



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

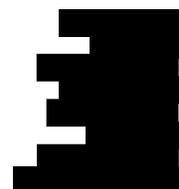
APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION RENEWAL

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/>



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.md.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

Copy: Olivia Ceccarelli-McGonigal

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 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 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: City of Greenbelt

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: City of Greenbelt

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:		City of Greenbelt	
Name of Applicant:		Greenbelt, City of	
Applicant's Federal Identification Number:		52-6000793	
Applicant's Street Address:		25 Crescent Road	
City: Greenbelt	County: Prince George's	State: MD	Zip Code: 20770
Phone Number:	Fax Number:	Web Address: greenbeltmd.gov	

Sustainable Community Application Local Contact:

[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

(1) Sustainable Community Boundary and Description

- (1) Are you requesting any changes to your Sustainable Community boundary? Describe why or why not?** No, the Sustainable Community boundary area comprises the City of Greenbelt in its entirety.
- (2) If yes, Include the following in as an attachment: N/A**
 - 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: 4,060 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): **National Historic Landmark**

(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?

Population and Race:

According to Census 2020, the City's total population was 24,921. This is a modest population increase over the last 10 years; according to Census 2010 the City's population was 23,068.

The 2018-2022 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates Greenbelt's population as 47.1% African-American, 22.6% White, 15.1% Hispanic, 11.7% Asian, and 6.2% two or more races.

Age:

According to Census 2020, the median age in Greenbelt has increased to 36.2 years old compared to the 2010 Census of 33.7 years. The median age remains between 30-39 years according to the 2018-2022 ACS. The percentage of population 65 and older has increased to 11.9%, a nearly 4% increase from just over 8% in the 2019 Sustainable Communities (SC) application.

Household Size and Income:

The average household size in Greenbelt is 2.41 persons per household, compared to the previous 2.58 according to the 2018-2022 and 2013-2017 ACS, respectively. According to the 2018-2022 ACS, the median household income is up significantly to \$82,019 compared to \$72,846 in the 2019 SC application. This is an over \$20,000 increase when compared to the 2010 Census. In the 2018-2022 ACS, 14.5% of City residents were living in poverty, up from 9.3% based on the 2013-2017 ACS.

Number of Housing Units:

In the 2020 Census, the total number of housing units was 10,789, compared to 10,433 from the 2010 Census. The City's FY23 data report 11,116 housing units, and 49% comprise apartment units. According to the 2018-2022 ACS estimates, the City's total number of housing units are 51.3% owner-occupied, compared to 46% in the 2019 SC application.

Educational Attainment:

According to the 2018-2022 ACS estimates, citizens with a high school education or higher comprise 89.6% of the population. A Bachelor's degree or higher is held by 46.5% of the residents (previously 44.1%), compared to Prince George's County at 35.6% and the State of Maryland at 42.2%.

Other Relevant Factors:

Compared to the County and State, Greenbelt has a larger number of foreign-born persons. Of the City's residents, 32% speak a language other than English at home, compared to 28.2% for the County and 19.8% for the State of Maryland.

(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?

Since last being renewing our Sustainable Community designation in 2019, the City has hired a new City Manager and a new Economic Development Manager and is in the process of hiring a new Director of Public Works. Additionally, the City has hired its first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Officer and a Grants Coordinator within the City Manager's office.

As in previous applications, the City convened representation from all City departments to guide the development of the application (list attached and below). These same staff members play a key role in the implementation of the SC Action Plan. In addition the City engages with various citizen Advisory Boards and Committees who are charged with addressing specific areas of implementation of the City's Sustainable Communities Action Plan. The Department of Planning and Community Development is responsible for monitoring the activities of various boards, committees, and City departments as well as for updating the City's Sustainable Communities Action Plan accordingly. This approach continues to prove effective and efficient in implementing the Action Plan since tasks can be assigned to the group(s) whose mission, resources, and expertise best aligns with the specific issue being addressed, and it also improves community engagement and participation in local government.

Responsible Parties/Key Stake Holders for Plan Implementation:

City Departments (Director or designee) include:

Planning and Community Development

Public Works

Police Department

Recreation and Parks

Greenbelt CARES

City Manager's Office (Economic Development Manager & Public Information Officer)

Finance and Administrative Services

Advisory Board/Committee Chairs or designee (involvement will be issue-driven)

State and County Agencies (as appropriate)

Homeowner/Condominium Associations (for neighborhood specific issues)

Greenbelt Homes, Inc (for issues specific to the GHI community)

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

Strengths:

One of the key strengths of the approach the City has taken in essentially having multiple Sustainable Communities working groups with one designated plan manager which provides the ability to work on multiple initiatives and projects concurrently. This has led to the City accomplishing the majority of tasks/initiatives outlined in its 2019 Sustainability Action Plan. A multi-group approach allows staff and community resources to be directed where most appropriate and/or needed to accomplish a specific task, providing for both efficiency and effectiveness.

Challenges:

A significant challenge to implementation of the SC Plan—and likely a common challenge for municipalities across the State—has been working through and now recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. The City has also dealt with senior staff turnover, including the City Manager; difficulty in hiring to fill critical staff vacancies; workload; and funding for implementation of key projects.

(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?

In preparing the City's renewal application, City Staff relied on community planning and other City agency efforts that have been completed over the last few years. These include, but are not limited to, the *Greenbelt Metro Area and MD 193 Corridor Sector Plan*, *Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Updates*, *Forest Preserve Master Trail Plan 2023*, *Recreation and Parks Master Plan*, annual City budget preparation, the annual City Council Goal Setting Sessions, the most recent update to the City's Sustainable Maryland Certification, annual City Council work sessions with key stakeholders, senior community forums, business conferences, ARPA public input initiatives, and the election-year Community Questionnaire. While it has been some time since the County has completed a small area/sector plan in Greenbelt, the 2013 *Greenbelt Metro Area and MD 193 Corridor Sector Plan* remains a guiding document for land use and planning efforts in the western area of the City.

The City also weighs the input of multiple permanent citizen Advisory Boards and Committees to the City Council on a variety of topics related to planning, education, health and wellness, environment, parks and recreation, young people, and senior citizens.

(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.

No technical assistance is needed at this time.

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.

Partners:

Chesapeake Bay Trust – provided technical assistance

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

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

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

Accomplishment 1:

Outcome: Economic Development

Project 1: ARPA support for local businesses (2020–2024) – The City provided nearly \$2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds to support businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19. The City received the Silver Award from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) for Best Use of Federal Economic Development Resources for its ARPA grant programs for businesses.

Project 2: Data systems development (2023) – Committed to the National League of Cities, City Inclusive Entrepreneurship Program, to aid the City in developing data systems to identify and assist local entrepreneurs.

Project 3: Greenbelt Business Alliance (2022) – Provided technical support in the establishment of the Greenbelt Business Alliance, which is a non-profit, membership organization for businesses.

Project 4: Greenbelt Business Conference (2022–Present) – Launched the Greenbelt Business Conference, which are quarterly events that include subject matter experts on business-related topics and involve networking opportunities to promote business-to-business connections. Will hold the fifth conference in February 2024 and anticipate over 100 attendees.

Project 5: University partnership (2023) – Participated in a capstone project with the University of Maryland conducting business-related research to support the City’s marketing campaign to COVID-19 business recovery.

Project 6: Technical support for local businesses (2020–Present) – Provided one-on-one assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic to over 60 local businesses to help them navigate application to emergency relief programs, addressing their needs, and connecting them to technical assistance providers.

Project 7: Electronic communication and marketing (2022) – Revamped the Economic Development webpage and Business Brief Bulletin to increase frequency of distribution for the Bulletin and procured new communication services to improve content quality, usability, and visibility.

Project 8: Prince George’s County EDC (2022) – Participated in the launch and implementation of the Prince George’s County Economic Development Cooperative (EDC) to share information and resources about economic development through monthly meetings.

Project 9: International Economic Development Council (2023) – Joined the IEDC’s Marketing Advisory Committee to raise public awareness about economic development. The City received the Silver Award from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) for Best Use of Federal Economic Development Resources for its ARPA grant programs for businesses (see Project 1).

Partners: Federal government – Small Business Administration (SBA), University of Maryland, Prince George’s County Economic Development Cooperative, Prince George’s County Chamber of Commerce, IEDC, National League of Cities, Greenbelt Business Alliance, business community, property managers

Impact: The City’s investment in economic development initiatives has had a positive impact on the business community. The City continues to forge stronger relationships with its business owners and commercial property managers to assist them in marketing their businesses. Over time, a greater understanding of the needs of the City’s business community has developed. City residents have benefitted from the marketing materials that are available advertising services within the City to assist small business creation.

Accomplishment 2:

Outcome: Environmental Sustainability

Project 1: Creation of the Greenbelt Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone (“NCOZ”) (2018–2022) – The newly adopted Prince George’s County Zoning Ordinance established the NCOZ which includes the historic parts of Greenbelt including the Greenbelt co-op residential community (Greenbelt Homes, Inc./GHI), the Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt Library, Greenbelt Community Center, the Greenbelt Forest Preserve, Buddy Attick Lake Park, and homes and apartments near the historic core. This overlay will protect and preserve the unique development features and character of established neighborhoods through development standards specific to historic Greenbelt to regulate development, redevelopment, and building alternations.

Project 2: Revised Forest Preserve Stewardship Guidelines (2019) – The City of Greenbelt revised these guidelines which applies to 254.8 acres of forest land which is part of Greenbelt’s cultural identity, ambiance, and sense of place. These revisions have improved ecosystem health and biodiversity in the Preserve while also allowing for recreation opportunities.

Project 3: Completed Forest Preserve Master Trails Plan (Sept. 2023) – This plan establishes the goals and standards for stewarding and maintaining trails within the Preserve. It also sets standards or provides options for the Public Works Department to follow to preserve the natural unmanaged appearance of the Forest Preserve. This plan authorizes specific City staff to respond quickly to issues which may harm the ecosystem health. Finally, the Plan lays out the standards and best practices for trail management which balance the environmental health of the ecosystem and the recreational needs of the citizens of Greenbelt.

Project 4: Parking Lot and Stormwater Improvements at Buddy Attick Park (2022) – The City of Greenbelt completed the reconstruction and enlargement of the parking lot which serves Buddy Attick Park. The reconstruction included an environmentally responsible redesign using permeable pavement, bioretention swales and basins to reduce stormwater runoff and provide sediment control, as well as other stormwater management best practices.

Project 5: Environmentally Sensitive Property Transfer (2022) – The City of Greenbelt obtained approximately 18 acres within the City limits, north of Greenbelt Road along Indian Creek in the Anacostia watershed. The land features a recreation path, wetlands, riparian woodlands/floodplain, and the tributary stream. This land has been added to the City’s inventory of land to further its environmental stewardship.

Project 6: Food Scraps Drop-Off Program – Residents can drop off food scraps that would normally fill a landfill and slowly release greenhouse gases to the Residential Recycling Center. These food scraps are composted to return nutrients back into local soils and the food system by providing the compost to local farms for fertilizer.

Project 7: Sustainable Maryland Certified Community (Green Team Action Plan) – In 2014 the City became a Sustainable Maryland Certified Community (370 points/Bronze), and it has renewed its application in 2017 (600 points/Bronze), 2020 (795 points/Bronze), and 2023 (905 points/Silver).

Project 8: Ordinance #1389, Bring Your Own Bag Bill – On January 1, 2024, the City’s Bring Your Own Bag ordinance went into effect prohibiting the use of plastic bags by all retailers, restaurants, grocery stores, and any other establishment which provides a single-use plastic bag. Paper bags may be supplied for fee of at least 10 cents by the establishment. This ordinance is designed to reduce the use of plastic bags and litter within the City of Greenbelt.

Partners: Greenbelt’s Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) and Green Team, Greenbelt’s Forest Preserve Advisory Board, M-NCPPC, Prince George’s County Government, Compact Crew, University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center, Maryland Municipal League, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Advisory Planning Board

Impact: The projects above are a sampling of projects the City has achieved to continue on its path toward environmental sustainability and responsibility. The City believes it is important for the government to act as a role model for its citizens in environmental stewardship.

Accomplishment 3:

Outcome: Multi-Modal Transportation Improvements

Project 1: Greenbelt Road (MD 193) Corridor Plan (2021–2022) – The plan establishes the path forward for the MD-193 corridor by creating more comfortable, equitable, and safe movements of all people whether they are walking, biking, riding transit, or driving. By improving access for all people, the plan improves access and key connections between neighborhoods and businesses for enhanced economic development.

Project 2: Capital Bikeshare System (2021) – The regional bikeshare system expanded into the City of Greenbelt with the installation of three bikeshare stations. These stations are connected to stations in adjacent jurisdictions such as College Park as well as the larger Capital Bikeshare system throughout the region.

Project 3: Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Updates (2022/2023) – In 2014 the City of Greenbelt adopted a Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan to identify and prioritize pedestrian and bicycle improvement projects. In 2022, City staff, the Advisory Planning Board, and City Council worked to update the plan, and the Master Plan has been a key tool in implementing an ARPA spending plan for implementation pedestrian and bicycle improvements across the City.

Project 4: Complete and Green Streets Policy (2019) – The City adopted a Complete and Green Streets Policy that directs the City to develop and provide a well-connected and visually attractive transportation network that balances the needs of all users and promotes a more livable and sustainable community.

Project 5: Bus Stop Solar Lighting Pilot (2022): The City installed solar lighting at three bus shelters as a pilot project.

Project 6: Greenbelt Station Roadway Conversion (2022): The City converted two streets in the Greenbelt Station development to one-way to add additional on-street parking.

Project 7: Cherrywood Lane Complete and Green Street (2020): The City completed 90% engineering plans for Phase 1 of the Cherrywood Lane Complete and Green Street project. When implemented, this project grants safe access for all users of Cherrywood Lane and better pedestrian and bicycle access to surrounding neighborhoods, commercial centers, and the Greenbelt Metro Station. Additionally, the project will provide on-street stormwater facilities that capture, slow down, and treat stormwater before it enters the storm drain system, eventually discharging into Indian Creek.

Project 8: Prince George's County Master Plan of Transportation 2035 (Ongoing): The City continues to participate in the County's Master Plan of Transportation 2035 planning project.

Partners: Maryland State Highway Administration, other adjacent local jurisdictions, Prince George's County M-NCPPC, Prince George's County DPW&T, WMATA, Capital Bikeshare, Greenbelt Station HOA, Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, Advisory Planning Board

Impact: Because the City owns, operates, and manages its own roadways, its investment in safe and accessible multi-modal transportation options is pivotal in supporting high quality residential and commercial development as well as healthy lifestyles with a high quality of life. The City is committed to investing in its pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and by increasing safe options for walking and bicycling, it reduces reliance on motor vehicles to enhance environmental sustainability and increase transportation equity. These projects also improve residents' access to major destinations, both locally and regionally.

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: Construction of WMATA Trail to the Greenbelt Metro Station

Narrative: While not accomplished at this time, the City made great strides in moving this project forward. The City received a \$1.5 million grant from the State's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Due to the requirements of this program and challenges with design and permitting, the City has been delayed in moving the project forward. At this point, the trails have been engineered and designed in partnership with WMATA, and the City has obtained permits from Prince George's County. Currently, the City is navigating the Maryland State Highway Administration (MD SHA) requirements related to the use of TAP as a funding source. Once these challenges are resolved, the City must address both State procurement requirements and WMATA requirements. Finally, with the selection of Greenbelt for the new Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) at the Greenbelt Metro Station, the potential exists for this project to be further delayed as the design and location of the trail may need to be reevaluated.

Outcome: Installation of gateway and wayfinding signage

Narrative: This goal has not been fully achieved because the City did not secure all of the grant funding needed. Initially, the Greenbelt City Council approved three types of gateway signage for installation at key entrances to the City. The first project was replacement of the main entry sign on Southway, and with the support of a MD DHCD Community Legacy grant, the stone wall and accompanying monument sign were installed in Summer 2023. However, the construction estimates and final costs were higher than anticipated. Additionally, the MD SHA rejected the City's other wayfinding sign proposal for signs located within their right-of-way. As a result, the City has divided this project into two phases. To kickstart the second phase, the City applied for and received a County Planning Assistance to Municipalities and Communities (PAMC) program for technical assistance to complete a Citywide wayfinding signage master plan. Additional funding will be required for implementation of wayfinding signage in the future.

Outcome: Increase affordable housing opportunities

Narrative: Due to a number of challenges, the City has been unable to increase its inventory of affordable housing since its designation as a Sustainable Community. Prince George's County lacks incentive programs or affordable housing requirements tied to development like other surrounding counties, and this makes it more difficult to attract developers to Greenbelt to construct an affordable housing product even though the demand for affordable housing remains. Although the County has developed a Comprehensive Housing Strategy, it has not adopted affordable housing-related legislation to date. However, it has convened a working group dedicated to this issue, and the City is following its work closely. The City does have a significant inventory of naturally occurring affordable housing (e.g., non-rent restricted or unsubsidized affordable housing). The City will continue to monitor the County's efforts and advocate for policies and programs that will increase affordable housing opportunities as well as for affordable housing in proposed residential development projects.

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
Community Legacy (CL): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Solar Trash Compactors ● Gateway Signage ● 	DHCD	\$100,000		
Strategic Demolition Fund (SDF): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● 	DHCD			
Community Safety & Enhancement Program:	MDOT			
Maryland Bikeways Program:	MDOT	\$94,685		
Sidewalk Retrofit Program:	MDOT			
Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund:	MDE			

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Other Funding Programs: *examples are U.S. HUD Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), or grants from USDA, EPA, Appalachian Regional Commission, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Heritage Areas Association, Preservation Maryland, Safe Routes to School, Maryland Rural Development Corporation, Maryland Energy Administration, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, etc.*

*Please add more rows if necessary

Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction	U.S. Department of Agriculture (Federal)	\$266,754		
Service Coordination	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (Federal)	\$409,830		
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franklin Parks Apts. • Mental Health & Wellness • Breezewood/Cherrywood/Edmonston Infrastructure 	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (Federal)	\$970,018		
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)	United States Office of National Drug Control Policy (Federal)	\$13,429		
Maryland Connected Devices Program Round 1	DHCD (State)	\$4,950		
Maryland Smart Energy Communities	Maryland Energy Administration (State)	\$197,397		
Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL)	Maryland Department of Aging (State)	\$488,041		

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Program Open Space	MD Department of Natural Resources (State)	\$1,170,000		
Community Parks and Playgrounds	MD Department of Natural Resources (State)	\$383,312		
Flood Resiliency	MD Department of Natural Resources (State)	\$75,000		
Buddy Attick Storm Water Management	MD Department of Natural Resources (State)	\$480,000		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational Grants • Arts Relief 	Maryland State Arts Council (State)	\$358,763		
Transportation Alternatives Program	MD Department of Transportation / State Highway Administration (State)	\$1,520,000		
Bond Bill Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMATA Trail • Inclusionary Playground • Museum Renovation • Electric Vehicle and Charging Stations 	State	\$900,000		
Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) / Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sculpture and Bas Relief • Friends of Greenbelt Museum • Lenore Thomas Strauss Sculpture Exhibition 	State	\$134,500		

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Youth Services Bureau	State	\$260,032		
MWCOG – Transportation Land Use Connection (TLC)	Regional	\$55,000		
Youth Services Bureau	County	\$416,000		
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) - Recreation	County	\$1,508,000		
Redevelopment Authority – Community Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of Greenbelt Museum 	County	\$50,000		
Prince George’s County Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eviction Relief • Recreation • ACE Scholarship 	County	\$27,000		
Prince George’s Stewardship	County	\$187,700		
Chesapeake Bay Trust	Nonprofit	\$75,100		

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Capital Area Food Bank	Nonprofit	\$32,400		
DC Diaper Bank	Nonprofit	\$19,558 (in-kind)		
National League of Cities – Inclusive Entrepreneurship Program	Nonprofit	\$15,000		

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

SECTION C - SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACTION PLAN

City of Greenbelt

Submitted 2/16/2024

Example Section

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

<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 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 Strategy A: Review and revise, as needed, code compliance program to reduce frequency and number of residential code violations.</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>Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Department of Housing, County Planning Department, local homeowners association</p>

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.

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sustainable Maryland Certified signifying the City’s success in implementing environmentally sustainable policies and program ● Sustainable Plan Framework that reduces negative environmental impacts ● Department of Natural Resources Forest Stewardship Plan ● 62% tree canopy (Tree City USA) ● Sustainable Procurement Policy ● Numerous recycling programs ● Zero Waste initiatives ● Farmers Market, Food Forest, and community gardens to provide increased access to local foods ● Over 1,700 acres of parkland ● Forest Preserve legislation protecting the City’s valuable forest lands ● Extensive trail system ● Sustainable Land Care Policy ● Citywide composting (Food Scraps Drop-Off Program and Food Scraps Curbside Pick-up Program) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stormwater issues, particularly due to increased storm events, pose drainage and runoff challenges ● Aging infrastructure ● Highway noise impacts quality of life ● Road widening projects threatening quality of life and the environment ● Limited financial resources

<u>Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures</u>	<u>Strategies and Action Items</u>	<u>Implementation Partners</u>
<p>Outcome 1: Responsibly manage/reduce the City’s ecological footprint</p> <p>Progress Measures: Reduction in carbon footprint, investment in energy efficiency strategies/programs; reduction in greenhouse emissions; number of zero waste programs; number of tons recycled; annual</p>	<p>Strategy A: Invest in the implementation of the City’s Sustainability Framework Plan addressing energy efficiency, stormwater management, health living, greenhouse gas emission, carbon footprint, etc.</p> <p>Strategy B: Promote free and low-cost sustainability programs, grants resources and education to all residents.</p> <p>Strategy C: Utilize alternative fuel and powered vehicles whenever feasible.</p> <p>Strategy D: Continue to add Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations to City park lots and encourage installation in commercial corridors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maryland Energy Administration ● Greenbelt’s Green Team ● Maryland Department of Natural Resources ● Prince George’s County ● PEPCO ● Standard Solar

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>investment in sustainable infrastructure and amenities.</p>	<p>Strategy E: Protect the City’s Forest Preserve. Strategy F: Review development proposals for environmental impacts and work to avoid/minimized impacts to the maximum extent possible. Strategy G: Establish a City solar farm will offset approximately 55-60% of the City’s electricity consumption.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WGES • Compost Crew • USDA • Trinity Church • Private property owners/residents
<p>Outcome 2: Protect the City’s natural resources and environmentally sensitive lands</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of acres protected; reduction in impervious pavement; volume of stormwater treated; number of trees planted/protected; funds programed for natural resource conservation programs</p>	<p>Strategy A: Protect and expand on the City’s tree canopy. Strategy B: Implement updates to the newly adopted Master Trails Plan and Stewardship Guidelines for the City’s Forest Preserve Areas. Strategy C: Establish a Non-tidal Flood Resiliency Plan that will evolve into a 5-10year stormwater infrastructure plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prince George’s County DPW&T • Greenbelt Forest Preserve Advisory Board • University of Maryland • Maryland Department of Natural Resources • EPA • GHI

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.

Strengths

- Proximity to DC and Baltimore
- Proximity to I-495/Baltimore-Washington Parkway
- Public transportation via Metro, MARC, Prince George’s County The Bus
- Proximity to anchor institutions – NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center, University of Maryland College Park, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Doctors Hospital
- Selected by the GSA for relocation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) headquarters at the Greenbelt Metro Station

Weaknesses

- Commercial office vacancy rates higher than county and region
- Outdated commercial office parks and shopping centers
- Lack of cohesive business attraction/retention goals, strategies, and marketing materials
- County permitting and licensing process which often prevents or stalls business attraction/retention efforts
- Lack of a central place for businesses to obtain more information about sustainability and reducing carbon footprint

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greenbelt Historic Center National Historic Landmark designation ● Multi-sector business community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inability to bike or walk seamlessly throughout the City due to major roadways dividing the city ● Limited housing availability ● Challenges in recruiting local talent to businesses ● A portion of businesses continue to face the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic 	
Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Develop a strategic vision and plan for City’s economic development to guide business retention, expansion, and attraction goals</p> <p>Progress Measures: Adopt strategic plan and that incorporates the new departmental vision, values, and mission statement. Adopt final implementation guide on business retention and expansion practices.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Engage City leadership, local appointed/elected officials, and other key stakeholders in outlining economic development priorities.</p> <p>Strategy B: Compile feedback from residents on economic development ideas.</p> <p>Strategy C: Engage local businesses to understand long-term needs and goals.</p> <p>Strategy D: Partner with local anchor institutions to identify strategic priorities and alignment with City priorities.</p> <p>Strategy E: Identify consultant or other independent party to facilitate strategic planning process.</p> <p>Strategy F: Put together final strategic plan for review and approval.</p> <p>Strategy G: Implement strategic plan, along with business retention and expansion implementation guide.</p> <p>Strategy H: Acquire and utilize software/services to track and quantify key performance indicators of economic activity in the City</p> <p>Strategy I: Create public facing dashboards to share economic development data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Local businesses ● Local residents ● Greenbelt Business Alliance ● Greenbelt Community Development Corporation ● Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation
<p>Outcome 2: Build sustainability program and toolkit to help businesses adopt more sustainable practices and reduce carbon footprint.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of business that adopt sustainable practices; types of sustainable practices adopted by businesses to reduce carbon footprint</p>	<p>Strategy A: Define sustainability goals and objectives.</p> <p>Strategy B: Determine the types of tools and resources needed to support business and community adoption of sustainable practices such as the bag ordinance.</p> <p>Strategy C: Compile sustainability resources for businesses.</p> <p>Strategy D: Perform outreach to businesses to ensure compliance with the new bag ordinance and other sustainable practices.</p> <p>Strategy E: Develop mechanism for tracking the number of businesses that adopt sustainable practices.</p> <p>Strategy F: Develop mechanism for tracking different types of sustainable practices adopted by businesses to reduce carbon footprint.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Local businesses ● Greenbelt Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) ● Greenbelt Business Alliance ● Greenbelt Community Development Corporation

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>Outcome 3: Develop and maintain a set of programs that provides grants and loans to local entrepreneurs and businesses that supports business recovery, build capacity, and improve infrastructure.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increase in city funding for revolving loan fund; establishment of a citywide revolving loan fund; number of revolving loans granted, identification of fund management.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Seek additional allocation of ARPA funds for business recovery grants.</p> <p>Strategy B: Establish a City-wide revolving loan fund to support business retention and expansion.</p> <p>Strategy C: Identify and partner with financial institution to manage revolving loan fund.</p> <p>Strategy D: Conduct outreach efforts to market and promote the City's programs and resources for businesses and entrepreneurs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents and professionals • Local financial institutions (i.e., banks, community development financial institutions)
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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"> • Access to major roadways: I-295, I-495, US Route 1, MD-193, MD-201 • Access to Greenbelt Metro and MARC Stations and neighboring New Carrollton Metro Station • Access to bus routes: WMATA Metrobus, Prince George's County TheBus, UMD Shuttle, Greenbelt Connection, and RTA bus service • Bicycle infrastructure and amenities (bike lanes, shared lane markings, bike racks, bike repair stations, multi-use trails) • Pedestrian infrastructure (sidewalks, multi-use trails, pedestrian- and bicycle-only underpasses and overpass to avoid dangerous roadway crossings) • Investment in road maintenance and improvements • Complete and Green Streets policy • Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan (updated) • Pedestrian and bicycle trails map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited weekend bus service, lack of frequent service hours, and long headways • No direct pedestrian/bicycle access from new residential development in Greenbelt West to Greenbelt Metro Station (in permitting phase) • Lack of contiguous and safe sidewalks and bicycle lanes along MD-193 corridor • Gaps in the City's pedestrian and bicycle trails system • No Capital Bikeshare access at Greenbelt Metro Station which could connect to other existing Capital Bikeshare stations • Gaps in on-street bicycle infrastructure • Lack of local circulator service to provide enhanced transit services to all residents, connecting them with major destinations • City divided by major highways which creates connectivity challenges • Delay in County's full implementation of the bikeshare system

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Improve the City's pedestrian and bicycle network</p> <p>Progress Measures: Amount of linear feet of sidewalk constructed; amount of investment in bicycle infrastructure; number of bike share stations installed; number of bike share subscriptions purchased</p>	<p>Strategy A: Construct bicycle and pedestrian trail from Greenbelt Station South Core to Greenbelt Metro/MARC Station.</p> <p>Strategy B: Transform MD-193 into a complete and green street.</p> <p>Strategy C: Partner with the County on installation of additional bike share stations.</p> <p>Strategy D: Implement the City's Pedestrian and Bicycle Mater Plan and update as needed.</p> <p>Strategy E: Transform Cherrywood Lane into a complete and green street.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD SHA • Neighboring jurisdictions • Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board • Property owners • Developers • Prince George's County DPW&T • Urban Land Institute • WMATA • M-NCPPC • ATHA/Maryland Milestones • Capital Bikeshare
<p>Outcome 2: Enhance residents' access to transit services</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of bus shelters installed, investment in bus stop improvements, increase in frequency and reduction ion headways</p>	<p>Strategy A: Study the feasibility of a local circulator route/service.</p> <p>Strategy B: Work with WMATA on improvements to the Greenbelt Metro Station.</p> <p>Strategy C: Implement the recommendations of the City's Bus Stop and Accessibility Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMATA • MD SHA • Prince George's County DPW&T • Commercial property owners • Neighboring jurisdictions
<p>Outcome 3: Update traffic calming and safety policies/program</p> <p>Progress Measures: Reduction in serious injuries and deaths on roadways; reduction in average speeds on roadways; increased mode share for transit, walking, and biking; increase in funding for Vision Zero and Green & Complete Streets projects</p>	<p>Strategy A: Apply for funding to complete a Vision Zero Action Plan</p> <p>Strategy B: Incorporate health equity framework into the Vision Zero Action Plan</p> <p>Strategy C: Apply for capital funding for Vision Zero/Complete and Green Streets infrastructure projects (engineering and design, implementation/construction)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD SHA • Prince George's County DPW&T • WMATA

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"> ● Variety of housing types: single-family detached, townhouses, cooperative, condominiums and apartments ● Central location in the Washington-Baltimore corridor ● Quality of life ● Relatively affordable housing stock compared to region ● Walkability and tranquility ● Highway access ● Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program (GAIL – support for seniors and adults with disabilities) ● Opportunities for new multi-family residential development ● Strong property maintenance program ● Low residential vacancy rate ● County adopted comprehensive housing strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aging housing stock and infrastructure ● Limited ADA accessible multi-family housing ● Lack of incentives for development of affordable housing ● Very low inventory of developable land for new housing ● Demand for affordable/workforce housing ● Schools are at, or above, capacity ● Limited programs to help the homeless ● Limited availability for senior housing

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Promote affordable and senior housing</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increased affordable/senior housing units</p>	<p>Strategy A: Advocate for the adoption of affordable housing legislation at the County level as a planning tool to ensure long-term affordability within Prince George’s County.</p> <p>Strategy B: Support new development projects that will create affordable rental housing.</p> <p>Strategy C: Promote infill development and other redevelopment options for underutilized residential or commercial lots.</p> <p>Strategy D: Build upon programs that are aimed at assisting homeowners to successfully age in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maryland DHCD ● Prince George’s County DHCD ● Housing Initiative Partnership ● Prince George’s County Housing Authority ● Habitat for Humanity ● Developers

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>Outcome 2: Promote home ownership</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increased home ownership</p>	<p>Strategy A: Partner with local and state housing organizations to create housing initiatives that support and encourage homeownership.</p> <p>Strategy B: Support development projects that include a range of housing types and costs.</p> <p>Strategy C: Support programs that assist homeowners that are facing foreclosure.</p> <p>Strategy D: Continue to support funding for homeownership opportunities like the Greenbelt Home Advantage first-time homebuyers grant program and the Greenbelt Employee Homeownership Grant program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maryland DHCD • Maryland Mortgage Program • Prince George’s County DHCD • Housing Initiative Partnership • Habitat for Humanity
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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"> • Extensive off-street trail system throughout Historic Greenbelt • Extensive park land • Greenbelt CARES program (family assistance and support) • Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program (GAIL – support for seniors and adults with disabilities) • Numerous festivals and community placemaking events throughout the year • Capital Area Food Bank, Service Insights Initiative program • Community gardens • Designated National Historic Landmark • Diverse socio-economic population • Strong sense of community and political engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of homelessness assistance programs • Funding challenges in expanding amenities and service which raises the quality of life • Aging infrastructure • Limited opportunities for expanding recreation amenities due to lack of space • Limited protection for historic properties • City divided by major roadways; lack of public transportation connecting recreation amenities to all • Limited funding • Poor wayfinding signage

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strong community involvement/advocacy ● Superior public recreation and cultural amenities and programs (i.e., parks, playgrounds, pools, gyms, classes, camps, special events, etc.) ● Cooperatively owned businesses ● Daily free to low cost food service for seniors and youth ● Historic Greenbelt Theatre ● Greenbelt Museum ● Roosevelt High School and Greenbelt’s Elementary and Middle Schools ● Public library ● Arts and entertainment venues ● Strong arts community and programs ● Proximity to NASA, BARC, University of Maryland and Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center ● High quality and expansive city services and civic amenities ● Full-service City police department and strong pro-active community –oriented policing ● Commitment to environmental preservation/conservation (i.e., large amounts of natural woodlands, stream networks, etc.) ● Greenbelt Farmers Market ● Community gardens ● Access to transit ● Responsive governing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limited opportunities to diversify tax base ● Schools at or nearing capacity ● Lower median household income relative to the County ● Identifying unconscious biases
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Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Protect and Preserve Historic Greenbelt</p> <p>Progress Measures: Sign installation; investment in improvements/maintenance of historic resources</p>	<p>Strategy A: Install gateway and wayfinding signs.</p> <p>Strategy B: Complete improvements to Greenbelt Museum.</p> <p>Strategy C: Continue to support the operation of Greenbelt Cinema (Historic Greenbelt Theatre).</p> <p>Strategy D: Support the economic viability of Roosevelt Center, Farmers Market, theatre, etc.</p> <p>Strategy E: Maintain strong community development/property maintenance program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M-NCPPC ● ATHA/Maryland Milestones ● Maryland Historical Trust ● Friends of the Greenbelt Museum ● Property owners/residents ● Greenbelt Farmers Market ● Friends of the Greenbelt Cinema ● Greenbelt Community Development Corporation

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>Outcome 2: Enhance Public Safety</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of officers hired; crime statistics; community engagement events and new technology employed</p>	<p>Strategy A: Focus on reaching staff goals, developing greater use of technologies, and broader use of innovative strategies in the area of predictive policing.</p> <p>Strategy B: Focus efforts in the areas of community outreach, enforcement, staff development, and the use of technology for community safety.</p> <p>Strategy C: Establish partnerships and build trust within the community.</p> <p>Strategy D: Provide city police staff with training, career opportunities, education, and promotion opportunities that will reduce turnover and create a stable department to meet the needs of the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maryland Police • MD SHA • City and County residents
<p>Outcome 3: Establish additional opportunities for community health and quality of life in Greenbelt West</p> <p>Progress Measures: square footage added for community programs and services; square footage added for social services; square footage added for community policing; improved health outcomes</p>	<p>Strategy A: Expand recreational opportunities in Greenbelt West.</p> <p>Strategy B: Create more classroom space for recreation programs and services.</p> <p>Strategy C: Create office space for Greenbelt CARES (Social Services).</p> <p>Strategy D: Establish police substation with a focus on community policing.</p> <p>Strategy E: Expand recreation/park amenities in Greenbelt Station.</p> <p>Strategy F: Identify opportunities for installation of public art.</p> <p>Strategy G: Oversee the conveyance of indoor recreation space to the City as part of the redevelopment plans of Beltway Plaza.</p> <p>Strategy H: Continue to support job training and workforce development efforts including GED classes, tutoring, and job fairs.</p> <p>Strategy I: Expand health-focused community programming, including annual vaccination and health clinics; weekly Meals on Wheels deliveries for seniors; monthly food/produce distribution; and community nursing programs for both older adults and children.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-NCPPC • Department of Natural Resources • Maryland Recreation and Parks Association • Franklin Park Management • National Recreation and Parks Association • State and Federal Delegates • Prince George’s County Health Department • Beltway Plaza • Greenbelt Station Homeowners Association • CHEARS • Arts Advisory Committee • Artist Community
<p>Outcome 4: Identify and eliminate unconscious biases when serving the community</p> <p>Progress measures: Community surveys; staff surveys; staff training modules and hours</p>	<p>Strategy A: Complete Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion City Audit</p> <p>Strategy B: Review policies, procedures, and publications to identify unconscious biases.</p> <p>Strategy C: Provide staff training to identify and manage unconscious biases.</p> <p>Strategy D: Update policies, procedures, and publications to eliminate unconscious biases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer • Maryland Recreation and Parks Association • National Recreation and Parks Association • GARE

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"> ● Opportunities for infill development and redevelopment ● Designated National Historic Landmark ● Three commercial centers located within the City ● Greenbelt Metro Area and the MD 193 corridor are designated centers and corridors in the County’s General Plan ● Strong Advisory Planning Board ● Fully staffed Planning Department (Director, Assistant Director, and Community Planner) ● Fully staffed Community Development Department (Director, Assistant Director, Inspectors) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City has limited planning and zoning authority ● Outdated Master Plan—the City is reliant on the County to undertake master plans and small area plans ● Limited developable land remaining ● Expansive surface parking lots ● County permitting and approval process can be challenging and lengthy ● Constant tax base due to limited growth opportunities ● City has limited funds and staff capacity

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Actively Participate in the County’s planning and zoning processes</p> <p>Progress Measures: Adoption of an updated City Master Plan; expanded planning and zoning authority</p>	<p>Strategy A: Monitor the County’s planning and zoning processes.</p> <p>Strategy B: Advocate at the County level for an updated Master Plan.</p> <p>Strategy C: Manage the full transition to the County’s new zoning ordinance.</p> <p>Strategy D: Pursue expanded planning and zoning authority.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M-NCPPC Prince George’s County Planning ● Property owners
<p>Outcome 2: Incorporate a health equity framework throughout planning and community development/code enforcement processes</p> <p>Progress Measures: Development of a baseline health equity assessment; improved health outcomes tied to planning project implementation</p>	<p>Strategy A: Develop a community-wide baseline health equity report.</p> <p>Strategy B: Incorporate health and equity data into planning processes to better understand community needs, prioritize transportation and land use projects, and analyze potential impacts.</p> <p>Strategy C: Incorporate health and equity data into code enforcement processes to better understand community needs, prioritize inspections and investigations, and analyze potential impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M-NCPPC Prince George’s County Planning ● Prince George’s County Health Department

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section C

<p>Outcome 3: Expand the City's GIS capabilities</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increase in map utilization; number of public-facing project maps and dashboards available online; number of GIS interns; number of GIS trainings completed</p>	<p>Strategy A: Hire GIS interns throughout the year.</p> <p>Strategy B: Improve software capacity and training for staff.</p> <p>Strategy C: Utilize GIS analysis to create project visualizations and maps to better analyze project data.</p> <p>Strategy D: Utilize GIS analysis to create project visualizations and maps to share with the community in real-time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• M-NCPPC Prince George's County Planning• ESRI
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Section D
Sustainable Communities Workgroup Roster

Department/Board/Committee	Staff Title
Planning and Community Development	Director Assistant Director of Planning Community Planner
Public Information Office	Public Information/Communications Coordinator
Economic Development	Economic Development Manager
Greenbelt CARES	Director or Designee Community Resource Advocate
Recreation and Parks	Director or Designee
Public Works	Director or Designee Assistant Director Environmental & Sustainability Coordinators
Finance	Director or Designee
Greenbelt Museum	Museum Curator
Police	Designated by Chief
City Manager's Office	Assistant City Manager
*City Advisory Boards and Committees	Chair or Designee

*Role and involvement will be issue driven

Other key stakeholders who will be asked to participate when appropriate:

Homeowner Associations
Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI)
Business Community
Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC)
Prince George's Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T)
State Highway Department (SHA)

Section F
Additional Files: Accomplishment Photos



IEDC Silver Award (Economic Development #1 & #9)



Greenbelt Business Conference (Economic Development #4)

Section F
Additional Files: Accomplishment Photos



Parking Lot and Stormwater Improvements at Buddy Attick Park (Environmental Sustainability #4)



Food Scraps Drop-Off Program (Environmental Sustainability #6)

Section F
Additional Files: Accomplishment Photos



Sustainable Maryland Certified Community (Environmental Sustainability #7)



Capital Bike Share System (Multi-Modal Transportation #1)

Section F
Additional Files: Accomplishment Photos



Bus Stop Solar Lighting Pilot (Multi-Modal Transportation #5)



Greenbelt Station Roadway Conversion (Multi-Modal Transportation #6)

Section F
Additional Files: Accomplishment Photos



Southway Gateway Sign