

OpenComment Tutorial

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HarfordNEXT
A Master Plan for the Next Generation

HarfordNEXT will provide strategic guidance for future planning decisions in Harford County over the next 25 years through specific recommendations that will be implemented after adoption of the plan. HarfordNEXT is a master plan for the next generation that seeks to enhance the quality of life for all Harford County citizens through innovation and forward thinking planning approaches.



Chapter 1: Introduction



Chapter 2: Grow With Purpose



Chapter 3: Economic Vitality

About HarfordNEXT

In 2015, County Executive Barry Glassman directed the Department of Planning and Zoning to begin an update to the 2012 Master Plan and Land Use Element Plan. The Department undertook a strategic approach to preparing HarfordNEXT. Six overarching themes replace the previous Element Plans to form one streamlined and cohesive document known as HarfordNEXT. The document begins with a brief introduction, followed by chapters devoted to the following six themes; Grow With Purpose, Economic Vitality, Preserving our Heritage, Mobility and Connectivity, Environmental Stewardship, and Promoting Healthy Communities. Each theme presents a set of Principles and Goals that are followed by implementation strategies. The last chapter is devoted to the seven Community Planning Areas and includes background and demographic information as well as implementation strategies relevant to each area. The Water Resources Element and Priority Preservation Area Plan are included in the Appendix.

Contact

Website



Step 3: Log in or Create a new account.



HarfordNEXT
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User account






[Create new account](#) [Log in](#) [Request new password](#)

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Step 4: Select a chapter you would like to view and make comments to.

	Chapter 1: Introduction
	Chapter 2: Grow With Purpose
	Chapter 3: Economic Vitality
	Chapter 4: Environmental Stewardship
	Chapter 5: Preserving Our Heritage

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Chapter 1: Introduction

View Edit Report

JUMP TO SECTION

Introduction

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Please add any comments before March 23rd, 2016.

CHAPTER 1 | INTRODUCTION

Background

For centuries, people have been attracted to Harford County's rolling countryside and fertile soils. Through the years, Harford County has strived to maintain its rural character and identity while balancing the needs of a diverse and growing population. The County faces new challenges, as it strives to balance its heritage with future growth. HarfordNEXT will provide opportunities to accommodate and focus growth in a manner that maintains rural areas, as well as, strengthens communities, with an emphasis on sustainable development. This plan will serve as the policy guide for implementing innovative ideas that will help build strong communities, grow a competitive economic base, and preserve our rich heritage.


HarfordNEXT unites the County's element plans into one streamlined document and introduces a thematic approach to organize policies and implementation strategies. At the core of the plan are policies promoting safe, harmonious, and livable communities. The plan provides strategies to create opportunities for small businesses and initiatives to attract large national corporations with diverse workforce needs. HarfordNEXT reaffirms the County's commitment to the mission of the Aberdeen Proving Ground and creating opportunities for revitalization and reinvestment within the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CSSC). The plan also recognizes the County's diverse history and agricultural roots. HarfordNEXT must balance the preservation of our productive farm lands with sustainable development, to ensure continued economic vitality. Promoting an efficient, multi-modal transportation system is another vital component to the County's economic engine. HarfordNEXT aims to ensure we are a resilient community, poised to adapt to an ever changing social and economic climate.

Attending to the physical and mental well-being of our citizens is a new and important component to the County's Master Plan. Harford County is seeing an alarming increase in chronic diseases such as diabetes and cancer, as well as, troublesome increases in heroin addiction. HarfordNEXT proposes goals and strategies to improve the built environment to help promote healthier, active communities. Advocating for mental wellness is also important to combating the heroin epidemic and reducing the incidence of chronic diseases.

Public participation is critical to the development of a successful master plan, and the outreach program for HarfordNEXT was unprecedented in engaging a wide range of citizens and community groups. Valuable comments and suggestions were collected in various formats of engagement including public meetings, email, social media, and Open Town Hall, an online citizen engagement tool. Presentations were also given to the eight Community Advisory Boards. The Department's outreach efforts were important to maintaining transparency and ensuring trust between the County and its residents.

HarfordNEXT is a forward thinking plan and an exciting opportunity to address the evolving needs of the County. Implementation strategies identified in this document will help strengthen the sense of place of our diverse communities and nurture a vibrant economy. HarfordNEXT establishes the necessary framework for maintaining and enhancing our quality of life, both now and in the future.

Comments

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Step 6: You may delete or edit your comment or reply to someone else's comment.

Chapter 1: Introduction

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Introduction

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Please add any comments before March 23rd, 2016.

CHAPTER 1 | INTRODUCTION

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HarfordNEXT Moderator Feb 8 2016 at 11:51AM

Test

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Step 7: You may also add a new comment by clicking anywhere in the document.

Chapter 1: Introduction

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Please add any comments before March 23rd, 2016.

CHAPTER 1 | INTRODUCTION

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Step 8: In the Community Planning Areas chapter and in the Appendix, click “Jump to Section” to go directly to a Community Planning Area or Appendix.

Chapter 8: Community Planning Areas

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The map displays several Community Planning Areas (CPAs) in the Northern Tier region of Maryland. The areas are color-coded: Churchville-Creswell (green), Fallston (yellow), Bel Air Emmorton Forest Hill (orange), Aberdeen Bush River Havre de Grace (purple), Joppa Joppatowne (red), and Northern Tier (brown). A red dashed line indicates the 'Development Envelope'. The map also shows major roads, water bodies like Chesapeake Bay, and surrounding counties: Cecil, Kent, and Baltimore.