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
BOYD K. RUTHERFORD, Lt. Governor

KENNETH C. HOLT, Secretary
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.
## REGIONAL PROJECT MANAGERS

### REGION 1:
- Northwest Baltimore City
- Northwest Baltimore County

Larry Brown  
Program Officer  
Phone: 410-209-5819  
Email: larry.brownjr@maryland.gov

### REGION 2:
- Northeast Baltimore City
- Northeast Baltimore County

Garland Thomas  
Project Manager  
Phone: 410-209-5803  
Email: garland.thomas@maryland.gov

### REGION 3:
- Southeast Baltimore City
- Southeast Baltimore County
- Anne Arundel County

Olivia Ceccarelli-McGonigal  
Project Manager  
Phone: 410-209-5826  
Email: olivia.ceccarelli@maryland.gov

### REGION 4:
- Southwest Baltimore City
- Southwest Baltimore County
- Howard County

Nick Mayr  
Project Manager  
Phone: 410-209-5842  
Email: nicholas.mayr@maryland.gov

### REGION 5:
- Western Maryland
  - Allegany
  - Frederick
  - Garrett
  - Washington
  - Carroll

Sara Jackson  
Project Coordinator  
Phone: 410-209-5812  
Email: Sara.jackson@maryland.gov

### REGION 6:
- Washington DC Metropolitan
  - Prince George’s
  - Montgomery

Duane Felix  
Program Officer  
Phone: 410-209-5825  
Email: Duane.Felix@maryland.gov

### REGION 7:
- Upper Eastern Shore
  - Harford County
  - Caroline
  - Cecil
  - Kent
  - Queen Anne’s
  - Talbot

Ashlee Green  
Project Manager  
Phone: 410-209-5815  
Email: Ashlee.Green@maryland.gov

### REGION 8:
- Lower Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland
  - Southern Maryland
    - Calvert
    - Charles
    - St. Mary’s

Raynell Cooper  
Jr. Project Manager  
Phone: 410-209-5836  
Email: Raynell.cooper@maryland.gov
GENERAL INFORMATION - SC RENEWAL 2018

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. |
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.
Sustainable Communities Renewal Application

CHECKLIST AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPLICANT: City of Bowie

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: City of Bowie

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
Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section A

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Sustainable Community:

City of Bowie

Name of Renewal Applicant:

City of Bowie

Applicant's Federal Identification Number: 52-6019385

Applicant's Street Address: 15901 Excalibur Road

City: Bowie Count: Prince George's State: MD Zip Code: 20716

Phone Number: 301-809-3009 Fax Number: 301-809-2302 Web Address: www.cityofbowie.org

Sustainable Community Renewal Application Local Contact:

Name: Jesse Buggs Title: Director, Office of Grant Development & Administration

Address: 15901 Excalibur Road City: Bowie State: MD Zip Code: 20716

Phone Number: 301-809-3094 Fax Number: 301-809-2302 E-mail Address: jbuggs@cityofbowie.org

Other Sustainable Community Contacts:

Name: Kay Starr Title: Grant Writer, Office of Grant Development & Administration

Address: 15901 Excalibur Road City: Bowie State: MD Zip Code: 20716

Phone Number: 301-809-3009 Fax Number: 301-809-2302 E-mail Address: kstarr@cityofbowie.org
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? **No. Target Areas are still the focus of City residential and commercial growth potential.**

(2) 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),

(3) Approximate number of acres of entire SC Area: **11,520.00**

(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):

(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?

Due to displacement from Washington, DC and the desirability of quality of life that Bowie offers, the City of Bowie grew at a consistent rate over the past five years. According to US Census figures and the American Community Survey, the city of Bowie grew from 54,727 in 2010 to an estimated 58,290 in 2017, an increase of 6%, consistent with the previous decade of growth from 49,866 in 2000, an increase of 8%. Demographic shifts are also due to aging seniors in the City who are selling their homes to families.

The demographics of the City have shifted somewhat over that time. The share of the residents who are Black has increased from 48.7% in 2010 to 51.3%. The population of White residents has changed from 41.7% of the City’s population in 2010 to 38.4%, a continuation of earlier trends. The proportion of residents identifying as Hispanic has increased slightly from 5.6% of the City in 2010 to 6.4% in 2016. The percentage of residents that are of Asian/Pacific Islander origin was larger the same, 4.2% in 2010 and 4.7% in 2016, with all other groups remaining nearly the same, from 5.7% in 2010 and 5.6% in 2016. The median age of City of Bowie residents for the 2013-2017 period is 41.4 years, with significant portion of the population, 78.2%, being over the age of 18. Bowie is a community made up largely of families with children and seniors, 17.3% of the population being over the age of 62.

The population of Bowie is largely affluent and well-educated. The median household income over the period of 2013-2017 is estimated at $108,637, and 95.8% of Bowie residents have a high school degree or higher education.
There has been a slight uptick in the number of housing units available in Bowie since 2013, when there were 20,352 units. In 2017, there were 21,330 units. The City anticipates several new developments coming on to the market in the coming years to keep up with housing demand. The vast majority of Bowie homes, 16,928 are owner-occupied, while 3,571 are rental units. These numbers are comparable with the owner-occupied (16,678) and rental (2,788) units in 2013, and the vacancy rate is slightly lower, from 4.4% in 2013 to only about 3.9% in 2017.

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 Workgroup remains City Departments and Committees. Other parties are consulted as needed.

(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 strengths are daily working relations to achieve municipal goals for all residents. Challenges are associated with specific types of resources to meet major development needs within specific communities. The SC workgroup is particularly good with responding to the needs of the public. Staff often meet with community groups regarding neighborhood concerns and the concerns of the City Council in regards to their constituents. Cross-jurisdictional training classes have taken place for code enforcement, emergency management, fair housing and economic development to name a few. Staff regularly attend meetings with the Prince George's County and State government for a variety of issues that impact our local government. In addition, the City has just completed a series of "Listening Sessions" to allow for citizen input in the decision making process. However, the lack of zoning authority and educational decision making still is an area that continually challenges Bowie City Government.

(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 "Plan" is based on the Consolidated Planning process (several public outreach meetings in the past four months), economic development plans, environmental plans, senior staff retreats, and on-going input from City committees.

(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. Not at this time.
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: Bowie Main Street: Redevelopment of Market Place Shopping Center**

**Outcome:** Approximately 20 acres commonly known as the Bowie Marketplace Shopping Center ("Marketplace") was developed with a mixture of retail use buildings comprising approximately 239,925 square feet.

**Projects:** Site acquisition, site demolition, and site redevelopment by a private firm on the busiest commercial corridor in the residential community of the City.

**Partners:** City of Bowie ($700,000 demolition contribution)

**Impact:** Revitalized the mostly empty Marketplace Shopping Center site, which generated estimated revenues to the City - real property tax of $24,000 per year ($6 million value at $0.40 = $24,000) and business property tax of maybe $3,000 per year (the exact value is difficult to extract from tax records in 2014), to a new center with modern amenities and retail businesses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accomplishment 2: Old Town Bowie; Completed Trail Projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome:</strong> Completed the Bowie Heritage Trail system in Old Town Bowie</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Projects:**
1. Bowie Heritage Trail, Phase One - Completed construction of 950 linear feet of 10-foot wide, shared use asphalt trail between 12th Street and 10th Street, including an underpass of the MD 564 bridge over Amtrak (construction start February 2018)
3. Adnell Woods Connector Trail - Completed construction of 165 linear feet of eight foot wide trail along the Myrtle Avenue right-of-way, connecting two neighborhoods (2014)

**Partners:** State Highway Administration, Maryland Historical Trust, Department of Natural Resources, Adnell Woods Homeowners Association

**Impact:** Increased trail inventory by 1,115 linear feet; added a new grade-separated crossing of MD 564 for pedestrians; increased amount of public green space by 34,551 square feet; added a new heritage education facility; added a new community playground to Old Town Bowie; expanded City park inventory. Intangible: improved economic development, pedestrian safety, heritage tourism.
Accomplishment 3: All SC Approved Target Areas; Senior Citizen Housing Rehab

Outcome: Single-family rehabilitation of 84 homes occupied by senior citizens. Produced substantial reductions in utility bills leading to increased disposable income for food and other needs. Also provided greater comfort and increased the ability to age-in-place more independently.


Partners: MD DHCD Community Legacy Program, US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CDBG Program.

Impact: Produced substantial reductions in utility bills leading to increased disposable income for food and other needs. Al

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: Revitalization of Old Town Bowie/Huntington Community

Narrative: Old Town Bowie/Huntington is the section of the City where the original inhabitants lived in the 1870s. The once popular railroad junction evolved over the years as a regional center for antique rehab shops and sales/bartering gatherings. Today, only a few shops/buildings exist and the commercial sector has significantly diminished. A new restaurant opened a few years ago (Old Town Bowe Grill) and is thriving as the only restaurant in the community with modern amenities and a liquor license. The City continues to work with current property owners and attempts to attract new business to the area.

One encouraging activity was the completion of a new extension on the Knights of St. John Hall on 121 h Street in 2017. This building is owned by African Americans and is the oldest building in the OTB/Huntington community. The Knights of St. John built it over 100 years ago by members of the Ascension Catholic Church when they decided to no longer tolerated being seated in the back of the church and not be allowed to hold their social events there.

In 2018, the City of Bowie commissioned a study by the Urban Land Institute to recommend configurations for redevelopment of a 6.67-acre site in Olde Towne Bowie to include a mix of market rate and affordable housing, as well as some green space and retail.
 Outcome: Revitalization of West Bowie Village

Narrative: This community was isolated from a major part of the City's vehicular traffic flow due to an extensive realignment of MD RT. 450. The commercial strip suffered a great economic downturn that has been hard to overcome. The shopping center and other small stores have not been able to attract the consumer base needed to make the area a vibrant one. The City continues to work on revitalization strategies to upgrade the shopping center and attract new stores for the community.
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.
### ENVIRONMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUESTION</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>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?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Has there been an improvement in water quality?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A new chlorination system was installed. The new system eliminates all pressurized chlorine gas lines. All gas lines are now in a vacuum resulting in significantly improved safety.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Has the amount of impervious surface in your Community been reduced? (Amount in SF)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>The target areas are built up. However, plans are underway for redevelopment like South Lake and Melford in upcoming years, which will encourage the incorporation of green space and limitations on impervious surface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Have there been improvements and/or additions to your park and/or recreational green space?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The City added new playground at Allen Pond Park. New amenities and upgrades were added to the dog park. Upgrades were made to the City trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Did the Sustainable Community implement any recycling or waste reduction programs?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The City implemented a new city-wide program that included new recycling bins and stopped the collection of plastic bags and film recycling to streamline the recycling process and prevent contamination. The new bins resulted from a federal grant funded program to provide the initial bins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Do all residents have access to healthy food options (i.e. fresh food grocery stores, farmers markets etc.) within the Sustainable Community?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The City has four major supermarket chains and one organic food market. The city funded food pantry also provides fresh produce to low income residents and grows vegetables that it distributes. The farmers market also provides residents with fresh healthy food options.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The City completed the Sustainability Plan in 2016 in conjunction with the Maryland -- National Capital Park and Planning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECONOMY</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>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?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 1. Has there been an increase in the number of new businesses in your Main Street/Commercial District? | X   |    |     | • Harris Teeter  
• Crescent Beer & Wine  
• Luxury Nail Spa  
• Chipotle  
• Firehouse Subs  
• Quickway Hibachi  
• Tropical Café  
• Salantra Select Suites  
• Petco  
• MOD Pizza  
• Dentist  
• Next Day Blinds  
• Great Clips  
• Chick Fil-A  
• Patient First  
• Auto Zone  
• Dryclean Depot |
| 2. Did the Municipality/Sustainable Community area receive any designations that support local economic development? | X   |    |     | The City received Sustainable Maryland Certified in 2013, and has since renewed the designation, in addition to receiving Sustainable Maryland's Sustainability Champion Award in 2016. |
| 3. Has there been an increase in foot traffic in the Main Street/commercial district? | X   |    |     | The Market Place retail development project has increased the amount of foot traffic in the Main Street corridor on route 450. In addition, the Bowie Police Department safety measures and improved lighting have facilitated greater foot traffic. |
| 4. Have the number of commercial vacancies decreased? | X   |    |     | The retail vacancy percentage rate dropped from 3.5% to 2.7% over LY, and the office space vacancy percentage dropped from 16.2% to 14.9% over LY. |
### Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

5. Has there been an increase in local jobs within the Sustainable Community for its residents?  
   **X**  
   In 2016 there were 31,085 employees in the city. Between 2015 to 2016 there was a 1.35% increase in the total number of employees. Since this period, the city’s retail and office vacancy has declined and new jobs were created through new businesses and the development of Bowie Main Street.

**OTHER:**

- **New Bowie Market Place Shopping Center**
  The new Bowie Market Place on Route 450 resulted from the City investing $700,000 in general fund dollars for demolition of the old shopping center. The result was the development of a new shopping center with a current assessed value of over ten (10) million dollars.

### TRANSPORTATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>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?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Has the amount of bike trails/paths increased? How many linear feet do the trails cover?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bowie has several trail improvement projects planned, in process, or completed. The Bowie Heritage Trail project in Old Town Bowie broke ground in Spring 2018 is nearly complete. The city plans to continue work on the Heritage Trail in 2020. The city completed retrofitting the MD 564 sidewalk in the summer of 2016. A new 165 linear square feet eight foot wide hiker-biker trail connection on Myrtle Avenue between 3rd Street and Crutchfield Ave was completed in 2015. A concept plan was developed for upgrading of Race Track Road to include turn lanes and pedestrian facilities. M-NCPPC completed its WB&amp;A Spur Trail along the Patuxent River. Share the Road bicycle signage was installed and the MD State Highway Administration repaved the US 50/301 ramps and marked a bike lane on MD 3. The city is currently working on an updated Master Trails Plan with grants from DNR, MHT, and MHAA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Have there been improvements to the public transit infrastructure?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bowie has limited public transit; several Metrobus routes run through the community, loosely connecting to the Bowie State MARC Station and the New Carrollton Metro Station. The Bowie State MARC Station is the only mass-transit line adjacent to the city, and is accessible via Metrobus. There have been no major changes in public transit options in recent years despite ongoing negotiations with Prince George’s County and the State to expand transit service in the City. The City opposed elimination of the B27 Metrobus line serving Old Town Bowie and Bowie State University, and the service was retained.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

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3. Has there been an increase in sidewalks? (Amount in linear feet)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sidewalk retrofit improvements were installed on 9th Street in 2016. Altogether, 2,050 linear square feet of sidewalk were installed between Maple Avenue and 11th Street.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Have there been any roadway improvements that support “Complete” or “Green” streets?

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>A grant was obtained from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments’ Transportation Land Use Connections (TLC) Program for concept development and preliminary engineering of a new pedestrian underpass of MD 197 between Lemons Bridge Road and the MARC Station. Bowie Marketplace traffic improvements included adjusting signal timing at MD 450/Superior Lane and a new entrance improvement along MD 450.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5. Has traffic congestion along major roads decreased? (Amount in percent)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>MD 197 is under design for improvement to a multi-lane arterial road.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OTHER:

### HOUSING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Have any residential facades been improved?

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>There were no façade improvement projects in the City of Bowie. The city worked with the property owner of the Race Track to erect and ornamental fence to improve the appearance of the vacant property there.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Has the home ownership rate increased?

<p>| | | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>In 2012, there were 16,621 owner-occupied units of 19,406 total occupied housing units in the City of Bowie, thus 86% of units were owner-occupied. In 2017, there were 16,928 owner-occupied units of 20,499 total occupied units, or 83% homeownership rate. So the gross number of homeowners has increased, but there has also been an increase in occupied housing units, so the percentage of homeowners is slightly lower. (Date from the American Community Survey or ACS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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12
### Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Has there been an increase in the number of housing units in the Sustainable Community area? What number and/or percent are affordable?</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>Several new developments have been approved and/or are under site plan review. Dixon Crossing, a 57-unit single-family development was completed in 2015. At Bowie Marketplace, a detailed plan for 224 rental units was approved in 2017. Thrive Assisted Living Facility began construction, with 1,793 dwelling units planned, including 500 senior age-restricted units. A concept plan for up to 2,500 residential dwelling units was approved for Melford Village. The City also plans to annex the Melford development, which will include a minimum of 5% Affordable Dwelling Units (ADUs.) Harmony Place (aka the Bowen), a luxury rental apartment building with 286 units, was completed in 2014.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Has there been demolition of blighted properties?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Former Gardner home and another house on 9th Street were demolished, east of Chestnut Ave. The former Mullikin house was rehabilitated into a four unit rooming house on 11th Street. The old Bowie Marketplace Shopping Center was demolished and a new retail center built in its place, anchored by the Harris Teeter grocery store.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Has the residential vacancy rate decreased?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>There has been a reduction in vacant and abandoned houses from 907 to 831. Homeowner vacancy rate decreased from 1.6 in 2012 to 1.3 in 2017. The Rental vacancy rate changed from 10.8 in 2012 to 7.2 in 2017. (Data from ACS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OTHER:**

**QUALITY OF LIFE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>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?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Has there been a decrease in crime rate?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>According to the City Data.com – crime index, the City of Bowie crime index went from 108.3 in 2013 to 92.1 in 2016. (U.S. average = 256.8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2. Have there been improvements and/or additions to your public spaces (i.e. museums, community centers, public plazas)? | X | • Belair Mansion  
• Bowie Gymnasium  
• Bowie Golf Course  
• Bowie Heritage Trail  
• Bowie Senior Center  
• Kenhill Center  
• Radio & TV Museum  
• Genealogical Library |
### Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

| 3. Has there been an increase in public art/arts & entertainment programs/venues (i.e. murals, movie theatre, music events)? | X | • Bowie Summer Concert Series  
• Bowie Playhouse  
• Bowie Performing Arts Center  
• Bowie Town Center – Summer Concert Series  
• Allen Pond Park – Summer Festivals |
|---|---|---|
| 4. How many historic properties were renovated/improved? | X | • Belair Mansion  
• Belair Stables  
• Railroad Museum  
• Radio & TV Museum |
| 5. Are there any residential health and wellness opportunities in place (i.e. athletic facilities, recreational indoor/outdoor courses or groups)? | X | • Bowie Senior Center  
• Bowie Ice Arena  
• Bowie Gymnasium  
• Bowie Community Centers (North & South)  
• Allen Pond Park  
• White Marsh Park  
• Trails |

### OTHER:

**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? |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Have there been any infill developments?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Land within city limits is already mainly developed. As new developments are proposed, developers work with the city government to propose annexations, which are planned for the upcoming Melford development and other projects. In the period from 2012-2018, the city has executed seven annexations of territory that was previously unincorporated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Has there been an increase in the amount of preserved/protected land?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bowie already has a park network including playgrounds, forested land, ball fields, and ponds across the city.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Have there been any developments hindered by growth constraints?</th>
<th>X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Have there been any zoning or any policy changes that have fostered growth in your Sustainable Community?</strong></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Several parcels have been re-zoned for mixed-use development. Prince George’s County (PGC) granted a mixed use zoning text amendment for Bowie Marketplace in 2015. Rezoning application for Hilltop Plaza Shopping Center to the Mixed Use Transportation Oriented Zone, proposing 49 multi-family residential units continues on hold. Whitemarsh Park was rezoned and an application for the R-S (Residential Suburban) Comprehensive Design Zone was filed in 2017 proposing 440 single family attached and detached units. A rezoning application for three acres at the end of Woodcliff Road, seeking to change from residential to commercial zoning was denied by PGC in 2014. A Parking Departure application was approved to validate occupancy of a flex building on Woodcliff Court with a commercial recreational use (gym and laser tag.) An annexation agreement was revised to allow for an expanded list of uses in the flex space at Melford and further revised to permit any uses allowed under current zoning. This agreement provides for a minimum number of senior dwelling units at Melford village and requires minority business participation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Have there been any significant improvements to the municipal infrastructure within the Sustainable Community (i.e. street lighting, water/sewer lines)?</strong></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The City worked on a stormwater project to treat untreated stormwater runoff from a large drainage area south of MD 450, the Midwood Lane Stormwater Pond Reconstruction. Community services upgraded a stormwater management pond at the end of Woodcliff Road. The City planted 35 new trees on Yellowstone Place in 2015.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OTHER:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETITIVE FUNDING:</th>
<th>Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)</th>
<th>Amount Received</th>
<th>If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?</th>
<th>Other Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Legacy (CL):</td>
<td>DHCD</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic Demolition Fund (SDF):</td>
<td>DHCD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Safety &amp; Enhancement Program:</td>
<td>MDOT</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryland Bikeways Program:</td>
<td>MDOT</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sidewalk Retrofit Program:</td>
<td>MDOT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund:</td>
<td>MDE</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### COMPETITIVE FUNDING:

Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)</th>
<th>Amount Received</th>
<th>If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?</th>
<th>Other Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEDERAL HUD CDBG</td>
<td>$700,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SENIOR CENTER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATE BOND BILL</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WHITEMARSH PARK</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATE BOND BILL</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BELAIR MUSEUM &amp; STABLES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATE MHAA GRANTS</td>
<td>$10,950</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please add more rows if necessary*

Other Funding Programs: examples are U.S. HUD Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), or grants from USDA, EPA, Appalachian Regional Commission, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Heritage Areas Association, Preservation Maryland, Safe Routes to School, Maryland Rural Development Corporation, Maryland Energy Administration, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, etc.
COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Are there any types of projects/needs for which your Sustainable Community needs funding; however, there isn't a funding source?

NOT AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, AS THE CITY LOOKS AT DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS ATTRACTION/RECRUITMENT EFFORTS, SOFT COSTS AND OTHER INCENTIVES MAY BE NEEDED.
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.
## 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - The City has a wide array of parks and green spaces and a new chlorination system.  
- Bowie’s City Hall building is LEED certified.  
- City’s Green Team and Sustainability Planner guide sustainability initiatives in the City.  
- Bowie’s Farmer’s Market runs May-November annually.  
- Residents benefit from the City-wide recycling program, home improvement programs: compost bins, rain barrels, Single-Family Rehab Program, etc.  
- 2016 Sustainability Plan and 2015 Climate Action Plan can guide and monitor environmental practice in the City.  
- The City is Sustainable Maryland Certified. | - The City has few non-car transit options for bikers and walkers, reinforcing dependence on car travel. Trails do not provide connections to shopping/entertainment centers  
- Public transportation options are limited in the City.  
- Few Bowie residents work in the City, increasing greenhouse gas emissions.  
- Energy efficiency in city buildings and availability of park space could be improved.  
- Bowie is under threat of intense heat waves, local flooding due to rainfall, and wind damage due to climate change. |

### Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 1: Improve Bowie Trail System</th>
<th>Strategies and Action Items</th>
<th>Implementation Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Progress Measures: Master Trail Plan adopted, additional trail-routes added or improved, additional hiker-biker routes and bike lanes created | Strategy A: Complete Bowie Master Trails project  
Strategy B: Improve bike infrastructure with bike lanes and bike racks  
Strategy C: Brand Bowie trails with names and routes, create maps and brochures to encourage trail use | MD Parks & Planning, City of Bowie Planning Department, City of Bowie Green Team |
City of Bowie Sustainable Communities Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 2: Improve efficiency of city buildings</th>
<th>Strategy A: Install more efficient lighting and room occupancy sensors in city buildings</th>
<th>MEA, City of Bowie Public Works, City of Bowie Green Team, BGE Smart Energy Saver Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Progress Measures: City facilities fitted with improved efficiency items such as lightning, HVAC systems, etc.</td>
<td>Strategy B: Continue to improve efficiency of city facilities and vehicles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strategy C: Explore funding strategies for energy upgrades at municipal buildings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome 3: Increase participation in public environmental programs (Sustainability Plan: NW1.1, NW1.2, NW2.3, NW3.1, CT4.1, CT4.2, WA1.3, WA1.4, RC1.1, RC1.2)</td>
<td>Strategy A: Develop communications/education plan on greening initiatives and incentives for residential properties: tree planting, tree rebate, mulching mower rebate, UMD Extension Bay-Wise certification, water conservation strategies, recycling and composting programs</td>
<td>UMD Extension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City: Planning, Green Team, Environmental Advisory Committee, Finance, Office of the City Manager, Public Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Action 1: Continue citizen sustainability certification and award programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Action 2: Create City social media calendar to raise awareness of initiatives and environmental practices that coordinates with Green Bowie newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress Measures: reduction in invasive species, increase in tree canopy, incentives for property owners in place, participation in local initiatives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome 4: Collaborate with schools and other public space managers to incorporate greening strategies (Sustainability Plan: FW1.1, NW3.2, NW2.2, ED1.2, WA1.1, WA1.2, WA1.6, WA1.7, RC1.4)</td>
<td>Strategy A: Create priorities list of public greening projects, including locations for public community garden, certified Monarch stations, removal of invasive species, Green School projects, rain gardens &amp; barrels, pet waste stations, native plantings, and recycling bins.</td>
<td>Department of Planning and Economic Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M-NCPPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City: Community Services, Green Team, Parks and Grounds, Environmental Advisory Committee, Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bowie Lion’s Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress Measures: increased grant applications for green projects, increased rain barrels and gardens, replanting of native species, new community garden</td>
<td>Strategy B: Explore federal, state, and local funding sources to implement public greening projects according to priorities list</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowie has a strong residential property base that stabilizes its economy.</td>
<td>Few high-tech employers in the City has led to limited earning potential for residents and a large commuter population who leave the community during the day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proximity and road access to Washington DC, Metro stations, and employment centers eases access to employment for residents.</td>
<td>The City is limited by relatively homogeneous dining and upscale shopping options.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95.8% of Bowie residents have a high school degree or higher education.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the last 5 years, commercial vacancies dropped and 17 new businesses opened.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foot traffic on Route 450 has increased since Market Place retail development was completed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 1: Recruit more high-tech firms</th>
<th>Strategies and Action Items</th>
<th>Implementation Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Progress Measures: Number of Firms Contacted</td>
<td>Strategy A: Work with PGC EDC and similar entities (Region/State)</td>
<td>PGC EDC, MD DBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strategy B: Develop Strategic Plan to attract employers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 2: Support and maintain existing small business community in City (Sustainability Plan JB1.1, JB2.1, JB3.1, JB3.2, JB2.2)</th>
<th>Strategies and Action Items</th>
<th>Implementation Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Progress measures: year-over-year business retention, facade improvements, and increased green business practices | Strategy A: Develop incentives and/or education products to encourage green business practices that support the existing small business community  
Action 1: Organize two green business workshops or networking events per year with business owners, local environmental practice experts, grants professionals  
Action 2: Schedule in-person assessments with 10-15 businesses per year to identify ways to go green.  
Action 3: Promote Green Bowie Business Certification program | Bowie Business Innovation Center  
Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce  
City: Green Team, Economic Development, Planning |
| | Strategy B: Begin Buy Local campaign to support existing businesses.  
Action 1: Collect participating businesses in a round-table discussion to create marketing plan and products, and promotional discounts for customers  
Action 2: Include space for local businesses to sell wares/advertise at Bowie Farmers Market | |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 3: Support efforts to revitalize Old Town Bowie/Huntington and West Bowie Village</th>
<th>Strategy A: Assess stock of historic properties in Old Town Bowie appropriate for adaptive reuse, tourism potential, and retail/dining, with special attention to properties accessible to recently completed Bowie Heritage Trail System.</th>
<th>MHT, City: Planning, Economic Development Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategy B: Continue to support redevelopment and upgrade efforts at West Bowie Village shopping center.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome 4: Implement workforce training program for at-risk young adults per Consolidated Plan for CDBG</td>
<td>Strategy A: Develop a pilot for a workforce training program for young adults in the City to help gain life and job skills</td>
<td>City Department of Planning and Economic Development, Prince George's Workforce Services Corporation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Access to major state, county, and local highways connects residents to WMATA systems, Washington DC, and employment centers.</td>
<td>• Public transit within Bowie is very limited and residents must drive to employment, entertainment, and recreation destinations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The City has several trail improvement projects, in process, or completed, and is working on an updated Master Trails Plan.</td>
<td>• Heavy traffic congestion, especially near major regional arteries like Rte. 50 and MD 197.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Project for pedestrian underpass at MD 197 is underway to increase access to Bowie State MARC Station.</td>
<td>• Bike and pedestrian trail network is incomplete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Bus connections to Metro (New Carrollton Station) and MARC (Bowie State) are lacking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 1: Increase public transit options</th>
<th>Strategies and Action Items</th>
<th>Implementation Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Progress Measures: Meetings conducted</td>
<td>Strategy A: Work with PGC and WMATA to explore expanded transit options connecting to points outside the City.</td>
<td>Prince George’s County &amp; Maryland State governments, WMATA, public/private entities, Prince George’s TheBus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strategy B: Pursue local transit options (public/private) like a local circulator within Bowie.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 2: Continue expansion of bike/trail network</th>
<th>Strategies and Action Items</th>
<th>Implementation Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Progress Measures: Number of trails added</td>
<td>Strategy A: Seek federal/state funding for trail infrastructure projects in Old Town Bowie (Huntington Community), OTB business district, Bowie State, Melford Community, and Southlake Community to complement the existing trail system.</td>
<td>PGC and MD governments, associations and other funders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strategy B: Seek regional/nonprofit funding for above projects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Housing

**Strengths**
- Residential vacancies and foreclosures in Bowie are low.
- Local property values are increasing.
- New housing development(s) have been either planned or completed in Bowie totaling 4860 new units of housing, including 500 senior age-restricted units and a portion of affordable dwelling units in a new City annexation: Melford Village.
- 83% of homes are owner-occupied.

**Weaknesses**
- Little affordable and workforce housing in the City.
- 2,165 lower income homeowners are cost-burdened compared to 803 cost-burdened lower income renters in the City, which points to the need for rehabilitation and energy assistance for homeowners.
- Housing options for Bowie's growing senior population are limited.
- Housing affordability has become an issue: Between 2000 and 2013, the median income for City residents has increased by 2.2% after adjusting for inflation, while median contract rent increased by 20.7% and median home values increased by 41.8%.
- 1/3 of single households living below the poverty line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures</th>
<th>Strategies and Action Items</th>
<th>Implementation Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Outcome 1: Increase affordable housing options**  
Progress Measures: Number of commitments | Strategy A: Negotiate with developers  
Strategy B: Seek development funding assistance  
Strategy C: Support Single-Family, Owner-Occupied, Residential Housing Rehab program for seniors, people with disabilities, others per CDBG Consolidated Plan | PGC and MD DHCDs, banks, nonprofit developers, CDBG, City Senior Citizen “Green” Housing Rehabilitation Program, Prince George’s County Housing Authority |
| **Outcome 2: Increase affordable senior housing development**  
Progress Measures: Number of commitments | Strategy A: Explore senior housing/funding/financing programs for development and home renovations  
Strategy B: Prepare administrative capacity and resources for increased requests for assistance from seniors | PGC and MD DHCDs, PGC DSS, other social service support entities, organizations, and nonprofits |
| **Outcome 3: Conduct fair housing activities to support the availability of decent affordable housing per Consolidated Plan for CDBG and Bowie FY 2019 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development** | Strategy A: Assemble educational materials and outreach plans on fair housing topics including workshops on rights and responsibilities for residents, landlords, city staff, and other interested parties | HUD |
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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowie’s cultural and recreational assets include a gymnasium, golf course,</td>
<td>• Some public amenities like public art, benches and signage in public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowie Heritage Trail, Senior Center, Kenhill Center, the Genealogical</td>
<td>gathering places, are lacking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library, Bowie Playhouse, summer concerts, Performing Arts Center, Ice</td>
<td>• Awareness of safety and social programs like City Alert System and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arena, Community Centers, and parks and rails.</td>
<td>Neighbors Helping Neighbors could be improved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime index dropped from 108.3 to 92.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowie has a wealth of historic properties and museums that were recently</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>renovated or improved: Belair Mansion, Belair Stables, Railroad Museum,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio &amp; TV Museum.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures

**Outcome 1: Support existing quality of life programs**
Progress Measures: Low level of complaints and high level of satisfaction among participants

**Strategies and Action Items**
Strategy A: Continue to support local programs and initiatives including: Bowie Police Department programs (Junior COPS, Weekly Chat with the chief program, etc.), Environmental Committee programs (Residential Rain Barrel, Community Garden, etc.), the Department of Public Works (Recycling – all types, on-call streetlight replacement, etc.), Community Pantry, and Animal Control partnership with Bowie Citizens for Local Animal Welfare's on-site animal shelter at City Hall, Homeless Services and Assistance, and ongoing community engagement (Mayor/Council Community Listening Sessions, Cable tv notices and programs, ALERT Bowie, etc.)

Strategy B: Explore funding and opportunities for residents for programs listed in Strategy A where possible.

Strategy C: Develop training program for nonprofits in capacity building, grant research, grant management, collaboration, and board management.

**Implementation Partners**
Federal, state, and local funding community
City Environmental Committee
Bowie Police Department
City Department of Public Works
Bowie Citizens for Local Animal Welfare

**Outcome 2: Enhance quality of life for all.**
(Sustainability Plan: CT1.2, CT3.1, EC2.1, NW4.1, CC1.1, CC1.2, CT5.1, CT5.2, CT5.3, FW2.1)

**Strategies and Action Items**
Strategy A: Install more amenities in the public gathering spaces (interpretive signs, park benches, picnic tables, drinking fountains, etc.)
Action 1: Develop a priorities list for public space improvements and funding sources

**Implementation Partners**
City: Community Services, Planning, Parks and Grounds, Environmental Advisory Committee, Green Team,
City of Bowie Sustainable Communities Application

**Action 2: Expand the City’s Public Art Master Plan.**
Office of the City Manager, Diversity Committee

**Strategy B: Support development of a Community Solar Program for renters and low-income residents by organizing partnerships.**

**Strategy C: Increase participation and awareness of public programs in safety and social support like City Alert System, volunteer cleanups, quarterly roundtables to discuss community issues, diversity and cultural awareness gatherings and/or events, Neighbors Helping Neighbors program for seniors.**

**Action 1: Develop a targeted communications plan to promote programs and engage community**

**Action 2: Identify partners and events for educational programming, community gatherings**

**Strategy D: Create a City-sponsored wellness initiative by partnering with local organizations including family fitness, a 5K, and walking programs**

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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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Local planning and development review are supported and structured by both City and County Review Guidelines &amp; Policies.</td>
<td>• Zoning authority for Bowie rests with Prince George’s County, limiting the City’s flexibility for development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The City has strong environmental stewardship in place.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Historical suburban/bedroom culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recent re-zonings have created space for mixed-use development and more flexibility in land use.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Annexation of Melford Village is underway, which will allow for expanded uses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures**

**Strategies and Action Items**

**Implementation Partners**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome 1: Pursue zoning authority</th>
<th>Strategy A: Strategize with state and County legislators to pursue options to acquire zoning authority so that city officials can respond to and implement, the will of city residents' regarding land-use initiatives.</th>
<th>Bowie and PGC delegates to MD legislature, PGC Council Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Progress Measures: Meetings with State and local authorities, plus other advocates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sustainable Community Application 2017

Section D

Sustainable Communities Workgroup Roster

Jesse Buggs – Director, Grants Office, CDBG Programs, and Housing (Homebuyer Programs, Affordable Housing, Housing Rehab, Fair Housing) & Homeless Services

Joe Meinert – Planning Director (Planning, Sustainable Community Planning, Watershed Planning)

John Henry King – Economic Development Director

George Stephanos – Director, Public Works

H. Byron Matthews – Finance Director

Sally Hein – Community Services Director (Parks & Grounds, Animal Control, Code Compliance, Gymnasium, Museums & Historic Properties, Ice Arena, Senior Services, Public Buildings, Youth & Family Services)

John Nesky – Chief, Bowie Police Department

Dwayne Preston – Deputy Chief, Bowie Police Department

Lee Cornwell – Public Safety Manager

Steven Haley – Human Resources Director

Mati Bazurto – Business Operations Manager

Una Cooper – Communications Manager

Other Entities Consulted:

All City Committees:

1. Administrative Review Board Reviews and decides appeals after the issuance of a municipal infraction; also serves as the Board of Appeals to consider and decide on variance requests.

2. Advisory Planning Board Advises the City Council on matters in the area of residential, commercial, and industrial land uses and development; annexations; zoning changes; building codes; transportation; public services and facilities; and many other matters referred by the City Council.

3. Board of Elections
This board oversees the registration of voters, nominations for elected office and all city elections.

4. Arts Committee

The City's Arts Committee advises the City Council on matters related to the visual and performing arts.

5. Board of Personnel Appeals

Conducts a hearing, at the request of any employee, when he or she feels an unjust personnel action has been received.

6. Community Outreach Committee

Promotes community welfare matters relating to the needs and resources of the community.

7. Community Recreation Committee

Works for the continued coordination and improvement of recreational facilities in the city.

8. Diversity Committee

This committee advises City Council on matters relating to diversity.

9. Economic Development Committee

Provides advice to City Council on issues of economic and community development.

10. Education Committee

Studies and provides forums on issues or developments in education within public schools attended by residents of the city, provides recognition of student achievement and teacher excellence, advises the City Council on education matters, oversees private donations for high school students, and develops efforts to improve the educational advantages for resident high school students.

11. Environmental Advisory Committee

This committee was established in October 2007 to recommend policies and programs to the City Council relating to the environment, on such issues such as natural resource management, wildlife habitat protection, energy efficiency, watershed stewardship, pollution prevention, beautification, tree canopy preservation, and green policies.

12. Ethics Commission
Interprets the Ethics Article of the City Code; reviews Financial Disclosure Statements; issues of Advisory Opinions; oversees Lobbying Registration & Reporting; & addresses Ethics Complaints.

13. Financial Advisory Committee

Provides advice regarding accounting practices and principles, budgeting, grant administration, and financial reporting.

14. Green Team Executive Committee

The Bowie Green Team works with City staff to develop policies and plans and outreach programs to build a more sustainable community. 15. Information Technology Committee Serves as a forum for citizen input concerning information and technology issues and monitors legislative and technological trends on matters relating to the use and operation of the cable television system in the city.

16. Public Safety Committee

Examines public safety issues to determine how best to improve and enhance public safety in the city.

Other Groups:

Faith-based institutions
Nonprofit partners
County agencies
State agencies
Local healthcare providers
Local educational institutions
Regional planning entities (MWCOG, WMATA, etc.)
Local utility companies
SIGNATURE LETTER

On behalf of the City of Bowie, I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for the City of Bowie. 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.

[Signature]

Authorized Signature

Alfred D. Lott, City Manager

Type Name and Title

April 7, 2020

Date