



# 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/>

SGSC Approved - 7.24



## **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 or 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 Eligibility and Threshold Requirements**

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

Eligible applicants are to reconvene 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. Applicants can verify Priority Funding Area boundaries by visiting the MDP website at:  
<http://www.mdp.state.md.us/OurProducts/pfamap.shtml>
- 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 Submission and Evaluation**

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

The first page of the electronic application is the Table of Contents. This should also serve as a checklist and be used to provide corresponding tabs.

Please submit all materials (application, maps, pictures, and/or shapefiles) via email to the Sustainable Communities project management team.

**Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

Deliver Sustainable Community Applications via email:

To: Carter Reitman

[carter.reitman@maryland.gov](mailto:carter.reitman@maryland.gov)

Copy: Olivia Ceccarelli-McGonigal

[olivia.ceccarelli@maryland.gov](mailto:olivia.ceccarelli@maryland.gov)

### **Site Visits, Follow-up, and Technical Assistance**

Attendance at a minimum of one application consultation session or training is mandatory for all applicants. Consult with Carter Reitman at 410-209-5849 or by email at [carter.reitman@maryland.gov](mailto:carter.reitman@maryland.gov) if you would like to schedule a meeting.

If requested, the Department can provide technical assistance to local governments to prepare their Sustainable Communities applications. When needed, the Department may offer technical assistance, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Planning, to local governments with limited capacity to prepare their Sustainable Communities applications.

During the application review process, the review team may make site visits and/or hold meetings with applicants. In addition, applicants may be contacted by the Department for follow-up discussions prior to awards.

### **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. The Governor's Smart Growth Coordinating Committee can defer the approval of a Sustainable Communities renewal to the Governor's Smart Growth Subcabinet.

**All questions related to the application, please contact Carter Reitman at 410-209-5849 or by email at [carter.reitman@maryland.gov](mailto:carter.reitman@maryland.gov) or your regional project manager, found at this link:**

**<https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Documents/SRP/PM-Map-ContactInfo.pdf>**



## **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. 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 and identify what state resources were used, if any, to achieve those outcomes. Renewal applicants are encouraged to discuss how priorities, actions, and objectives were or were not achieved across the Sustainable Communities plan elements, 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 details revitalization outcomes and strategies to achieve those outcomes over the next five years. 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.

## **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLAN ELEMENTS**

The table below provides a description of each subject area/element of the Sustainable Communities Action Plan. Included are examples of common strengths and weaknesses within each subject area and the types of projects that might be implemented to address said strengths and weaknesses.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Describes projects involving the natural environment, our use of natural resources, and our relationships to the natural environment.

This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): the quality of land, water, and air; watershed maintenance and preservation; tree canopies and green spaces; climate change mitigation and adaptation; energy conservation; green infrastructure; stormwater infrastructure and management; water and sewer capacity; recycling, pet waste, and organic waste programs; the mitigation of environmental hazards; and parks and recreation.

**ECONOMY:** Describes projects centered on economic growth and management.

This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): business attraction & retention; improving and maintaining the health of business districts, downtowns, and main streets; commercial vacancy reduction; workforce attraction and retention; employment/job training; marketing, branding, and tourism; improving or creating economic impact of cultural and historic assets; providing technical and financial assistance to businesses; commercial building acquisition, rehabilitation and/or adaptive re-use; and creating a sense of place and vibrancy through streetscaping and beautification.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Describes projects involving the way people in your community get from place to place.

This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): 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; and road conditions.

**HOUSING:** Describes projects involving the homes in which people in your community live and which make it easier for them to find and stay in a place to call home.

This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): affordability; increasing homeownership; increasing rental housing; diversifying the kinds of housing available; improving housing conditions (interior or exterior); housing programs; aging in place; preventing foreclosures; and reducing residential vacancies.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH & QUALITY OF LIFE:** Describes projects concerned with public health, community culture, and the day-to-day life of community residents.



This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): improvement of public safety and the reduction of crime; libraries; educational facilities and programs; health and wellness facilities and programs; senior facilities and programs; youth facilities and programs; facilities and programs for the disabled; civic amenities, access to quality food options; collaborations with faith-based organizations; arts and entertainment education; and homelessness prevention, services, and facilities.

**LOCAL PLANNING & STAFFING CAPACITY:** Describes projects concerned with a local government's ability to plan for the community's future and to meet the current needs of residents.

This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): updating zoning ordinances or land use; updating municipal/local policies, taxes, fees, etc.; increasing local government staff capacity; and updating planning documents like sector plans or comprehensive plans.

## **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 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 reflect changes in external factors affecting the community or changes in the priorities of the applicant.

### **Action Plan Guidance**

- 1) For each element, identify the essential strengths and weaknesses of your community.**

*Example:*

Strength - Good sidewalk connectivity

Weakness - Insufficient bicycle infrastructure

- 2) Based on those strengths and weaknesses, formulate specific outcomes that address the most pressing issues or greatest opportunities. Identify a way to measure the success of that outcome.**

*Example:*

Outcome - Expand fiber optic broadband Internet connections in Town

Progress Measure - Linear measurement of broadband fiber laid

- 3) After defining the outcomes, list detailed strategies and discrete actions that will serve as the means to achieve those goals.**

*Example:*

Strategy A - Increase number of Town sponsored events

Action A - Organize a workgroup tasked with planning weekend events

Action B - 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:*

Partner 1 - DHCD (Community Legacy program)

Partner 2 - Small Business Administration (Services and financial assistance)

## **CHECKLIST AND TABLE OF CONTENTS**

APPLICANT: HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: EDGEWOOD

**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**
  - [Applicant Information](#)
- ☐ **Section B – Sustainable Community Renewal Report (Projects, Strategies and Partners)**
  - [Part 1: Qualitative Assessment](#)
  - [Part 2: Competitive Funding](#)
- ☐ **Section C – Sustainable Community Renewal Action Plan Update (Matrix)**
  - [Action Plan](#)
- ☐ **Section D – Sustainable Communities Workgroup Roster**
- ☐ **Section E – Signature Letter (acknowledging Disclosure Authorization and Certification)**
  - [Disclosure Authorization](#)
- ☐ **Section F – Additional Files:** The following contents should be included:
  - [If requesting a boundary modification, map in pdf format and a GIS shapefile of the proposed Sustainable Community boundary](#)
  - [Photos \(jpeg format\) of your aforementioned accomplished projects of the last five years](#)



**SECTION A - SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL**  
**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**Name of Sustainable Community:** Edgewood

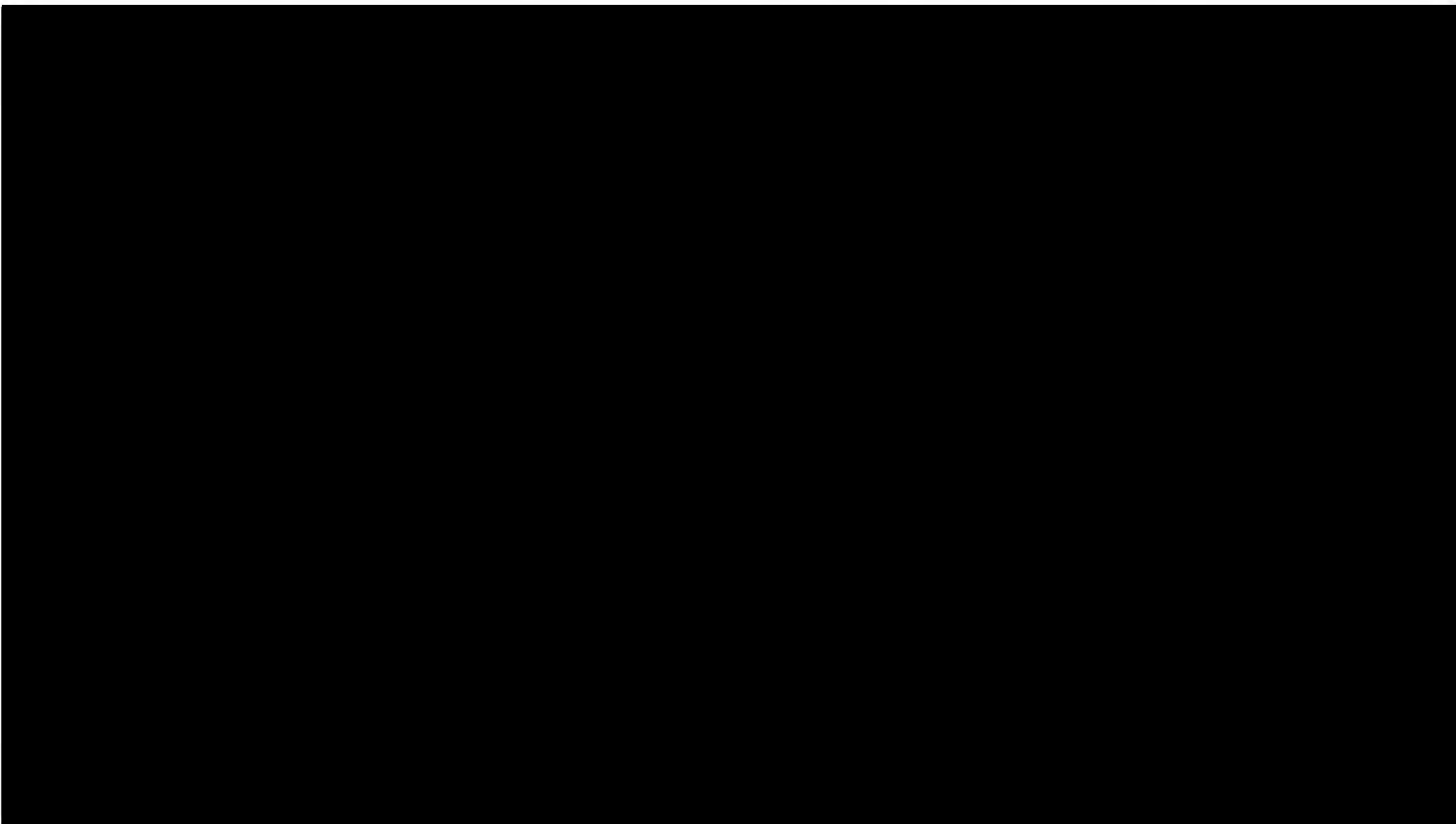
**Name of Applicant:** Harford County Government

**Applicant's Federal Identification Number:** 52-6000959

**Applicant's Street Address:** 220 South Main Street

**City:** Bel Air      **County:** Harford      **State:** MD      **Zip Code:** 21014

**Phone Number:** 410.638.3103      **Fax Number:** 410.879.8239      **Web Address:**  
[www.harfordcountymd.gov](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov)



**Other Sustainable Community Contacts:**

**Name:**

**Title:**

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Phone Number: Fax Number: E-mail Address:

**(1) Sustainable Community Boundary and Description**

- (1) Are you requesting any changes to your Sustainable Community boundary? Describe why or why not?

**Harford County is not requesting a change to the boundary at this time, as it remains consistent with the policies and goals of our Master Plan, Harford NEXT, and the Harford County Zoning Code**

- (2) If yes, Include the following in as an attachment:

- 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: 4,278 acres

- (4) Existing federal, state or local designations:

☐ Main Street ☐ National Register Historic District ☐ Local Historic District  
☐ Arts & Entertainment District ☒ State Enterprise Zone Special Taxing District ☒ BRAC  
☐ State Designated TOD ☒ Other(s): **Opportunity Zone, BRAC Zone, Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (local), and Edgewood Overlay District (local)**

- (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?

**Please see the attached demographic information**

**(2) 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?

**The renewal of the Edgewood Sustainable Communities comes with a new initiative by the County Executive of a Southern County Task Force. This new workgroup was established to address ongoing concerns in the area and replace former stakeholders from agencies and organizations with new representatives with similar experience and roles.**

**In addition to the Southern County Task Force, a team of county staff reviewed and modified responses to the application. The team included the following:**

- **Shane Grimm, Department of Planning and Zoning**

- Alex Rawls, Department of Planning and Zoning
- Matt Kropp, Department of Planning and Zoning
- Meg Deem, Department of Housing and Community Services
- Rob Wagner, Department of Housing and Community Services
- Raj Goel, Office of Economic Development
- Sam Kahl, Department of Public Works
- Jodi Glock, Harford Transit, Department of Housing and Community Services

The County's Master Plan – Harford NEXT was adopted in 2016, the Edgewood Small Area Plan was adopted in 2017, and the Edgewood Area Transit Oriented Development (TOD) study was completed in August 2019.

- (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 Harford NEXT progress tracker was used to monitor the implementation of the Sustainable Communities Plan. A challenge during the first couple of years of the approved Sustainable Communities Plan was the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.

- (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?

The county's master plan – Harford NEXT and the Edgewood Small Area Plan are used as the guides for implementing the Sustainable Communities Plan. In addition, the work of the Southern County Task Force with the community has been beneficial for populating portions of the application. The Department of Housing and Community Services (DHCS) is including Revitalization efforts in the Edgewood Sustainable Community Area in its upcoming 5-year Consolidated Plan (to be submitted to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD, in 2025). The plan determines how the County will use its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME investment partnership (HOME) yearly entitlement allocations.

Part of the County's investment strategy in this Sustainable Community is to build up Edgewood's local Community-Based Development Organization (CBDO), the 755 Alliance. 755 will use federal and state revitalization funds to train HOAs, redevelop vacant open spaces, invest in homebuyer repairs, and invest in small businesses. Edgewood residents are involved in the development of the next Consolidated Plan through public comment sessions, roundtables, and surveys.

- (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 with which revitalization strategies you would like assistance.

Harford County seeks assistance from a variety of State Agencies to best access financing programs in the areas of housing, community development, transportation, and environment to implement approved plans. The county will explore BRIC funding opportunities for the



Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

**Edgewood area. DHCS and the Department of Economic Development will apply for State Revitalization Program funding including Technical Assistance, Community Legacy, and Façade Improvement. Assistance through these programs will build up Harford County's staff and equip the 755 Alliance with Community Development investment tools.**

## **SECTION B - 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) **Photos:** 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.*

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### *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: Local Planning and Land Use – Redevelopment of Washington Court**

*Outcome: Maintain and Enhance Public Facilities and Infrastructure*

*Projects: Approvals have been granted to redevelop the former military housing development at Washington Court into athletic fields and a fieldhouse for Coppermine*

*Partners: Office of Economic Development*

*Impact: The fields are currently under construction*

### **Accomplishment 2: Quality of Life – Protect Historic & Cultural Resources**

*Outcome: Protect Historic & Cultural Resources*

*Projects: We will soon begin a documentation project for the Abingdon, Emmorton, and Magnolia villages which will identify historic resources within these areas and assist in determining their significance to their communities.*

*Recently revised both the County historic preservation webpage and FAQs brochure for clarity and ease of use. Have ensured that all 11 branches of the Harford County Public Library received copies of the brochures and the Harford County Historic Preservation Design Guidelines.*



## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

*Outreach efforts have also include an article in Economic Development's Homegrown Harford magazine, presentations to Community Advisory Boards, and ongoing work to create a story map of County Landmark properties.*

*Planning a "This Place Matters/Harford Loves History" campaign in May for Historic Preservation Month*

*Countywide commemoration of Harford 250 has raised awareness of historic resources in Harford County*

*Partners: Historic Preservation Commission, Harford County Public Library, Office of Economic Development*

*Impact: Continue to build community pride by highlighting the local historical significance in Edgewood.*

### **Accomplishment 3: Quality of Life – Increasing EMS Resources**

*Outcome: Decreased EMS response times to Sustainable Community area*

*Projects: In 2023, Harford County Department of Emergency Services assumed operation of County's EMS services from a volunteer association. Harford County placed two (2) ALS transport units in the Edgewood/Joppa areas to better serve the Sustainable Community area. Previously, having medic units available to serve this area in busier times was a challenge and could lead to longer response times.*

*Partners: Harford County Department of Emergency Services*

*Impact: Provide adequate emergency services that match the demand and population of the area.*

#### **Accomplishment 4: Willoughby Beach Stormwater Retrofits and Stream Restoration**

*Outcome: Protect and Restore Environmentally Sensitive Areas*

*Projects: The Watershed Protection and Restoration office restored 1,805 linear feet of an impaired stream channel, retrofitted two stormwater facilities, constructed two regenerative step-pool conveyances and a shallow marsh to provide water quality benefits in the Edgewood area.*

*Partners: Department of Public Works Stormwater Management.*

*Impact: The project is estimated to have removed 2,498 lbs. of nitrogen, 545 lbs. of phosphorus, and 501 tons of total suspended solids annually. The total restoration provides treatment for 31.01 acres of impervious surface. In addition to water quality benefits, the restoration provided ecological uplift to the area and protected existing wetlands that were at risk for extreme degradation.*

#### **Accomplishment 5: Harford Summer Adventure Program**

*Outcome: Outreach and Education*

*Projects: The summer adventure program is a County led event from Memorial Day to Labor Day annually. Participants visit a preselected list of streams throughout the County and submit streamside "selfies" at each location. Prizes are awarded to those who visit 7, 11, and 15 different locations.*

*Partners: Harford County Watershed Stewards, Harford Glen Environmental Education Center, Department of Parks and Recreation, Maryland Department of Natural Resources.*

*Impact: The Watershed Protection and Restoration office engages citizens in Harford County and provides incentive to encourage outdoor activity at various locations. The program seeks to raise awareness and support for protecting and restoring our precious natural resources by creating intrinsic connections with residents and their surrounding environment.*

### **Accomplishment 6: Watershed Stewards Academy**

*Outcome: Outreach and Education*

*Projects: Watershed Stewards Academy (WSA) is a 16-week program where citizens learn technical aspects of water quality management. The program is open to all County residents and each class completes a capstone stormwater project. Members serve as community experts and promote healthy water quality.*

*Partners: Harford County Master Gardeners, University of Maryland Sea Grant Extension Office.*

*Impact: The academy students are trained to become community leaders who promote Harford Streams' mission to increase water quality awareness, encourage actions to reduce human impacts to water quality, and engage communities to take actions to improve water quality. Since its inception in 2018, there have been three graduating classes.*



### **Accomplishment 7: Edgewood Elementary Tree Planting**

*Outcome: Adequate Stormwater Management*

*Projects: Planting project involving a combination of native meadows, urban tree canopy and forest plantings will be conducted on Edgewood Elementary's campus. Contracts have been signed to complete 2.15 acres of plantings in Spring of 2024*

*Partners: Harford County Public Schools, Department of Parks and Recreation*

*Impact: Providing additional stormwater management by increasing tree canopy cover and providing meadow areas that improve nutrient uptake from stormwater runoff. In addition to water quality benefits, the planted areas are taken out of the mowing cycle reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing cost by removing spaces from mowing requirements.*

### **Accomplishment 8: Transportation**

*Outcome: Expanded Network of Safe Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities*

*Projects: Completed the update to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan in 2021*

*Partners: MDOT, Planning and Zoning, DPW, Parks and Recreation*

*Impact: Assessed existing corridors and facilities in the Edgewood Community and identified low stress facilities and routes for future capital projects.*

### **Accomplishment 9: Economy**

*Outcome: Increased number of new businesses into this Sustainable Community while increasing the number of new jobs and the capital expenditures expended in connection with the improvement of existing commercial properties.*

*Projects:*

*As a result of promoting the benefits of the Enterprise Zone program, thirteen (13) entities expended in excess of \$75 million to improve existing commercial properties in this Sustainable Community.*

*As a result of various business outreach efforts, thirty-three (33) new businesses were established in this Sustainable Community, creating in excess of three hundred fifty (350) new jobs.*

*By assisting businesses in this Sustainable Community with grants through The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (2020) and the Coronavirus Response and Consolidated Appropriations Act (2021), the County provided said businesses with financial resources needed to sustain operations and employment of workforce. Without this assistance, many of these businesses would have failed resulting in numerous displaced employees.*

**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.**

*Outcome: Quality of Life – Protect Historic and Cultural Resources*

*Narrative: Addressing threatened historic resources remains a challenge due to the owner consent requirement of our Zoning Code. If the owner of a historic resource does not wish to participate in our program, we are unable to designate it as a County Historic Landmark, leaving the resource without any protections.*

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*Outcome:*

*Narrative:*

*Outcome:*

*Narrative:*



**Part II: 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
<b>Community Legacy (CL):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li></li><li></li><li></li></ul>	DHCD		Education, Outreach, and Training	
<b>Strategic Demolition Fund (SDF):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li></li><li></li></ul>	DHCD		Education, Outreach, and Training	
<b>Community Safety &amp; Enhancement Program:</b>	MDOT		Education, Outreach, and Training	
<b>Maryland Bikeways Program:</b>	MDOT		Education, Outreach, and Training	
<b>Sidewalk Retrofit Program:</b>	MDOT		Education, Outreach, and Training	

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

**Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund:**

MDE

Education, Outreach, and Training

**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

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



**SECTION C - SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACTION PLAN**

**Edgewood, Maryland**

Submitted by Harford County Government

February 14, 2024



<u>Example Section</u>	
<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insert bulleted list of strengths (provide some detail as to why and how this is a strength in your community)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insert bulleted list of weaknesses (provide some detail as to why and how this is a weakness in your community)</li> </ul>

<u>Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures</u>	<u>Strategies and Action Items</u>	<u>Implementation Partners</u>
<p>Outcomes should be considered end results of actions and strategies. 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>Progress Measure: What will you use to measure success toward outcome? Is it quantifiable or qualifiable?</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>Which community stakeholders need to be involved to realize each action step and strategy? Name specific public and/or private sector partners.</p>
	<p>Example Strategy A: Review and revise, as needed, code compliance program to reduce frequency and number of residential code violations.</p>	<p>Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Department of Housing, County Planning</p>

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>Example Outcome 1: Code violations and complaints are reduced in the Sustainable Community residential areas.</p> <p>Example Progress Measures: Code violations reduced by 25% in Sustainable Community residential areas</p>	<p>Example Action 1: Complete analysis of code violations over the past five years to determine areas, both geographically and topically, for which code violations are most frequent.</p> <p>Example Action 2: Conduct outreach program to determine barriers to code compliance.</p> <p>Example Action 3: Analyze code compliance program for potential inefficiencies and opportunities for proactive engagement.</p> <p>Example Action 4: Pursue façade improvement funding to assist low-income homeowners overcome barriers to code compliance.</p>	<p>Department, local homeowners association</p>
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# Environment

This section describes projects involving the natural environment, our use of natural resources, and our relationships or access to the natural environment.

This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): the quality of land, water, and air; tree canopies and green spaces; green infrastructure; habitat improvement, climate change mitigation and adaptation; nuisance flooding,; stormwater infrastructure and management; water and sewer capacity; energy conservation; recycling, pet waste, and organic waste programs; the mitigation of environmental hazards; and parks and recreation improvements.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Environmentally valuable properties of the Piedmont Plateau, which comprises the northern 15% (925 acres of the community, and also the Coastal Plain, which comprises the remaining 85% (5,193 acres) along the Bush River.</li><li>● Land area within 1,000 feet of tidal water is designated as a Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, accounting for 20% (1,235 acres) of the Edgewood Community.</li><li>● Three watersheds: the Bush River Watershed, Winters Run Watershed (lower), and the Gunpowder River Watershed.</li><li>● Tier II streams.</li><li>● Otter Point Creek Marsh, a large wetlands complex of forested shoreline, tidal wetlands, non-tidal wetlands, and open waters, borders the Bush</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Increased amounts of impervious surfaces, such as roads, rooftops, parking lots, etc., have detrimental impacts on water quality and stream health.</li><li>● Urban stormwater runoff is a major source of pollution, delivering increased amounts of nutrients, sediment and bacteria to local waterways.</li><li>● Increased flows from urban stormwater also result in degraded stream channels and channel erosion.</li><li>● Some portions of SC area are nearly 40 minutes away by car from the County’s waste disposal center, where residents can take bulk trash, specialty recycling (such as textiles or tires), or hazardous waste.</li></ul>

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

River Basin a National Estuarine Research Reserve and is monitored and studied on a national scale.

- Willoughby Woods, a 233-acre forested wetlands complex on the Willoughby Beach peninsula is the largest remaining wooded tract along the Bush River shoreline and represents perhaps the largest woodland containing vernal pools in the County.
- Waterfront areas that are in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program.
- Area includes a Forest Interior Dwelling Species habitat.
- PlanMaryland identifies Edgewood as containing Targeted Ecological Areas, Wildlife and Rare Species Habitats, Green Infrastructure Hub and Corridors, Forests Important for Water Quality, and Wellhead Protection areas. However, the Edgewood community contains no sea level rise vulnerability areas.
- U.S. Route 40 Carbon Neutral Corridor is an initiative that focuses corridor growth to maximize opportunities to conserve and protect agricultural and natural lands and minimize the proportion of growth occurring outside the PFA boundaries.
- Harford County Green Business Network (HCGBN) was designed to foster a networking environment for businesses to collaborate and discover innovative sustainable business practices.
- Green Infrastructure Plan.



## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p><b>Outcome 1: Protect and restore environmentally sensitive area</b></p> <p><b>Progress Measures:</b> Track usage of existing programs/plans; mapping potential locations of ecologically rich land.</p>	<p><u><b>Strategy A:</b></u> Implement projects identified in 2012 Sam's Branch Small Watershed Action Plan and consider additional opportunities through spot problem investigations and new studies.</p> <p><u><b>Strategy B:</b></u> Identify and preserve ecologically rich land, such as the Otter Point Creek Marsh, and focus appropriate restoration management strategies where necessary.</p>	<p>Watershed Restoration and Protection Office.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 2: Adequate stormwater management</b></p> <p><b>Progress Measures:</b> improving infrastructure and design guidelines, tracking usage of stormwater upgrades.</p>	<p><u><b>Strategy A:</b></u> Partner with various public and private agencies to increase the tree canopy throughout the community area, with a particular emphasis on open spaces.</p>	<p>Watershed Restoration and Protection Office.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 3: Engage citizens about sustainability efforts, including outreach to Edgewood middle and high schools, and home and business owners.</b></p> <p><b>Progress Measures:</b> Tracking existing programs</p>	<p><u><b>Strategy A:</b></u> Support community gardening efforts and recreational groups, to encourage outdoor physical activity and improve citizens' sense of community and environmental ethic.</p>	<p>Watershed Restoration and Protection Office.</p>

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p><b>Outcome 4: Natural Resource Management</b></p> <p>Progress Measures: mapping of potential locations where alternative energy sources will be most beneficial; Tracking existing programs; mapping of potential areas of impacts.</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Implement costal resiliency strategies and hazard mitigation opportunities. Identify forests, wetlands, and aquatic resources for future wetland mitigation, to help combat the potential impacts of sea level rise.</p>	<p>Department of Planning and Zoning, Department of Emergency Services</p> <p>DNR, MDE, CBT, NOAA, FEMA (BRIC), Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education and Training Program (B-WET)</p>
<p><b>Outcome 5: Improve Cleanliness and Aesthetics of County Rights-of-Way</b></p> <p>Progress Measures: Tracking number of community cleanup days, tracking amount of debris/litter removed, increased participation in County's Adopt-A-Road program</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Procure additional street-sweeping equipment and increase frequency of street-sweeping for County roads in SC area</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Increase roadside mowing on County roads within SC area</p> <p><u>Strategy C:</u> Promote participation in the County's "Adopt-A-Road" program with local businesses</p> <p><u>Strategy D:</u> Host regular community cleanup "dumpster days" in SC area</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Public Works, Division of Water &amp; Sewer</p>

## Economy

This section is centered on economic growth and management.

Strengths and weaknesses might focus on the following: business attraction & retention; improving and maintaining the health of business districts, downtowns, and main streets; commercial vacancy reduction; workforce attraction and retention; employment/job training; marketing, branding, and tourism; improving or creating economic impact of cultural and historic assets; providing technical and financial assistance to businesses; commercial building acquisition, rehabilitation and/or adaptive re-use; and creating a sense of place and vibrancy through streetscaping and beautification.

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Located on the I-95 and U.S. Route 40 corridors, this Sustainable Community offers proximity to a vast transportation and logistics network, including Baltimore-Washington International Airport, the Port of Baltimore, CSX Transportation rail, and more.</li> <li>• This Sustainable Community's market position offers unparalleled access to a premier K-12 educational system, including several award winning magnet programs; a highly-skilled, educated workforce; and a robust business ecosystem.</li> <li>• This Sustainable Community is located immediately adjacent to Aberdeen Proving Ground, an international leader in technology and R&amp;D, which generates more than \$38 billion in contracting activity, with \$5.2 billion in regional impact.</li> <li>• This Sustainable Community is serviced by Harford County's public bus system, known as Harford Transit, which provides residents with access to hospitals, community centers, the local community college, and many</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Sustainable Community is comprised of many families experiencing socio-economic challenges and impediments to obtain higher paying employment (e.g., lack of transportation, lack of technical skills required by many of the employers in the area, and affliction with mental health and addiction issues, etc.).</li> <li>• This Sustainable Community is comprised of much older housing and commercial property, many of which have not been modernized in many years; as a result of the passage of time, this Sustainable Community has become dilapidated and has deterred investment in economic development in the area.</li> </ul>



## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

large employers in the area. This bus system is linked to other regional public transit systems, such as the MTA's Flyer and the MARC train, to provide residents with service to Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.	
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Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Increased economic development</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of new jobs created</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Revive the County's dormant business loan program to assist small businesses in this Sustainable Community with start up and expansion costs.</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Continue the Office of Economic Development's expanded engagements with businesses in this Sustainable Community to identify business impediments and opportunities while providing resources to assist businesses with growth (e.g., addressing workforce needs, introductions to strategic partners, identifying financial incentive programs, etc.)</p> <p><u>Strategy C:</u> Create new overlay districts to provide local tax credits to spur economic development.</p>	<p>Southern County Task Force; Route 40 Business Association; the Harford County Chamber of Commerce, the 755 Alliance; and various business advisory organizations located in this Sustainable Community.</p>



## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>Outcome 2: Improvement of commercial real estate</p> <p>Progress Measures: Amount of new capital expenditures</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Assist non-profits in this Sustainable Community to qualify for grants and loans through Neighborhood Business Development Programs administered by DHCD, i.e. Main Street Improvement Program</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Secure federal grants and loans available to local businesses (e.g., Community Development Financial Institutions Fund; Community Development Block Grant - Economic Development Infrastructure Financing; Sustainable Communities Program; Defense Community Infrastructure Program, etc.). Grants will support a newly-established façade improvement fund for eligible business owners in the Sustainable Communities area.</p>	<p>Harford County Office of Community Services; Maryland's Congressional Delegation; the 755 Alliance; and owners of commercial properties in this Sustainable Community.</p>
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## Transportation

This section describes the way people in your community get from place to place.

Strengths, weaknesses and outcomes can focus on: 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; and road conditions.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connected regionally with easy access to points north (Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Havre de Grace, Cecil County, Philadelphia) and south (White Marsh, Baltimore, Washington DC) by I-95, US 40, and the MARC train. MD routes 152 and 24 connect the area to points west such as Bel Air.</li> <li>• Area is served by Harford Transit Link, which operates local bus lines through Edgewood to and from other points in Harford County, such as Harford Community College or employment opportunities in Bel Air, Aberdeen, and even Cecil County.</li> <li>• Significant “streetscape” improvements performed by SHA along US 40, including a raised median with plantings, decorative street lighting, and curb, gutters, and sidewalk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The gateway into the SC area near the Edgewood MARC station is not welcoming for passengers passing by on train and does not represent many improvements made elsewhere in the community.</li> <li>• Privately owned roadways (HOAs) throughout the community are not well maintained.</li> <li>• Bicycle access could be improved throughout the community.</li> <li>• Older infrastructure (curbs, sidewalks, etc.) can give the visual appearance of neglect, even if those systems function at an acceptable level.</li> </ul>

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Integrate Transportation with Land Use Planning</p> <p>Progress Measures: Using Infrastructure improvements and design guidelines</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Prioritize inclusion of beautification and “streetscape” improvements when possible for major corridors including US 40, MD 24, and MD 755.</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Planning &amp; Zoning; State Highway Administration</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Expanded Network of Safe Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities</p> <p>Progress Measures: Using infrastructure improvement and guidelines</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Prioritize the creation of pedestrian links for new or reconstructed sidewalks.</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Require developers to establish bicycle and pedestrian facilities, including bicycle parking within nonresidential developments.</p> <p><u>Strategy C:</u> Explore new crossing opportunities over I-95 for bicyclists and pedestrians</p> <p><u>Strategy D:</u> Use traffic calming techniques, such as medians, refuges, street trees, and on-street parking to improve street safety and access and require developers to build these facilities as part of new development or redevelopment.</p> <p><u>Strategy E:</u> Evaluate installing bicycle facilities as identified in Harford County’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan where feasible.</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Planning &amp; Zoning; Harford County Department of Public Works, Division of Highway Engineering; MDOT</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Safe, Efficient, and Convenient Transit Services</p> <p>Progress Measures: Using Infrastructure improvements and design guidelines, Track</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Provide amenities at bus stops to make them inviting as a mode choice. Bus stops should be accessible and include signage, lighting, landscaping, and benches.</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Connect the US 40 Commuter Route with Harford Transit</p>	<p>Harford Transit LINK; Harford County Department of Planning &amp; Zoning; Maryland Transit Administration</p>



## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>outreach efforts for bus ridership improvement; mapping of potential bike lane locations</p>	<p><u>Strategy C:</u> Partner with Harford Transit to perform a ridership improvement study to prioritize future outreach efforts and bus stop locations within the community area. Evaluate installing bicycle facilities as identified in Harford County's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan where feasible.</p>	
<p>Outcome 4: Expand Transportation Demand Management (TDM)</p> <p>Progress Measures: Using Infrastructure improvements and design guidelines; mapping of potential "safe" routes to school for parents, teachers, and students</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Encourage mixed use development in designated locations and prioritize infrastructure upgrades that support infill development.</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Continue to pursue funding for the Safe Routes to Schools program for larger sidewalk projects and local funds for more minor projects.</p> <p><u>Strategy C:</u> Attract APG (Aberdeen Proving Ground) shuttle service to connect commuters from the Edgewood Train Station to APG.</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Planning &amp; Zoning; Harford County Department of Public Works, Division of Highway Engineering; Aberdeen Proving Ground; MDOT</p>
<p>Outcome 5: Expand and Upgrade Street Lighting</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of LED upgrades and new light locations in Sustainable Community area</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Work with BGE to execute currently LED upgrade projects</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Identify additional eligible locations for LED upgrades</p> <p><u>Strategy C:</u> Engage community to identify areas with deficient street lighting and initiate street light projects for those areas</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Public Works, Division of Highway Engineering; BGE</p>
<p>Outcome 6: Improve Conditions of Privately-Owned Roadways</p> <p>Progress Measures: Identification of grant funding for upgrades/maintenance to privately owned roads</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Investigate and pursue grant opportunities to aid HOAs and other private road owners in upkeep and maintenance, or upgrade roads to County standards and transfer ownership to the County</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Public Works, Division of Highway Engineering; Harford County Law Department</p>



## Housing

This section focuses on the homes in which people in your community live and efforts which make it easier for them to find and stay in a place to call home.

Strengths, weaknesses and outcomes might focus on the following: affordability; increasing homeownership; increasing rental housing; diversifying the kinds of housing available; improving housing conditions (interior or exterior); housing programs; aging in place; preventing foreclosures; and reducing residential vacancies.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boasts a wide variety of housing styles, options, and price ranges and has a mix of rental and owner-occupied housing near schools and community resources.</li> <li>A diverse low to moderate income community with a high minority concentration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall condition of housing in many neighborhoods is poor. Absentee landlords and vacant, dilapidated properties have decreased home values and aesthetics in residential neighborhoods.</li> <li>38% of Edgewood housing units are renter occupied.</li> <li>Has the highest foreclosure rate in the County, and has been a DHCD hotspot for foreclosures almost consistently over the past three years.</li> <li>Two census tracts within the SC Area (3013.02 and 3016.01) have a poverty rate of 16.2% and 19.7% respectively, while the poverty rate of the County as a whole is 8%.</li> <li>Within the same two census tracts, 30.4% and 21.9% of residents are registered for food stamp benefits, while 7.9% of the county as a whole are registered for these benefits.</li> </ul>

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Ensure A Range Of Housing Opportunities For All Citizens</p> <p>Progress Measures: Tracking programs that are being utilized.</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Expand homeownership programs that support a variety of owner- occupied housing and develop programs to assist property owners with external property renovations.</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Foster communities that provide opportunities to all residents.</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Community Services; Harford County Housing Agency; Nonprofit Housing Developers; For profit Housing Developers; Edgewood Homeowners Associations - Edgewood Community Council; 755 Alliance</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Provide programs to encourage housing stability.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Measure neighborhood crime</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Target new affordable housing developments for existing residents to maintain neighborhood continuity.</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Support community policing, neighborhood watch, and walking/biking police patrols that engage residents of this community</p>	<p>Dept. Planning and Zoning; Harford County Department of Community Service; Edgewood Homeowners Associations; Harford County Sheriff's Office</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Create livable, attractive neighborhoods for existing residents</p> <p>Progress measures: Number of HOAs served with revitalization project funding</p>	<p>Strategy A: Utilize federal and state community development funding to build up the local CBDO, the 755 Alliance, as a central resource for capital improvement and training for neighborhood leaders.</p> <p>Strategy B: Invest federal, state, and county funding in neighborhood capital projects such as the improvement of HOA-owned open space and community centers as well as streetscaping.</p>	<p>Department of Housing and Community Services; Department of Planning and Zoning; 755 Alliance, Edgewood HOAs; Local banks</p>



## Community Health and Quality of Life

This section is concerned with public health, community culture, and the day-to-day life of community residents.

This category includes projects focusing on (but not limited to): improvement of public health including improving community design to promote healthy behaviors such as walking and strengthening community support and connectedness through health and wellness programs and facilities that create inclusive communities. These projects may include built environment, indoor spaces, outdoor environments such as increasing community gardens and access to services including educational facilities and programs; health and wellness facilities and programs that serve multi-generations; senior facilities and programs; youth facilities and programs; facilities and programs for the disabled; civic amenities, access to quality food options; collaborations with faith-based organizations; arts and entertainment education; and homelessness prevention, services, and facilities. Projects should include community engagement that includes participation in the selection of strategies and outcomes, progress reports, and evaluation.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 223 acres of County-owned parks, including waterfront parks, recreation fields, open green spaces, walking trails, and a boat launching facility.</li> <li>Edgewood maintains an active community council, which serves as a forum for community members to address community needs.</li> <li>Artistic and cultural resources are primarily provided by churches, the Boys &amp; Girls Club, the Edgewood Senior Center, and a black women's society.</li> <li>6 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, 2 high schools.</li> <li>2010, new facilities were opened for Deerfield Elementary School and Edgewood High School, and Edgewood High School now offers an International Baccalaureate Global Studies magnet program open to all Harford County Public School students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A concentrated higher crime rate.</li> <li>Commuters do not feel a sense of community when they arrive in Edgewood; mass transit options only take commuters <i>out of</i> community.</li> <li>Lack of a historic/cultural downtown district.</li> <li>Due to non-functioning HOA's, poorly maintained roads and lighting, absentee landlords, and vacant and foreclosed properties in neighborhoods.</li> </ul>



## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Harford Community College offers coursework at the Edgewood Public Library, and Harford Transit LINK provides service to Harford Community College's campus in Bel Air.</li> <li>● Edgewood Branch of the Harford County Public Library.</li> <li>● A racially diverse community.</li> <li>● Boys &amp; Girls Club program for workforce training development</li> <li>● Additional parks now under construction</li> <li>● Addition of Coppermine Fields will add 8 new turf fields.</li> <li>● Creation of Southern Task Force by the County Executive to work with community leaders to identify and prioritize community projects.</li> </ul>	
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Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Protect Historic &amp; Cultural Resources</p> <p>Progress Measures: mapping potential properties or areas worthy of revitalization</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Identify and address where possible, threatened or endangered historical and/ or cultural resources, deemed to be of exceptional value and significance to the community.</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Develop educational programs to help increase awareness and appreciation of the community's significant historic and/or cultural resources</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Housing &amp; Community Services; Nonprofit Housing Developers; For profit Housing Developers - Edgewood Homeowners Associations; Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning; Edgewood Community Council; Southern County Task Force</p>

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>Outcome 2: Improve Reliability of Water &amp; Sewer Infrastructure</p> <p>Progress Measures: Infrastructure improvements</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Install water boosters for improved pressure</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Improve water treatment facilities to maintain functionality</p> <p><u>Strategy C:</u> Recondition fire hydrants throughout SC area to maintain longevity and functionality</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Public Works, Division of Water &amp; Sewer</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Educate and connect with a broader audience.</p> <p>Progress Measures: track existing programs.</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Support heritage tourism initiatives throughout the Community Area, promoting heritage areas, parks, and greenways.</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation; Visit Harford (i.e. Harford County Tourism); LASOS.</p>
<p>Outcome 4: Promote local employment opportunities.</p> <p>Progress Measures: track local employment rates</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Work with Board of Education, Harford Community College, Towson University, and Susquehanna Workforce Network to develop programs.</p>	<p>Board of Education; Harford Community College; Towson University; Susquehanna Workforce Network</p>
<p>Outcome 5: Develop Community Pride through open space improvement</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of HOAs participating in 755 Alliance development and training</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Fund Community Development Projects through the local CBDO, 755 Alliance; Successful open space development in one neighborhood will encourage participation in investment programs in other neighborhoods, giving a shared community identity throughout Edgewood</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Housing and Community Services; Harford County Board of Education; 755 Alliance; Edgewood HOAs; Department of Public Works; Department of Parks and Recreation</p>



## Local Planning and Staffing Capacity

This section is concerned with a local government's ability to plan for the community's future and to meet the current needs of residents.

Strengths, weaknesses and outcomes might focus on the following: updating zoning ordinances or land use; updating municipal/local policies, taxes, fees, etc.; increasing local government staff capacity; and updating planning documents like sector plans or comprehensive plans.

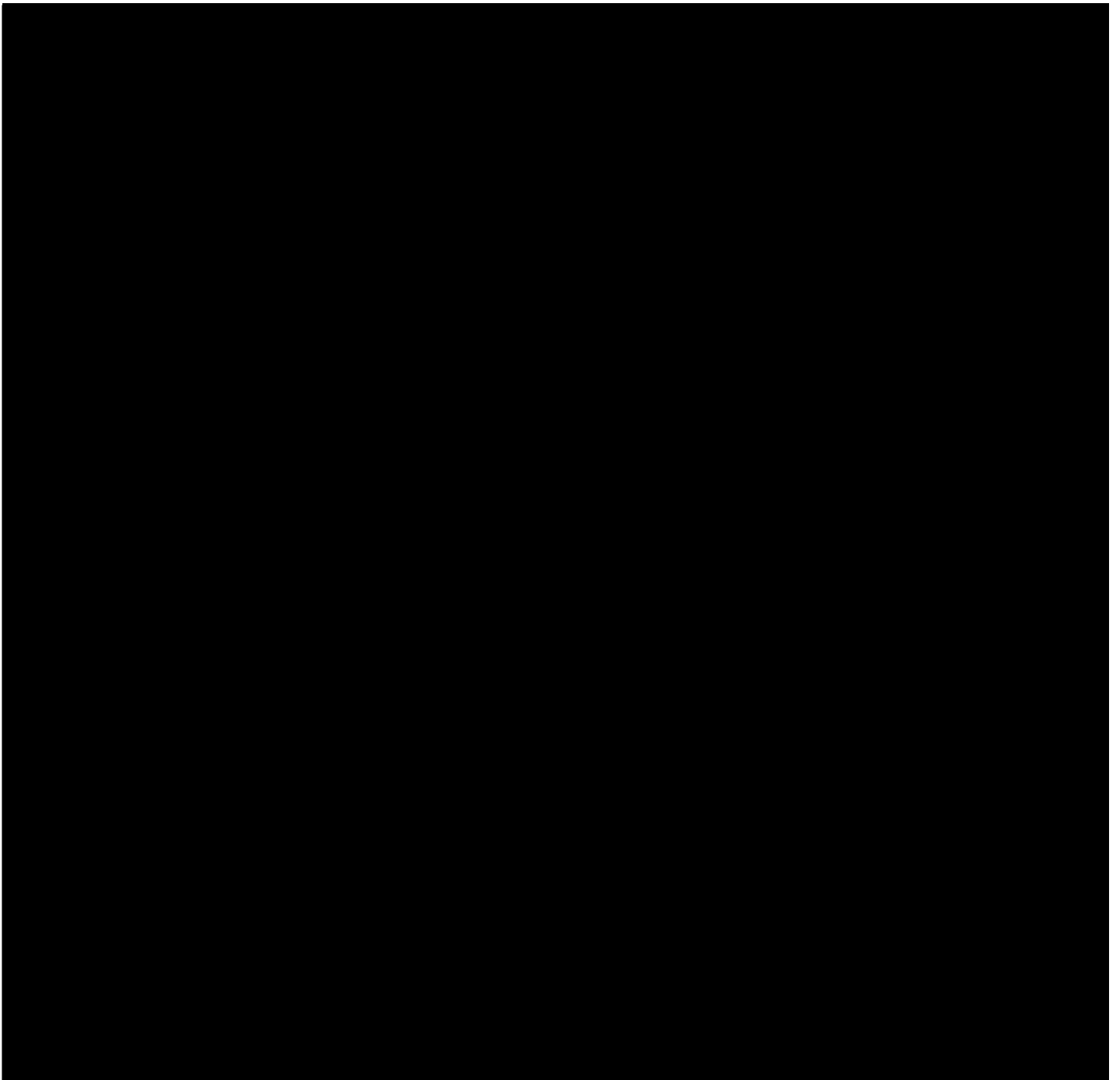
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comprised of mixed land uses: medium and high intensity residential, commercial, office, industrial/employment, parks and open space</li><li>• Consists of three unique zoning districts – the Natural Resource District, Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CSSC), and the Edgewood Neighborhood Overlay District (ENOD).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development along the US 40 Corridor</li><li>• Numerous code violations within the community</li></ul>

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Livable Communities</p> <p>Progress Measures: Southern County Task Force</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Proactive and increased enforcement of the Zoning Code to improve community appearance &amp; safety</p> <p><u>Strategy B:</u> Integrate Southern County Task Force action items into Master Plan process</p> <p><u>Strategy C:</u> Maintain and update Southern County Task Force GIS data and mapping to facilitate analysis by and evaluation of Southern County Task Force progress</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Planning and Zoning, Department of Public Works, Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Economic Development, Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits, Department of Emergency Services, Harford Transit</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Community-Based Leadership</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of community development projects organized with the 755 Alliance</p>	<p><u>Strategy A:</u> Harford County will provide capacity-building and technical assistance to the 755 Alliance, Edgewood's local CBDO made entirely of Edgewood residents and/or business owners. Experiences will equip the organization to manage larger projects, organize more community events, and hire staff to take on larger community grant programs.</p> <p>Strategy B: Use the Maryland Main Street Program framework to develop 755 Alliance's role as a future partner in funding and planning</p>	<p>Harford County Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Planning and Zoning, Department of Public Works, Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Economic Development, Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits, Department of</p>

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

		Emergency Services, Harford Transit
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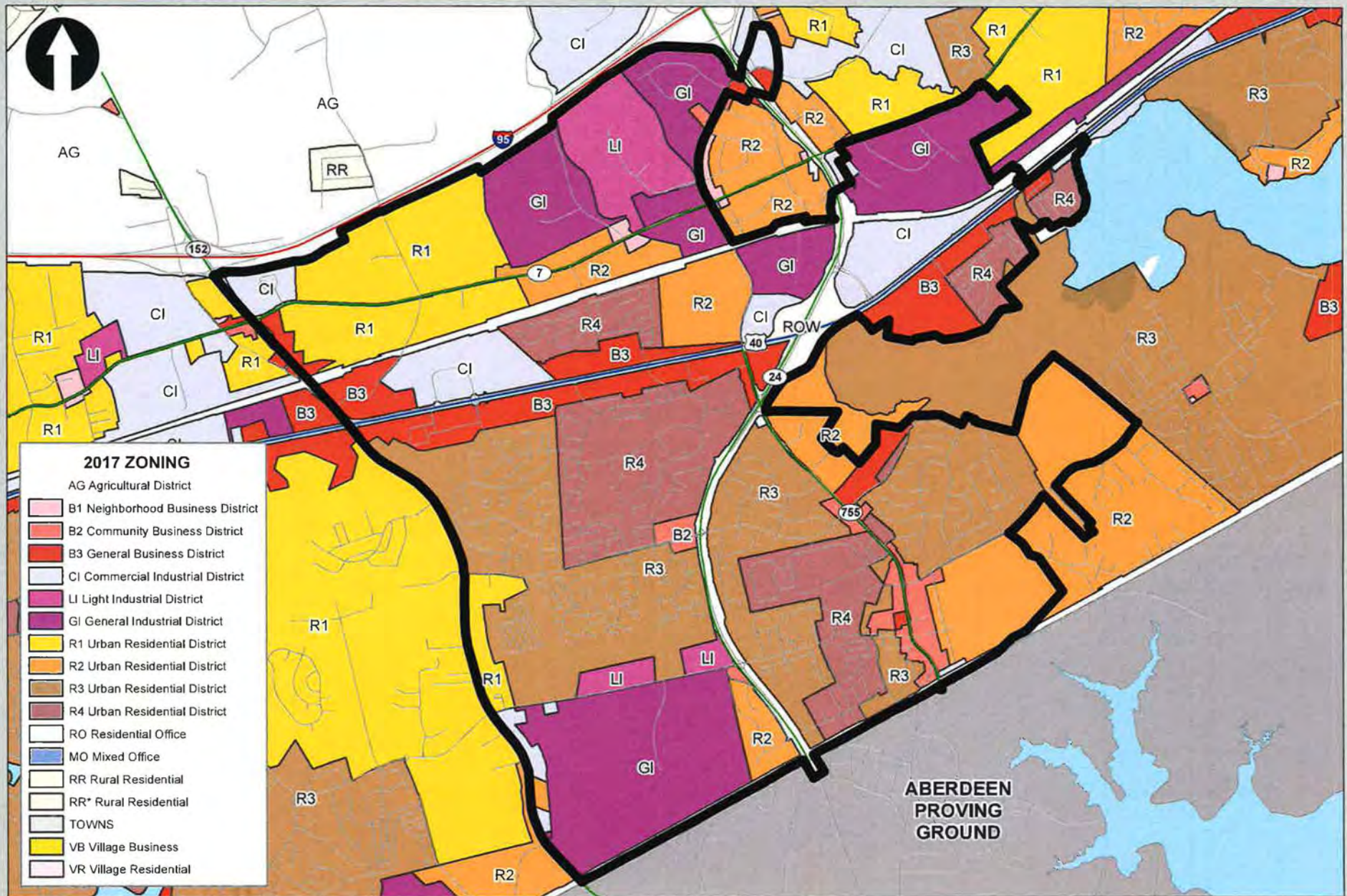




### Edgewood Sustainable Community Demographic Profile: 2017 - 2022

Population and Households		2017	2022	Difference 2017 to 2022	Percent Change
	Population	17,052	17,477	425	2.49%
	Housing Units	7,038	7,233	195	2.77%
	Households	6,432	6,839	407	6.33%
	Household Size	2.65	2.46	-0.19	-7.17%
Population By Age		2017	2022	Difference 2017 to 2022	Percent Change
	Age Group				
	Under 5	1,519	1,045	-474	-31.20%
	5 to 17	2,924	3,909	985	33.69%
	18 to 24	1,886	1,266	-620	-32.87%
	25 to 44	4,768	5,395	627	13.15%
	45 to 54	2,142	2,222	80	3.73%
	55 to 64	1,880	1,524	-356	-18.94%
	65 to 74	1,126	1,517	391	34.72%
	75 and over	807	599	-208	-25.77%
	Total Population	17,052	17,477	425	2.49%
Population By Race and Hispanic Origin	White	7,444	6,929	-515	-6.92%
	Black/African American	7,077	8,158	1,081	15.27%
	American Indian and Alaska Native	20	65	45	225.00%
	Asian	150	199	49	32.67%
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific	0	0	0	0.00%
	Other Race	0	138	138	0.00%
	Two or more Races	843	1,077	234	27.76%
	Hispanic or Latino	1,518	911	-607	-39.99%
	Total Population	17,052	17,477	425	2.49%
Educational Attainment (Population 25 Yrs & Over)	Less than high school graduate	1,139	592	-547	-48.02%
	High school graduate	3,925	3,832	-93	-2.37%
	Some college or associate's degree	3,716	4,339	623	16.77%
	Bachelor's degree	1,211	1,596	385	31.79%
	Graduate or professional degree	730	898	168	23.01%
	Population 25 years and over	10,719	11,257	538	5.02%
Household Income / Median Household Income	Total Households	6,432	6,839	407	6.33%
	Less than \$10,000	772	259	-513	-66.45%
	\$10,000 to \$14,999	386	230	-156	-40.41%
	\$15,000 to \$24,999	588	275	-313	-53.23%
	\$25,000 to \$34,999	968	356	-612	-63.22%
	\$35,000 to \$49,999	635	1,109	474	74.65%
	\$50,000 to \$74,999	1,072	897	-175	-16.32%
	\$75,000 to \$99,999	697	1,203	506	72.60%
	\$100,000 to \$149,999	816	1,588	772	94.61%
	\$150,000 to \$199,999	405	647	242	59.75%
	\$200,000 or more	93	275	182	195.70%
	Median Household Income	\$46,985	\$ 80,068	33,083	70.41%





# EDGEWOOD SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY AREA



0 3,000  
FEET

Source: Harford County Dept. of Planning & Zoning, January 2024