5. Do all residents have access to healthy food options (i.e. fresh food grocery stores, farmers markets etc.) within the Sustainable Community?	X	<p>Eco City Farms offers a Farmers Market every year from May through September. They also offer several programs to include: Nutrition Education, Urban Agriculture Training, and a Summer Youth Seed2Feed program.</p>
OTHER:		

ECONOMY				If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
YES	NO	N/A		

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

1. Has there been an increase in the number of new businesses in your Main Street/ Commercial District?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X		
2. Did the Municipality/ Sustainable Community area receive any designations that support local economic development?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Each of the four Port Towns are certified Sustainable Maryland Communities.
3. Has there been an increase in foot traffic in the Main Street/commercial district?		X		
4. Have the number of commercial vacancies decreased?		X		
5. Has there been an increase in local jobs within the Sustainable Community for its residents?		X		
OTHER:				

TRANSPORTATION	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

1. Has the amount of bike trails/paths increased? How many linear feet do the trails cover?	X			The Anacostia River Trail was linked from the Bladensburg Waterfront Park to the Nationals Ballpark in Washington DC.
2. Have there been improvements to the public transit infrastructure?	X			
3. Has there been an increase in sidewalks? (Amount in linear feet)	X			SHA installed 563 feet of new sidewalks along Edmonston Road as part of bioswell project to improve stormwater management along Edmonston Road. The Town of Edmonston received a Safe Routes to Schools grant to construct sidewalk on 52 nd Avenue and Crittenden Streets.
4. Have there been any roadway improvements that support “Complete” or “Green” streets?	X			Yes, the Town of Edmonston has received 4 grants to develop 3 additional green streets (Crittenden, 46 th Avenue, Ingraham). The Town of Edmonston has drafted a “Complete” street policy for the Mayor and Council to consider.
5. Has traffic congestion along major roads decreased? (Amount in percent)	X			
OTHER:				
HOUSING	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

1. Have any residential facades been improved?	X		Several homes in Bladensburg over the past two years have rehabbed both the interior and exterior of homes. This was a result of more senior residents downsizing and moving to smaller homes. The homes were renovated to improve the resale values of the homes.
2. Has the home ownership rate increased?			The Town of Edmonston has had 2 rounds of Community Legacy funding that has provided funds to rehab 16 Senior/LMI residents homes to include painting, gutter replacement, door replacement and fence replacement.
3. Has there been an increase in the number of housing units in the Sustainable Community area? What number and/or percent are affordable?	No		
4. Has there been demolition of blighted properties?	Yes		1 residential home in Edmonston
5. Has the residential vacancy rate decreased?	X		
OTHER:			

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

QUALITY OF LIFE	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1. Has there been a decrease in crime rate?	X			The Town of Bladensburg has seen a 25% decrease in crime over the past five years. The Town of Edmonston has seen a 10% decrease in crime over the past five years.
2. Have there been improvements and/or additions to your public spaces (i.e. museums, community centers, public plazas)?	X			
3. Has there been an increase in public art/ arts & entertainment programs/venues (i.e. murals, movie theatre, music events)?	X			
4. How many historic properties were renovated/improved?	X			The Bostwick House in the Town of Bladensburg renovations and Improvements include: 1. The restoration of the house and kitchen, restoration and replacement of the porch roof funded through the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to Aman Memorial Trust: \$87,500. The Town contributed \$10,000. Both of the porch floors, columns, and railings were restored. The main house's porch roof was also replaced. The South Buttress was heavily damaged by a major isolated weather event and shoring and bracing has been accomplished to stabilize the structure. 2. Window Restoration involving restoration of 17 windows, window frames and repainting of the window frames: This project was funded from Maryland Historical Trust: \$23,250.00. Total project cost was \$46,500. 3. The house and Kitchen porch were restored, and the porch roof was replaced. Funding for this project was through Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to Aman Memorial Trust: \$87,500. Town contributed \$10,000. Both of the porch floors, columns, and railings were restored. The main house's porch roof was replaced for \$47,106.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

5. Are there any residential health and wellness opportunities in place (i.e. athletic facilities, recreational indoor/ outdoor courses or groups)?	X			Port Town residents have access to the Bladensburg Community Center and the Colmar Manor Community Center. Both offering recreational amenities for residents to utilize.
OTHER:				
LAND USE/ LOCAL PLANNING				If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
	YES	NO	N/A	
1. Have there been any infill developments?	X			
2. Has there been an increase in the amount of preserved/protected land?	X			
3. Have there been any developments hindered by growth constraints?		X		
4. Have there been any zoning or any policy changes that have fostered growth in your Sustainable Community?		X		

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

5. Have there been any significant improvements to the municipal infrastructure within the Sustainable Community (i.e. street lighting, water/sewer lines)?	X			The Town of Bladensburg installed 17 streetlights along 57 th Avenue as well as two (2) LED lights in the renovated Town Park to improve the safety of residents.
OTHER:				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Community Legacy (CL): Weatherization/Park Improvements	DHCD	\$765,000 for the LMI program		Bladensburg/Port Towns
Big Belly Trash/Recycle receptacles	DHCD	\$683,000		Bladensburg/Port Towns
Permeable Pavers	DHCD	\$20,000		Colmar Manor
Public Works Building	DHCD	\$100,000		Cottage City
Rehabilitate Senior/LMI Housing (Edmonston Beautiful Program FY18)	DHCD	\$50,000		Edmonston
Rehabilitate Senior/LMI Housing (Edmonston Beautiful Program FY19)	DHCD	\$50,000		Edmonston
Strategic Demolition Fund (SDF): • •	DHCD			
Community Safety & Enhancement Program:	MDOT			
Maryland Bikeways Program:	MDOT			

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Sidewalk Retrofit Program:	MDOT			
Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund:	MDE			
Other Funding Programs: examples are U.S. HUD Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), or grants from USDA, EPA, Appalachian Regional Commission, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Heritage Areas Association, Preservation Maryland, Safe Routes to School, Maryland Rural Development Corporation, Maryland Energy Administration, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, etc. *Please add more rows if necessary				
Community Block Grants (CDBG)				
Sidewalks/Street Improvements	Prince George's County-Federal	\$941,974		Bladensburg
Street Improvements	Prince George's County-Federal	\$144,563		Colmar Manor
Sidewalks	Prince George's County-Federal	\$50,000		Cottage City
Crittenden Streetscape	Prince George's County-Federal	\$126,607		Edmonston
Community Park Improvements	MD Department of Natural Resources	\$270,478		Bladensburg
Community Park Improvements	MD-DNR	\$177,657		Colmar Manor
47 th Avenue Park Improvements	MD DNR	\$47,221		Edmonston

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
SHA – Safe Routes to School Sidewalks (52 nd Avenue – Crittenden)	Federal	\$179,260		Edmonston
Chesapeake Bay Trust Concept Design for Crittenden Crittenden Green Street/Rain Gardens Conservation Corp Volunteer 46 th Avenue Curb/Gutter/Rain Gardens Ingraham Green Street Project Conservation Corp Volunteer	Foundation Chesapeake Bay Trust Chesapeake Bay Trust Chesapeake Bay Trust Chesapeake Bay Trust	\$30,000 \$15,000 \$74,000 18,000 \$148,000 \$169,350 \$18,000		Colmar Manor Edmonston Edmonston Edmonston Edmonston Edmonston
Weatherization grants for residents Weatherization grants for residents Electric Vehicles Electric Vehicles	MEA MEA MEA MEA	\$81,474 \$50,000 \$42,264 \$45,000		Edmonston Edmonston Edmonston Cottage City
Community Gardens Coordinator for Port Towns Community Health Partnership	Kaiser Kaiser	\$40,500 \$30,000		Colmar Manor Edmonston/Port Towns
Facilities Mobile Data Terminals Police Clean Up Green Up Install a community Electric Vehicle Charging Station	Bond Bill - MD BJAG - Federal Maryland Environment Trust EVI	\$50,000 \$5,400 \$4,235 \$14,000		Colmar Manor Colmar Manor Colmar Manor Edmonston

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Are there any types of projects/needs for which your Sustainable Community needs funding; however, there isn't a funding source?

III. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Sustainable Community Action Plan (SC Plan or Plan) is meant to be a multi-year investment strategy – a strategic set of revitalization initiatives and projects that local partners believe will increase the economic vitality and livability of their community, increase prosperity for local households and improve the health of the surrounding environment. The Plan should be flexible enough to be updated regularly and renewed every five years as the community envisions new goals. The priority initiatives and projects identified in the action plan are your priorities for improving the livability of community places -- residential, commercial, or other public or private properties – and the sustainability of new work, retail, recreational and housing opportunities for residents. At the same time, the plan should only discuss the strategies that will impact the geographic area targeted for revitalization, so that resources have the best opportunity to have the intended effect. These projects can also be designed to reduce the environmental impact of the community through water and energy resource conservation and management strategies. In this way, the Plan can be a road map for local stakeholders as well as State agencies to work together to create a more a livable and sustainable community.

All communities submitted an SC Plan when the community earned its original designation. Some applicants may want to take advantage of the designation renewal process to outline new strategies, set new priorities or reaffirm existing strategies for their Sustainable Community. Changes to SC Plans may be due to changes in external factors affecting the community or changes in the priorities of the applicant.

Guidance for completing the Action Plan can be found on the next page.

Action Plan Guidance

The document has been broken down into the same six categories as the Comprehensive Assessment section of this document. These parts address key components of your Sustainable Community Action Plan. Follow the guidelines below to fill out the matrix.

- 1) For each of the different sections, pinpoint essential strengths and weaknesses of your community.**
Example Transportation: Strength - Good sidewalk connectivity. Weakness - Insufficient amount of downtown parking.
- 2) Based on those strengths and weaknesses, formulate specific outcomes that address the most pressing issues or greatest potentials. Include a means of measuring the success of said outcome.**
Example Economy: Outcome – Expand broadband fiber optics in Town. Progress Measure - Linear measurement of fiber laid and number of residential and business connections.
- 3) After defining the outcomes, list detailed strategies (break down to several action steps if needed) that will serve as the means to achieve those goals.** Example Economy: Strategy - Increase number of Town sponsored events → Develop with community input, a series of weekend events that the Town could host.
- 4) List potential partners that can support the successful implementation of these strategies through different types of resources.** Example Economy: DHCD (Community Legacy program), Small Business Administration (Services and financial assistance) etc.

Sustainable Community Action Plan

Port Towns

Submitted by: Town of Bladensburg, MD

8/30/2019

Environment

(Environmental strengths and weaknesses can include but are not limited to quality of land, water, air, watersheds, tree canopy, risk of sea level rise, carbon footprint, energy conservation, access to local foods, green infrastructure, stormwater infrastructure/management, parks, trails and recreation, recycling, water and sewer capacity, etc.)

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>	<u>Strategies and Action Items</u>	<u>Implementation Partners</u> Which community stakeholders need to be involved to realize each action step and strategy? Name specific public and/or private sector partners.	<u>Outcome 1:</u> Strategy A: Mayor Takisha James will take the lead - Will discuss at Port Towns Quarterly meeting to gather input & support from Port
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bladensburg Waterfront Park provides community access to the Anacostia River and is a trail head for entering the Anacostia River Trail Bike trails which provide connectivity to DC Sustainable Maryland certification demonstrates commitment and achievement of the Port Towns to environmental sustainability River cleanups and Green Teams through Sustainable Maryland partnership work to reduce litter and improve environmental quality Environmental clean-up efforts have result in improved water quality in the Anacostia in recent years Local agriculture exists in the Port Towns through community gardens and urban farming (ECO City Farms) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streetscapes could be improved Need to increase access to fresh, affordable food Lack of diverse community engagement around environmental sustainability Flooding and stormwater management issues are pervasive Tree canopy needs to be increased The urban nature of the Port Towns and presence of high-traffic arterial roadways leads to noise and air quality issues Lack of electric vehicle infrastructure 	<p>Identify strategies that will help your community to achieve each identified outcome to the left. If applicable, break down each strategy into specific action items that outline different steps of the strategy. Specify how you are planning to achieve the desired outcomes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">→</p>	<p>Measures Based on the strengths and weaknesses identify the strengths on which you would like to build and the challenges you would like to address. What outcomes are you trying to achieve? Where/ in what area do you want those changes to happen?</p> <p>Progress Measure: Identify how you will know that you have achieved your outcome.</p>	<p>Outcome 1: Capitalize on the community asset of the Bladensburg Waterfront Park & Trail System to attract residents & visitors.</p> <p>Strategy A: Create an annual trail walk promotional campaign to increase awareness and usage of the trail system.</p> <p>Strategy B: Advocate with PGC Department of Environment, Corps of Engineers,</p>

<p>Progress Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of marketing campaigns promoting the Bladensburg Waterfront Park & Trail System Increased funding to help dredge the Anacostia Legislation developed to improve pedestrian connectivity to the Waterfront 	<p>State representatives and other applicable agencies to identify funding to dredge the Anacostia River</p> <p>Strategy B: Port Town elected leadership in partnership with AWS to lobby County representatives and State delegates.</p> <p>Town partners.</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Grow the identity & brand of the Port Towns as an environmentally friendly place to live and work.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full participation from all four Port Towns in the County Executives "Growing Green with Pride" initiative. Number of new public trash/recycling cans installed in the Port Towns. Number of pounds of pet waste collected annually. 	<p>Outcome 2 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Participation in the County Executives Annual "Growing Green with Pride" beautification initiative</p> <p>Strategy B: Promote the new Bladensburg Library as a LEED Certified public facility</p> <p>Strategy C: Identify & promote industrial businesses & non-profit agencies located in the industrial park incorporating green sustainable practices and encourage other businesses to take similar steps.</p> <p>Strategy D: Focus a PSA campaign on litter reduction and educate about the detriments of pet waste.</p> <p>Strategy E: Increase the number of trash & recycling cans around the Port Towns, particularly at public sidewalks and bus stops.</p> <p>Strategy F: Increase the number of Pet Waste Stations in the Port Towns & encourage Port Town residents to use recyclable pet waste bags.</p> <p>Outcome 3: Increase the safety of the Trail System.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased reports of feeling safe and satisfaction by bikers/pedestrians, Number of safety features installed (e.g. crosswalks, signs).
	<p>Outcome 3 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Advocate for additional lighting on the Anacostia Trails and neighborhoods connecting the trails.</p> <p>Strategy B: Advocate and work with SHA to improve pedestrian & bicyclists safety at crossing points to access the trails by improving or installing</p> <p>Strategy C: Bladensburg & Edmonston Town Administrators to take the lead – Coordinate an Industry Day.</p> <p>Strategy D: Each Port Town will be responsible for developing a PSA campaign on litter reduction and educating their residents.</p> <p>Strategy E: Each Port Town will be responsible for increasing the</p>

<p>crosswalks, pedestrian signals, flashing signs & lighting.</p> <p>Strategy C: Encourage participation in the Annual Bike to Work event by setting up tables to distribute information on the historical assets and opportunities in the Port Towns.</p>	<p>number of Pet Waste Stations in their community.</p> <p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Strategy A: Cottage City will take the lead with support of all four Port Towns.</p> <p>Strategy B: Work with partners such as AWS, the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area & Park and Planning to advocate for pedestrian improvements.</p> <p>Strategy C: Each Town to set-up a table on the Trail during the Annual Bike to Work event. Encourage community partners and non-profit agencies to set-up tables to distribute information.</p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Economy</u></h2> <p>(Economic strengths and weaknesses can include but are not limited to regional accessibility, business attraction/retention, health of the business district and commercial vacancies, workforce/employment and economic drivers, local policies/regulations, marketing, tourism, cultural and historic assets)</p>
<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of small businesses, both culturally specific and of general appeal • Strong industrial park sector is a proud part of the identity of the Port Towns • Proximity to DC and University of Maryland – College Park • Strong job market for skilled trades 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-residents see the Port Towns as a “pass-through” location, hard to get people to stop • Most retail spending is being exported outside of the Port Towns. • Lack of shopping options • Lack of awareness and educational outreach to residents regarding local vocational & industrial related job opportunities in the Port Towns area. 	28

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Strengthen the small business sector of the Port Towns economy & increase the number and diversity of businesses.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <p>Increase in number of business licenses in the Port Towns</p> <p>Number of workshops/events/classes hosted by the EDC for businesses (number attendees)</p>	<p>Outcome 1 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Engage the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to conduct a market study to determine leakage.</p> <p>Strategy B: Engage the EDC in educating the community about the demographics needed by certain chains to enter the market.</p> <p>Strategy C: Engage the EDC in identifying types of businesses that would be interested in the services and amenities the Port Town's and partner with the EDC to attract these types of businesses.</p> <p>Strategy D: Work with the EDC & the University to help identify adult educational needs of small businesses and offer seminars/workshops or one-on-one consultations.</p> <p>Strategy E: Assessing the feasibility of a small business incubator space and/or pop-ups.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Town Administrators to take the lead.</p> <p>Strategy B: Town Administrators to coordinate a Port Towns community meeting with the EDC.</p> <p>Strategy C: Town Administrators will take the lead.</p> <p>Strategy D: Town Administrators.</p> <p>Strategy E: Partner with the EDC and PGC to assess feasibility of incubator space in the Port Towns – Cottage City Town Administrator.</p> <p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Strategy A: Bladensburg Town Administrator and Marketing staff.</p> <p>Strategy B: Elected officials to lobby for increased façade improvement funding.</p> <p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Strategy A: Each Port Town and/or Partner agency will be responsible for offering and/or participating in a summer</p>

Number of events held	<p>Strategy A: Identify summer youth employment and internship opportunities for Port Town's youth.</p> <p>1. Number of incentives created</p> <p>2. Amount of incentives awarded</p> <p>3. Number of facade improvement projects implemented.</p> <p>Outcome 3: Increase job training and educational opportunities for Port Town youth.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of Port Town youth participating in summer youth employment programs and/or Port Towns internship programs. 2. Number of Financial workshops held for high school students. 3. Number of Partners offering summer youth employment programs/opportunities. 	<p>youth/internship program.</p> <p>Strategy B: Each Town will identify partners.</p> <p>Strategy C: Bladensburg Library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy D: Bladensburg & Edmonston Town Administrators – Maryland Black Mayors and/or PGCMA and Port Town elected officials. <p>Strategy D: Increase young people's awareness of the industrial sector jobs within the Port Towns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with the industrial park to host an open house at the park with an emphasis on younger residents. • Advocate to both the County and Board of Education representatives to offer additional vocational training classes.
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Transportation

(Transportation strengths and weaknesses can include access to transit corridors, pedestrian safety and accessibility/sidewalks, alternative modes of transportation, such as bikeways and trails, public transit, such as bus and rail, carpooling, proximity to transportation centers, parking, road conditions)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
		Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port Towns share Call-A-Bus service for on-demand bus transportation which operates in a five-mile radius Bike trails provide both recreational opportunities and are used by those biking for their commute into DC Bus transit connectivity through WMATA is relatively good Availability of local and regional bus service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian and bicyclist safety are very poor, especially on the state highways where there is a large amount of high-speed traffic Lack of sidewalk continuity and poor-quality sidewalks Lack of connections to commuter rail Older, narrow streets lack stormwater management and experience nuisance flooding Transit stops could use improvement as they lack trash cans or infrastructure like bus shelters Underutilized local and regional bus service 	<p>Outcome 1 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Conduct an outreach campaign to educate Port Town residents who can use the Call-A-Bus service, to challenge the misconceptions about using it.</p> <p>Strategy B: Re-Evaluate converting the current on-call structure to a fixed circulator route with a focus on getting users to Metro bus stops and professional appointments with a five-mile radius of their place of residence.</p> <p>Strategy C: Advocate with PGC to allow for other options with the Call-A-Bus Service.</p>	<p>Outcome 1:</p> <p>Strategy A: All four Port Towns will be responsible for informing and educating their residents on the benefits of the Call-A-Bus service.</p> <p>Strategy B: All four Port Towns to work collaboratively to re-evaluate the purpose of the Call-A-Bus.</p> <p>Strategy C: Port Town Elected leaders.</p>

<p>Outcome 2: Improve the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists through improved and increased infrastructure.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Steps completed towards Peace Cross intersection redesign. 2. Number of crosswalk signs installed 3. Number of crosswalk lights installed Decrease in number of pedestrian injuries. <p>Outcome 3: Improve connections to nearby public transit stations such as MARC, Metro, and the future Purple Line stations.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of bike share stations installed 2. Utilization rate of bike share stations 3. Number of wayfinding signs installed 4. Number of apartment shuttles offered 	<p>Outcome 2 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Work with the Maryland State Highway Administration to cooperatively identify solutions to address the lack of pedestrian and bicyclists infrastructure at the Peace Cross intersection in order to improve access between the Bladensburg Waterfront Park, Industrial Park and Institutional uses on Annapolis Road.</p> <p>Strategy B: Advocate with County, State and Federal representatives to develop legislation to build a pedestrian bridge across Annapolis Road.</p> <p>Strategy C: Increase driver compliance of the crosswalk at 38th Avenue and Parkwood Street, and at 38th and Cottage Terrace at 38th in Cottage City through Police Enforcement, adding flashing lights to existing signs, and evaluating the current placement of signs.</p> <p>Strategy D: Partner with the industrial park to increase awareness of pedestrians walking in the industrial area; develop a pedestrian safety awareness campaign to educate their employees.</p> <p>Strategy E: Explore connecting existing sidewalks and trails.</p> <p>Strategy F: Bladensburg & Edmonston to work with businesses in industrial park.</p> <p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Strategy G: Increase driver compliance of the crosswalks at various intersections throughout the Port Towns.</p> <p>Outcome 3 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy H: Advocate for Prince George's County to expand their bike sharing program by installing bike share stations throughout the Port Town's community with a particular focus on the Bladensburg Waterfront Park & Transportation centers.</p> <p>Strategy I: Explore the development of a Wayfinding signage program with the M-NCPPC that not only includes historic markers for relevant sites, but also helps direct visitors to transit stops and other locations.</p> <p>Strategy J: Work with apartment owners and future developers to encourage</p>	<p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Strategy A: Port Town Elected officials working with SHA to identify solutions.</p> <p>Strategy B: Port Town elected officials to meet with County & State representatives to develop legislation.</p> <p>Strategy C: Colmar Manor/Cottage City Police Department.</p> <p>Strategy D: Bladensburg & Edmonston to work with businesses in industrial park.</p> <p>Strategy E: Work with ATHA, the Towns and SHA to determine the feasibility of connecting sidewalks & trails.</p> <p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Strategy F: PGC & ATHA – Elected Officials of the Port Towns to advocate for the expansion of the bike share program in the Port Towns.</p> <p>Strategy G: Edmonston Town Administrator to reach out to M-NCPPC to start a conversation.</p> <p>Strategy H: Town Administrators to have conversations with M-NCPPC</p>
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	them to provide shuttles from their buildings to transit stops as has been done at other apartment complexes in the area.	about requiring bus service as part of new development projects
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Housing <i>(Housing strengths and weaknesses can include affordability, homeownership vs rental, housing stock diversity, housing condition and value, housing programs, foreclosures, residential vacancies, property values, home sale values)</i>		Implementation Partners
Strengths	Weaknesses	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing is affordable relative to the area Good mix of housing types provides a diversity of housing opportunity for different for multi-generational housing and family types Very few residential vacancies and a very strong residential market 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overcrowding (multiple families in one unit) is a problem Limited redevelopment & ability to expand due to being landlocked Lack of mixed-use commercial/residential buildings which could grow the client base for Port Towns businesses Elderly and low-income homeowners struggle with property maintenance 	
Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →		Outcome 1: Strategies →
<p>Outcome 1: Identify affordable housing resources/programs for residents to participate in.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Number of affordable housing units in new projects. Number of affordable housing programs and 		<p>Outcome 1:</p> <p>Strategy A: Identify partners with affordable housing programs and services and improve outreach to the community about these programs.</p> <p>Strategy B: Increase outreach and education efforts regarding the Maryland Energy Assistance Grants.</p> <p>Strategy C: Identify Possible incentives for low- and moderate-income homebuyers as well as first-time homebuyers.</p>

<p>services promoted to Port Town residents.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Improve the housing conditions of Port Town residents.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of households assisted 2. Number of promotional campaigns informing residents of rehab housing programs and services available to participate in 3. Number of code issues resolved 4. Decrease in number of code complaints 	<p>Strategy D: Advocate for PGC to enact legislation requiring developers to set aside a percentage of affordable housing in new development projects.</p> <p>Strategy C: Each Town will work with Maryland State agencies offering various programs to promote home ownership.</p> <p>Strategy D: Port Town elected officials to advocate with County & State representatives.</p> <p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Strategy A: Identify rehab assistance programs through the County and State for senior and low to moderate income homeowners to participate in.</p> <p>Strategy B: Increase outreach & education and identify funding resources efforts to connect residents with partners and resources that provide rehab assistance programs.</p> <p>Strategy C: Strengthen Code Enforcement efforts to improve the quality of properties managed by out of town landlords.</p> <p>Outcome 3 Strategies</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Promote redevelopment and mixed-use development within the Port Towns.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased number of housing units 2. Increased number of mixed-use buildings 3. Increase in number of diverse housing types (e.g. townhomes, apartments, tiny houses) 	<p>Strategy A: Each Town responsible for identifying programs.</p> <p>Strategy B: Each Port Town responsible for promoting programs to their communities.</p> <p>Strategy C: Each Town is responsible for enforcing code violations in their communities.</p> <p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Strategy A: Bladensburg & Edmonston to work with the EDC to identify potential redevelopment projects.</p> <p>Strategy B: Each Town responsible for working with developers and the County to identify incentives to attract development.</p> <p>Strategy C: Towns work with Planning & Zoning to attract and</p>
	<p>Strategy C: Focus on mixed-used efforts with ground floor retail and residential on top, and less on incorporating office space.</p> <p>Strategy D: Advocate with M-NCPPC to require Mixed-use development include a diversity of housing options, including townhomes, Tiny houses, accessory dwelling units, and retail establishments.</p>

	<p>encourage more mixed-use development.</p> <p>Strategy D: Elected Officials to lobby County and State legislatures.</p>
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Quality of Life

(Strengths and weaknesses can include crime, socio-economic demographics, educational opportunities, museums, libraries, historic and cultural assets, civic amenities, faith-based organizations, economic health of households, sense of place, etc)

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easy access to DC Close-knit community, with strong faith-based and culture-based organizations and partners The Port Towns are home to an ethnically diverse population and the towns celebrate and embrace this diversity Excellent public library The Bladensburg Community Center, Colmar Manor Community Center, and the Edmonston Community Center provides a wide variety of programs for all age levels and a diverse population. Great relationships between community and local police Excellent green space and town parks within each town Great relationships between towns and school systems Port Towns Day draws visitors from the region and celebrates the history and diversity of the Port Towns communities Bladensburg Waterfront Park and the Anacostia River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overcrowding of schools driven by residential overcrowding Not enough cultural organizations to help residents access services and resources for their particular needs Public health issues – obesity & diabetes prevalent Night life creates noise complaints Insufficient availability of affordable and recognizable grocery stores

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
Outcome 1 Strategies		
<p>Outcome 1: Increase the number of social and community services relevant to residents.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of programs offered to the senior population 2. Number of County Social Service agencies workshops and outreach efforts offered in the Port Towns area 3. Successfully advocating for the construction of the Bladensburg Library (construction date is identified as a priority in the PGC Library Systems Capital Improvement budget). 	<p>Strategy A: Advocate for Port Towns residents to have access to high quality and relevant social services meeting their diverse needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request the County conduct a study or analysis into the social service needs of the Port Towns community and whether or not those needs are being met. • Work with the County's Social Service agencies to offer resources, conduct workshops and outreach efforts within the Port Towns. <p>Increase the outreach and promotion of existing services and resources as appropriate.</p> <p>Strategy B: Advocate for M-NCCPC to expand the Bladensburg Community Center, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting a study or analysis into current and future space needs. • Assess the feasibility of expanding the center at the current site, or if a new site would be required. • Communicate the need to expand the Community Center to M-NCCPC. <p>Strategy C: Advocate, lobby, and communicate to the PGC Library System the importance of and value of moving forward with building of the new Bladensburg Library as a priority in the PGC Library Capital Improvement budget & move up the construction date.</p> <p>Strategy D: Advocate and promote the Prince George's County Department of Health and/or other health care partners to assess the feasibility of a pop-up medical clinic in the community, for routine health checks and to educate residents on county resources available to assist seniors.</p>	<p>Outcome 1:</p> <p>Strategy A: Elected Officials and Town staff to request a study or analysis of resident's needs; All four Port Towns to work collaboratively to have PGC Social Services offer workshops; and All four Port Towns to promote existing service to their communities.</p> <p>Strategy B: Elected Officials from all four Port Towns to advocate to County and State legislatures the need to expand or build of a new Community Center.</p> <p>Strategy C: Elected Officials to lobby County and State legislatures.</p> <p>Strategy D: Port Town elected officials to lobby and advocate PGC to offer community medical clinics/pop ups.</p>

<p>Outcome 2: Strengthen the identity of the Port Towns.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining the Port Towns identity; implementation of a branding/marketing campaign promoting the Port Towns as a great place to live, work and visit. 2. Number of partnerships improved and established between community partners. 3. Increased residential interest in urban farming and community gardens. 	<p>Outcome 2 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Define what the Port Towns identity is.</p> <p>Strategy B: Develop a branding/marketing campaign promoting the Port Towns as a great place to live, work and visit.</p> <p>Strategy C: Promote special events celebrating the historical and cultural assets of the Port Towns.</p> <p>Strategy D: Encourage collaboration and networking between community partners who host community events such as concerts, farmers markets, festivals, etc. & promote urban farming and community garden opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify non-profits, historical agencies, faith-based groups, etc. to encourage collaboration and to build relationships with each other. 	<p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Strategy A: Utilize a consultant to help with defining what the Port Towns identity is.</p> <p>Strategy B: Utilize a consultant to help develop a branding/marketing campaign.</p> <p>Strategy C: All four Port Towns will be responsible for promoting special events/celebrations.</p> <p>Strategy D: Elected officials to encourage collaboration between community partners to enhance their message.</p>
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<p>Local Planning and Land Use</p> <p>(Strengths and weaknesses in the local planning and land use subject area include but are not limited to zoning, land use, policies, taxes and fees, historical patterns of development, lot sizes and shapes, etc)</p>	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good relationships with local and state government entities. 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of concrete influence for planning and zoning issues. • Not a lot of buildable space. • Lack of communication with private commercial owners and County officials about redevelopment opportunities. • Need a plan for the negative aspects raising property values can have on neighborhoods. • Presence of vocal minority with a loud voice can silence other community
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Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: The implementation of policy solutions in partnership with the County to create a community where redevelopment benefits all residents.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Improve communication between local governments, stakeholders, and Prince George's County government about Port Town priorities.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation passed to address the impact of new development on the existing residential base. <p>Outcome 3: Understand and utilize strategies the Port Towns can use to influence the redevelopment process without needing zoning.</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in number of successful development applications. 	<p>Outcome 1 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Advocate with the County to enact legislation to minimize the impact new development will have on the existing residential base.</p> <p>Strategy B: Encourage the County to offer tax incentives to seniors and low to moderate income property owners.</p> <p>Outcome 2 Strategies</p> <p>Strategy A: Work together as a Port Towns community to present one unified voice and not to take positions contrary to development projects important to a partner community being presented to the County/M-NCPPC for consideration.</p> <p>Strategy B: Advocate for the County to involve the Port Town's earlier in the development process to avoid permitting issues and delays.</p> <p>Strategy C: Coordinate meetings with developers to gain input on how to improve dealing with the County on planning and zoning issues.</p> <p>Strategy D: Advocate with County & State representatives to draft & propose legislation to provide the Port Town's with more say in planning & zoning development decisions.</p> <p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Strategy A: Town Administrators</p>	<p>Strategy A: Port Town elected officials.</p> <p>Strategy B: Port Town Elected officials.</p> <p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Strategy A: All Port Town leaders.</p> <p>Strategy B: Port Town elected officials & staff.</p> <p>Strategy C: Town staff to coordinate meetings with the EDC and developers/existing businesses.</p> <p>Strategy D: Port Town Elected officials and Town Administrators.</p> <p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Strategy B: Each Port Town responsible for notifying their community.</p> <p>Strategy A: Notify Port Town residents about proposed development projects</p>

	to provide them with the opportunity for input.

2019 Port Towns Sustainable Program Renewal Working Group Roster

Working Group:

1. Town of Bladensburg – Mayor Takisha James/Debi Sandlin, Town Administrator
2. Town of Colmar Manor – Consuela Barbour, Town Manager
3. Town of Cottage City – Council Member Melinda Mendoza
4. Town of Edmonston – Mayor Tracy Gant/Rod Barnes, Town Administrator
5. Anacostia Watershed Society – Jim Foster, Executive Director
6. Anacostia Heritage Area – Ariel Trahan, Board Member & Aaron Marcavitch, Executive Director
7. Bladensburg Library System – Debra Caponni
8. Port Towns Elementary School – Michele Marek, Principal
9. Bladensburg Waterfront Park – Robert Walker, Waterfront Park Supervisor
10. Shine CDC - Chada Brown, Executive Director

SIGNATURE LETTER

On behalf of Town of Bladensburg, I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for the Town of Bladensburg. I understand that the Disclosure Authorization and Certification from the original Sustainable Communities application continues to apply to the applicant local government, and as such the applicant agrees that not attaching an objection constitutes consent to the information being made available to the public, and a waiver of any rights the applicant may have regarding this information under Maryland's Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

I also confirm that I am named or a former holder of my current title is named as an authorized official for the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.

Takisha D. James
Authorized Signature

Takisha D. James
Type Name and Title

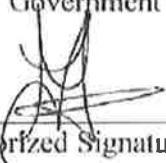
August 21, 2019
Date

SIGNATURE LETTER

Edmonston

On behalf of Town of Bladensburg, I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for Town of Edmonston. I understand that the Disclosure Authorization and Certification from the original Sustainable Communities application continues to apply to the applicant local government, and as such the applicant agrees that not attaching an objection constitutes consent to the information being made available to the public, and a waiver of any rights the applicant may have regarding this information under Maryland's Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

I also confirm that I am named or a former holder of my current title is named as an authorized official for the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.



Authorized Signature

Tracy R. Gant, Mayor
Type Name and Title

8-21-2019
Date

SIGNATURE LETTER

Colmar Manor

On behalf of Town of Bladensburg, I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for Town of Colmar Manor. I understand that the Disclosure Authorization and Certification from the original Sustainable Communities application continues to apply to the applicant local government, and as such the applicant agrees that not attaching an objection constitutes consent to the information being made available to the public, and a waiver of any rights the applicant may have regarding this information under Maryland's Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

I also confirm that I am named or a former holder of my current title is named as an authorized official for the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.

Sadara Barrow
Authorized Signature

Sadara B. Barrow, Mayor
Type Name and Title

8/21/2019

Date

SIGNATURE LETTER

Cottage City

On behalf of Town of Bladensburg, I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for Town of Cottage City. I understand that the Disclosure Authorization and Certification from the original Sustainable Communities application continues to apply to the applicant local government, and as such the applicant agrees that not attaching an objection constitutes consent to the information being made available to the public, and a waiver of any rights the applicant may have regarding this information under Maryland's Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

I also confirm that I am named or a former holder of my current title is named as an authorized official for the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.

Ann M. Young
Authorized Signature

Ann M. Young
Chair, Cottage City Commission
Type Name and Title

Reep 21, 2019
Date

SIGNATURE LETTER

On behalf of [INSERT *Applicant local government full name*], I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for [INSERT *Sustainable Community Name*]. I understand that the Disclosure Authorization and Certification from the original Sustainable Communities application continues to apply to the applicant local government, and as such the applicant agrees that not attaching an objection constitutes consent to the information being made available to the public, and a waiver of any rights the applicant may have regarding this information under Maryland's Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

I also confirm that I am named or a former holder of my current title is named as an authorized official for the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.

Authorized Signature

Type Name and Title

Date

MEA Weatherization Pictures





M-NCPPC

Bikeshare
Station Siting

Date: 5/2/2017



Bikeshare Station Grouping

Legend

cb

Bladensburg/Colmar Manor

cb

National Harbor

cb

Brentwood/Mt. Rainier

cb

Riverdale Park

cb

Hyattsville

cb

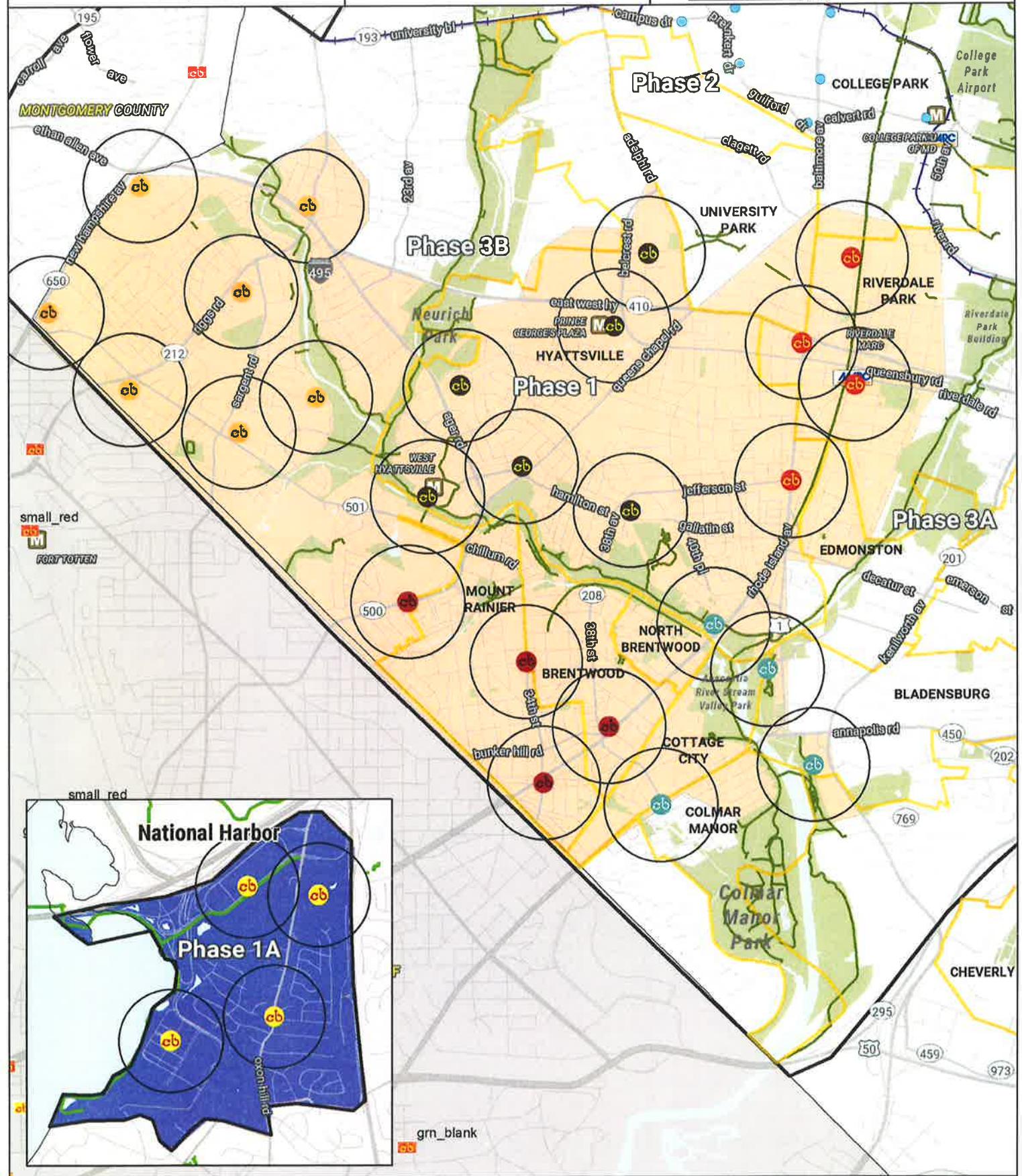
Unincorporated

0

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Miles



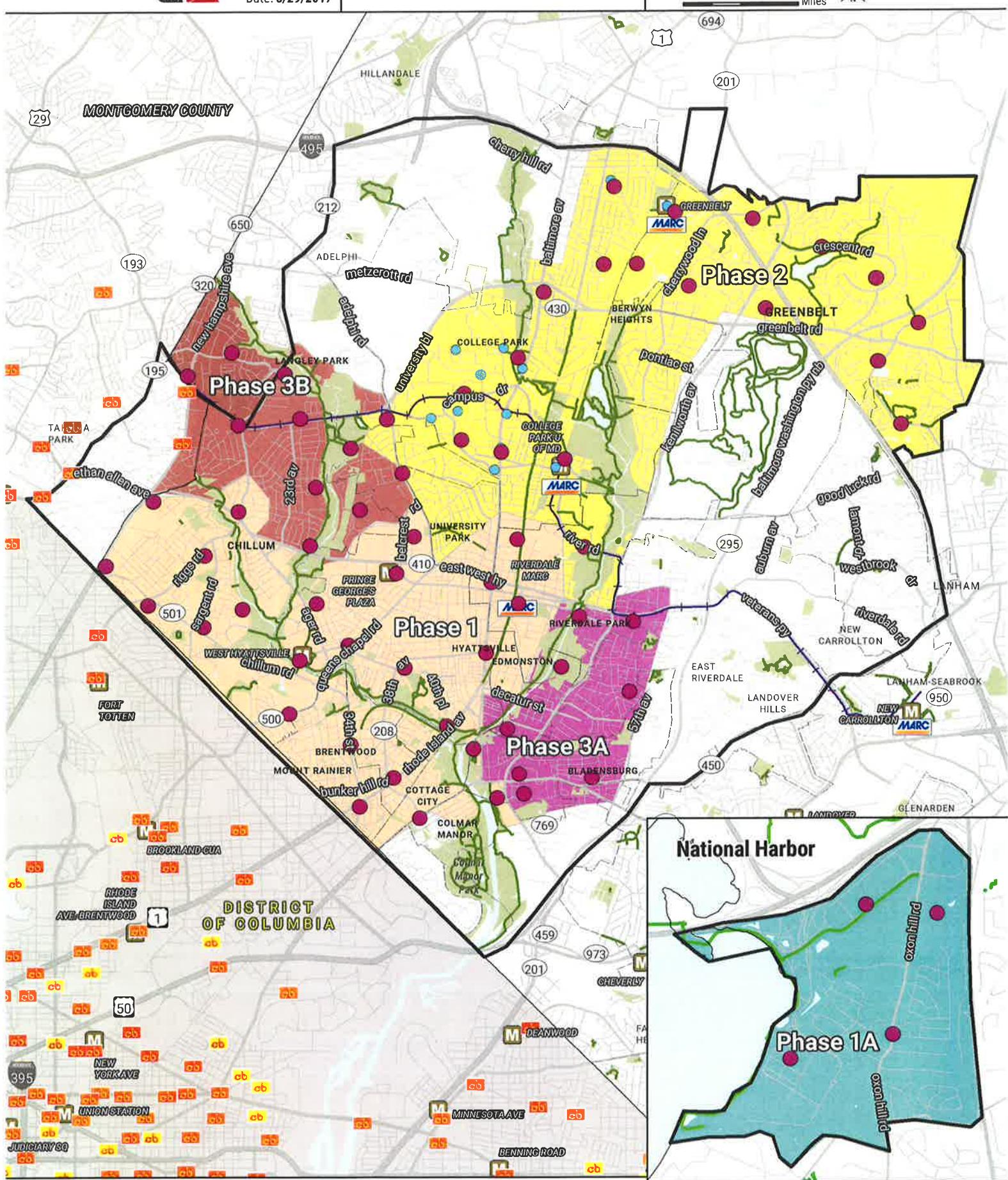


M-NCPPC

ATHA/Greenbelt Bikeshare
Feasibility Study

Date: 3/29/2017

Proposed Phasing and Station Locations



POR TOWNS WAR OF 1812 CELEBRATION EVENT



Harvest Ministries Youth Ambassadors Pictures

