



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

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: Taneytown MD

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:**

*Taneytown, Maryland*

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**Name of Renewal Applicant:**

*City of Taneytown*

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**Applicant's Federal Identification Number:** *526000809*

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**Applicant's Street Address:** *17 E. Baltimore Street*

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**City:** *Taneytown*    **County:** *Carroll*    **State:** *MD*    **Zip Code:** *21787*

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**Phone Number:** *(410)751-1100*    **Fax Number:** *(410) 751-1608*    **Web Address:** *www.taneytown.org*

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**Sustainable Community Renewal Application Local Contact:**

**Name:** *Jim Wieprecht*    **Title:** *Director of Planning and Zoning /Code Enforcement Officer /Acting City Manager*

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**Address:** *17 E. Baltimore Street, Taneytown*    *MD 21787*

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**Phone Number:** *410 751 1100*    **Fax Number:** *410-751 1608*

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**E-mail Address:** *jawieprecht@taneytown.org*

**Other Sustainable Community Contacts:**

**Name:** *Nancy B. McCormick*  
*Coordinator*

**Title:** *Economic Development*

**Address:**  
*Street, TMD 21787*

*17 East Baltimore*

**Phone Number:** *410 751 1100 x 106*

**Fax Number:** *410 751 1608*

**E-mail Address:** *nbmccormick@taneytown.org*

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## **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? *YES – We'd like to address infrastructure issues related to Roberts Mill Road which is contiguous to the SC area. Including a segment of this road in the SC area may improve opportunity for grant funding to assist with elements of the planned project.*
- (2) Include the following in as an attachment (if requesting a modification to your current boundary):
- PDF or JPEG of modified Sustainable Communities boundary map,
  - GIS shapefiles of modified Sustainable Community boundary (mapped to the parcel boundary),
- (3) Approximate number of acres of entire SC Area: 295 acres: adjust if including Roberts Mill Rd
- (4) Existing federal, state or local designations:
- Main Street    Maple Street
- National Register Historic District    Local Historic District    Arts & Entertainment District
- State Enterprise Zone Special Taxing District    BRAC    State Designated TOD
- Other(s): Community Legacy   Heart of the Civil War Heritage   Target Investment Zone  
Local 2011 Revitalization Zone District
- (5) Describe the SC Area's current demographic trends (with respect to age, race, household size, household income, educational attainment, number of housing units, or other relevant factors). How have demographics changed in the last five years?

### **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?

*One additional member, a newly elected City Council member, Dan Haines has joined the SC workgroup. The SC workgroup was challenged since the initial SC application and designation by a difficult political climate. During 2015-2019 term, The City addressed a number of policy and strategic initiative related to campaign finance, ethics, codes of conduct and overall financial stability as related to subsidizing the City's water and sewerage system expenses versus the current practice of ensuring the*

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

*rate structure covered operating expenses. This political climate made elevating other policy or action items to the levels necessary for implementation difficult.*

- (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 did put forth reasonable suggestions towards implementing SC actions items, however, none were assigned to the department heads for implementation due primarily to the above-mentioned issues. The idea of 'preferential treatment' to the SC area proved a hurdle the group could not clear with City management during the period.*

- (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?

*An online survey was conducted in the spring of 2019. Social media (The City's Facebook page and Twitter account) was used to promote the survey. The SC plan is based on the City's Comprehensive Plan as well as basic Main Street Objectives.*

- (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.

*The City lacks adequate resources to track demographic and statistical information and has no GIS capacity. Assistance in these areas regarding the tracking of measurable outcomes such as retaining more spending dollars locally, growing home ownership in the SC area, and the impact of incentives to improve property within the SC area on assessed property values both for specifically improved properties and the SC area overall would be helpful.*

DRAFT

# **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT**

## **PART I: QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT**

### **Purpose:**

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

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

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

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

#### *Example – Accomplishment 1*

*Outcome: Improved stormwater management*

#### *Projects:*

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

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

#### *Partners:*

*Chesapeake Bay Trust – provided technical assistance*

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

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

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

**Accomplishment 1:**

Outcome: Improve water quality

Projects: Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) upgrade. The City's WWTP has been updated to meet enhanced nutrient reduction (ENR) standards. The project, referenced in the City's 2013 SC plan, was completed in 2016. While the more stringent nutrient limits have not provided the hoped-for capacity increases due to the need for longer batch processing than anticipated to meet standards

Partners: Maryland Department of the Environment,

Impact: . Effluent nutrient levels have been reduced at a per gallon level.

**Accomplishment 2:**

Outcome: Reduce energy consumption

Projects: Retrofit City buildings with high efficiency heating and cooling equipment. The City has continued to benefit from MD Energy Administration (MEA) funding to continue efforts to upgrade Heating Ventilation and Cooling equipment at City buildings. MEA funding has also enabled the City to upgrade streetlights to LED heads. The City had reached a point where all City owned Streetlights had been converted to LEDs early in 2019, however since that point the City has accepted infrastructure from a residential community that included non-LED streetlighting. The City has replaced fluorescent and incandescent lighting with LED lighting with work at the City Annex and Police Station and is currently pursuing similar upgrades for the main City Office. These LED upgrades are initially funded by the City but are largely made possible through a substantial rebate program from Potomac Edison Power Company (aka First Energy).

Partners: Potomac Edison Power Company, Maryland Energy Administration

Impact: Reduction of energy usage at City buildings and for other City infrastructure

**Accomplishment 3:**

Outcome: Access to green space / parks

Projects: Bollinger Park Development. Since the initial SC plan, the City has annexed over 100 acres of park land to the City. Currently, while the park has modest opportunity for walking or hiking, a concept plan has been developed and approved by the City's Planning Commission. A preliminary plan is in the design stage. The current and FY2020 budgets fund the initial phase of park development which will include a small parking area, requisite storm water management, and multipurpose trails. A grant award of \$150,000 from the Community Parks and Playgrounds, currently pending approval by the State's Board of Public Works will help this project move forward.

Partners: Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Impact: Additional recreation opportunities

**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: **Antrim Boulevard By Pass**

Narrative: Negotiations regarding rights of way for the planned road are initiated as opportunities arise, however this project is a huge undertaking for small a municipality like Taneytown. Currently, negotiations are ongoing for 4.4 acres of a property along the proposed alignment proximate to the intersection of Antrim Blvd and Trevanion Road; where the alignment is most likely to remain as proposed. This is only one of approximately 9 properties through which the road may pass.

Outcome: **Housing**

Narrative: While a special exception was granted in January of 2019 for an income limited residential rental community in the SC area, construction has not yet begun. A concept plan has been approved by the City's Planning Commission, and the City is awaiting a preliminary plan.

**Outcome: Pay As You Throw Program**

Narrative: Efforts to negotiate with haulers for a pay as you throw program (PAYT) were not begun early enough, leaving the City in a position to continue with the current practice of collecting solid waste which is completely City funded. While Carroll County and the Town of New Windsor developed a pilot PAYT program, comments on the topic during the recent Taneytown municipal election campaign season indicate little support to pursue such a program. A hybrid solid waste program incorporating a base level of service with PAYT component for larger volumes of waste may be considered in the future.

# **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.



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<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>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?</b>
1. Has there been an improvement in water quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Waste Water Treatment Plant upgraded to Enhanced Nutrient Removal
2. Has the amount of impervious surface in your Community been reduced? (Amount in SF)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		A Green Streets Green Jobs Green Towns (G3) grant application was considered to remove a lane of pavement along a section of Trevanion Road, however staff was not able to dedicate the necessary time to the project prior to submittal deadlines. The City hopes to partner with Taneytown Elementary school in the future to develop a maintenance agreement for the area. currently paved, which would be converted to turf (due to underlying infrastructure) and revisit this project in the future.
3. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your park and/ or recreational green space?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			The City purchased 40 acres of land adjacent to the City's Bollinger Park in 2014 for expanding that park's potential. Bollinger Park now encompasses over 110 acres and was annexed into the City in 2016. A concept plan to develop access and parking plus recreational trails has been approved. In 2019 the City purchased 26 acres of farmland on Stumptown road for future development as a park. These parks are not within the SC area but will provide access to recreational space for all City residents and visitors.
4. Did the Sustainable Community implement any recycling or waste reduction programs?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Public works staff was not directed or authorized to pursue a pay as you throw program, so existing curbside recycling efforts are ongoing.
5. Do all residents have access to healthy food options (i.e. fresh food grocery stores, farmers markets etc.) within the Sustainable Community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Both of our food stores ( Food Lion and local grocery- Kennies Market) promote healthy eating by supporting local growers along with promoting dietary products. Our local Farmers Market vendors do NOT use pesticides and are under Maryland and Federal growing standards. To be able to provide to a moderate to low--income group, the Market accepts CCFS and FMNP payments.
<b>OTHER:</b>				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<b>ECONOMY</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>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?</b>
1. Has there been an increase in the number of new businesses in your Main Street/ Commercial District?	X			Main Street downtown - Five new businesses (5) have located in our downtown due to aggressive marketing program. 1) Historical B&B - Floral Shop-Large Pottery and Art Craft Shop - Herbs, Oils, Natural products, Coffee Shop Two prime located buildings are for sale and one has a serious contender.
2. Did the Municipality/ Sustainable Community area receive any designations that support local economic development?	X			Community Legacy designation (offers approved MHT Façade grants) along with our local Downtown Tax credit program that offers incentive. Our local Main Street offers a one-time consultant for new business locating in downtown. The City's Main Street program continues to maintain its status as a National Main Street.
3. Has there been an increase in foot traffic in the Main Street/commercial district?	X			Yes - although bad weather has made it difficult to generate a lot of foot traffic. With the new business, they have brought new people to downtown. Committee is working on heavy marketing to draw more interest in our shops.
4. Have the number of commercial vacancies decreased?	X			As of July 2019, there are only two vacant storefronts available, two are in buildings that are for sale.
5. Has there been an increase in local jobs within the Sustainable Community for its residents?	X			Business owners are asked to hire part-time and full time local, as much as possible. They are also encouraged to use local or County vendors as much as possible. Yes, there is an increase in jobs. Our largest employer, EVAPCO added an additional 176,000 sq. ft and have already employed around 42 full-time skilled and professional jobs. Master Works, machining shop, has hired 6 new full time and our other large employer FLOWSERVE is also looking for skilled tradesmen. Maryland Compassionate Care and Wellness, a medical cannabis growing and processing facility in the City has held multiple job fairs locally to recruit additional employees for an ongoing expansion. Both Evapco and MD. Compassionate Care are within walking distance of the SC area.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<b>OTHER:</b>				We are in need of skilled trades and hopefully Carroll County will be adding more skilled trade shops in schools by 2020 so Taneytown’s manufacturing companies can hire more local residents.
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<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>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?</b>
1. Has the amount of bike trails/paths increased? How many linear feet do the trails cover?		x		The City has coordinated with the Carroll County Planning Department on a County-wide Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan. This plan provides a first step towards developing trail projects. Due to the aforementioned focus on Ethics, campaign finance etc., efforts like bike trails were not elevated to the needed level for action.
2. Have there been improvements to the public transit infrastructure?		X		The City relies on the County’s paratransit system, Carroll Transit. Carroll Transit has completed pilot programs to expand hours of operation, but the pilot demonstrated that ridership was not adequate to support the hours. Routes are periodically revised; however, frequency and overall circulation remains limited.
3. Has there been an increase in sidewalks? (Amount in linear feet)	x			While most additional sidewalks have been constructed elsewhere in the City as new homes are constructed, within the SC area some new sidewalk has been constructed concurrent with infill development.
4. Have there been any roadway improvements that support “Complete” or “Green” streets?		x		The City has suffered from reduced highway user revenue as have all municipalities, so, while those funds have been largely restored, Taneytown is faced with a backlog of paving projects and the focus

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

5. Has traffic congestion along major roads decreased? (Amount in percent)		X		Major Roads through Taneytown are State Roads, and traffic counts continue to grow. The City lacks alternate routes for 'through traffic' generated from beyond City limits and the intersection of MD140 and MD194 remains congested during peak hours.
<b>OTHER:</b>				
<b>HOUSING</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>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?</b>
1. Have any residential facades been improved?	X			Four residential properties have benefitted from façade grants reviewed by MHT. The qualifying expenses exceeded \$28,000, with grants reimbursing owners a total of \$14,219.22. The City does not have data on the prior assessed value of all of the improved properties.
2. Has the home ownership rate increased?	X			<b>PENDING STATISTICAL ASSISTANCE FROM MD DATA CENTER/MDP</b>
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			A new group home has been constructed in the SC area. A 36 dwelling affordable housing development in the SC area has received the needed special exception for the dwelling types proposed and has also received concept site plan approval. The City lacks a housing department, so while policies can be enacted to promote development of housing in the SC area, residential construction remains a private venture.
4. Has there been demolition of blighted properties?		X		There is a key building (Creamery) in the area of downtown, that has had numerous studies to save or demo. This building, according to MHT has significant historical presence and MHT will not allow a grant to demo and clear the property.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

5. Has the residential vacancy rate decreased?		X		The City does not own any residential properties and lacks a residential rental registration requirement or housing department to coordinate or track leasing efforts with landlords.
<b>OTHER:</b>				
<b>QUALITY OF LIFE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>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?</b>
1. Has there been a decrease in crime rate?	X			Yes, according to our stats and those of County. Taneytown was just awarded the designation of the Second Safest City in Maryland by SafeWise, and independent review site. The PD is working on creating a more visible presence in the community by connecting with the neighborhoods and
2. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your public spaces (i.e. museums, community centers, public plazas)?	X			Our Taneytown Senior Center expanded their parking area due to increase in programs and events. In Spring 2019, planning on creating a "Sense of Place" behind downtown fire company to hold smaller event to increase pedestrian traffic and sales was completed and an application for funding was submitted to the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Areas. Main Street is working on more "placement" area to be more attractive
3. Has there been an increase in public art/ arts & entertainment programs/venues (i.e. murals, movie theatre, music events)?	X			Taneytown Museum has hosted some outstanding exhibits. Taneytown hosts our Annual Wine Art and Music Fest in June in Memorial Park Main Street also hosted a new educational history contest and continued an annual tree lighting event where creative talents are showcased. We have a new pottery and arts center that is open 6 days a week and very popular with kids and adults - they are expanding their venues.
4. How many historic properties were renovated/improved?	X			Downtown Taneytown has 90% historic buildings in the core of downtown. In the past 5 years 80% of first floor commercial received façade grants and 40% were renovated. One historical home was 90% renovated (interior and exterior) into a B&B. Another historical building is being 50% renovated into a high-quality event center. Taneytown does encourage maintaining "historical character" of its residential and commercial buildings

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<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>Taneytown parks are known for their walking paths and work closely with Healthier for Carroll County programs to establish healthier children and adults. The Taneytown Senior Center also has yoga, Zumba and massage therapy for any adults in the community. Two 24-hour fitness centers are located in town also for residents We have 7 of the most attractive child friendly parks in Carroll County and we are also in the process of developing a nature park, the aforementioned Bollinger Park, that includes multipurpose trails and an astronomical observatory in a future phase of development. Free group fitness classes are available weekly for all fitness levels at Memorial Park.</p>
<p><b>OTHER:</b></p>				
<p><b>LAND USE/ LOCAL PLANNING</b></p>	<p><b>YES</b></p>	<p><b>NO</b></p>	<p><b>N/A</b></p>	<p><b>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?</b></p>
<p>1. Have there been any infill developments?</p>		<p>x</p>		<p>Infill has been limited to individual properties. An income limited housing development that will develop several vacant parcels is currently in the review process.</p>
<p>2. Has there been an increase in the amount of preserved/protected land?</p>		<p>x</p>		<p>Within the SC area, no development has occurred that includes forest conservation areas or dedicated open spaces. Property development remains market driven. The City does not have a land bank program or development authority that could act as a developer.</p>
<p>3. Have there been any developments hindered by growth constraints?</p>		<p>x</p>		<p>The City has adequate capacity for development within the SC area</p>
<p>4. Have there been any zoning or any policy changes that have fostered growth in your Sustainable Community?</p>		<p>x</p>		<p>While zoning code updates have been completed, resulting growth has been beyond the SC area, though an existing building in the SC area has been repurposed thanks to code revisions.</p>

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

5. Have there been any significant improvements to the municipal infrastructure within the Sustainable Community (i.e. street lighting, water/sewer lines)?	x			Streetlighting has been largely upgraded to LED technology, generally providing more adequate illumination of public walks.
<b>OTHER:</b>				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<b>COMPETITIVE FUNDING:</b> Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	<b>Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)</b>	<b>Amount Received</b>	<b>If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
<b>Community Legacy (CL):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Technical Assistance Program</b></li> <li>• <b>Beautification Program</b></li> <li>• <b>Heart of Civil War Heritage</b></li> </ul>	DHCD	\$80,000	Additional monies for marketing for Main Street and creating more arts and entertainment venues downtown. Create more connectivity for downtown to make pedestrian friendly More Wayfinding signage around town	
<b>Strategic Demolition Fund (SDF):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	DHCD	\$0	Applied for demolition of a derelict City owned property on Warehouse Alley, but did not qualify due to MHT decision that building had historic value	
<b>Community Safety &amp; Enhancement Program:</b>	MDOT	\$0	The aforementioned Creamery project could benefit from Community Safety & Enhancement funding	
<b>Maryland Bikeways Program:</b>	MDOT	\$0	Carroll County, with input from the eight Carroll municipalities has adopted a Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan. The City is optimistic that this plan will prove helpful in future funding applications, and planning and developing bike trail projects overall.	
<b>Sidewalk Retrofit Program:</b>	MDOT	\$0	None sought recently, however should funding be available through the program, the City intends to construct sidewalks to link Evapco and MD Compassionate Care and Wellness to the City's sidewalk network.	



Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<b>COMPETITIVE FUNDING:</b> Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	<b>Source</b> (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	<b>Amount Received</b>	<b>If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
<b>Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund:</b>	MDE	\$0	Sought funding for replacing water lines in Roberts Mill Road, applied in 2017 and 2018. The City was not awarded any funds Expanding SC area to include Roberts Mill Rd may improve our ranking in future applications.	
<b>Other Funding Programs:</b> <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, and Safe Routes to School, Maryland Rural Development Corporation, Maryland Energy Administration, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, etc.</i>				
*Please add more rows if necessary				
<b>MD Energy Administration</b>	MD MEA	\$150,798		HVAC upgrades, LED street lighting conversion projects

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<b>COMPETITIVE FUNDING:</b> Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	<b>Source</b> (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	<b>Amount Received</b>	<b>If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>

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

## Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

Funding to assist owners of commercial properties to complete ADA related renovations. While some programs such as MD and Federal tax credits are available to assist certain properties; costs to address accessibility in buildings of modest scale as typical of Taneytown's downtown even utilizing tax credit programs exceed the acceptable return on investment period for owners.

Funding to assist aesthetic aspects of utilities, such as removal of abandoned overhead power and communication lines would help our downtown's appearance.

Funding to assist building owners to utilize modern materials in projects that, while perhaps not preserving historic building fabric, would encourage owners to maintain the character of historic buildings.

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### **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.

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### 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

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Taneytown

Submitted by the City of Taneytown

6/10/2019

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## 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, storm water infrastructure/management, parks, trails and recreation, recycling, water and sewer capacity, etc.)

### Strengths

- Recent upgrades to wastewater management facility have reduced phosphorous/nitrogen in effluent.
- There are six municipal parks, two of which are within the SC area, Roth Avenue park and Memorial Park. Memorial Park is very active and the location of many community events.
  - Development of Bollinger Park will serve the needs of nearby residential developments.
- Potential to site an observatory at Bollinger Park in partnership with the Carroll County Astronomical Society.
- Curbside comingled recycling service is provided to residential properties by the City
- The City requires sidewalks be constructed as properties develop. This has resulted in an extensive sidewalk network throughout the City.
- The City's tree canopy was enhanced with a Streetscape project several years ago, and the City's Planning Commission continues to require trees when reviewing site and subdivision plans, at times to a greater extent than current County codes (as adopted by the City) require.

### Weaknesses

- An ongoing drainage issue occurs in the townhome community: the land is level and the red clay soil does not facilitate drainage.
- Illegal disposal occurs in particular neighborhoods
- There are gaps in the sidewalk network and some sidewalks are in poor condition
- regulatory requirements regarding maintenance of street trees can discourage property owners from properly maintaining trees due to expense of hiring tree care professionals. This discourages support to increase the City's tree canopy

### Desired Outcomes and Progress

#### Measures

Based on the strengths and weaknesses identify the strengths on which you would like to build and the challenges you would like to address.

What outcomes are you trying to achieve?

Where/ in what area do you want those changes to happen? →

Progress Measure: Identify how you will know that you have achieved your outcome.

#### Strategies and Action Items

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. →

#### Implementation Partners

Which community stakeholders need to be involved to realize each action step and strategy?

Name specific public and/or private sector partners.

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<p>Outcome 1: Improve existing park resources.</p> <p>Progress Measures: acres of improved park land</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue planning development of Bollinger Park and construct improvements such as walking trails and parking lots and other infrastructure required for all phases of the park’s development.</p> <p>Strategy B: Lobby Mayor and Council to approve a 6-year Capital Improvement Plan that includes development of currently undeveloped acreage at Memorial Park-</p> <p>Strategy C: Develop a park impact fee associated with new residential development to supplement the existing fee in lieu of open space revenue</p> <p>Strategy C: continue to seek funding beyond City sources including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carroll County MML Chapter POS funding rotation</li> <li>• MD-DNR Community Parks &amp; Playground Program</li> <li>• Develop a park impact fee in addition to the current fee in lieu of open space requirements</li> </ul>	<p>Carroll County Astronomical Society; Carroll County Department of Planning; Maryland Department of Natural Resources</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Reduce illegal disposal</p> <p>Progress Measures: Fewer instances of illegal disposal</p>	<p>Strategy A: Identify types of waste (e.g. appliances, construction materials) and the barriers to proper disposal.</p> <p>Strategy B: Address identified barriers to proper disposal, such as hold and promote clean-up events, bulk pickup, and spring cleaning.</p> <p>Strategy C: Identify and address barriers to illegal dumping enforcement.</p> <p>Strategy D; Incentivize owners of properties subject to dumping to develop measures to discourage dumping and complete more effective clean up when dumping does occur.</p>	
<p>Outcome 3: Increased greening of downtown</p> <p>Progress Measures: number of planters installed, number of trees planted (if feasible)</p>	<p>Strategy A: Investigate possible sites for pocket parks downtown.</p> <p>Strategy B: Install planters on public sidewalks.</p>	<p>Maryland Department of Natural Resources; Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development</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)



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<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial façade improvement program attracts both new and existing businesses.</li> <li>Most of the vacant buildings downtown have interiors which are able to be rehabilitated.</li> <li>Close proximity of EVAPCO has workers walk to downtown during their lunch break.</li> <li>Recent interest in long-vacant buildings.</li> <li>Sufficient amount and variety of lodging for tourists.</li> <li>Strong municipal investment and partnership with Main Street businesses (consulting after they sign a lease; advertising; a Main Street business organization; monthly business breakfasts).</li> <li>Education level of population is steadily increasing.</li> <li>High number of vehicular trips through commercial corridor and high visibility for many commercial spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many vacant buildings downtown due to a weaker market and to an extent the fact that some of these buildings do require rehabilitation.</li> <li>Businesses close early in the evening (5 or 6 p.m.) and may not be open all weekdays or Saturdays.</li> <li>While design standards do exist, they apply in limited circumstances and do not offer protection to historic building fabric.</li> <li>The City lacks standards and policy for building maintenance</li> <li>With residential rental units included in most commercial buildings, landlords are confronted with adhering to lead control / abatement needs which often prompts removal or encapsulation of historic building features as the most reasonable way to meet MDE standards with an acceptable return on investment. This promotes a climate in which historic building features noted in Taneytown’s National Register application have been lost or are at risk. As historic fabric is lessened, Taneytown loses some of its historic character, lessening the sense of place that is important to Main Street success.</li> <li>Downtown residential and commercial buildings need to be maintained better.</li> <li>Proximity to Westminster and other larger commercial centers.</li> </ul>

<u>Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures</u> →	<u>Strategies and Action Items</u> →	<u>Implementation Partners</u>
<p>Outcome 1: Promote downtown Taneytown as a destination and create a placement site within downtown.</p> <p>Progress Measures: decreased commercial vacancy rate, increased foot traffic on Main Street, longer commercial business tenure.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Design, construct, and place “Welcome to Taneytown” signage.</p> <p>Strategy B: Design and place parking directional signage.</p> <p>Strategy C: Design and place pedestrian-scale wayfinding signs for downtown to include parks, trails, parking, and existing Civil War markers/trails.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include display space on wayfinding signs for brochures like: historic walking tour map and create a brochure highlighting downtown businesses and their locations.</li> <li>Develop more robust walking tours, utilizing mobile technology</li> </ul> <p>Strategy D: Distribute business and historical walking tour brochures to bed and</p>	<p>Maryland State Highway Administration; downtown businesses; Maryland Heritage Areas; Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development</p>

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	<p>breakfast businesses and venues.</p> <p>Strategy E: Improve aesthetics of parking lots to raise its attractiveness for events like farmer’s markets. Develop additional off-street parking that is visible from the commercial corridor.</p> <p>Strategy F: Meet with Main Street Maryland staff at the Department of Housing and Community Development to ensure the city is taking full advantage of the resources and technical assistance under this designation.</p>	
<p>Outcome 2: Increase venue space</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increased number of commercial venues for weddings, conferences, etc.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Investigate opportunities and funding sources for the city to acquire, stabilize, and/or prepare vacant properties for occupancy in addition to the current commercial façade improvement program.</p> <p>Strategy B: Ensure lodging capacity develops in tandem with increased venue space.</p>	<p>Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; downtown business owners</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"> <li>• Large amounts of bike traffic on weekends.</li> <li>• Completed streetscape project on MD-140.</li> <li>• Local streets function at acceptable levels of service</li> <li>• Carroll County Bike and Pedestrian Master plan has provided a starting point for future trail development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public perception of a lack of parking.</li> <li>• Sidewalk gaps still exist.</li> <li>• Lack of a trail network connecting civic buildings, services and green spaces.</li> <li>• State roads congested at peak hours, intersection at MD 140 and MD 194 is projected to reach an inadequate level of service in the near future.</li> </ul>

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Improve infrastructure for bikers</p> <p>Progress Measures: number of bike racks installed</p>	<p>Strategy A: Install bike racks around downtown and in parks: bikers can't patronize downtown businesses without some place to store their bikes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bikeways Program – Maryland Department of Transportation</li> </ul> <p>Strategy B: Investigate feasibility of installing a self-service bike repair station somewhere in the city.</p> <p>Strategy C: Work with Carroll County Planning Department to implement recommendations for Taneytown from the soon-to-be finalized Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan.</p>	<p>Maryland Department of Transportation; Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Carroll County Planning Department</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Improve visibility and awareness of existing parking lots, develop additional downtown parking</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of parking spaces,</p>	<p>Strategy A: Design and place additional parking directional signage.</p> <p>Strategy B: Place sidewalks in parking lots which connect to downtown.</p>	

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signs installed, increased utilization of current lots		
Outcome 4: Increase connectivity to downtown  Progress Measures: linear feet of sidewalk installed or improved	Strategy A: Assess feasibility of a Main Street shuttle if construction of observatory at Bollinger Park moves forward. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Apply for funding resources from Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development in the form of operating grants for a feasibility study and/or capital grants for purchasing equipment.</li></ul> Strategy B: Continue to fill in sidewalk gaps leading to downtown, especially from the Red Barn venue site, as well as from the industrial park to downtown.	Maryland State Highway Administration
Outcome 5: increase trail options	Strategy A: Develop trails as planned in the Carroll County Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan as applicable to City owned properties Strategy B; Acquire properties or easements to improve the trail network and connectivity	Maryland DOT, DNR

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# Housing

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

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a local incentive program for residential façade improvement.</li> <li>• Mixed uses downtown (second-floor apartments on top of ground-floor commercial businesses).</li> <li>• Low rents and more affordable homeownership opportunities.</li> <li>• Significant real estate activity for houses selling under \$350,000.</li> <li>• Downtown residential vacancies tend to be few in number and short in duration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specifically, in the SC Area, housing supply is stagnant.</li> <li>• Not a lot of investments in rental properties by landlords.</li> <li>• Lack of low-income senior housing.</li> <li>• High rental rates (estimated 70%) in downtown housing supply.</li> </ul>

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Improve and maintain residential façade appearance and upkeep</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increased participation in residential façade program</p>	<p>Strategy A: Assess if the current residential façade improvement program is underutilized and if so, why. Implement identified improvements to reach more property owners.</p> <p>Strategy B: Encourage the redevelopment of tax-credit eligible historic properties in the City to improve the overall condition of Taneytown’s income-producing and residential properties.</p>	<p>Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Maryland Historic Trust</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Increase homeownership in downtown.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increased homeownership rate in the SCA.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Apply for funding to promote conversion of multifamily homes back into single family homes (example: Hagerstown).</p> <p>Strategy B: Promote and educate potential homeowners about loans or down payment assistance through state-funded programs such as the Maryland Mortgage Program.</p>	<p>Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Increase housing options for senior population</p>	<p>Strategy A: Support efforts to develop senior housing within infill areas</p> <p>Strategy B: Consider zoning code changes to provide greater opportunity to develop senior housing</p>	<p>Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Taneytown Planning Commission</p>

[Type text]



Progress Measure: number of new units		
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## Quality of Life

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

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Library puts on a lot of children/family programming.</li> <li>Housing prices make this an attractive place for first time homebuyers.</li> <li>Civil War Heritage Area brings tourists.</li> <li>A branch of the Carroll County Senior Center provides socialization opportunities and other services to seniors.</li> <li>Civic institutions and services remain in the core downtown area (police, fire, City Hall).</li> <li>Low crime rate makes the City attractive to new residents and provides a sense of safety to current residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of indoor activity space for youth sports during the winter.</li> <li>Seniors want to stay local for their healthcare needs, but there are limited healthcare providers in town to meet this demand.</li> <li>Municipal space at town hall and police station is growing cramped.</li> <li>Higher residential density portions of the SC area, specifically those including a concentration of lower income dwellings produce greater demand on City services and resources</li> </ul>

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures 	Strategies and Action Items 	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Provide for more indoor recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Construction of community center.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue to work with interested partners to renovate the creamery or utilize its site as an indoor recreational center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for funding of partial capital costs or predevelopment costs through Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.</li> </ul> <p>Strategy B: Link the community center to the rest of downtown with trails or walking paths.</p>	<p>Local nonprofits and civic organizations; Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Increase health options for all citizens.</p> <p>Progress Measures: increased number of medical professionals.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Work with Carroll County health providers to bring additional medical offices to Taneytown.</p> <p>Strategy B: Assess resources available at the state level for grant support to</p>	<p>Carroll County hospitals and clinics</p>

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	expand health options within the city.	
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## 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"> <li>Local zoning and development regulations promote walkable communities</li> <li>The City’s vision statement and mission categories emphasize preserving historical and architectural heritage with mission categories supporting developing the downtown core areas as a focal point for the City. The vision and mission categories are supported by the City’s comprehensive plan.</li> <li>Within the SC area, zoning regulations provide opportunity for different types of dwellings enabling development of housing for residents of all income levels.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Past zoning and development practices have created segregation of housing types, concentrating the most affordable dwellings in small pockets of the SC area.</li> <li>Some local regulations make adaptive reuse of buildings or utilization of upper floors of existing buildings difficult</li> </ul>

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Place and keep existing buildings in productive use</p> <p>Progress Measures: Passage of municipal zoning ordinances</p>	<p>Strategy A: Eliminate yard requirements for permitted residential uses for existing buildings in the Downtown Business District</p> <p>Strategy B: Develop adaptive reuse language for special exception uses of existing commercial and institutional buildings in residential districts.</p> <p>Strategy C:</p>	Internal partners
<p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Ensure parking for the Downtown Business District remains adequate without introducing pressure to demolish buildings in the revitalization district.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Passage of municipal zoning ordinances</p>	<p>Strategy A: update parking code exemptions for downtown buildings and clarify requirements where commercial building additions are proposed.</p>	Internal partners


[Type text]

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## SIGNATURE LETTER

On behalf of Harford County Government, I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for Edgewood Sustainable Community. 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 executor of the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.



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Authorized Signature

Barry Glassman, County Executive  
Type Name and Title

10/31/19  
Date