



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION RENEWAL

Eligible Applicants:

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

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

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

Division of Neighborhood Revitalization

2 N Charles Street, Suite 450

Baltimore, MD 21201

410-209-5800

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

LARRY HOGAN, *Governor*

KENNETH C. HOLT, *Secretary*

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD, *Lt. Governor*

TONY REED, *Deputy Secretary*

OVERVIEW OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

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

PURPOSE OF RENEWAL AND STREAMLINED APPLICATION

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

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

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

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

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BENEFITS

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

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

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

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

Application Eligibility and Threshold Requirements

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

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

Threshold Requirements

All Sustainable Community applications must meet the following threshold requirements:

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

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

Application Evaluation

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

Priority Funding Areas

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

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

Application Training

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

Application Submission

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

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

No incomplete applications will be accepted.

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

Site Visits, Follow-up Discussion

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

Approval

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

Contact Information

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

DIVISION OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION, STATE REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS REGIONAL PROJECT MANAGERS		
<p>REGION 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwest Baltimore City • Northwest Baltimore County <p>Larry Brown Program Officer Phone: 410-209-5819 Email: larry.brownjr@maryland.gov</p>	<p>REGION 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northeast Baltimore City • Northeast Baltimore County <p>Garland Thomas Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5803 Email: garland.thomas@maryland.gov</p>	<p>REGION 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southeast Baltimore City • Southeast Baltimore County • Anne Arundel County <p>Olivia Ceccarelli-McGonigal Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5826 Email: olivia.ceccarelli@maryland.gov</p>
<p>REGION 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwest Baltimore City • Southwest Baltimore County • Howard County <p>Nick Mayr Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5842 Email: nicholas.mayr@maryland.gov</p>	<p>REGION 5: Western Maryland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allegany • Frederick • Garrett • Washington • Carroll <p>Sara Jackson Project Coordinator Phone: 410-209-5812 Email: Sara.jackson@maryland.gov</p>	<p>REGION 6: Washington DC Metropolitan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prince George’s • Montgomery <p>Duane Felix Program Officer Phone: 410-209-5825 Email: Duane.Felix@maryland.gov</p>
<p>REGION 7: Upper Eastern Shore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harford County • Caroline • Cecil • Kent • Queen Anne’s • Talbot <p>Ashlee Green Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5815 Email: Ashlee.Green@maryland.gov</p>	<p>REGION 8: Lower Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland</p> <p>Lower Eastern Shore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorchester • Somerset • Wicomico • Worcester <p>Southern Maryland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calvert • Charles • St. Mary’s <p>Raynell Cooper Jr. Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5836 Email: Raynell.cooper@maryland.gov</p>	

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLAN ELEMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RENEWAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

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

A. Contact information, General Information, Organizational Capacity:

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

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

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

C. Sustainable Communities Action Plan Update:

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

CHECKLIST AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPLICANT: Baltimore County Department of Planning

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: Northwest Gateways

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

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

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Sustainable Community: Northwest Gateways

Name of Renewal Applicant: Baltimore County Department of Planning

Applicant's Federal Identification Number: 52-6000889

Applicant's Street Address: 105 West Chesapeake Ave.

City: Towson

County: Baltimore

State: MD

Zip Code: 21204

Phone No: 410-887-3480

Fax: 410-887-5862

Web Address: www.baltimorecountymd.gov

Sustainable Community Renewal Application Local Contact:

Name: Ngone Seye Diop

Title: Western Sector Coordinator

Address: 105 W. Chesapeake Ave.

City: Towson

State: MD

Zip Code: 21204

Phone No: 410-887-3480

Fax: 410-887-5862

E-mail Address: nseyediop@baltimorecountymd.gov

Other Sustainable Community Contacts:

Name: Amy Mantay

Title: Division Chief, Community Planning Division

Address: 105 W. Chesapeake Ave.

City: Towson

State: MD

Zip Code: 21204

Phone No: 410-887-3480

Fax: 410-887-5862

E-mail Address: atmantay@baltimorecountymd.gov

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY – General Information

A. Sustainable Community Boundary and Description

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

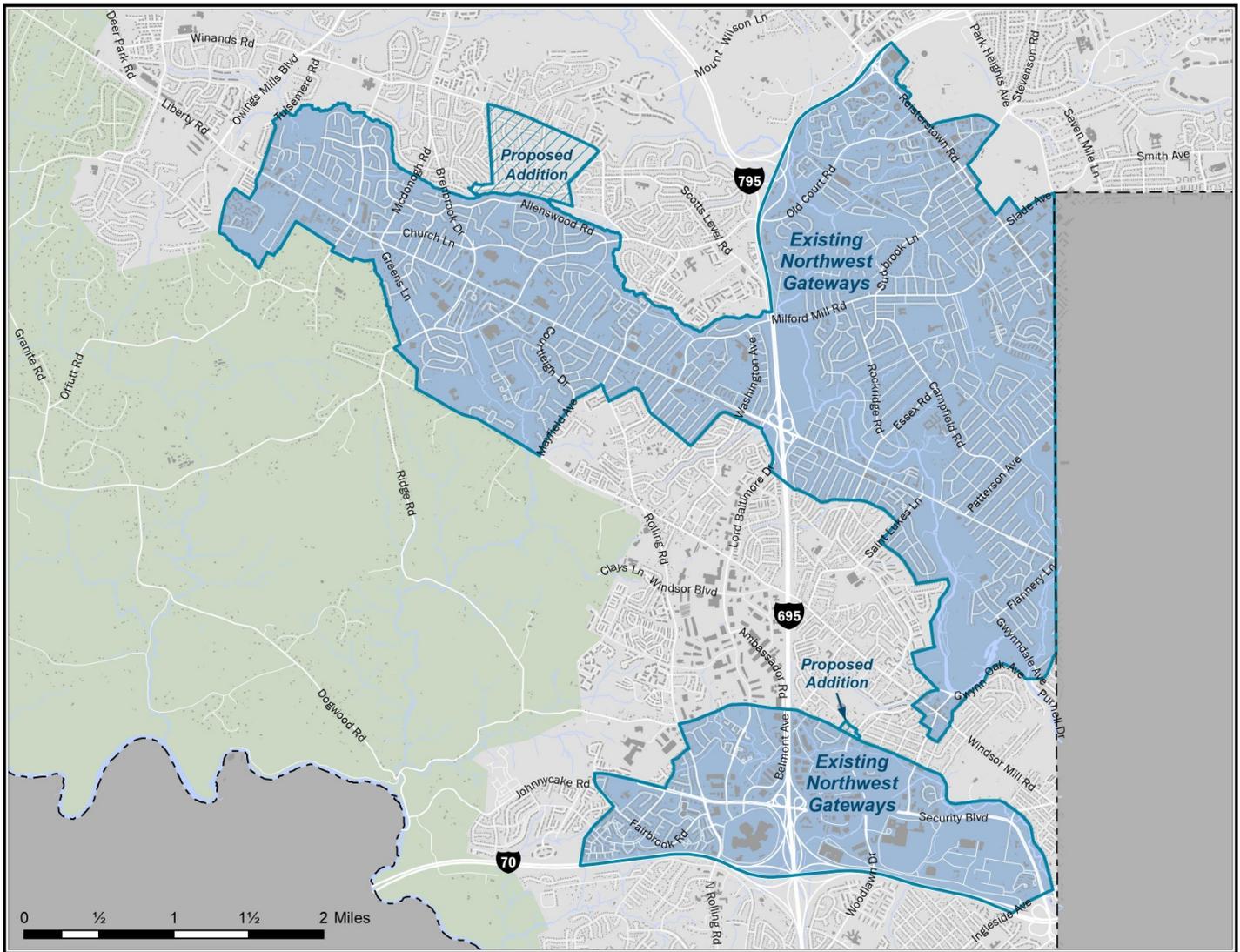
Baltimore County is requesting that the boundaries of Woodlawn Commercial Revitalization District (CRD) and Stoneybrook Community Association be entirely inside the Northwest Gateways Sustainable Community boundary. The proposed addition for Woodlawn CRD is approximately 4 acres in size and includes Census Block 2012 and part of Census Block 1013. The proposed addition for Stoneybrook Community Association is roughly 200 acres in size and includes the following Census Blocks: 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2027. Both areas have a vision for improved streetscapes and neighborhood revitalization. In order to continue forward with the vision, it is important that the Sustainable Community boundary be expanded to allow the communities to benefit from the many programs offered under the Sustainable Communities initiative.

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

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

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

Existing Northwest Gateways Sustainable Community Boundary with Proposed Additions



(2) Approximate number of acres of entire SC Area: 12,164 acres

(3) Existing federal, state or local designations:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Main Street | <input type="checkbox"/> Maple Street |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Register Historic District | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Historic District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Entertainment District | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Enterprise Zone Special Taxing District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BRAC | <input type="checkbox"/> State Designated TOD |
- Other(s): Commercial Revitalization District, Design review Panel Area, Opportunity Zone, Opportunity Area

(4) 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?

Northwest Gateways Sustainable Community area, March 2020

Data Category	2012	2017	Change
Unemployment	8.43%	7.08%	-1.35%
Housing Units	23,414	23,467	53
Occupied Units	21,965	22,083	118
Owner occupied	11,827	12,030	203
<i>homeownership rate</i>	<i>53.84%</i>	<i>54.48%</i>	<i>0.63%</i>
Renter occupied	10,138	10,053	-85
Vacant units	1,449	1,384	-65
<i>Vacancy rate</i>	<i>6.19%</i>	<i>5.90%</i>	<i>-0.29%</i>
Housing Costs:			
Median home value	\$222,350	\$208,613	-\$13,738
Median gross rent	\$1,232	\$1,226	-\$6
Area median household income:			
Metropolitan region	\$68,616	\$75,646	\$7,030
Total households	21,965	22,083	118
Less than \$10,000	1,451	1,197	-254
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1,101	730	-371
\$15,000 to \$24,999	1,800	1,620	-180
\$25,000 to \$34,999	1,961	1,710	-251
\$35,000 to \$49,999	3,529	3,472	-57
\$50,000 to \$74,999	4,689	4,190	-499
\$75,000 to \$99,999	3,338	3,138	-200
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2,973	3,685	712
\$150,000 to \$199,999	742	1,341	599
\$200,000 or more	381	1,000	619
Median household income (dollars)	\$56,447	\$64,380	\$7,933
Age Groups:			
Total population	54,395	58,492	4,097
Under 5 years	3,108	3,564	456
5 to 9 years	3,123	3,542	419
10 to 14 years	3,446	3,200	-246
15 to 19 years	3,477	4,295	818

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

20 to 24 years	3,225	3,170	-55
25 to 34 years	6,951	8,201	1,250
35 to 44 years	7,480	7,390	-90
45 to 54 years	7,692	8,134	442
55 to 59 years	4,045	3,596	-449
60 to 64 years	3,460	3,831	371
65 to 74 years	4,041	4,938	897
75 to 84 years	2,768	2,911	143
85 years and over	1,579	1,720	141
Race & Ethnicity:			
Total population	54,395	58,492	4,097
White alone	11,080	11,770	690
Black or African American alone	38,124	42,085	3,961
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	192	66	-126
Asian alone	2,689	2,861	172
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	11	2	-9
Some other race alone	1,238	516	-722
Two or more races:	1,062	1,192	130
People from Hispanic or Latino Origin*	2,512	2,483	-29
*: <i>Can be of any race.</i>			
Average Household Size:			
Owner occupied units	2.60	2.83	0.23
Renter occupied units	2.37	2.22	-0.15
Educational Attainment:			
Population 25 years and over	38,028	40,721	2,693
% high school or higher	88.42%	92.96%	4.54%
% bachelor's or higher	27.36%	34.06%	6.70%
Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.			

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

According to the US Census Bureau, the Northwest Gateways SC area had a total population of 58,492 persons in 2017, which represent a growth of 4,097 persons over the past five years. The working-age population (ages 20-64) represents approximately 59% of the population whereas ages 19 and younger make up about 25% of the total population. The aging population (ages 65 and older) represents the lowest share, 16% of the area's population. Black or African Americans continue to grow and make up the majority of the population in the Sustainable Community area. In 2017, Black or African American represented nearly 72% of the area's residents compared to 65% in 2012.

The area's unemployment rate fell to 7.08 % compared to 8.43%, five years ago. Between 2012 and 2017, educational attainment for the population 25 years or over increased at each attainment level. The percentage with high school completion or higher increased from 88 in 2012 to nearly 93 in 2017 showing a boost of 5%; the percentage with a bachelor's or higher degree increased from about 27 in 2012 to 34 in 2017 representing an increase of 7%.

The median household income has experienced an increase of \$7,933 from 2012 to 2017 based on the US Census Bureau. The figures show median household income in the Sustainable Community area jumped from \$56,447 in 2012 to \$64,380 in 2017. During the same period, median home values have gone down 6%, from \$222,350 in 2012 to \$208,613 in 2017. Median gross rents have slightly decreased by \$6 over the past 5 years.

In 2017, there were approximately 22,083 occupied housing units in the area. Out of the occupied units, 55% was owner occupied while 45% was renter occupied. This trend has remained steady since 2012. Data of the average household size reveal a slight decrease in the number of people per family. The average family consisted of 2.02 people in 2017, down from 2.48 in 2012.

B. Organizational Structure, Experience and Public Input:

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

The Baltimore County Department of Planning will continue to assume the lead responsibility for preparing Sustainable Community applications and for creating and implementing Sustainable Community Action Plans. The workgroup organizational structure has remained consistent. However, there was a change in staffing within the Department of Planning. The Sustainable Community workgroup has a leadership team composed of selected planning staff who guide and supervise several departmental divisions that will be engaged. They include the Department of Economic and Workforce Development and the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability. Additional agencies such as Recreation and Parks and Public Works are engaged through their prior participation in existing plans that are important components of our applications and future projects. The leadership team take on the responsibility to implement individual sustainable communities. The team works in conjunction with various community-based organizations, non-profit organizations, local business associations and other stakeholders.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

The leadership team is composed of the department director, the deputy director, the division head and additional staffers who are highly experienced. Members of this team are:

Pete Gutwald, Director, Department of Planning;

Jeff Mayhew, Deputy Director, Department of Planning;

Amy Mantay, Division Chief, Community Planning;

Ngone Diop, Western Sector Coordinator;

William Skibinski, Western Sector Planner;

Joe Fraker and Josephine Selvakumar, Commercial Revitalization Specialist;

Kui Zhao, Demographer and Master Plan Coordinator;

Taylor Bensley, Historic Preservation Services.

(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 workgroup staff are highly experienced in community planning, community development, community revitalization, community outreach, public relations and demographics. The workgroup is very active in addressing issues they find most important, and is committed to help implement the goals of the Sustainable Communities plan. Baltimore County's existing Master Plan 2020, adopted community plans and several studies conducted in the Northwest Gateways Sustainable Community area have all provided a future vision for future development.

(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 workgroup has conducted several studies in the Northwest Gateways Sustainable Community area that have allowed for community input, including the Pikesville study, the Liberty Road study and input from the Woodlawn Business Association. The studies aim to create a vision by identifying specific improvements and policies to guide future investment and development in the Sustainable Community area. The residents and other stakeholders in the community provided input through open house events, community engagement meetings, online surveys and email participation.

(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.

As mentioned previously, the workgroup staff in the Northwest Gateways Sustainable Community area are highly experienced and very active in helping implement the goals of the Sustainable Communities plan. At this time, the County is not requesting technical assistance from State agencies.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

The workgroup includes the following organizations:

Key Public Agency Stakeholders:

- Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development
- Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability
- Baltimore County Department of Public Works
- Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks
- Baltimore County Public Schools
- Maryland Department of the Environment
- Maryland Department of Planning
- Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
- Maryland Energy Administration
- Maryland Transit Administration

Key Community Stakeholders:

- Liberty Road Business Association
- Liberty Road Community Council
- Combined Communities Advocacy Council
- Stevenswood Community Association
- Fieldstone Community Association
- Old Court Estates
- Stoneybrook Community Association
- Rockdale Community Association
- Kings Point Community Association
- Hernwood Heights Community Association
- Colonial Village Neighborhood Improvement Association
- Ralston Neighborhood Association
- Pikesville-Owings Mills Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Pikesville Communities Corporation
- Pikesville Greenspring Community Coalition, Inc
- 1,000 Friends of Pikesville
- Scott Hill Community Association
- Sudbrook Park, Inc.
- Las Amigas Baltimore Chapter, Inc.
- Pahl's Crossing HOA

Other Partners:

- Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc. (CHAI)
- Associated Jewish Charities
- Middle Gwynns Falls SWAP Steering Committee
- Blue Water Baltimore
- The Waterfront Partnership
- The Baltimore County Public Schools, principals and teachers
- CCBC
- Northwest Baltimore Partnership

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT

PART I: QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

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

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

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

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

Example – Accomplishment 1

Outcome: Improved stormwater management

Projects:

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

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

Partners:

Chesapeake Bay Trust – provided technical assistance

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

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

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

Accomplishment 1: Constructed and upgraded transportation, public water and public sewer projects

Outcome: Improve Existing infrastructure

Projects: The following infrastructure has been constructed or upgraded within the past five years:

Road Resurfacing and Improvement:

Approximately, 105 road miles have been resurfaced or improved in the Sustainable Community area in the last 5 years. In addition, the following roadway projects have been completed within the past 5 years:

- Rolling Road Phase 1 – Windsor Mill Road to Six Point Court: road widening, curb, gutter & sidewalk
- Offutt Road at Liberty Road: road widening, curb, gutter & sidewalk
- Owings Mills Blvd Phase II – Winands Road to Liberty Road : new road construction
- Red Run Blvd: curb, gutter & sidewalk
- Old Court Road at Carlson Lane: traffic calming, signal work
- Rolling Road at Church Lane: traffic calming
- Dolfield Blvd at Red Run Blvd: road widening, curb, gutter & sidewalk
- Liberty Road Streetlights: pedestrian lighting
- Hooks Lane at Reisterstown Road: road widening, curb, gutter & sidewalk

Streetlights Installation, Upgrades and Relocations completed in the past 5 years:

Scotts Hill Drive	Upgrade 10 lights
Zeta Way	Install 2 lights
Deer Trail Road	Install 1 light
Ridge Road	Install 1 light
McDonogh Road	Install 1 light
Christopher Court	2 lights, relocate 1
Kyle Court	Relocate 1 light
Julian Court	Install 2 lights
Carthage Road	Upgrade 4 lights
Brevort Road	Install 1 light
Stephanie Road	Install 1, upgrade 4
Springdell Road	Install 3 lights w/above
Meadow Heights Road	Upgrade 14 lights
Ripple Road	Re-install 2 lights
Liberty & Offutt	Install 1 light

Traffic Calming projects completed in the past 5 years:

Allenswood Road	Speed hump
Langrehr Road	Speed Hump
Mayfield Road	Speed hump
Church Lane	
Rolling and Church	
Milford Mill Road	Cross walk & Bump out

Traffic Engineering completed in the past 5 years

- Rayton Rd, removed barricade
- Marriottsville Rd - Truck Tow Signs
- Owings Mills Blvd Extension Phase II completed

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

Orpin Rd - opened to Owings Mills Blvd
Lyons Mill Thru Truck Restriction
Brenbrook Dr - Traffic Circle
Carlson Lane and Old Ct-Signal
Winands Rd - New Paint
Rolling & Windsor - Signal
Rolling & Old Court - Signal
Old Court & Scotts Level - Signal

Sewer Projects completed in the past 5 years:

Liberty Road - Replacement
Abbie Place - Relief Sewer
Ripple Road - Relief Sewer
Gwynns Falls - Basin 33-05
Gwynns Falls - Open Cut
Gwynns Falls - Trenchless

Water Projects completed in the past five years:

Pikesville Pumping Station New Motors for Reliability

Bridge Projects completed in the past 5 years:

Replacement of Bridge No. B-0347 on Dogwood Road over Dogwood Run (Located between Hollifield Road and Ridge Road) was completed in 2018.

Replacement of Bridge No. B-0166, Woodlawn High School Pedestrian Bridge over Dead Run (Located adjacent to Dogwood Road at Englewood Avenue) was completed in 2018.

Rehabilitation of Bridge No. B-0076 on Milford Mill Road over Gwynns Falls (Located just east of the I-695 crossing) was completed in 2019.

Replacement of Bridge No. B-0202 on Gwynnsbrook Avenue over a Tributary to Gwynns Falls (Located between Owings Mill Boulevard and Garrison Forest Road) was completed in 2017

Partners: Baltimore County Department of Public Works, Maryland State Highway Administration

Impact:

\$57,786,221 in transportation, water and sewer improvements were made within the area. The projects provide public benefits by improving safer access for pedestrians, bicycles and cars; improve quality and volume of drinking water and improve fire protection for the community.

Accomplishment 2:

Outcome: Identified revitalization priorities and developed goals.

Projects: Through the recently completed Liberty Road study, Pikesville Commercial District Study and Pikesville Revitalization Action Plan (currently in final draft), revitalization priorities, goals and action items have been identified. With substantial community feedback, stakeholder interviews, field work and extensive research, the priority goals/projects have been identified and road mapped.

Partners: Randallstown and Pikesville residential and business communities, Liberty Road Steering Committee, Pikesville-Owings Mills Regional Chamber of Commerce, Baltimore County agency staff.

Impact: Outlined a realistic and achievable project roadmap for the revitalization of Pikesville and Liberty Road Commercial Revitalization Districts. Create a vision by identifying specific improvements and policies to guide future marketing, investment and development in those areas.

Accomplishment 3:

Outcome: Pikes Theater reopening

Projects: The Pikes Theater has reopened as a unique movie-going and dining experience. With assistance from the Department of Planning, the vision became a reality. Local entrepreneurs took a risk that has paid off and now provides a local Pikesville destination.

Partners: Business and property owners, Pikesville-Owings Mills Regional Chamber of Commerce, Baltimore County Department of Planning, Architect-On-Call consulting firm.

Impact: The reopening of the Pikes Theater has once again provided a local destination for the local community to enjoy. People of all ages and backgrounds now go to the Pikes and some dine at the neighboring restaurants.

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: Improved Pedestrian Access and street connectivity in the town centers

Narrative: In the Liberty Road, Pikesville and Woodlawn CRDs, no improvements have been made to improve pedestrian access and walkability within the area. However, BC Planning, DPW, and the local community are coordinating efforts with SHA to develop improvement traffic and pedestrian through the central business districts. No timeline has been outlined at this time.

Outcome: Upgrade Existing Infrastructure or Provide Community Amenities

Narrative: Little to no infrastructure nor community amenities have been improved since the last SC Action Plan. There have been ongoing efforts to develop a master plan for the Pikesville Armory, but the site remains untouched and its future is still relatively unknown. Due to adaptive reuse cost estimates and other historic easement complications, it could be several years before the armory becomes some type of community amenity.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT

PART II: COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

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

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

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

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

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

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

ENVIRONMENT	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1. Has there been an improvement in water quality?		X		Baltimore County performs extensive monitoring on Scotts Level Branch, which forms roughly the northern boundary of the North West Gateway SCA. However, the drainage areas to many of these monitoring locations lie mostly outside of the SCA, and the single point whose drainage area is entirely contained within the SCA comprises only 5% of the total SCA area, and may not be representative of the SCA as a whole.
2. Has the amount of impervious surface in your Community been reduced? (Amount in SF)		X		The addition of new impervious surface in the Sustainable communities has been slowed considerably. GIS analysis using the County's photogrammetrically derived 2014 impervious layer and a revised 2014 layer that is updated by manually digitizing new areas of impervious surface from recent aerial photography have showed a 0.30 acre increase of impervious surface.
3. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your park and/ or recreational green space?		X		Comparatively speaking, the portion of the existing SC area along Liberty Road is fairly well served in terms of parks and recreational facilities, including Gwynn Oak, Carriage Hills, and Stevenswood Parks, Randallstown and Woodlawn Community Centers, and numerous public school recreation centers. Meanwhile, the portion of the existing SC area in the Pikesville Community features very little land available for acquisition as parkland. As of the time of this update, acquisition efforts were underway for a small potential park site on Church Lane in Pikesville, and ongoing discussions on the future desired uses for the Pikesville Armory property included multiple possible recreational uses.
4. Did the Sustainable Community implement any recycling or waste reduction programs?	X			In the Fall of 2018 Baltimore County EPS piloted anti-litter efforts in two different shopping centers along the SCA including Milford Mill and Woodmoor Shopping Centers. These anti-litter efforts included providing businesses with information on waste management best management practices, organizing community cleanups, implementing signage on buses, trash cans and shelters, attending community meetings, and mobile advertising on smart phones.
5. Do all residents have access to healthy food options (i.e. fresh food grocery stores, farmers markets etc.) within the Sustainable Community?	X			Within the CRDs, there are fresh food outlets such as Giant, shoppers, Aldi, Food Lion, Walmart Supercenter and two kosher grocery stores. There are also independently owned fresh foods market and seasonal farmers markets.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

ECONOMY	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1. Has there been an increase in the number of new businesses in your Main Street/ Commercial District?	X			Pikesville has seen the job market increase by 0.7% since 2017. Although the rest of the Commercial District has not experienced positive job growth in the past year, Baltimore County's Department of Economic & Workforce Development recently hired a new business development representative to spur job growth in Pikesville, Randallstown, Woodlawn, and surrounding western Baltimore County communities.
2. Did the Municipality/ Sustainable Community area receive any designations that support local economic development?	X			There are three Commercial Revitalization Districts (CRD) in the SC area: Liberty Road, Pikesville and Woodlawn. The CRD incentives include a five or ten year tax credit for redevelopment and new construction of properties located inside the district. With the expansion of the Northwest Gateways SC boundary, the Federal Center at Woodlawn enterprise zone and Woodlawn opportunity zone are now located within the SC. The enterprise zone incentives include tax concessions offered to encourage business investment and provide jobs for the residents. Opportunity zone benefits include tax incentives to attract investors in distressed communities.
3. Has there been an increase in foot traffic in the Main Street/commercial district?	X			The Liberty Road Business Association, Pikesville Owings Mills Regional Chamber of Commerce and Security Woodlawn Business Association sponsor seasonal events and concerts that bring substantial foot traffic in Randallstown, Pikesville and Woodlawn (Liberty Live, a series of summer concerts in Randallstown, Pikesville farmers market, Randallstown's farmers market and Woodlawn farmers market).
4. Have the number of commercial vacancies decreased?	X			Since 2015, the vacancy rate (2017) for Baltimore County West, which include Randallstown, Pikesville and Woodlawn, decreased by .80% to 16.64%.
5. Has there been an increase in local jobs within the Sustainable Community for its residents?	X			The unemployment rate in Pikesville has decreased to 4.2% - close to Baltimore County's 4.1% rate (July 2019). The number of employees in Woodlawn has increased 3% to 20,949 Although the unemployment rate has declined in Randallstown, there has been a 2.75% decline in number of employees (17,713).

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

TRANSPORTATION	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1. Has the amount of bike trails/paths increased? How many linear feet do the trails cover?	X			Yes, as part of the Owings Mills Boulevard extension from Winands Rd to Liberty Rd, 4,200LF of hiker/biker trail was added.
2. Have there been improvements to the public transit infrastructure?	X			CountyRide has purchased new buses over the past five years including for both fixed route and CountyRide senior/disabled services. In addition, we are actively pursuing the addition of bus shelters on selected routes.
3. Has there been an increase in sidewalks? (Amount in linear feet)	X			Yes, along with #1 above, 4,200LF of sidewalk was added as part of the Owings Mill Boulevard extension. In addition, approximately 3,800LF of sidewalk was added along Rolling Rd near Windsor Mill Rd.
4. Have there been any roadway improvements that support "Complete" or "Green" streets?	X			Yes, roughly 300 pedestrian level streetlights have been added to the Liberty Road corridor. In the Pikesville CRD along Reisterstown Road, Baltimore County DPW replaced nearly 100% of the street lamps.
5. Has traffic congestion along major roads decreased? (Amount in percent)		X		County roadways have remained status quo. No new deficient intersections have been added to the Transportation Basic Service Map. However, traffic congestion has increased on the Liberty Road and Reisterstown Road corridors over the past 5 years.
OTHER:				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

HOUSING	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1. Have any residential facades been improved?	X			Some homes in Colonial Village have been improved. There are homes in the Pikesville area that have gone through the zoning petition process for additions. This is largely attributed to growing families that require additional space and secondary kitchens due to religious food preparation requirements.
2. Has the home ownership rate increased?	X			There has been a slow increase in homeownership rate between 2012 and 2017. Over the past five years, the homeownership rate has increased by nearly 0.63%.
3. Has there been an increase in the number of housing units in the Sustainable Community area? What number and/or percent are affordable?	X			Between 2012 and 2017, there was an increase of 53 housing units in the SC area according to the US Census Bureau. There is currently an affordable housing proposal within the Pikesville CRD that is requesting rezoning to support multi-family apartments.
4. Has there been demolition of blighted properties?		X		There has not been demolition of blighted properties in the area. However, there is an interest from the County to assemble vacant commercial properties on Liberty Rd to assist CDCs in redevelopment. In addition, there is discussion to redevelop the old International House of Pancakes and Bennigan's restaurants located in front of Security Square mall.
5. Has the residential vacancy rate decreased?	X			Over the past 5 years, the area has experienced a slight decrease in residential vacancy rate. The vacancy rate was 5.9% in 2012, dropping 0.3% from 2012.
OTHER:				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

QUALITY OF LIFE	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1. Has there been a decrease in crime rate?	X			Overall, following the County trend, crime in the SC area increased over the last 5 years. However, the majority of crimes in the area have been non-violent and property related.
2. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your public spaces (i.e. museums, community centers, public plazas)?	X			New playground equipment was installed at both Woodlawn Community Building and Woodlawn Memorial Park, via a donation from the estate of a lifelong citizen of Baltimore County. Each playground also featured a memorial bench.
3. Has there been an increase in public art/ arts & entertainment programs/venues (i.e. murals, movie theatre, music events)?	X			Liberty Live is a series of summer concerts that draw thousands of people in Randallstown, Maryland each summer. It is a free, family-friendly outdoor concert series, presented by the Liberty Road Business Association (LRBA), and feature live entertainment, vendors, free parking and more. The Pikes Theater has reopened as a movie theater and is once again a local destination
4. How many historic properties were renovated/improved?				<p>There are 7 individually designated Baltimore County Final Landmarks located within the project area, 2 properties individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 2 Baltimore County Historic Districts, and 1 National Register Historic District.</p> <p>Between January 1, 2014 and August 30, 2019, the following properties were reviewed and approved to receive property tax credits for eligible rehabilitation expenses involving homeowner occupied structures. For those properties with completed projects, the final amount of property tax credits received from the County is noted.</p> <p>Sudbrook Park County & National Register Historic Districts (Combined): 21 properties were issued a Certificate of Appropriateness for \$373,924.48 in combined proposed eligible rehabilitation expenses and received \$22,253.18 worth of Baltimore County property tax credits for projects completed.</p>

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

				<p>Fieldstone Historic District: 3 properties were issued Certificates of Appropriateness for \$26,480.00 in proposed eligible rehabilitation expenses and received \$5,554.00 worth of Baltimore County property tax credits for projects completed.</p> <p>Baltimore County invested in a study to identify adaptive reuse opportunities involving the Pikesville Armory site which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p>
<p>5. Are there any residential health and wellness opportunities in place (i.e. athletic facilities, recreational indoor/ outdoor courses or groups)?</p>	<p>X</p>			<p>Two additional stadium-based synthetic turf athletic fields and field lighting systems were constructed—one at Milford Mill Academy High School Recreation Center (within the SC area, with job also including the addition of field lighting), and one at Randallstown High School Recreation Center (which serves the existing SC area. Though situated just outside of its present boundaries). These fields and their lighting systems provide greatly expanded recreational opportunities.</p>
<p>OTHER:</p>				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

LAND USE/ LOCAL PLANNING	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1. Have there been any infill developments?	X			The SC area includes well established communities. All of the new housing that has been built could be considered "infill" since it is redevelopment of former sites or new development surrounded by developed properties
2. Has there been an increase in the amount of preserved/protected land?			X	Since the Northwest Gateways Sustainable Community area is designated urban, land preservation is not a goal for this geographic area.
3. Have there been any developments hindered by growth constraints?		X		
4. Have there been any zoning or any policy changes that have fostered growth in your Sustainable Community?	X			Baltimore County's Comprehensive Zoning Map Process is currently underway and will be completed in September 2020. There are currently 17 applications submitted for rezoning in the SC Area. The upcoming Baltimore County Master Plan update will contain recommendations for future growth policies.
5. Have there been any significant improvements to the municipal infrastructure within the Sustainable Community (i.e. street lighting, water/sewer lines)?	X			The area has experienced multiple streetlight installations, upgrades and relocations in Randallstown and Pikesville areas. Many road resurfacing and traffic calming devices. In addition, the area has experienced the following water and sewer lines projects: Abbie Place Relief Sewer Ripple Road Relief Sewer Gwynns Falls Basin 33-05 Gwynns Falls Open Cut Gwynns Falls Trenchless Liberty Road sewer replacement Pikesville Water Pumping Station improvements
OTHER:				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Community Legacy (CL): • • •	DHCD			
Strategic Demolition Fund (SDF): • •	DHCD			
Community Safety & Enhancement Program:	MDOT			
Maryland Bikeways Program:	MDOT			
Sidewalk Retrofit Program:	MDOT			

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund:	MDE			
Other Funding Programs: <i>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.</i> *Please add more rows if necessary				
Program Open Space (non-competitive): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milford Mill Acad. High School Rec. Center synthetic turf field and field lighting • Randallstwon High School Rec. Center synthetic turf field and field lighting • Gwynn Oak Park walking path renovations 	State	Milford Mill: \$300,000 Randallstown \$900,000 Gwynn Oak: \$68,000		
State Capital Grants (a.k.a. Bond Bills): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milford Mill Acad. High School Rec. Center synthetic turf field and field lighting 	State	\$450,000		
Commercial Revitalization Action Grant (CRAG)	Baltimore County	\$60,000.00 FY16-FY20		Liberty Road Business Association
Commercial Revitalization Action Grant (CRAG)	Baltimore County	\$48, 253.75 FY16-FY20		Pikesville Owings Mills Regional Chamber of Commerce

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Commercial Revitalization Action Grant (CRAG)	Baltimore County	\$35,948.52 FY16-FY20		Security Woodlawn Business Association

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

III. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

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

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

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

Action Plan Guidance

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

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

Sustainable Community Action Plan

Northwest Gateways

Submitted by Baltimore County, Maryland

3/30/2020

Environment

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

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions of the SC area (predominantly Woodlawn, Randallstown, and Milford Mill) are relatively rich in terms of quantity and diversity of parks and recreation sites. Multiple stream valley parks associated with the Gwynns Falls and Scotts Level Branch streams are situated within the existing and the proposed expanded SC area, including • The SC area falls within three watersheds; 82% falls in the Gwynns Falls, 15% falls in the Patapsco River, and 3% falls in the Jones Falls watershed. Within those are four watershed planning areas in which Small Watershed Action Plans (SWAPs) have been developed; Middle Gwynns Falls, Lower and Upper Patapsco, and Upper Jones Falls. SWAPs have assessed water resources, quality influencers, and opportunities for restoration within the area of interest • Multiple neighborhoods identified in the SWAPs have opportunity for environmental restoration actions such as bayscaping, downspout redirection, and fertilizer reduction • Two watershed associations are active in the SCA, Blue Water Baltimore and Patapsco Heritage Greenway, which can be beneficial for SWAP implementation and community involvement in environmental initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pikesville community is largely lacking in parklands and recreational facilities other than those situated at public school recreation centers. The proposed southern addition to the SC area likewise lacks parks, other than undeveloped stream valley parkland along Dead Run • Out of the roughly 7,737.58 acres of land area covered by the SCA. There are only an estimated 640.42 acres (about 8.3%) draining to SWM facilities that provide water quality benefit. There is a notable absence of water quality SWM on both Liberty and Reisterstown Roads • It is unsafe to swim or enjoy water contact sports in several of the streams in the Gwynns Falls and Patapsco watersheds due to bacterial contamination • Combined the Gwynns Falls, Jones Falls and Patapsco watersheds currently experience or contribute to the following local water quality impairments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water contact recreation: bacteria (it may be unsafe to swim or enjoy water contact sports in several of the streams in these watersheds due to bacterial contamination) ○ Aquatic life and wildlife: sediment, chloride, temperature, nutrients (Baltimore Harbor), trash (Baltimore Harbor) • The tree canopy in the SC Area is below the County's 2013 tree canopy goals of achieving 40% tree canopy cover in each Census Designated Place (CDP). Current tree canopy in the SC Area is 37.4% • Litter issues

<p><u>Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures</u></p> <p>Based on the strengths and weaknesses identify the strengths on which you would like to build and the challenges you would like to address. What outcomes are you trying to achieve? Where/ in what area do you want those changes to happen? →</p> <p>Progress Measure: Identify how you will know that you have achieved your outcome.</p>	<p><u>Strategies and Action Items</u></p> <p>Identify strategies that will help your community to achieve each identified outcome to the left. If applicable, break down each strategy into specific action items that outline different steps of the strategy. Specify how you are planning to achieve the desired outcomes. →</p>	<p><u>Implementation Partners</u></p> <p>Which community stakeholders need to be involved to realize each action step and strategy? Name specific public and/or private sector partners.</p>
<p><u>Outcome 1:</u> Preserve additional parklands, and provide additional strategically situated parks and recreational facilities</p> <p>Progress Measures: Numbers of parks and recreational sites and facilities, amount of preserved lands (in acres)</p>	<p>Strategy A: Acquire additional park sites in areas of need within the SC area, particularly the Pikesville community and the proposed southern addition to the SC area.</p> <p>Strategy B: Enhance new and existing parks and recreation sites to provide expanded recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Strategy C: Aggressively pursue unique opportunities in areas with scarce land availability, such as site redevelopment/retrofit and acquisition of portions of large sites that could serve multiple uses including mixed-use development.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks; Baltimore County Public Schools; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee; Community groups</p>
<p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Improve and control litter and dumpster issues</p>	<p>Strategy A: Upgrade all existing trash receptacles to larger containers at all public places and all bus stops to avoid overflowing while considering uniform recycling bins with lids.</p> <p>Strategy B: Increase frequency of street sweeping services in the area.</p> <p>Strategy C: Continue development and implementation of anti-litter campaigns and install signage on all county pitch-in trash cans to encourage proper trash disposal.</p> <p>Strategy D: Post “No Littering” signs throughout Liberty Road to remind people to pick up after themselves while enforcing the litter law with fines.</p>	<p>Community Associations; Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability; Business Owners; Baltimore County Public Schools; Department of Public Works; MD MTA; Baltimore County Police; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>

Northwest Gateways

	<p>Strategy E: Assist property and business owners to improve and screen dumpster locations. If necessary, develop an enclosure design assistance program.</p>	
<p>Outcome 3: Improve water quality in the streams and reservoirs located near this community</p> <p>Progress Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress on TMDLs: reductions in pollutant loads and/or progress on TMDL Implementation Plan actions. • Reduced severity or elimination of water quality impairments. • Increase in drainage areas of Stormwater Management ponds that provide water quality improvement in addition to water quantity management. 	<p>Strategy A: Redevelopment in the SCA will allow for implementation of up to date SWM requirements.</p> <p>Strategy B: Local-not-for profit environmental organizations participate in a county-funded grant program to implement principles laid out in a county’s Small Watershed Action Plans (SWAPS). These funds and organizations may be able to provide certain community-based support for best management practices.</p> <p>Strategy C: County agencies implement capital restoration projects and operational projects, such as street sweeping and reductions in the quantity of road salt applied.</p>	<p>Blue Water Baltimore; Patapsco Heritage Greenway; Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability; Department of Planning; Department of Public Works; Office of Budget and Finance; Community Groups; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>
<p>Outcome 4: Tree Canopy – While some trees will be lost due to re-development and the presence of tree pests such as the Emerald Ash Borer, increase tree plantings within the SC boundary.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Measure tree canopy of the SC boundary when new land use data is available. It may take several years after trees are planted for them to be detected in the land use maps. Current tree canopy is at 37.4% (determined using 2015 Lidar and 2013 NAIP (Chesapeake Conservancy High Resolution Land Cover, 2016).</p>	<p>Strategy A: Tree planting – Redevelopment may add shade trees and other vegetation in the SC.</p> <p>Strategy B: Work with community groups to increase tree canopy by planting street and front yard trees. Areas with a high percentage of ash trees will be targeted for tree plantings.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability; Community Groups; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>

Economy

(Economic strengths and weaknesses can include but are not limited to regional accessibility, business attraction/retention, health of the business district and commercial vacancies, workforce/employment and economic drivers, local policies/regulations, marketing, tourism, cultural and historic assets)

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Liberty, Pikesville and Woodlawn CRDs have excellent multi-modal transportation access with immediate connection to I-695, I-795, I-70 and I-95 • Competitive advantages of both corridors include easy access to I-695, bus lines and the Metro line for workforce transit • Situated between two major employment centers, Owings Mills to NW and Woodlawn to the south • Multiple town centers located within the SC area including Pikesville and Security Town centers • Northwest Hospital, major economic driver located in the area • Headquarters of the Social Security Administration and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are located near the area • Woodlawn Federal Centers are in close proximity • Stevenson University and CCBC located in area and serve as anchors. • Median household incomes averages \$73,000 • Northwest Hospital, a significant anchor for the area, has invested over \$120 million in renovations with over 1,600 employees • Strong faith-based community with six large churches and multiple synagogues • Various incentives from federal, state and local designations to attract new businesses, and improve the appearance, operation, and profitability of existing businesses (Commercial Revitalization District, Design Review Area, National Register Historic District, Baltimore County Historic District, State Enterprise Zone, Opportunity zone) • Potential redevelopment of the Pikesville Armory and the Security Square Mall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment rate has been higher in the SC area than in the county partially attributed to the area’s lower educational attainment • Lack of curb appeal is an economic barrier at the gateways from the city along both Reisterstown and Liberty Roads • Aging neighborhoods and commercial properties closer to the city line • Physical isolation of the metro centers from established neighborhoods and commercial areas constitute a barrier • Aging population • Lack of quality retail and chain restaurants in the Liberty Rd CRD • Lack of variety of businesses to meet the needs of the community • Abundance of unwanted businesses • Businesses closing and vacant gas stations are an eyesore to the residents • Poor aesthetic and outdated facades design • Lack of identity

Northwest Gateways

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
<p><u>Outcome 1:</u> Diversify commercial use on the Liberty Road corridor</p>	<p>Strategy A: Provide market research results on trends in the marketplace and evaluate their success to identify issues that are preventing in-demand businesses to open on Liberty Rd.</p> <p>Strategy B: Identify available inventory for lease and/or sale properties along Liberty Rd. Continue to communicate with area property managers and brokers to offer assistance in filling vacancies as well as understanding their needs.</p> <p>Strategy C: Continue to promote the County financial programs and collaborate with DHCD and non-profit organizations to provide growth tools to new and expanding businesses.</p> <p>Strategy D: Continue efforts to work with brokers and developers to address the need of quality grocery stores and upscale restaurants in the Liberty Road area.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development; Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce; MD DHCD; Non-profit organizations; Business owners; Baltimore County Economic Development Advisory Board; Liberty Road Business Committee;</p>
<p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Attract and retain Businesses along commercial corridors</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue to encourage businesses to participate in Baltimore County tourism initiatives and provide outreach assistance to relocating and/or closing businesses and continue to promote the various financial programs and incentives available within the commercial revitalization corridor.</p> <p>Strategy B: Develop strategies that create Liberty Rd, Pikesville and Woodlawn CRDs as a retail destination. Acquire additional marketing and promotional materials that highlight the area’s history, demographics, locational advantage and vision.</p> <p>Strategy C: Streamline and improve approval processes to make it easier for new businesses to invest in Liberty, Pikesville and Woodlawn CRDs and existing businesses to revitalize.</p> <p>Strategy D: Continue to foster redevelopment near the Northwest hospital, and linkages to the cluster of county services on resource Drive.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development; Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce; MD DHCD; Non-profit organizations; Business owners; Baltimore County Economic Development Advisory Board; Liberty Road Business Committee;</p>

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<p><u>Outcome 3:</u> Increase job opportunity for the youth and the elderly population in the Liberty Road community</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue to collaborate with CCBC to provide education and training programs that will enable the youth and elderly to secure a job or advance in a demand industry or occupation. Provide more outreach and trade programs.</p> <p>Strategy B: improve data availability and understand the nature of local skills supply and demand mismatch as a starting point of the local youth employment strategy process. Analyze skills shortages to determine the causes.</p> <p>Strategy C: put in place the right incentives and success measurement to support collaboration and target action on increasing employment for the elderly residents.</p> <p>Strategy D: Continue to promote youth and senior employment programs such as the summer youth employment program and the senior community service employment program.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development; Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce; Baltimore County Department of Aging; Business owners; Baltimore County Economic Development Advisory Board; Liberty Road Business Committee</p>
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Transportation

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

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent roadway network. The recent Owings Mills Boulevard extension allowed for much needed relief to local roadways in the area by providing a major north/south connector • Several collector roads leading to the Pikesville, Liberty Road and Woodlawn CRD • Two metro rail stations and several bus lines • Free parking throughout the Pikesville CRD • The Pikesville CRD is in close proximity to the Metro station 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of the “last mile” connections • Lack of shelters at some bus stops • Lack of Lighting • Lack of Trees or Shade • Limited bike and pedestrian trail networks • Perceived parking issue in the Pikesville CRD due to a lack of wayfinding signage or enforced towing signage in several lots • Reisterstown Road is no longer capable of providing both a “Main Street” environment and be a major state highway • The lack of connecting streets parallel to Liberty and Reisterstown roads increase traffic on those busy arterials • Crosswalks are in need of restriping and enhanced signalization • Decreased walkability and pedestrian safety

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p><u>Outcome 1:</u> Address “last mile” concerns</p> <p>Progress Measures: Investments/Improvements per mile in infrastructure or per unit installed along alignment by BC, Other or MTA. Plans or proposals developed by BC, MDOT or developers that address action items.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue to review many forms of alternative transportation in the SC area including transit Infrastructure, bicycle Infrastructure, pedestrian Infrastructure and multi-modal Infrastructure.</p> <p>Strategy B: Consider developing a micro-transit (circulator) system to fill the last mile gap in public transit systems.</p>	<p>MTA; Revenue Authority; Baltimore County Department of Public Works; Baltimore County Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>

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<p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Improve traffic congestion and address traffic speed issues</p>	<p>Strategy A: Work with SHA to develop a traffic impact study and/or roadway congestion index, evaluate signal timing at intersection problems on Liberty Road and formulate plans to improve traffic congestion.</p> <p>Strategy B: Prioritize list of high traffic speed areas and work with SHA, Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Police department to formulate plans for traffic control and traffic calming measures.</p>	<p>MD SHA; MD MTA; Baltimore County Department of Public Works; Baltimore County Police; Community Groups; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 3:</u> Improve pedestrian safety in the area</p>	<p>Strategy A: Assess placement, maintenance and improvement of bus stops and bus shelters on Liberty Road and Reisterstown Road.</p> <p>Strategy B: Evaluate pedestrian crosswalks on Liberty Road and Reisterstown Road and enhance signalization for safer pedestrian experience. Explore adding flashing pedestrian crosswalk systems such as “LaneLight” to decrease pedestrian accidents.</p> <p>Strategy C: Assess the condition of existing sidewalks in the SC area, create an inventory database of areas lacking sidewalks, and develop a feasibility study to address sidewalk issues.</p> <p>Strategy D: Evaluate and improve lighting in the area. Install new lighting or upgrade existing lighting through the “Street Light Program” managed by the Department of Public Works.</p> <p>Strategy E: Develop, and if feasible, implement a bike and pedestrian trail network that connects nearby transit hubs, residential, and commercial areas.</p>	<p>MD SHA; MD MTA; Baltimore County Department of Public Works; Community Groups; Baltimore County Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 4:</u> Monitor and improve parking issues in the Pikesville CRD</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue to evaluate parking issues in the CRD. Complete Pikesville parking study and inventory.</p> <p>Strategy B: Where appropriate, remove unused parking meters along Reisterstown Road.</p> <p>Strategy C: Design, purchase and install free parking wayfinding signage at key intersections in the CRD.</p> <p>Strategy D: Evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of a shared parking agreement in key parking areas.</p>	<p>MD SHA; Baltimore County Department of Public Works; Baltimore County revenue Authority; Business Owners; Community Groups; Baltimore County Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee;</p>

Housing

(Housing strengths and weaknesses can include affordability, homeownership vs rental, housing stock diversity, housing condition and value, housing programs, foreclosures, residential vacancies, property values, home sale values)

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacancy rate has fallen over the past 5 years • Well established communities • Reasonably well connected neighborhoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the median home value has decreased over the last 5 years, homeownership affordability still remains high within the SC area • Too many group homes and subsidized housing decreasing home values • Lack of senior and affordable housing stock

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p><u>Outcome 1</u>: Maintain and increase affordable and livable housing</p>	<p>Strategy A: Collaborate with housing counseling services to provide tools to current and prospective homeowners and provide classes regarding financial responsibility and financial literacy.</p> <p>Strategy B: Continue to promote county housing programs such as first time home buyers program, single-family rehabilitation loan program, closing cost programs, emergency repair grant program and foreclosure prevention. Collaborate with MD DHCD to take advantage of the various homeownership programs and loans offered.</p> <p>Strategy C: Increase homeownership in blighted communities by encouraging rehabilitation and reuse of vacant buildings. Assemble vacant properties along Liberty and Reisterstown Roads and work with community development corporations for redevelopment opportunity.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning; Private and non-profit organizations; MD DHCD; Community groups; Property owners; Community residents; Liberty Road Housing Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 2</u>: Promote and maintain a variety of housing choices to meet the needs of the population and encourage socioeconomic</p>	<p>Strategy A: Expand full spectrum housing for residents at diverse income levels and life stages and for individuals with disabilities by encouraging high quality mixed income, multigenerational developments. Promote</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning;</p>

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<p>diversity while remaining compatible with the character of the area</p>	<p>Housing Accessibility Modification programs to make housing more accessible.</p> <p>Strategy B: Continue to implement smart growth policies by supporting mixed-use development and Traditional Neighborhood Development In the area.</p> <p>Strategy C: Explore areas where new residential units are possible and attract new residents to the CRD area. Foster new housing investment.</p>	<p>Private and non-profit organizations; MD DHCD; Developers; Community groups; Property owners; Community residents; Liberty Road Housing Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 3</u>: Address property maintenance issues to maintain and improve the standards of communities in the area</p>	<p>Strategy A: Apply for community legacy and BRNI funding to revitalize older communities and offer home improvement assistance to preserve home values and neighborhood pride.</p> <p>Strategy B: Coordinate with Baltimore County Code Enforcement to address and enforce any code violations.</p> <p>Strategy C: Coordinate and schedule district-wide clean-up and beautification days with the community.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning; Baltimore County Code Enforcement; Community groups; Liberty Road Housing Committee; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee; Code Enforcement Improvement Work Group; DHCD</p>

Quality of Life

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

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SC area features a wide range of recreational opportunities that allow for convenient access to lifelong recreation, including sites, facilities and programs. Parks and school recreation centers feature facilities that cater to all ages, several police athletic league (PAL) recreation centers offer area youths access to both recreation and guidance, and multiple community, recreation and senior centers provide a wide range of indoor leisure activities • Shifting demographics is beginning to bring younger families into the Pikesville area • The Pikesville Library and Senior Center is a popular community hub and anchor for all ages and backgrounds • Rich history both in and around the commercial districts • Diverse social and cultural fabric, which is reflected in a variety of specialty businesses, cultural activities and places of worship • High historic assets with Fieldstone and Sudbrook Park historic districts • The Pikes Theater has reopened as a movie theater and is once again a local destination • Highly motivated community organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the area’s recreational infrastructure has fallen prey to effects of aging and time, with numerous parks and recreation sites in the area having been in place for fifty years or more • Still need to attract patrons into the commercial district • Pikesville Library and Senior Center is no longer sufficient for the amount of daily visitors. Parking can be an issue throughout the day • No real sense of place (identity) in the Pikesville and Liberty Road commercial districts • District lacks any significant marketing that would attract potential resident, businesses and investors. • Increase criminal activities • Traffic congestion • Randallstown lacks DRP area which can influence higher design guidelines for the area • Limited community events in the Pikesville CRD, such as parades and cultural arts festivals. • Little to no public art and gathering spaces • Landscaping is deficient in several areas within the CRDs

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Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p><u>Outcome 1:</u> Ensure that citizens of all ages have access to quality recreational and leisure opportunities.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Rehabilitate aging recreational infrastructure to ensure that parks and recreational facilities remain safe, functional and attractive community assets.</p> <p>Strategy B: Evaluate older parks and recreation sites and make necessary enhancements to address modern recreational demands.</p> <p>Strategy C: Provide additional police athletic league recreation centers in areas where merited.</p>	<p>Department of Recreation and Parks; Department of Aging; Baltimore County Police; Office of Property Management; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Reduce crime and make community safer</p>	<p>Strategy A: Identify target areas where criminal activities are concentrated and practice hot spot policing strategies by targeting police resources and activities to those places.</p> <p>Strategy B: Continue to increase traffic enforcement and foot patrols in the commercial areas, increase police diversity, and inclusion training to officers to build competencies as they provide public safety to a diverse community.</p> <p>Strategy C: Continue to develop and/or maintain Citizens On patrol programs. Continue to foster relationships between officers and local business owners. Increase coordination and information sharing with neighboring jurisdictions, state and federal partners.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Police; Business Owners; Police Athletic League; Community groups; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 3:</u> Address property maintenance issues</p>	<p>Strategy A: Re-assess county enforcement of code violations and develop a guideline for property maintenance best practices to be made available to all property owners and tenants.</p> <p>Strategy B: Form a committee to track, monitor and report violations to the County. Baltimore County Code Enforcement is a complaint driven department.</p> <p>Strategy C: Identify commercial properties with major code enforcement and maintenance issues. Work with property and business owners to address identified and enforceable issues. If required, escalate any unresolved issues to Code Enforcement.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Code Enforcement; Property Owners; Community groups; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee; Code Enforcement Improvement Work Group</p>

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	<p>Strategy C: Increase Code Enforcement staffing to improve resource allocation and response time.</p>	
<p><u>Outcome 4:</u> Create a sense of place for Liberty Road, Pikesville and Woodlawn CRDs</p>	<p>Strategy A: Identify locations within the CRDs where improvements would be most impactful. Update or install attractive gateway entrance signs along Liberty and Reisterstown Roads to provide strong community identities. Foster landscaping and tree planting projects.</p> <p>Strategy B: Identify locations where public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, and painted hardscapes) would be feasible and a benefit to the commercial districts.</p> <p>Strategy C: Apply for community legacy funding to increase the aesthetic visual quality of the CRDs with streetscape amenities, landscape improvement projects, and branding features to give each commercial district a unique identity.</p> <p>Strategy D: Explore creating design guidelines for the Liberty Road corridor to achieve the desired character of the area.</p> <p>Strategy E: Increase organizational capacity by Improving and enhancing the skills, processes and resources of current organizations in the area.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning; Community groups; MD DHCD; Consultant; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 5:</u> Evaluate the relocation of the Pikesville Senior Center and the redevelopment of the Pikesville Armory</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue to evaluate the community’s vision to relocate the Senior Center to a suitable building in the commercial core.</p> <p>Strategy B: Continue to support the adaptive reuse of the Pikesville Armory property. Coordinate with SHA to evaluate possible solutions to the Pikesville Armory site’s limited access and parking. Explore the possibility of completing a comprehensive fabric analysis, to include a Historic Structures Report.</p>	<p>Baltimore County; County Council; Community groups; State of Maryland; Consultants and developers</p>

Local Planning and Land Use

(Strengths and weaknesses in the local planning and land use subject area include but are not limited to zoning, land use, policies, taxes and fees, historical patterns of development, lot sizes and shapes, etc)

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong locational advantage being between the Baltimore Beltway and the City line Some property and business owners are beginning to improve their properties and take advantage of County revitalization programs Existing Commercial Revitalization Guidelines can be effective Several potential opportunity sites (redevelopment) have been identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reisterstown Road is no longer conducive to providing a “Main Street” environment With the exception of the Suburban Club Golf Course and Country Club, the Pikesville CRD is largely built-out Commercial Revitalization Guidelines are outdated and need to be revised Some property maintenance issues throughout the commercial district Aging streetscapes and building facades

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p><u>Outcome 1</u>: Encourage design quality of new proposed development and foster improvement of existing facades within the CRDs</p>	<p>Strategy A: Explore designating the core of Liberty Road corridor a commercial Design Review Area to help ensure high design standards.</p> <p>Strategy B: Update the current Pikesville design guidelines. Conduct a comprehensive review and updating of the design guidelines to provide appropriate and reasonable guidelines and implementation measures that will help ensure new development, signage, and building façade improvement have a positive visual impact.</p> <p>Strategy C: Continue to promote the exterior façade improvement programs and tax credits available within the Commercial revitalization District.</p> <p>Strategy D: Evaluate where design review area would be the most beneficial along the Liberty Rd corridor and apply for community legacy</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning; County Council; MD DHCD; Community groups; Developers; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>

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	<p>funding to hire a consultant to develop design guidelines for that section of the Liberty Road CRD.</p> <p>Strategy E: Develop community-driven plans for identified opportunity sites.</p>	
<p><u>Outcome 2:</u> Evaluate the effectiveness of the Commercial Revitalization District programs</p>	<p>Strategy A: Evaluate and where needed, update the County’s CRD revitalization programs.</p> <p>Strategy B: Develop a strategy to promote the County’s revitalization programs.</p> <p>Strategy C: Strengthen the financial incentives of the Building Improvement Loan Program for commercial properties by offering matching grants in addition to interest-free loans.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning; Department of Economic and Workforce Development; Baltimore County Economic Development Advisory Board; Liberty Road Business Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 3:</u> Incorporate improvement and beautification components in all future development proposal</p>	<p>Strategy A: Incorporating sidewalks and bike lanes in all future park projects located in the SC area to improve pedestrian experience.</p> <p>Strategy B: Require developers to install more elaborate landscaping, more attractive fencing, lighting and streetscapes to development proposal along Liberty and Reisterstown Roads.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning; County Council; Developers; Liberty Road “Clean, Safe and Green” Committee</p>
<p><u>Outcome 4:</u> Consider developing a roadmap for obtaining State designated districts</p>	<p>Strategy A: Evaluate the possibility of Randallstown and Pikesville obtaining the A&E designation and if feasible, develop a roadmap for obtaining the A&E designation.</p> <p>Strategy B: Evaluate the possibility of Pikesville obtaining the Maryland Main Street designation. If feasible, develop a roadmap for obtaining the Maryland Main Street designation.</p> <p>Strategy C: Evaluate the possibility of designating the Liberty Road corridor a Maryland Opportunity Zone.</p>	<p>Baltimore County Department of Planning; County Council; Community groups Maryland State Arts Council MD DHCD</p>

SIGNATURE LETTER

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

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

Pete Gutwald

Authorized Signature

Type Name and Title

Date