

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY APPLICATION

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Sustainable Community:

Town of Vienna, Maryland

Name of Applicant:

Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Vienna

Applicant's Federal Identification Number: 052101669

Applicant's Street Address: 214 Market Street (P.O. Box 86)

City: Vienna **County:** Dorchester **State:** MD **Zip Code:** 21869

Phone Number: 410-376-3442 **Fax Number:** 410-376-3892 **Web Address:** viennamd@dmv.com

Sustainable Community Application Local Contact:

Name: Russell Brinsfield **Title:** Mayor

Address: 214 Market Street (P.O. Box 86) **City:** Vienna **State:** MD **Zip Code:** 21869

Phone Number: 410-376-3442 **Fax Number:** 410-376-3892 **E-mail Address:**
viennamd@dmv.com

Sustainable Community Contact for Application Status:

Name: Russell Brinsfield **Title:** Mayor

Address: 214 Market Street (P.O. Box 86) **City:** Vienna **State:** MD **Zip Code:** 21869

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II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY – General Information

A. Proposed Sustainable Community Area(s):

- (1) Provide a description of SC Area boundaries. How did the applicant determine that these are the most appropriate boundaries for its target area? Describe the methodology for choosing this target area.

The Sustainable community Boundary for the Town of Vienna was selected by identifying the historically developed residential, commercial and institutional areas of the Town, all of which are located within a pre-defined Priority Funding Area (Municipality).

- (2) Include the following in as an attachment: 1) PDF or JPEG of proposed Sustainable Communities map, 2) GIS shapefiles of proposed Sustainable Community boundary (mapped to the parcel boundary), 3) pictures of proposed Sustainable Community area.

- (3) Approximate number of acres within the SC Area: **93.8 Acres**

- (4) Existing federal, state or local designations: **None**

Community Legacy Area Designated Neighborhood 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):

- (5) Prior Revitalization Investments & Smart Growth:

- (a) *List and describe any significant State and local smart growth or revitalization related program investments* (for instance, Community Legacy or SC Rehab Tax Credit) that have been invested in the Area since the launching of Maryland's Smart Growth initiative and programs in 1997 (including Housing investment). What impact have these investments made in the community?

In furtherance of the Smart Growth and revitalization planning efforts, outlined in Section II, B (2) of this application (below), the Town has established the following 'on the ground' accomplishments.

- (1) **Emperor's Landing and Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network:**

In 2009 Vienna became a Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network site. The name of the Vienna Waterfront Park was changed to Emperor's Landing and has now been upgraded in a multi-year improvement program funded by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The Town acquired the former industrial properties along the water during the past few years. Dilapidated structures were demolished and a new river walk, low profile stone revetment and marsh creation project have been implemented. Construction of 10-12 transient

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floating docks and a bayscapes landscaping event have also been completed. Currently, extension of the river walk, floating docks, bulk heading and other substantial landscaping, including prototype signage for the John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, have been implemented in phases with construction largely completed in 2008 with funding help from NOAA, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Dorchester County Tourism Office. The renovation of the Town owned Coast Guard Station was completed in 2010. It now serves as a multi-purpose, visitor friendly, ADA compliant convenience facility with flag court. Construction of a nearby public picnic pavilion was completed in 2011. Other long term development goals for the waterfront park include an expanded boardwalk with adjacent nature trails and additional walk ways and landscaping throughout the park.

(2) Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Water Trail and Nanticoke River Discovery Center:

The establishment of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail by Congress in May of 2007, and the designation of Vienna as a Port of Call for the replica John Smith Shallop on its historic 1608 reenactment voyage up the Nanticoke in June of 2007 helped establish the feasibility and desirability of a discovery center being located at Vienna. The Captain John Smith Nanticoke River Discovery Center is a scientific exploration, economic development and river heritage tourism center for Vienna, with a focus on Captain John Smith's initial encounter with the native Nanticoke population. It is building on this river community's rich history, cultural heritage and environmental legacy. On August 6th 2008, Governor O'Malley announced the acquisition of the Historic Nanticoke Inn and property in Vienna, which has become a waterfront visitor's center on the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. Renovation of the historic inn began in 2011, and improvements are ongoing. Museum displays, an adjacent river kayak launch and other amenities will follow.

(3) Town Center District:

On April 4, 2005 Market Street was extended into the Ocean Gateway Route 731 corridor to facilitate the redevelopment of the Vienna "Town Center" Business District, which would emphasize small shops or businesses combined with residences on Market Street as well as new commercial development on sites adjacent to the new Market Street & Old Ocean Gateway intersection. A landscaped Town entrance park located near the intersection of MD RT 731 & 331 opened in 2009. This park enhances the entrance to the Town and the surrounding area with a family friendly environment including a reflection pool with brick artifact, native flower and shrub plantings, decorative stone pathways, and convenient benches.

(4) Ensuring Future Development is Smart Development:

In furtherance of the Town's Comprehensive Plan and the Community Vision Plan the Town recently annexed land, to facilitate the creation of a residential development zone south and west of Town that would include open space and a green belt buffer area that would be integrated into the existing Town character

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and fabric. This planning effort will help maintain the rural legacy of Vienna by protecting the significant wetlands adjacent to the Nanticoke River, including the Mill Creek Natural Heritage Area, and the neighboring farms and forests currently surrounding the Town with a green belt buffer that would effectively delineate future growth areas. On June 11, 2008, Governor Martin O'Malley announced that the Maryland Board of Public Works had approved the purchase of 276 acres south of Town for a green belt buffer area for \$4.6 million funded through the State's Program Open Space. Currently, this tract of land has been annexed into the Town and is being improved with best farming practices, enhanced buffers, and native plantings under the review and guidance of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

B. Organizational Structure, Experience and Public Input:

- (1) Describe the Applicant's organizational structure. Specifically, which organizations are members in the **Sustainable Communities Workgroup** and who are the respective staff? Who are the leaders, and how will the Workgroup advisor or staff manage implementation of the SC Area Plan?

The Mayor, Commissioners and Planning Commission will be responsible for the implementation of the Sustainable Community Action Plan. Town Staff will assist in the implementation, and the Maryland Department of Planning, Lower Eastern Shore Regional Staff will provide continuing technical assistance in furtherance of the Plan, including, but not limited to, assistance with drafting grant applications, grant management assistance, development of RFP's, assistance in the evaluation of consultant or contractor proposals, and assistance in program or project development and management. Other partners, as outlined within the Town of Vienna Sustainable Community Action Plan may include Federal, State and Local Government Agencies, as well as NGO's and privately owned entities.

- (2) Describe the Applicant organization's past experience in administering revitalization plans and projects. Describe the roles of the members of the **Sustainable Communities Workgroup**, including their experience in implementing revitalization initiatives. What are the strengths and challenges of the capacity of these groups with respect to implementation of the SC Plan?

The Town of Vienna, on the scenic Nanticoke River, is an impressive example of how a small, rural town responsibly prepares for "Smart Growth" in sync with the existing history and character of the community, while also proactively protecting surrounding natural resource areas.

In order to accomplish its vision for sustainability, Vienna has been innovative and employed planning tools and techniques that serve to best manage growth and protect Maryland's natural resources. The Town's myriad of projects demonstrate successful application of Smart Growth principles, proactive community planning, inter-governmental cooperation, and grant opportunities to further strengthen the Town as it plans for its future.

Planning for the sustainable future of Vienna began in 2002 when the Town partnered with The Conservation Fund in a collaborative effort to create a community vision plan for the Town. The plan process emphasized community participation and embraced citizen creativity. Given Vienna's Census 2000 population of 280 persons, it is impressive

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to note that 110 individuals attended the first community visioning meeting in October of 2002, and 65 individuals attended the final presentation in November of 2002. In addition, the Town gathered input via a public opinion survey conducted by Salisbury University, and also performed community interviews, having 29 citizens participate in this interview effort.

The visioning process was guided by the following Smart Growth goals: accommodate future growth and appropriate economic development while maintaining the small town character and setting of Vienna; enhance quality of life in Vienna by providing community amenities for residents and visitors; enhance and protect the significant cultural and natural resources within Vienna and the surrounding area; and maintain the rural legacy of the Vienna area by protecting significant scenic vistas and farms and forests surrounding the Town.

The Vienna Community Vision Plan was adopted in January of 2003. It envisions Vienna as a model Chesapeake Bay community, a gateway to the Nanticoke River, and a model conservation-oriented community that respects its heritage while planning for the future. The concept of a “protected lands” greenbelt surrounding the Town was first introduced in this Vision Plan.

Following adoption of the Vienna Community Vision Plan in January of 2003, the Town embarked upon a complete comprehensive plan update to incorporate, and further implement, the goals and objectives of the Vision Plan. The strategy of the 2003 Greater Vienna Comprehensive Plan was to respect and improve the assets of the Town and of Greater Vienna and to balance the environmental, historical, and economic desires of Vienna’s citizens. The Comprehensive Plan was adopted in December of 2003 and placed a high priority on implementing the recommendations of the Vision Plan.

Shortly after adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, the Town began to work on a comprehensive re-write of its zoning ordinance. Initially a consultant was hired for this project, but eventually the Town’s Planning Commission decided to complete this task. It has been a long, arduous process, but the Town is meeting monthly to complete this project. With the technical assistance of the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), Vienna drafted and adopted a Planned Development District Floating Zone for inclusion in the zoning ordinance. This floating zone will be utilized for planned development in a portion of the land recently annexed by the Town.

Since 2003, the Town has also worked with MDP and Dorchester County to process comprehensive water and sewer plan amendments that accurately reflect water and sewer service areas based upon the growth and annexation plans outlined in the Vision Plan and the Comprehensive Plan. These amendments were initiated by the Town in order to achieve consistency between the Dorchester County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan, the Vienna Vision Plan, and the Greater Vienna Comprehensive Plan.

Section II, A (5) (a) of the application (above) lists four significant revitalization ‘on the ground’ projects that represent implementation of the longstanding smart growth related planning efforts.

Given Vienna has no full-time staff; the Town has accomplished the aforementioned planning efforts, and ‘on the ground’ projects, in cooperation with financial and technical assistance from federal, State, and county agencies. In addition, these efforts are a

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testament to the dedication and pro-active attitude of the Town's elected officials, planning commission, and citizens in their desire to effectively plan for a sustainable future.

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

The Planning Commission held two work sessions, which were conducted during the regularly scheduled monthly Planning Commission Meeting. In addition, the Planning Commission held a Planning Commission Meeting (with a detailed, topic specific, Public Notice), specifically to garner additional citizen input, prior to forwarding the Planning Commission approved Sustainable Community Action Plan to the Mayor and Commissioners for its consideration and endorsement. Two (2) citizens attended this public meeting and provided supportive comments of the draft Action Plan

Prior to the Planning Commission final approval of the Action Plan, the Maryland Department of Planning Staff presented to the Mayor and Commissioners the general topic of the Sustainable Community Program, the (then draft) Planning Commission Action Plan, and the draft Sustainable Community Boundary Map. Approximately 12 Town residents attended this Elected Official Meeting, and several residents expressed support of the Action Plan. Additionally, the Mayor and Commissioners held a Public Meeting (with a detailed, topic specific, Public Notice), for consideration of the Planning Commission approved Action Plan, the Sustainable Community Boundary Map, and this Application. Six (6) Town residents attended this meeting and several residents expressed general support of the Sustainable Community Application and Action Plan.

As mentioned, previously, within this Application, the Sustainable Community Action Plan was informed by, and based on, the well-attended Community Visioning Process, the Town adopted Community Vision Plan, the development and adoption of the Town Comprehensive Plan, the Town Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map.

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CHECKLIST AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPLICANT: Town of Vienna

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: Town of Vienna Sustainable Community

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

- ✓ **Tab #1 Sustainable Community Applicant Information**

- ✓ **TAB #2 - Sustainable Community General Information:** In addition to the narrative about the baseline information included in the Sustainable Communities application, include a hard copy of the of the proposed Sustainable Communities map in Tab 2.

- ✓ **TAB #3 – Sustainable Community Action Plan/Matrix**

- ✓ **TAB #4 – Local Support Resolution: (sample resolution on page 11) In addition to the local support resolution, please include any letters of support that demonstrate partner commitments to the implementation and/or oversight of the Sustainable Community Plan.**

- ✓ **TAB #5 – Signed Sustainable Community Application Disclosure Authorization and Certification (sample form on page 13)**

- ✓ **TAB #6 – CD-ROM:** The CD-ROM should include the following contents:
 - ✓ Map in pdf format of the proposed Sustainable Community area

 - ✓ **GIS shapefile of the proposed Sustainable Community boundaries and other GIS related data**, e.g., spreadsheet of detailed listing of parcels that form the project boundary. (If you have additional comments or questions about the GIS mapping requirements, please contact Brad Wolters, Senior GIS Specialist, Department of Housing and Community Development, Brad.Wolters@maryland.gov)

 - ✓ Pictures (jpeg format) of your Sustainable Community as it relates to your application

Sustainable Community Action Plan

Town of Vienna, MD

Submitted by Town of Vienna, MD

Approved by Elected Officials on 5-9-16

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.)

Strengths

- Captain John Smith Water Trail
- Part of the Chesapeake Gateway Network
- No flooding of Nanticoke River
- Healthy commercial fishery
- Buffered by wetlands
- Strong link to Nanticoke (boat ramp, fixed and floating pier, tidal wetland at waterfront park)
- Huge permanent Greenbelt within Municipal Boundary
- Town owns all but two waterfront properties within proposed SC area (site control, all for Public access to water or Public Use)
- Town owned waterfront park (comprising approximately 80% of Town waterfront within proposed SC Area) for passive recreation and large tidal wetland
- Well-equipped Town Waterfront Park with educational and wayfinding signage, walkway system, boat ramp, large gazebo, and restrooms

Weaknesses

- Very poor drainage within the proposed SC area (poorly maintained ditch system)
- Poor potable water quality (bacteria, iron and heavy minerals)
- Power Plant is a major detractor (air quality, odor, noise, vibrations, steam, causes adverse water quality adjacent to site)

<p><u>Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures</u></p> <p>Based on the strengths and weaknesses identify the strengths on which you would like to build and the challenges you would like to address.</p> <p>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><u>Strategies</u></p> <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><u>Implementation Partners</u></p> <p>Which community stakeholders need to be involved to realize each action step and strategy? Name specific public and/or private sector partners.</p>
<p>Outcome 1: Increase accessibility to Nanticoke</p> <p>Progress Measure: Kayak launch built</p>	<p>Strategy A: Construct ADA accessible kayak launch at waterfront park</p>	<p>Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environment</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Increase drainage capacity</p> <p>Progress Measures: Creation of flood mitigation plan – Completion of open ditch drainage system analysis – Secure funds for and perform ditch maintenance</p>	<p>Strategy A: Identify high priority flooding areas and create a flood mitigation plan</p> <p>Strategy B: Perform study on condition of open ditch drainage system – seek funding for maintenance of poorly performing ditches</p>	<p>Dorchester County Department of Public Works, Department of Planning, State Highway Administration, Department of Environment, Dorchester County Soil Conservation District</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Assess Wastewater Treatment Plant and Municipal Potable Water System</p> <p>Progress Measures: Completed engineering study on Wastewater Treatment Plant - Completed engineering study on Municipal Potable Water System - reduced cost of operation of Water Treatment System – Completion of various improvements based on study recommendations</p>	<p>Strategy A: Identify maintenance and upgrade needs for Wastewater Treatment Plant</p> <p>Strategy B: To alleviate existing bacteria, iron and heavy minerals issues within potable water system, identify and prioritize necessary improvements which may include construction of a new deep water aquifer well - If new well site is required work with Dorchester County in processing amendment to County Water and Sewerage Master Plan</p>	<p>Department of Environment, Department of Planning, Dorchester County Department of Public Works, Dorchester County Department of Planning and Zoning, Maryland Environmental Services</p>

Economy

(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)

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rich Town history and pristine river as tourist attraction ● Strong commercial and recreational fishing and recreational hunting activities ● Active recreational boating, but could be strengthened through improved marketing (especially with respect to kayak rental) ● Located within Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of close-by stores (demand for grocery store; drug or hardware lumber store, upscale restaurant) ● Few local job opportunities ● No direct access to Route 50 (misses opportunities such as taxes and employment from “a store like Dollar General”) ● The few businesses within the Town are very small and family owned (most employees limited to family members) ● Low tax base leads to a “patch and fix during crisis mode” for all public needs ● Economy remains weak

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Accommodation of future growth while preserving the small town character of Vienna</p> <p>Progress Measures: Growth in area of undeveloped (recently annexed) area to southwest of proposed Sustainable Community - number of infill and redevelopment units within proposed Sustainable Community – number of new commercial and light manufacturing business established</p>	<p>Strategy A: Locate commercial and light manufacturing in areas currently zoned General Industrial along Route 331 and Old Ocean Gateway</p> <p>Strategy B: Identify and promote potential infill commercial development along Market Street (proper zoning currently in-place)</p> <p>Strategy C: Locate light manufacturing along west side of route 331 (would require rezoning from General Business to General Industrial, subsequent to Comprehensive Plan Update)</p> <p>Strategy D: Attract small business with incentives such as rent decrease, façade improvement</p>	<p>Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Planning, Department of Commerce, Small Business Administration, Dorchester County Economic Development Department</p>

<p>Outcome 2: Reinvigorate stalled businesses opportunities and develop new business opportunities</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of businesses to open/re-open - Wayfinding techniques installed</p>	<p>Strategy A: Complete renovation of Old Hardware Store</p> <p>Strategy B: Provide wayfinding techniques along major corridors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Periodically update new promotional signage along Route 50 - Apply for Community Legacy funds to facilitate a façade improvement program - <p>Strategy C: Promote development of recreation business opportunities (such as Kayak rentals, and Bike rentals)</p> <p>Strategy D: Work with Dorchester County Economic Development Department to strengthen eco-tourism and economic development opportunities associated with Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area</p>	<p>Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Planning, Small Business Administration, Dorchester County Economic Development Department, State Highway Administration</p>
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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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Town just off of Route 50 ● Easy access for residents to major shopping areas (Salisbury and Cambridge relatively short drive) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Most streets and sidewalks in disrepair or fast declining ● No sidewalk connecting the Town to Vienna Elementary School ● To get to Elliott Island, all traffic must pass through the Town, which puts an inordinate burden on the road network ● During Snow events, the County does not plow within the Town limits ● Very limited public transportation (one bus per day) ● No paratransit for elder population

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Provide more public transportation options</p> <p>Progress Measure: Number of riders, number of daily trips</p>	<p>Strategy A: Increase number of bus stops per day</p> <p>Strategy B: Work with local providers or private companies to provide paratransit options</p>	<p>Maryland Upper Shore Transit (MUST), Private paratransit providers</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Increase sidewalk coverage and quality</p> <p>Progress Measures: number of feet of added sidewalk - number of road/sidewalk improvement projects completed</p>	<p>Strategy A: Add a sidewalk connecting Town and Vienna Elementary School</p> <p>Strategy B: Compile priority list of sidewalk repairs</p>	<p>Department of Planning, Department of Housing and Community Development, State Highway Administration, Dorchester County Department of Public Works</p>

<p>Outcome 3: Improved road maintenance program and snow removal process</p> <p>Progress Measure: improved road system - reduced Town costs relative to road maintenance and snow removal</p>	<p>Strategy A: Compile priority list of road repairs</p> <p>Strategy B: Open dialog with Dorchester County Department of Public Works to develop cooperative agreement regarding road repair and snow removal</p>	<p>Dorchester County Department of Public Works</p>
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Housing

(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)

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several new houses have been constructed over the past 8 years • Community supportive of residential growth • Several houses have been purchased over the past 8 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of moderately priced, senior, and affordable housing • Existing rental housing stock is trending towards poor upkeep and disrepair (which brings about declining housing values, increased crime rate, 'non-participatory citizenry', transient population, non-payment of utility fees, etc.) • Several residential structures in need of condemnation or major repairs • Many residential structures with poorly maintained exterior

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Support low to moderate growth that would attract new residents through the construction of residential developments.</p> <p>Progress Measure: Number and rate of new housing units</p>	<p>Strategy A: New residential growth should be located in discrete areas surrounded by open space and connected to community amenities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage residential development west and southwest of town - Encourage residential development that includes open space and is integrated into the existing town fabric <p>Strategy B: Infill development emphasized within existing Town and in area west of Vienna</p>	<p>Outcome dependent upon improved economy – no easily identifiable implementation partners</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Satisfy need for senior and affordable housing</p> <p>Progress Measure: Units of senior and affordable housing constructed</p>	<p>Strategy A: A diversity of housing types should be offered/encouraged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage development of elderly, affordable and rental housing - Accommodate singles, families, and retirees 	<p>Department of Planning, Department of Housing and Community Development, U.S. Housing and Urban Development</p>

<p>Outcome 3: Maintain and repair current housing stock</p> <p>Progress Measure: Number of facades repaired</p>	<p>Strategy A: Create list of houses in need of repair and in state of disrepair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Apply for residential facade improvement programs- Apply for demolition funding and promote redevelopment of newly vacant properties, post-demolition	<p>Department of Planning, Department of Housing and Community Development</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

- Children’s playground and picnic pavilion constructed near Town Hall
- Vienna Heritage Museum
- Vienna Elementary School
- Entry Park
- Mill Creek Natural Heritage Area
- Town Hall playground and picnic pavilion
- Waterfront Park and Riverwalk
- Two (2) museums within Town (Heritage Museum and Captain John Smith Museum)
- Multiple, well attended, festivals:
 - Tomato Festival (Annual)
 - Luminaries (Annual)
 - Fourth of July Parade
 - Native American Festival (Annual)
 - Music on the Nanticoke Festival (3 times a year)
- Heavily utilized Little League Ball Field
- Active Ruritan Club
- Active Volunteer Fire Department
- Three active Churches (St. Paul’s Episcopal, Vienna United Methodist, Wesley United Methodist)
- Old Volunteer Fire Department building available for large community events/workshops
- The Town has secured funding to rehabilitate the children’s playground, which is adjacent to the Little League Ball Field
- County Sheriff Substation recently established
- The Post Office will remain open and has recently extended hours

Weaknesses

- Lack of services and amenities
- Marked increase in vandalism and property damage over the past few years
- No EMS, closest ambulance 30 to 40 minutes away (comes from Hurlock, Salisbury or Cambridge)
- No recycling program
- Lack of community/town identity

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Enhance the quality of life and foster town identity by providing community amenities for residents and visitors</p> <p>Progress Measures: Completion of various projects as outlined in Strategies A through D</p>	<p>Strategy A: Complete improvements upon Town Waterfront Park Master Plan</p> <p>Strategy B: Construct new Town Hall around a new Town Green</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create appropriate streetscape on streets adjacent to Town Hall/Town Green <p>Strategy C: Improve “Gateways”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance intersections at entrances to Town (Ocean Gateway and Route 331) (planting, signage, paving, sidewalks, lighting, etc.) - Improve streetscapes leading into Town - Create signage to direct visitors to downtown and waterfront <p>Strategy D: Expand recreational opportunities for residents and visitors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a new open space trail network, including land and water trails - Develop a new recreation center near Town Hall with basketball and tennis courts - Open seasonal outdoor outfitter on the waterfront - Enhance Entry Park on Ocean Gateway (plantings, benches, path) - Extension of sidewalk from waterfront, to provide connection to existing recreational area adjacent to Town Hall 	<p>Department of Planning, Dorchester County Recreation and Parks, Dorchester County Department of Natural Resources, Critical Area Commission</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Provide recycling within Town</p> <p>Progress Measure: Recycling collection/pick up available</p>	<p>Strategy A: Convene workgroup to research public and private options for recycling programs</p>	<p>Dorchester County Department of Public Works, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environment</p>

Local Planning and Land Use

(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.)

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wastewater Treatment Plant with sufficient capacity to accommodate growth ● Active Planning Commission ● Vienna’s Comprehensive Plan and Vision Plan ● Vision Plan plans for alternative land use scenarios: Build Out, Historic Village, Commercial Center, Green Town ● Municipal Permanent Greenbelt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fiber Optic Cable is coming down Route 50, but will not be accessible to Town residents and businesses ● No municipal connection to Route 50

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Achieve maximum residential build out potential based on current zoning</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Progress Measure: Preservation of current Town residential zoning districts</p> <p>Outcome 2: Increase opportunity for commercial uses and employment opportunities</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Progress Measure: increase in land area zoned for commercial uses</p>	<p>Strategy A: Consideration by Elected Officials for annexation along/between “Old Route 50” and “Ocean Gateway” to Route 50 (This would require a Comprehensive Plan Update to establish area as a designated Municipal Growth Area)</p> <p>Strategy B: Engage with Implementation Partners to encourage expansion of Fiber Optic Cable ‘spine’ along Route50, to provide broadband service to the Town</p>	<p>Department of Natural Resources, Dorchester County Economic Development Department, Department of Planning, State Highway Administration</p>