

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Sustainable Community:

Town of Emmitsburg

Name of Renewal Applicant:

Town of Emmitsburg

Applicant's Federal Identification Number: 52-6077142

Applicant's Street Address: 300A So. Seton Avenue

City: Emmitsburg

County: Frederick

State: MD

Zip Code: 21727

Phone Number: 301-600-6300 Fax Number: 301-600-6313 Web Address: www.emmitsburgmd.gov

Sustainable Community Renewal Application Local Contact:

Name: Susan H. Cipperly, AICP

Title: Town Planner

Address: Town of Emmitsburg 300A S. Seton Ave City: Emmitsburg State: MD Zip Code:21727

Phone Number: 301-600-6300 Fax Number: 301-600-6313

E-mail Address: suecipperly@emmitsburgmd.gov

Other Sustainable Community Contacts:

Name: Cathy Willets

Title: Town Manager - Town of Emmitsburg

Address: 300A S. Seton Ave.

City: Emmitsburg State: MD

Zip Code: 21727

Phone Number: 301-600-6300 Fax Number: 301-600-6313 E-mail Address:

cwillets@emmitsburgmd.gov

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY – General Information

A. Please inform us if you want to propose any changes to the existing Sustainable Community Area(s)

- (1) Provide a description of SC Area boundary modification. How did you determine that these are the most appropriate boundaries for its target area? Describe the methodology for choosing this target area.

The original SC Area boundary was based on the National Register Historic District, with some extensions to geographic features such as bridges to make an identifiable boundary. The expansion of the SC area is geared toward including more properties along routes identified as gateways to Emmitsburg. This meant extending south on South Seton Avenue to the town boundary, and north on North Seton Avenue to include properties that front on North Seton prior to the Federal Ave. intersection. Community Park and Memorial Park in the central Emmitsburg area are now included so as to apply for facilities funding as appropriate.

- (2) If you are not requesting any changes to your boundary, explain why. NA

- (3) 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),

- (4) Approximate number of acres of entire SC Area: _____ 148.6 _____

- (5) 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): Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, Journey through Hallowed Ground, Priority Funding Area - entire town, Sustainable Maryland Certified

- (6) 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?

The designated SC Area continues to comprise the older, historic area of the town, with structures generally constructed between 1785 and the 1950's. Many of these properties have been passed down within families over several generations. There has not been much change in the demographics or increase in the population of the town since the 2010 census. The town in general tends to have a higher percentage of senior citizens and lower income residents than others in Frederick County. An excerpt from the Town of Emmitsburg 2015 Comprehensive Plan describing town demographics and housing characteristics is included as an attachment.

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 organizational structure of the Town of Emmitsburg has remained the same as in our original application. There are 5 elected Town Commissioners and a Mayor; and a Town Manager who heads the administrative wing of the town government.

The Sustainable Communities Workgroup membership has undergone some changes in the past five years, but has retained a core of steadfast members who enjoy the opportunity to work on behalf of the community in this way. Some of the members were recruited after they completed a Community Legacy grant project, and recognized the benefit of the program. The Workgroup members are:

- *John Howard - long-term town resident who lives outside of the SC Area*
- *Keith Suerdieck - retired architect who volunteered to create an Architectural Guidelines document for the town.
(John and Keith are members of the town Planning Commission, as well)*
- *Frank Schmersal - Archivist for the National Fire Heritage Center and long-term Main St. resident*
- *Elizabeth McIntyre-Danner -- Main Street resident and FY2013 Community Legacy grant recipient*
- *Deborah Fragale - Returned Emmitsburg native who helped with her mother's Community Legacy grant.*

- (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 has provided thoughtful recommendations during the recent renewal effort, relative to expansion of the Sustainable Area to include two of the town parks and additional areas considered to be along the gateways to Emmitsburg. The Workgroup has served as the local review entity for the Community Legacy Facade and Restoration grants, making recommendations regarding applications to forward to Maryland Historical Trust. The group has served well and with competence.

- (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?

A presentation regarding the renewal of the Sustainable Communities participation and the expansion of the Sustainable Area was made at the May 1, 2017 Town Meeting. The meeting was open to the public and broadcast via the local cable TV Channel 99.

The Town undertook a comprehensive plan update process during 2015, ending with an approved plan on November 16, 2015. The Comprehensive Plan followed the state-mandated Twelve Visions format, which emphasizes Sustainability. In Emmitsburg, our historic core and gateways to the community were described in the Community Design section, along with scenic views, byways, and local focal points. The importance of maintaining the historic core of the town was emphasized, and participation in the Community Legacy grant program was mentioned as a form of Stewardship for the community, as well. The 2015 Comprehensive Plan continued and expanded upon the goals of connectivity throughout the town, and promotion of healthy lifestyle opportunities. Inclusion of two town parks within the expanded Sustainable Area will help achieve that goal.

- (4) Would you like any technical assistance from State agencies to help expand the capacity of your SC Workgroup or implement your SC plan?

At this time, there are no specific items for which we need technical assistance. The Town will take advantage of State assistance in the future as needed.

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 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: Major improvement to historic buildings on Main Street and vicinity

Projects: The Town has been awarded \$50,000 of Community Legacy grant money each year, beginning with FY2013, to fund a facade and restoration program. This program involves a 50/50 private/state match, with a limit per property, per fiscal year, of \$12,500. During the course of the program, there have been 32 projects completed, with 2 more approved for FY2016 and 1 that will take us into FY2017 grant money.

Partners: The Town has provided administrative in-kind each year. DHCD had been the State partner, and individual property owners have provided private funds to accomplish this goal.

Impact: There have been major improvements to several properties on Main Street and N/S Seton Avenues, which has made not only a significant visual impact, but a psychological boost for those who live in the town. For those who travel through the town, the improvements have been noticeable, and broadcast that Emmitsburg is working on its goals of creating a more vibrant downtown area, as well as improvement in the adjacent areas. Both commercial and residential properties have benefited from the Community Legacy program. Before & After photos are included in the attachments to illustrate the vast improvement that has been accomplished.

In addition to the improvements that have occurred due to the grant program, there have been improvements to other properties that seem to be in response to the efforts to upgrade the streetscape.

Accomplishment 2:

Outcome: Revitalization of the Square and Main Street infrastructure, town-wide connectivity - ongoing

Projects:

Town undertook Concept/Design process with public participation to create concept plans for the Square (intersection of MD140 and Bus15) using MD Heritage Area Authority grant

SHA Contract No. FR1715184 Urban Reconstruction Program from Creamery Road to Timbermill Run provided engineering design and construction

Community Legacy Award CL-2017-Emmitsburg-00416 Town Square Revitalization

Multiple sidewalk projects undertaken by the town along town streets have enhanced connectivity with the town.

Partners: Town, MD State Highway, Dept. of Housing and Community Development, and some funding from MD Heritage Area Authority for materials not provided by the SHA funding.

Impact: When completed, this project will result in continuous sidewalks from Timbermill Run on the west side of Emmitsburg to Silo Hill/MD140 intersection -- which has been a major goal of the town. The Square will be greatly improved visually, ADA compliant, and will be more pedestrian-friendly than the current situation provides. This should create a more attractive business atmosphere, both for existing and potential new businesses. The goal of the Town to create a more vibrant downtown area will move toward being accomplished.

Accomplishment 3:

Outcome: Environmental Initiatives

Projects: Emmitsburg became a Sustainable Maryland Certified Community in 2015. Related projects include

- *solar installation to provide power to our new wastewater treatment plant, as well as all town streetlights*
- *establishment of a Green Team of community residents to suggest and undertake environmentally positive programs/projects.*
- *the town will be working with Dept. of Natural Resources toward becoming a Tree City USA, and will be looking into maintaining the health of our existing ash trees.*
- *installation of one of the country's first algae control systems on Rainbow Lake -- which serves as part of the town water supply*

Partners: MD Dept. of the Environment, Frederick County Sustainability Commission; Sustainable Maryland, University of Maryland

Impact: As a result of the various initiatives undertaken, Emmitsburg received a Maryland Green Registry Leadership Award for sustainable practices and continual improvements. An attached Frederick News Post article describes the variety of projects and savings of energy and money that have accrued from those efforts.

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: Housing

Narrative: One aspect of life in Emmitsburg that could be improved is the availability of good quality rental housing or work-force affordable housing to purchase. Some initial information about the existing situation is included in the 2015 Comprehensive Plan, and is based on the 2010 US Census. The fact that this has not been pursued as yet is a reflection only of the magnitude of the other projects that have been undertaken within the town versus the availability of staff and resources. It is still considered something to attempt to address in the future.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

Outcome:

Narrative:

Outcome:

Narrative:

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT

PART II: QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

The purpose of the quantitative 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). In your answer, be sure to only share the quantifiable changes that have occurred since your Sustainable Communities designation was approved. 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.

If there is an issue with which you would like assistance in addressing, please check “**interested in technical assistance**”. State agencies would like to provide assistance to communities in helping them achieve their goals identified in their Sustainable Community Action Plans.

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

ENVIRONMENT	YES	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years	NO	If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?	N/A	Interested in technical assistance
1. Has there been an improvement in water quality? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Algae control system will help water quality entering the water treatment plant. Too early to have numbers to provide.				
2. Has the amount of impervious surface in your Community been reduced? (Amount in SF) If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x	We will be meeting in July with MDE representatives for MS-4 assistance and in Fall 2017 will meet with other towns and MDE re new requirements		
3. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your park and/ or recreational green space? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Creating a new Dog Park Improvements re ADA access and equipment for playgrounds				
4. Did the Sustainable Community implement any recycling or waste reduction programs? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Sustainable Maryland has provided compost bins to town residents at a subsidized cost.				
5. Do all residents have access to healthy food options (i.e. fresh food grocery stores, farmers markets etc.) within the Sustainable Community? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Local grocery store with good selection. Town-run Farmers' Market in season is popular.				
OTHER:						

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

ECONOMY	YES	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years	NO	If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?	N/A	Interested in technical assistance
1. Has there been an increase in the number of new businesses in your Main Street/ Commercial District? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	One new-build retail store, which is the first in decades. New businesses replace old when space becomes available.				
2. Did the Municipality/ Sustainable Community area receive any designations that support local economic development? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x	We are already a Priority Funding Area - not a new designation.		
3. Has there been an increase in foot traffic in the Main Street/commercial district? If so, explain (1-2 sentences) – what contributed to the increase:				We anticipate more foot traffic when the streetscape revitalization is complete. We have some new businesses that will create some interest. No numbers right now.	x	
4. Have the number of commercial vacancies decreased? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	The number of vacancies does not vary much (usually 2 particular buildings).				
5. Has there been an increase in local jobs within the Sustainable Community for its residents? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Dollar General store opened in 2015.				
OTHER:						

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

TRANSPORTATION	YES	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years	NO	If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?	N/A	Interested in technical assistance
1. Has the amount of bike trails/paths increased? How many linear feet do the trails cover? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Town lands on College Mtn. now contain 13 miles of multi-use trails.				
2. Have there been improvements to the public transit infrastructure? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x	There are limited transit options available via Frederick County bus system.		
3. Has there been an increase in sidewalks? (Amount in linear feet) If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	\$70,000 spent on areas where there were gaps, \pm 2,000 feet.				
4. Have there been any roadway improvements that support "Complete" or "Green" streets? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Ongoing SHA projects as described in earlier section.				
5. Has traffic congestion along major roads decreased? (Amount in percent) If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x	Commuter traffic and SHA roadways. Not many alternatives.		
OTHER:						

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

HOUSING	YES	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years	NO	If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?	N/A	Interested in technical assistance
1. Have any residential facades been improved? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	28 residential or mixed-use structures have been improved via Community Legacy grants to date.				
2. Has the home ownership rate increased? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):				Don't have information on this topic.	x	
3. Has there been an increase in the number of housing units in the Sustainable Community area? What number and/or percent are affordable? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	43 Age-restricted low-income apartment units were installed in an existing building retrofit project.				
4. Has there been demolition of blighted properties? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x	None require it at this time.		
5. Has the residential vacancy rate decreased? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x	Not a known issue, except in foreclosure situations - single family homes.		
OTHER:						

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

QUALITY OF LIFE	YES	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years	NO	If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?	N/A	Interested in technical assistance
1. Has there been a decrease in crime rate? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x	No real change over the past five years.		
2. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your public spaces (i.e. museums, community centers, public plazas)? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Ongoing revitalization project for downtown area. Growth of Frederick County Fire Heritage Museum and installation of educational sprinkler system in museum.				
3. Has there been an increase in public art/ arts & entertainment programs/venues (i.e. murals, movie theatre, music events)? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Recent arrival of a professional magician to the town business scene will greatly enhance activity level. Shows, training, and a used book store combine to create a new excitement on Main St.		No local venue. Mount St. Mary's University or Gettysburg, PA offer this type of activity nearby.		
4. How many historic properties were renovated/improved? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	32 properties total. All but one were in the National Register Historic District.				
5. Are there any residential health and wellness opportunities in place (i.e. athletic facilities, recreational indoor/ outdoor courses or groups)? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	County gymnasium for organized sports, athletic facilities in parks, including trail loop with exercise stations in Community Park.				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

OTHER:						
LAND USE/LOCAL PLANNING	YES	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years	NO	If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?	N/A	Interested in technical assistance
1. Have there been any infill developments? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Dollar General retail store purchased and demolished existing eyesore/dump to construct new building.				
2. Has there been an increase in the amount of preserved/protected land? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):					x	
3. Have there been any developments hindered by growth constraints? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):			x		x	
4. Have there been any zoning or any policy changes that have fostered growth in your Sustainable Community? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):	x	Zoning change created small Neighborhood Commercial section, which is now occupied by a marketing firm, and potential for others.				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

<p>5. Have there been any significant improvements to the municipal infrastructure within the Sustainable Community (i.e. street lighting, water/sewer lines)? If so, explain (1-2 sentences):</p>	x	<p>All street light bulbs were changed to LED, ongoing sewer improvements to improve I/I amount.</p> <p>Leak detection specialist hired to examine water lines.</p> <p>Algae control system for Rainbow Lake reservoir.</p>				
OTHER:						
<p>COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.</p>	<p>Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)</p>	<p>Amount Received</p>	<p>If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?</p>	<p>Other Notes</p>		
<p>Funding Program: Community Legacy Facade and Restoration program</p>	State	\$50,000 per year FY2013 Thru FY2017				
<p>Funding Program: Community Legacy Street Revitalization project</p>	State	\$75,000 FY2017				
<p>Funding Program: MD Heritage Areas Authority - Square Revitalization</p>	State	\$30,415 (Town match 50%)				
<p>Funding Program: MDOT Bikeways grant</p>	State	\$10,000				

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B

Funding Program: MDE Energy Water Infrastructure Program Grant for \$221,907. For energy efficient pumps for pumping station.	State	\$221,907		
Funding Program:				
Funding Program:				

*Please add more rows if necessary

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 Quantitative 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

Name of Sustainable Community

Submitted by Town of Emmitsburg, MD

7/19/2017

Environment

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

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed property - over 1,000 forested acres to protect water supply, also contains thirteen miles of multi-use trails and fishing/hunting, for recreational opportunities Scott Road Farm - Land enrolled in CREP in 2009 for 15-year period. Green infrastructure - new Waste Water Treatment Plant meets higher standards, and is supplied electricity by solar field in old overland flow basin. LED street lights throughout the town-owned system are also powered by solar. Recycling via Frederick County program, yard waste collection to Frederick Parks - Approximately 63 acres of town-owned park land within town provide a variety of passive and active recreational opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being an older, dense, urban community, there is a significant impervious area without obvious ways to decrease the overall percent of impervious land area. Lack of information regarding trees and tree canopy within the town boundary

<u>Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures</u>	<u>Strategies and Action Items</u>	<u>Implementation Partners</u>
<p>Based on the strengths and weaknesses identify the strengths on which you would like to build and the challenges you would like to address.</p> <p>What outcomes are you trying to achieve? Where/ in what area do you want those changes to happen? →</p> <p>Progress Measure: Identify how you will know that you have achieved your outcome.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Specify how you are planning to achieve the desired outcomes. →</p>	<p>Which community stakeholders need to be involved to realize each action step and strategy? Name specific public and/or private sector partners.</p>
<p>Outcome 1: Improve information regarding trees within the town</p>	<p>Strategy A: Work with DNR and Frederick County resources to increase information about trees within the town and how to best maintain them.</p> <p>Strategy B: Work to increase number of trees in areas where deemed beneficial.</p>	

Progress Measures: Create data base	Strategy C:	
Outcome 2: Impervious area/stormwater improvement Progress Measures: Compliance with MS-4 permit	Strategy A: Work with MDE and Frederick County to ascertain what standards need to be met and how we might potentially meet them. Strategy B: Strategy C:	

Economy

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

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term restaurant businesses in town. We only have 2 franchise food businesses. The rest are locally-owned and operated. • Minimal amount of vacant commercial space. Usually no more than 2. If space opens up, it does not take long to replace it. • Regional/national attractions such as FEMA/NETC, Seton Shrine, Fire Heritage Center and Museum, Emmitsburg Antique Mall. • Proximity to Gettysburg, PA, especially relative to historical tourism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens have expressed an interest in having more variety in menu choices. Unique restaurant type would bring in customers from beyond immediate Emmitsburg area, and could benefit existing restaurants, as well. • Need activity besides eating. • Local job sources. Most working adults commute to Frederick and beyond.



<p>Outcome 1: More, and more variety in businesses</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increased number and variety of businesses</p>	<p>Strategy A: Once the streetscape project is completed, work with Frederick Co. Economic Development And others to augment the existing business base.</p> <p>Strategy B: Work with Frederick County Tourism to increase awareness of Emmitsburg attractions and opportunities.</p>	<p>Frederick Co. Economic Development</p> <p>Frederick Co. Tourism Council</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Jobs</p> <p>Progress Measures: Increase in number of local jobs</p>	<p>Strategy A: Be mindful of, and encourage opportunities that could generate local employment.</p> <p>Strategy B: Coordinate with Frederick County Economic Development to assist existing businesses and and potential new businesses for Emmitsburg.</p>	<p>Emmitsburg Business and Professionals Association</p> <p>Frederick County Economic Development</p>

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"> Increasing level of pedestrian-oriented connectivity within the town Future State Highway Park and Ride to be built. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal bus service, no taxi service. Private vehicle dependence.

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Transit service</p> <p>Progress Measures: Additional bus departure/arrival times.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Encourage expansion of existing Frederick County transit schedule</p> <p>Strategy B:</p>	<p>Frederick County government</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Pedestrian connectivity</p> <p>Progress Measures: Continuous sidewalks to existing/new destinations.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Build on previous accomplishments and work toward filling any gaps in the ability to walk through the town.</p> <p>Strategy B: Examine the potential for pedestrian-only walkways where narrow alleys now exist.</p>	

Housing

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

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good amount of relatively new single-family residential housing stock or building opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stagnant housing market has affected new construction interest • Appears to be a lack of good-quality, newer rental units • Absentee landlord ownership can affect quality/conditions for renters and community.

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Rental units - new, and improvement of existing rentals</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of new units, potential improvement of existing units.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Be aware of and encourage any interested developers for rental properties</p> <p>Strategy B: Investigate developing a rental inspection program to improve conditions and safety.</p>	
<p>Outcome 2: Increase the proportion of owned vs rental housing and local compared to absentee rental ownership.</p> <p>Progress Measures: 2020 census and ACS data</p>	<p>Strategy A: The number of owned units has increased over the past few years. This may be due to affordability being affected by foreclosures and general market conditions. The town will support any opportunities that arise to encourage local ownership</p> <p>Strategy B:</p>	

Quality of Life

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

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small town atmosphere in community, rural setting; • Proximity to Mount St. Mary's provides cultural opportunities • Frederick County library branch in town • Civic groups, faith-based organizations, support organizations • Recreational opportunities in several town-owned parks. • Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum and National Fire Heritage Center • FEMA/NETC and National Fallen Firefighters Foundation brings thousands of people to Emmitsburg each year. • Day-trip distance to Washington D.C., Baltimore, Gettysburg, Frederick, other regional attractions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small town limitations re budget, etc.

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Enhanced opportunities for business, yielding a more vibrant downtown area.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of new and/or improved businesses</p>	<p>Strategy A: Work with local EBPA to encourage interaction between businesses to their mutual benefit.</p> <p>Strategy B: Work with Frederick County Economic Development and the Tourism Council to increase the marketing of local businesses.</p>	<p>Frederick Co. Economic Development Frederick Co. Tourism Council Emmitsburg Business and Professionals Association</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Continue to improve the main streets of Emmitsburg, where businesses and attractions are most prevalent.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Revitalization results.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Continue to pursue grant opportunities to help defray the cost of desired improvements to the streetscape, wayfinding signage, etc.</p>	

Local Planning and Land Use

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

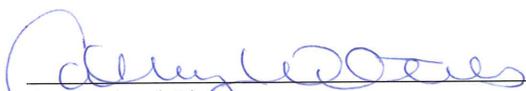
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently updated Comprehensive Plan (2015) and made zoning changes as recommended Land use oriented topics, ordinances, etc. are addressed as needed -- brought up by citizens, staff, or elected officials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant portion of the population is over 65 years of age, and/or low-income. Tax base affected by amount of non-taxed land area/value.

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures →	Strategies and Action Items →	Implementation Partners
<p>Outcome 1: Update sections of the town code to reflect current needs of the community and planning for future development.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Updated code.</p>	<p>Strategy A: Examples of potential code amendments would be revision of sign code to be business friendly while maintaining the integrity of the community character; stormwater-oriented issues; cluster development</p> <p>Strategy B:</p> <p>Strategy C:</p>	

SIGNATURE LETTER

On behalf of the Town of Emmitsburg, I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for the Town of Emmitsburg. 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.

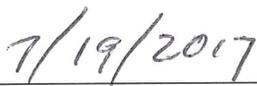
I also confirm that I am named or a former holder of my current title is named as an authorized official for the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.



Authorized Signature

Cathy Willets, Town Manager

Type Name and Title



Date