

Southern County Task Force



Bob Cassilly
County Executive

September 7, 2023

Housing & Community Development



Bob Cassilly
County Executive

Barbara W. Richardson
Director

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LIVABILITY ANALYSIS

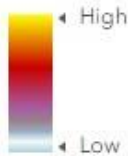
Livability Complaints 2013-2023 with Concentration of Renter-Occupied Housing

Owner and Renter Occupied Units Layers - 2023
Renter Occupied HUs () by Block Groups

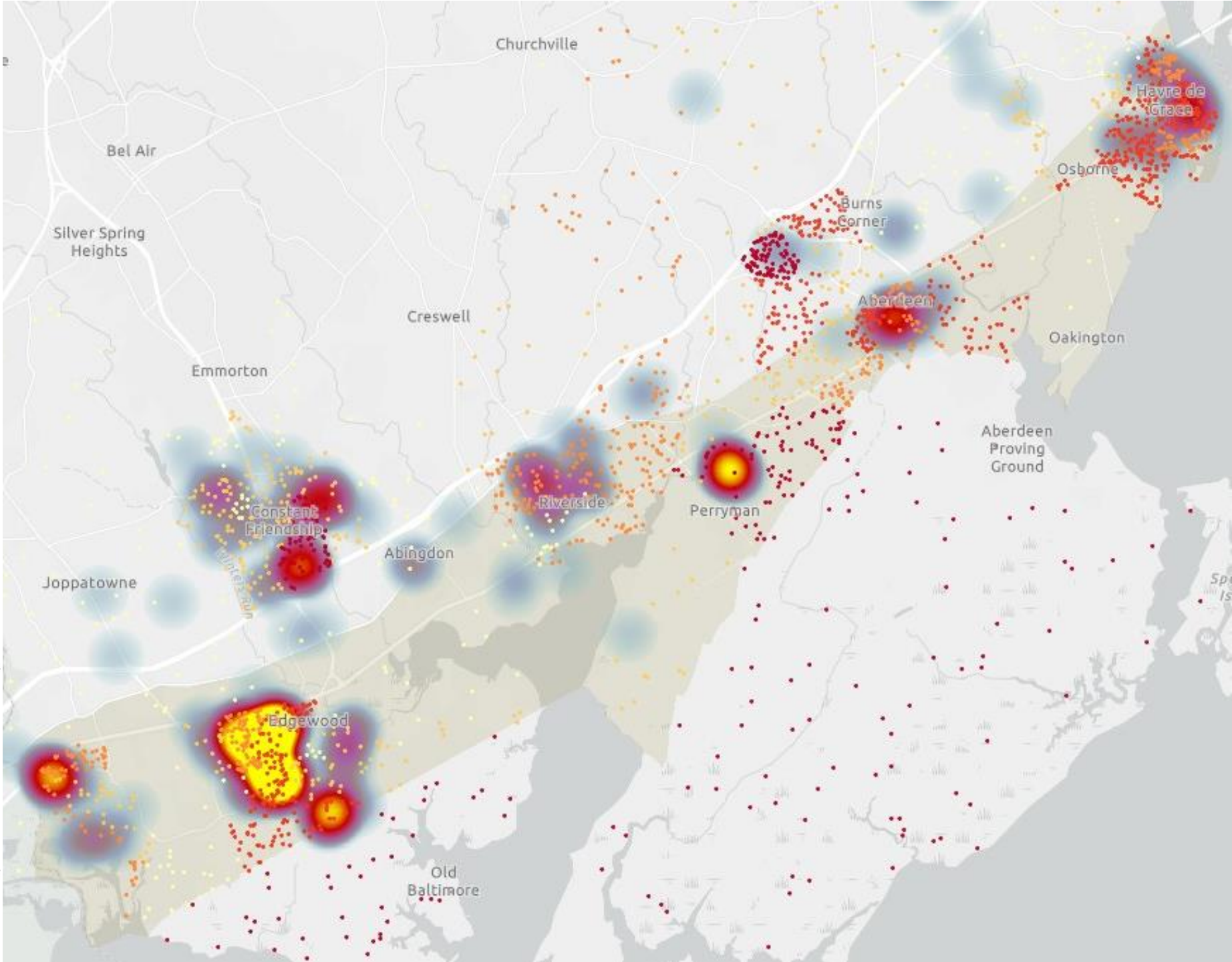
1 Dot = 1 Concentration of Percentage



Annual Action Plan Layers - Livability Complaints Heat Map



SCTF Boundary





Action Items

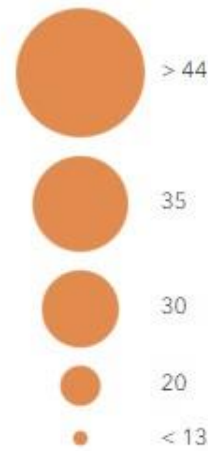
- **Livability Code** – In cooperation with departments of Licenses and Permits (DILP) and Planning & Zoning (P&Z) adopt revised County Livability Code
 - Target substandard rental units
 - Target federal HOME dollars to renovate properties turned over for non-compliance with Livability Code
- **Homeowner Repair Programs** - Use grant funds to expand and/or develop new repair program(s) for homeowners that target low- to moderate-income homeowners in the SCTF area

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDED PROJECTS

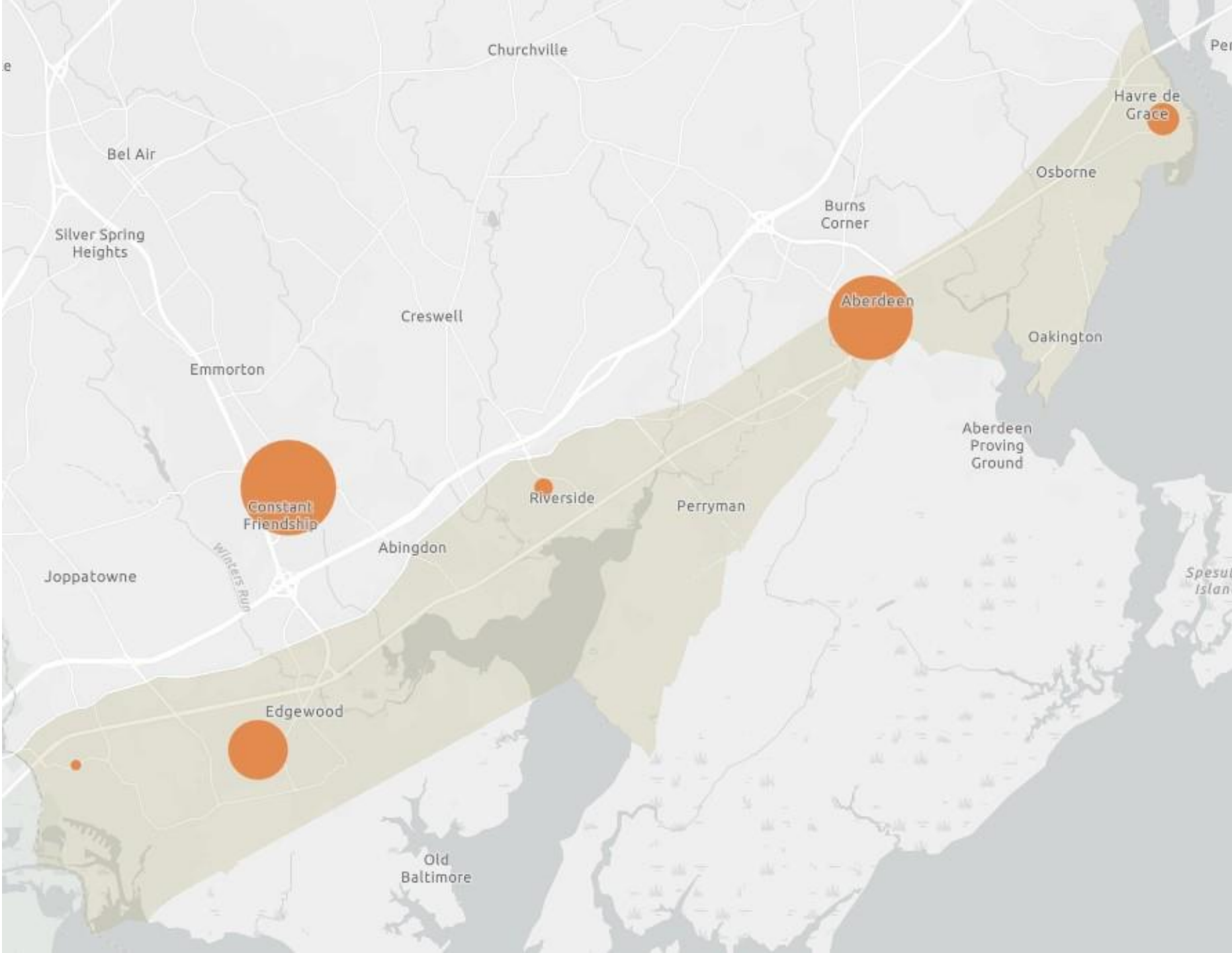
First-Time Homebuyers Program Households 2018-2023 by ZIP Code

First Time Homebuyer Assistance Homes 2018 to 2023

First Time Homebuyers Assisted



SCTF Boundary





Action Items

- **Down Payment Assistance** – Increase home ownership through direct grants that provide financial incentives for low- to moderate-income residents to buy homes with higher downpayment assistance.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY AREAS

CDBG-Eligible and Maryland Sustainable Communities

Maryland Incentive Zones - Main Street Areas



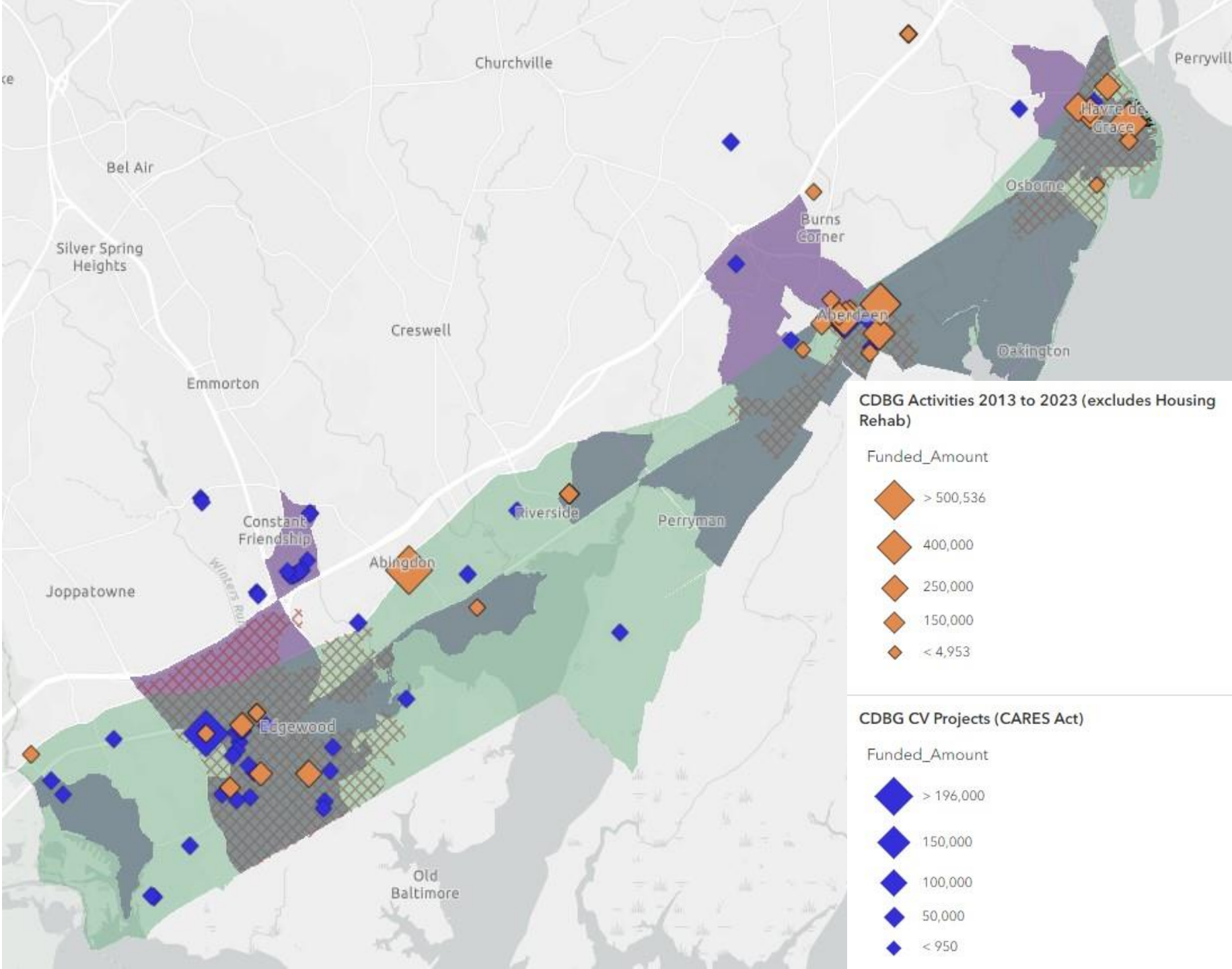
SCTF Boundary



Maryland Incentive Zones - Sustainable Communities



Federal Incentive Zones - Low-Mod Income Areas





Housing & Community Development

Action Items

- Target **Community Development Block Grant** (CDBG) funds to achieve community and/or Department suggested revitalization projects.
- Apply for FY2025 **Sustainable Communities** (SC) funding to support community and/or Department suggested revitalization projects.
- Work with the community and other county departments to identify projects for CDBG and SC funded projects and create a long-term projects timeline that coincides with state and federal grant cycles.

Now In Progress:

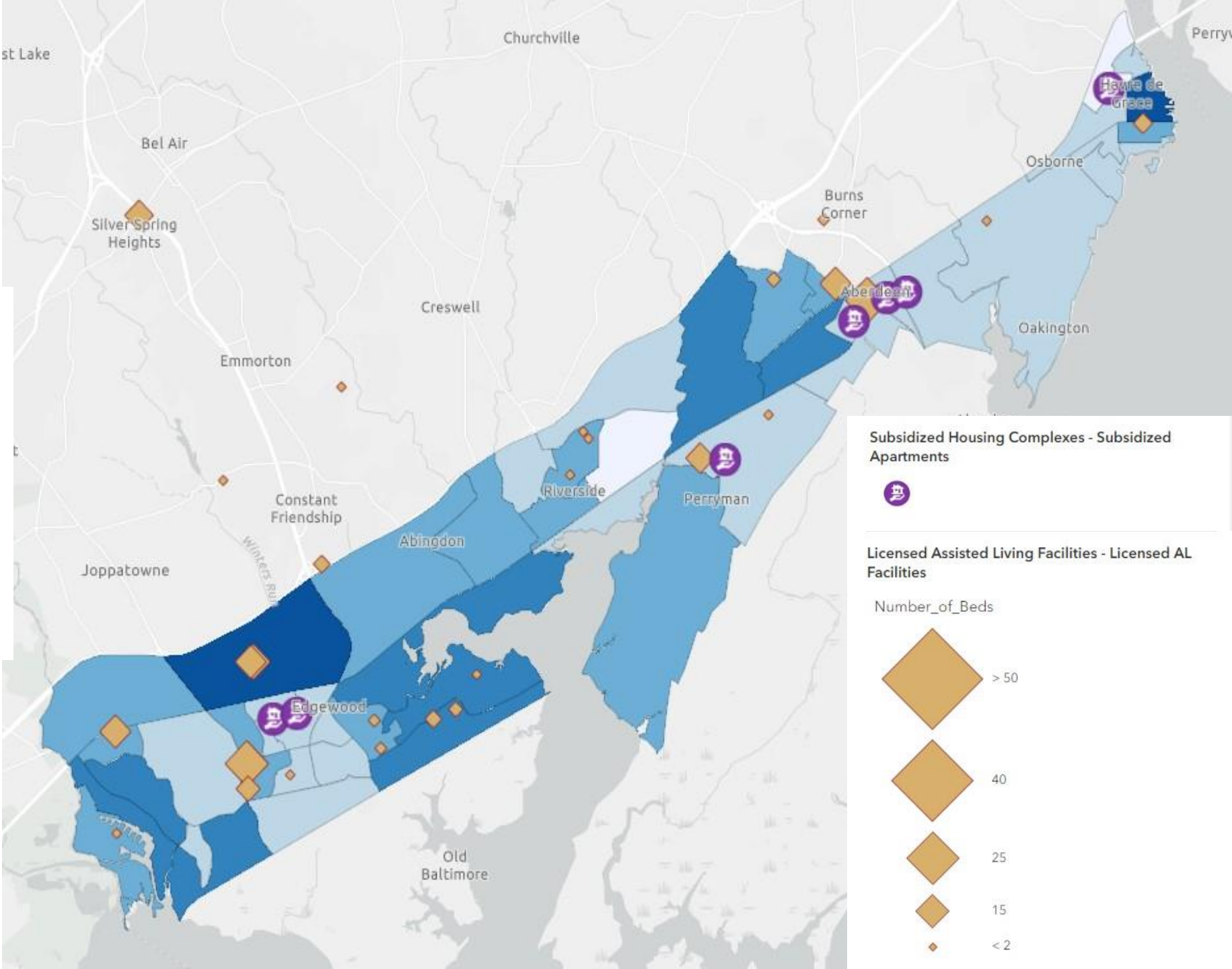
CDBG funded expansion of the **Head Start Program** in Edgewood

COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS AND GAPS

Senior Population and Assisted Living Facilities

2023 Senior Population by Block Groups

2023 Senior Population





Action Items

- **Assisted Living Facilities (ALF)** –
 - In cooperation with Dept of Economic Development, encourage small & large business opportunities for ALF owners & developers
 - Support ALF's through workforce development training through HCC
- **Senior Housing** –
 - Work with government and private partners to increase senior housing projects
 - **Senior Services** - Offer resources & services that support the needs of residents (wellness and health promotion, service assessment, etc.)

COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS AND GAPS

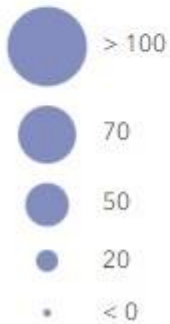
*Addiction Information:
Overdoses, Referrals,
Recovery*

Addiction Help and Recovery Centers

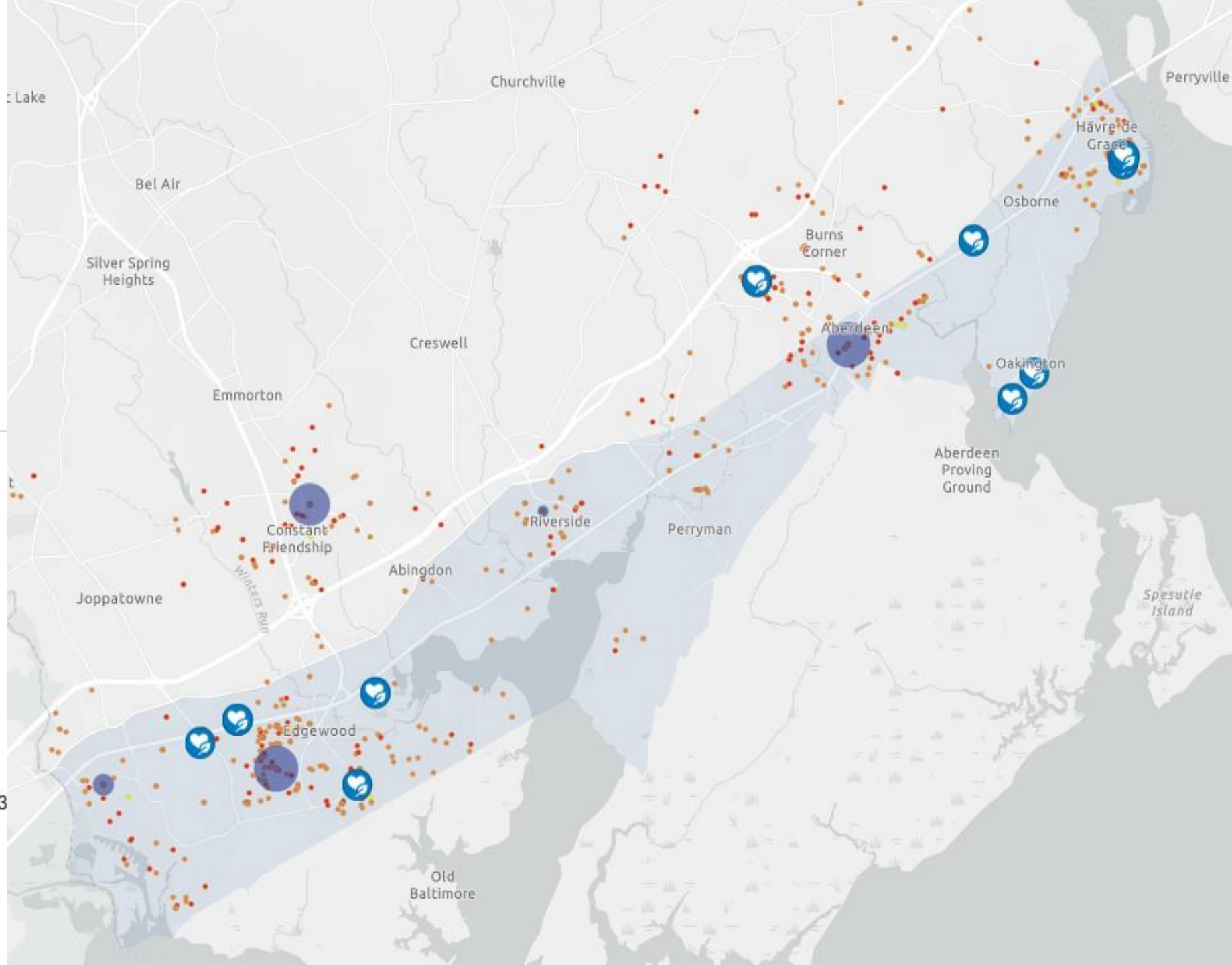


Total Referrals to Addiction Help 2020-2022

Total_Referrals



Opioid Overdose Victim Home Address 2018-2023





Action Items

Target Opioid Settlement Funds to:

- Provide additional **outreach**
- Provide **education** in underserved communities
- Provide support for **recovery and wellness centers**

Planning and Zoning



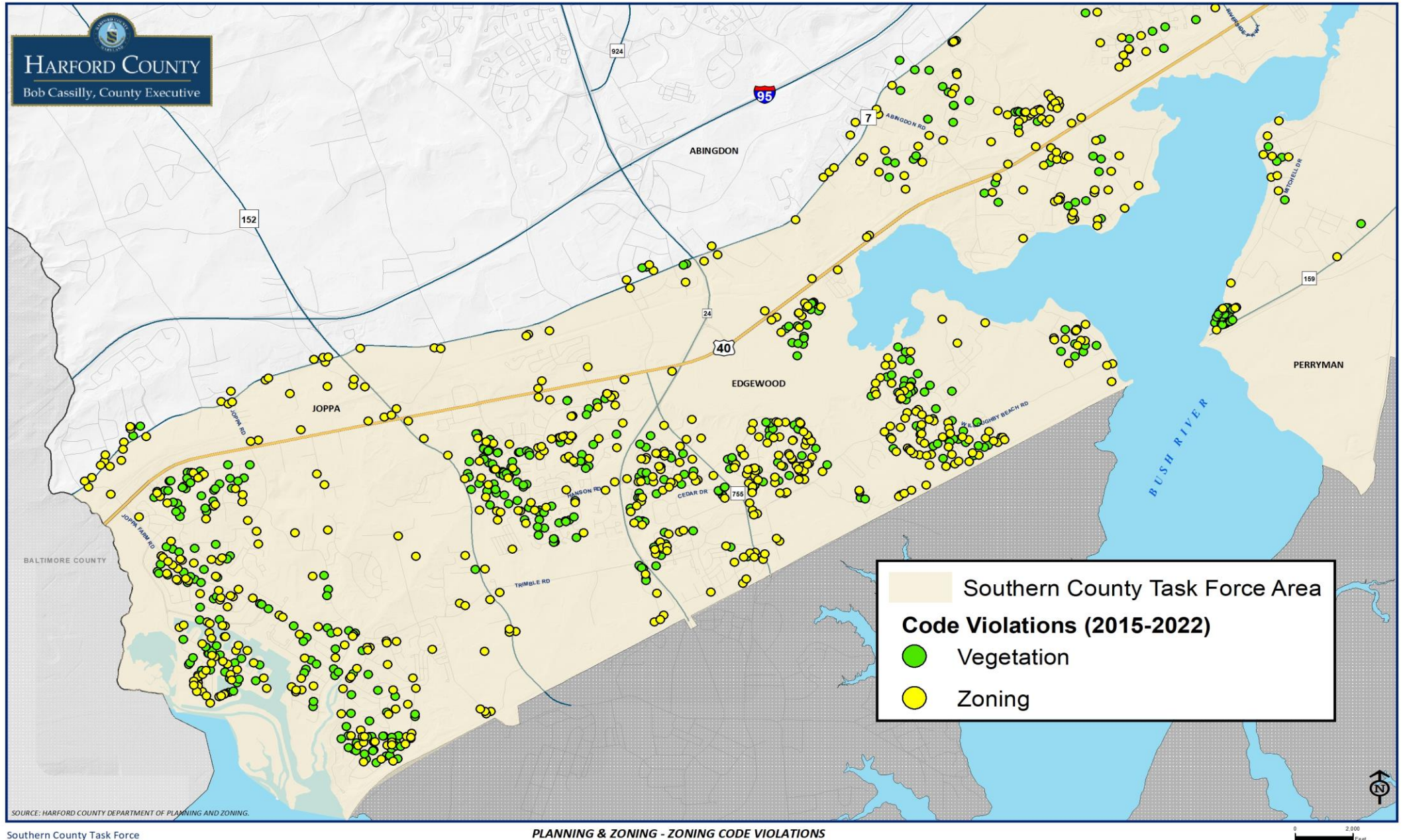
Bob Cassilly
County Executive

Shane Grimm
Director



SCTF – Planning & Zoning

Numerous
code
violations in
SCTF area





Action Items

- **Zoning Code Enforcement** - Proactive and increased enforcement of the Zoning Code to improve community appearance & safety
- **Master Plan Integration** - Integrate Southern County Task Force action items into Master Plan process
- **GIS Tracking** - Maintain and update SCTF GIS data and mapping to facilitate analysis by and evaluation of SCTF progress
- **Oversight of SCTF Progress** - Oversee execution of SCTF action items

Public Works Highways & Environmental



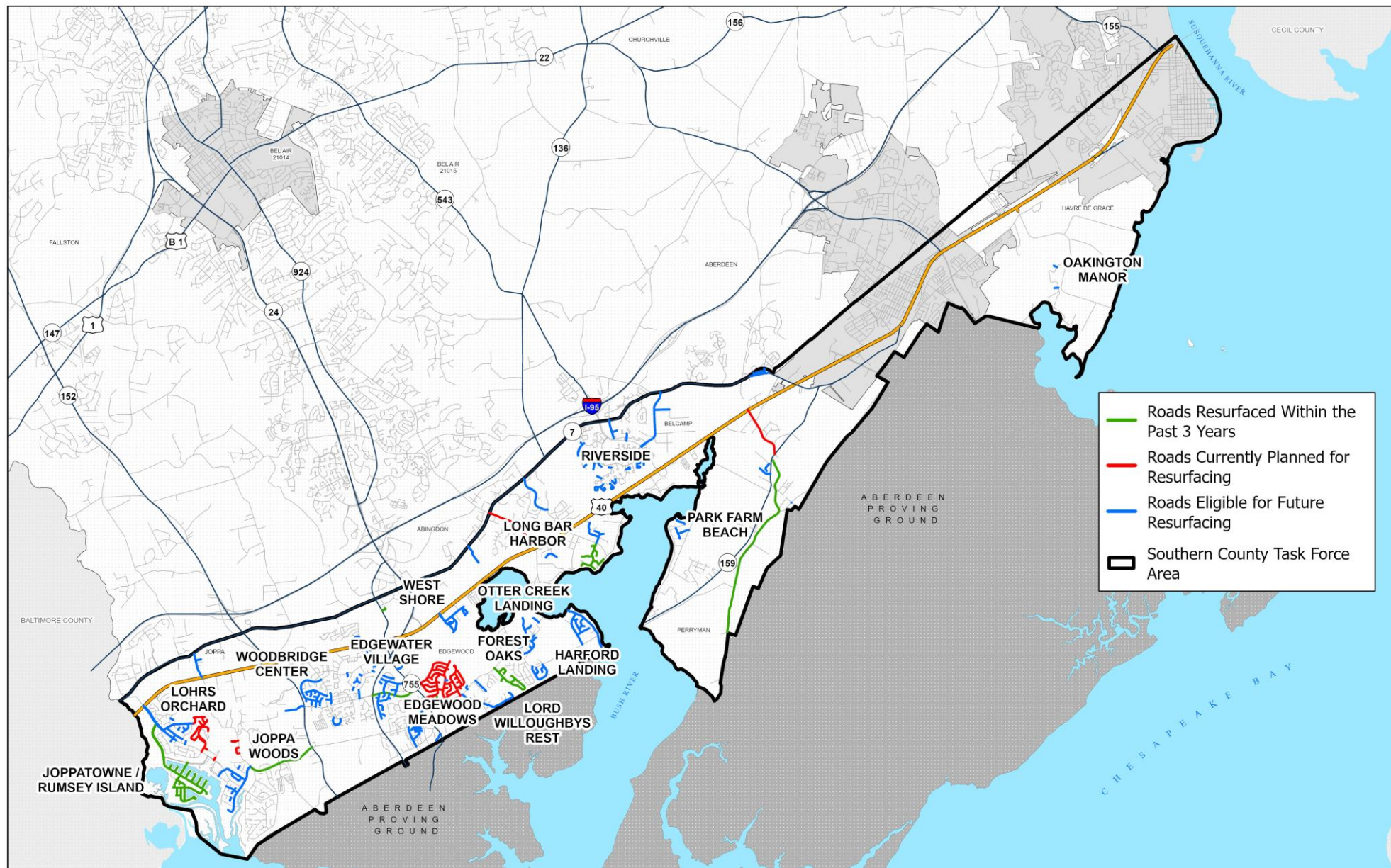
Bob Cassilly
County Executive

Joseph Siemek, PE
Director



SCTF – Public Works

ROAD RESURFACING





Action Items

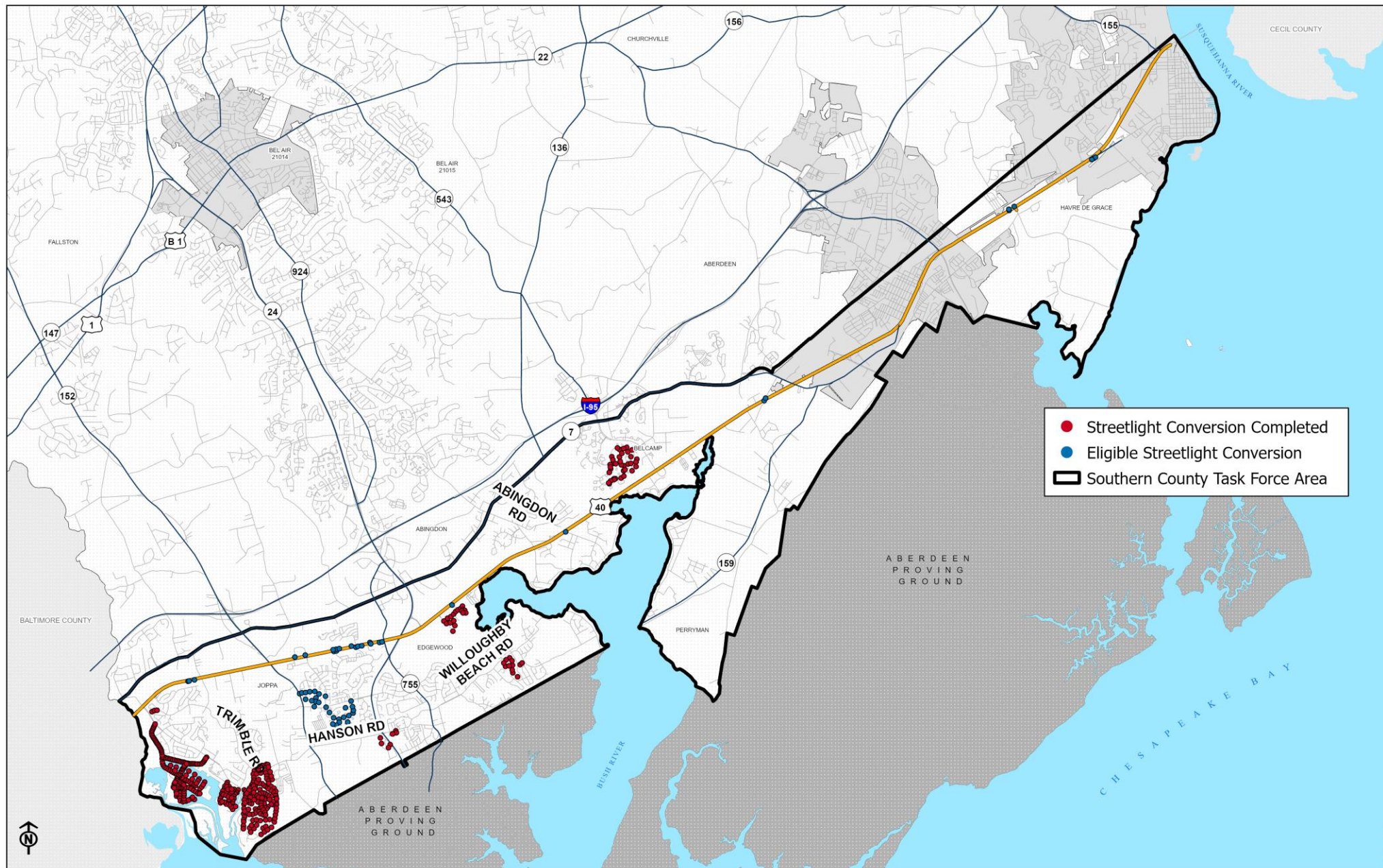
- Work with community to **identify gaps** in road resurfacing
- Identify **additional funding** resources to expand resurfacing projects
- **Private roadways** - develop action plan to address lack of maintenance on private roads
- **Execute** planned road resurfacing projects in the SCTF area



SCTF – Public Works

NEIGHBORHOOD STREETLIGHT IMPROVEMENTS - Filling the gaps

Chart shows ongoing progress in conversion of existing lights to LED





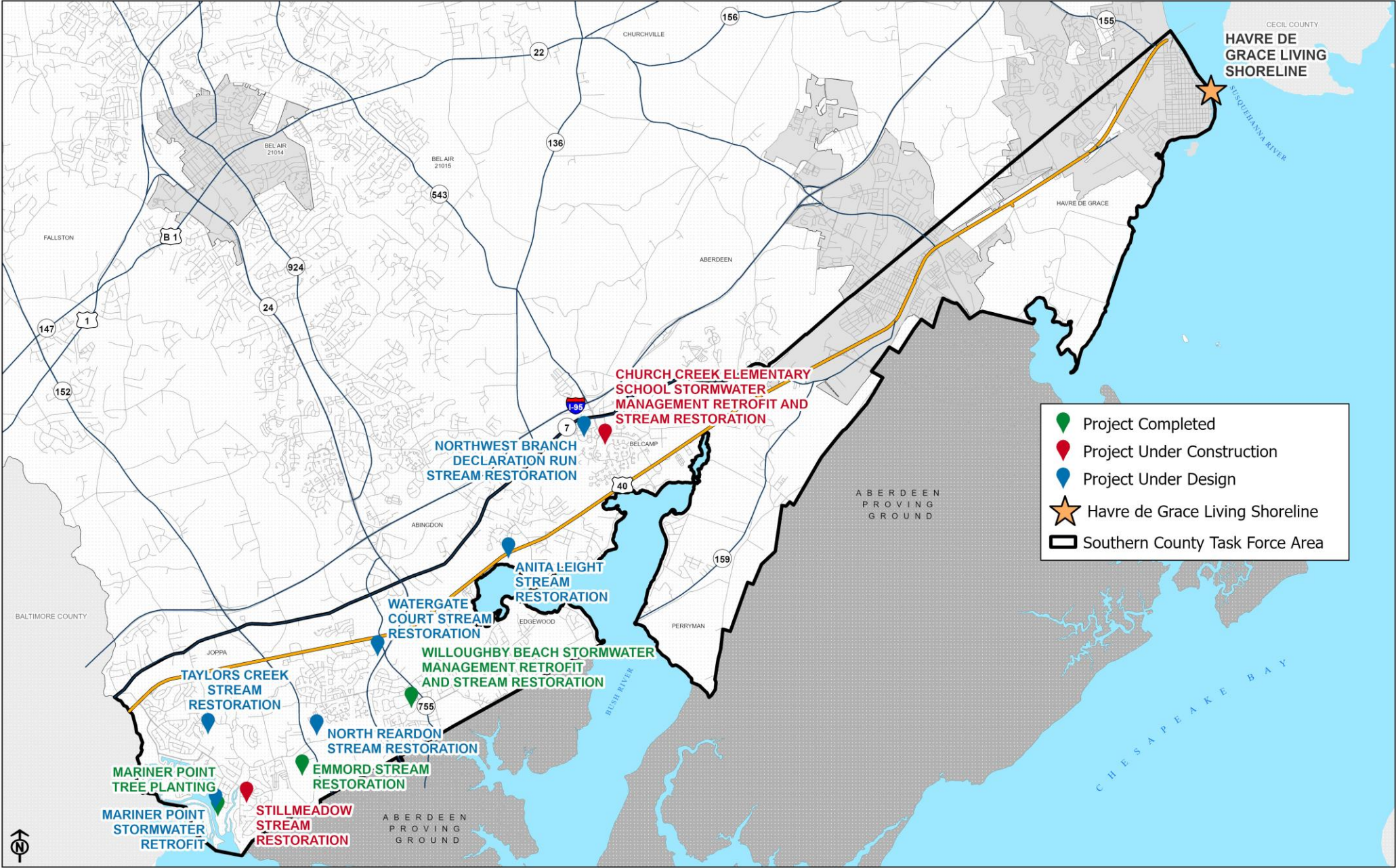
Action Items

- Work with BGE to execute currently **planned LED upgrade projects**
- Identify additional **eligible locations for LED upgrades**
- Work with the community to **identify areas with deficient street lighting** and initiate street light projects for those areas



SCTF – Public Works

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROJECTS





Action Items

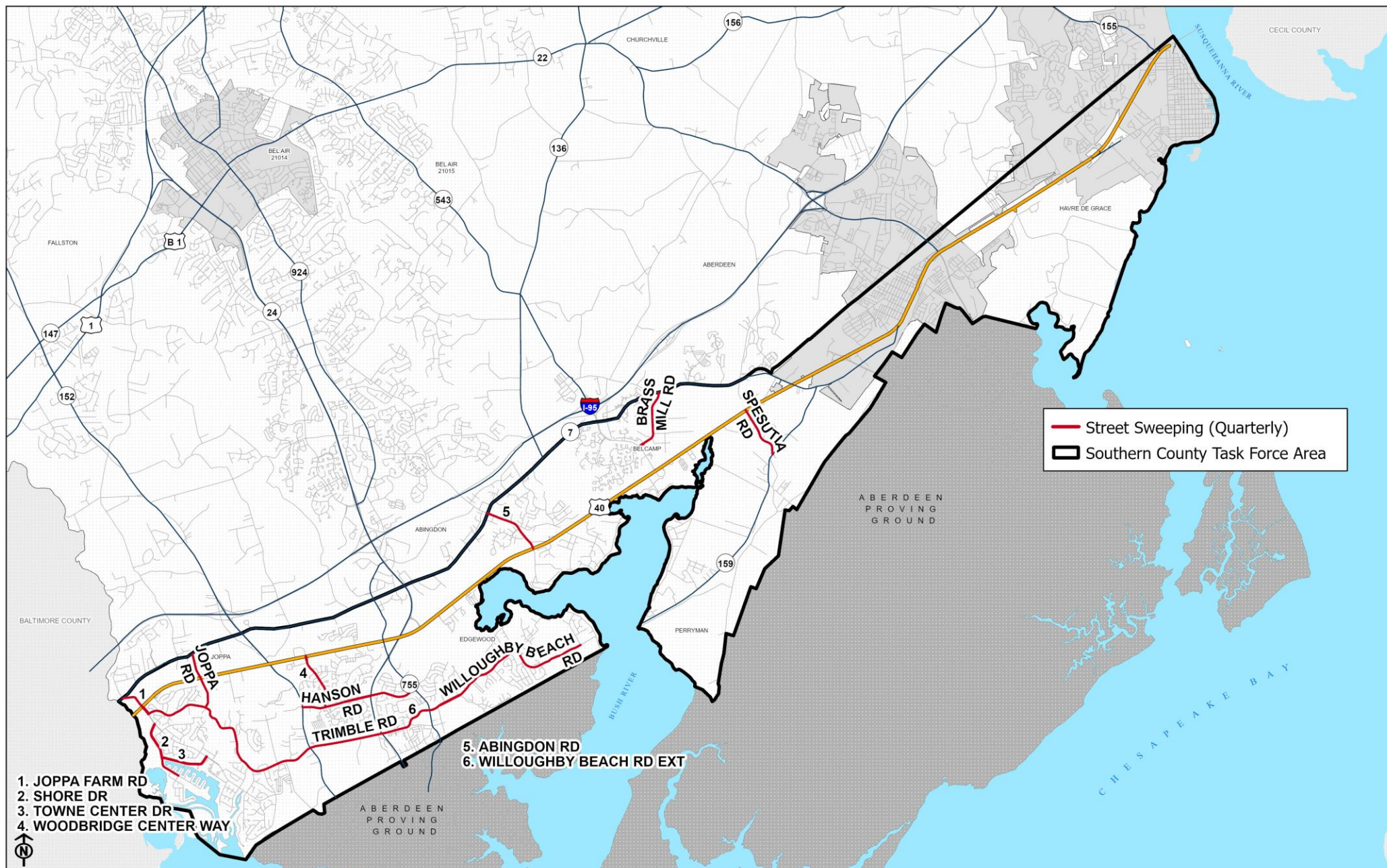
- Execute the planned **stream restoration projects** in the area in order to enhance water quality in the area and meet the County's MS-4 environmental permit requirements
- Work with community to **identify and assess areas for future** County funded projects

In Progress – Community suggested stream restoration project has been added on Shore Drive in Joppatowne



SCTF – Public Works

STREET SWEEPING Program (Quarterly)





Action Items

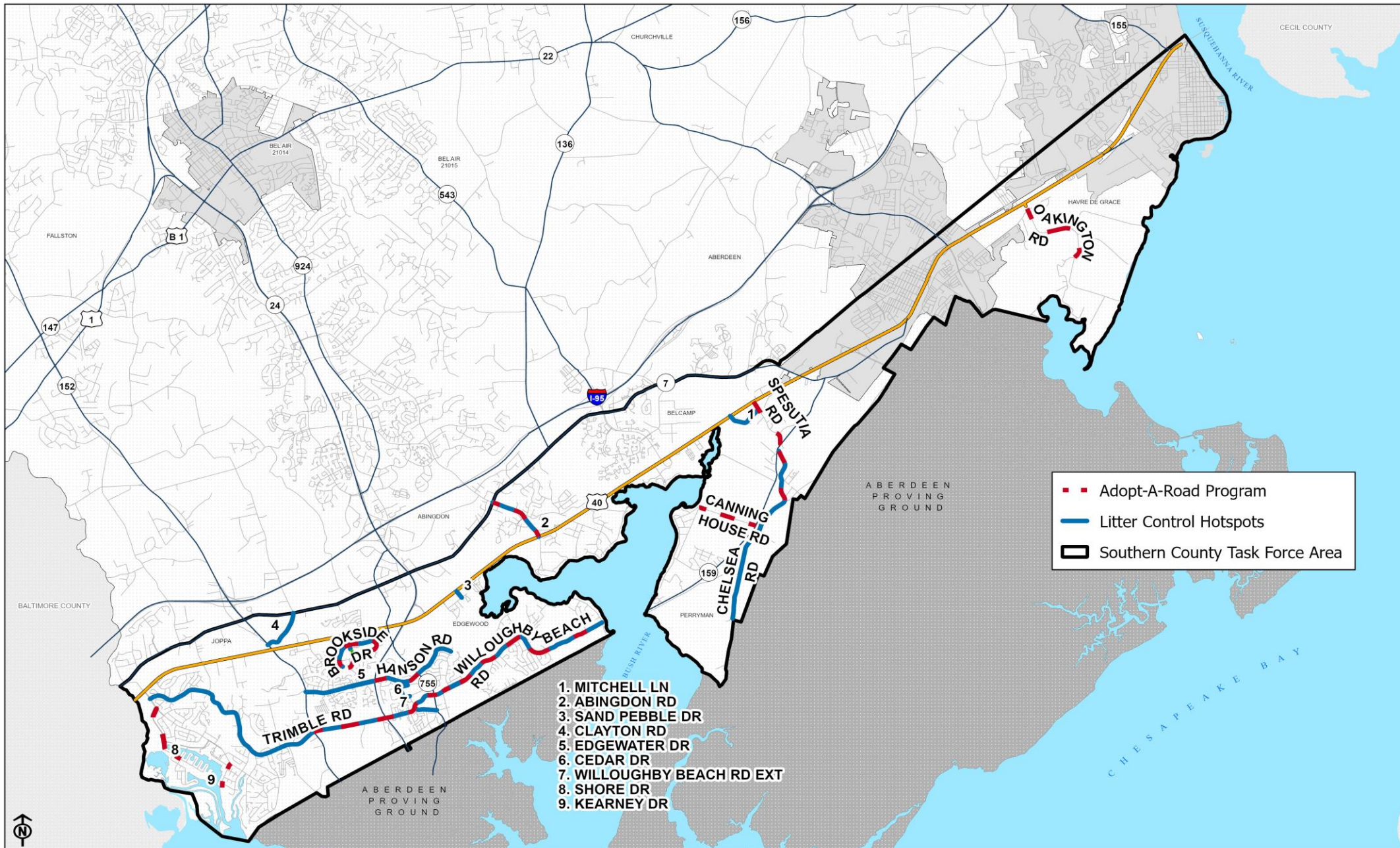
- Fund an **expansion of current street sweeping program** which provides for quarterly sweeping of major and minor roadways in the area
- Address **community identified hot spots**



SCTF – Public Works

ROADSIDE
LITTER
HOTSPOTS

ADOPT-A-
ROAD
LOCATIONS





Action Items

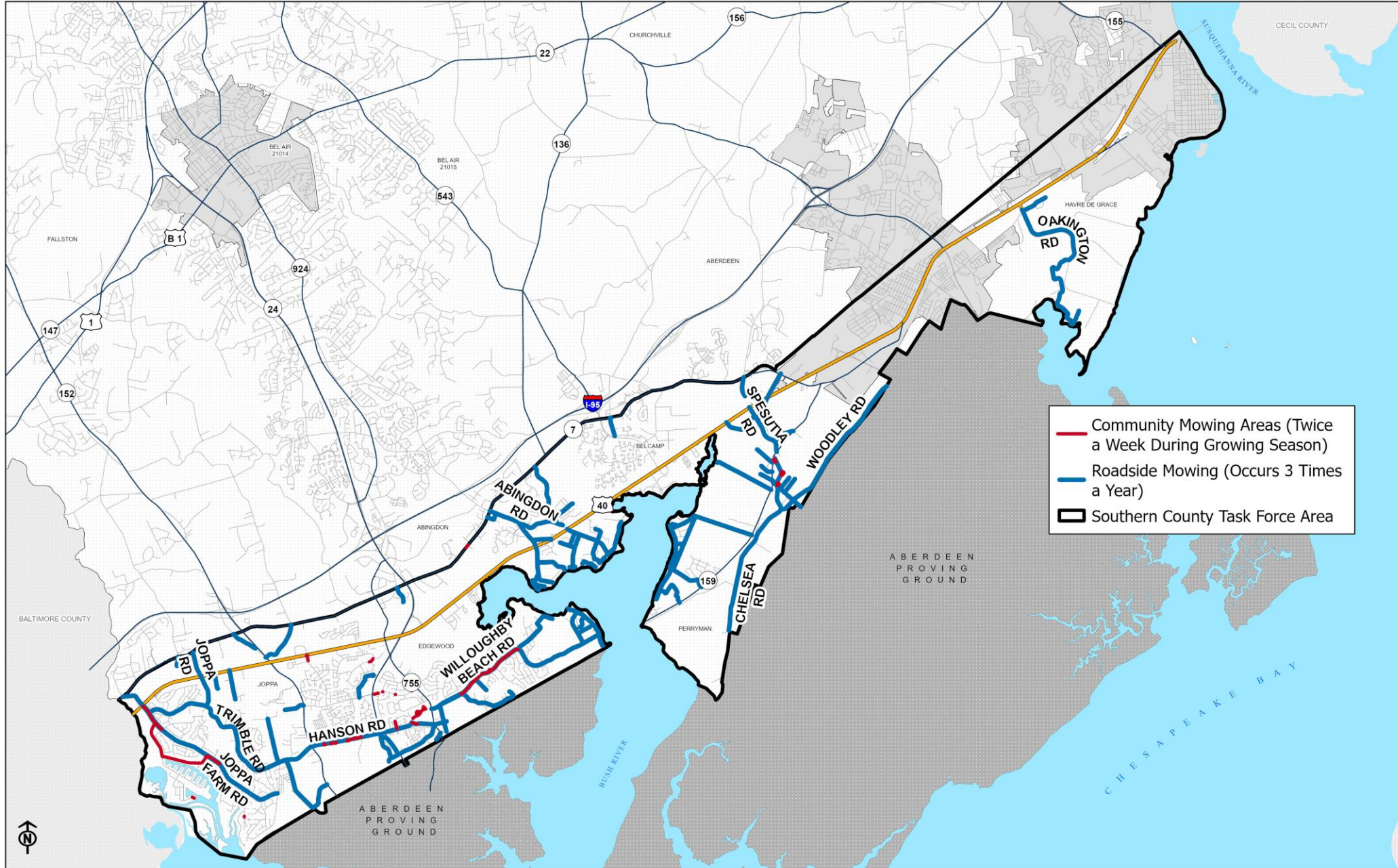
- Increase community involvement in the **County Adopt-A-Road Program** through marketing and promotion to local businesses, non-profits and community groups



SCTF – Public Works

ROADSIDE MOWING PROGRAM

Dressing up
neighborhoods





Action Items

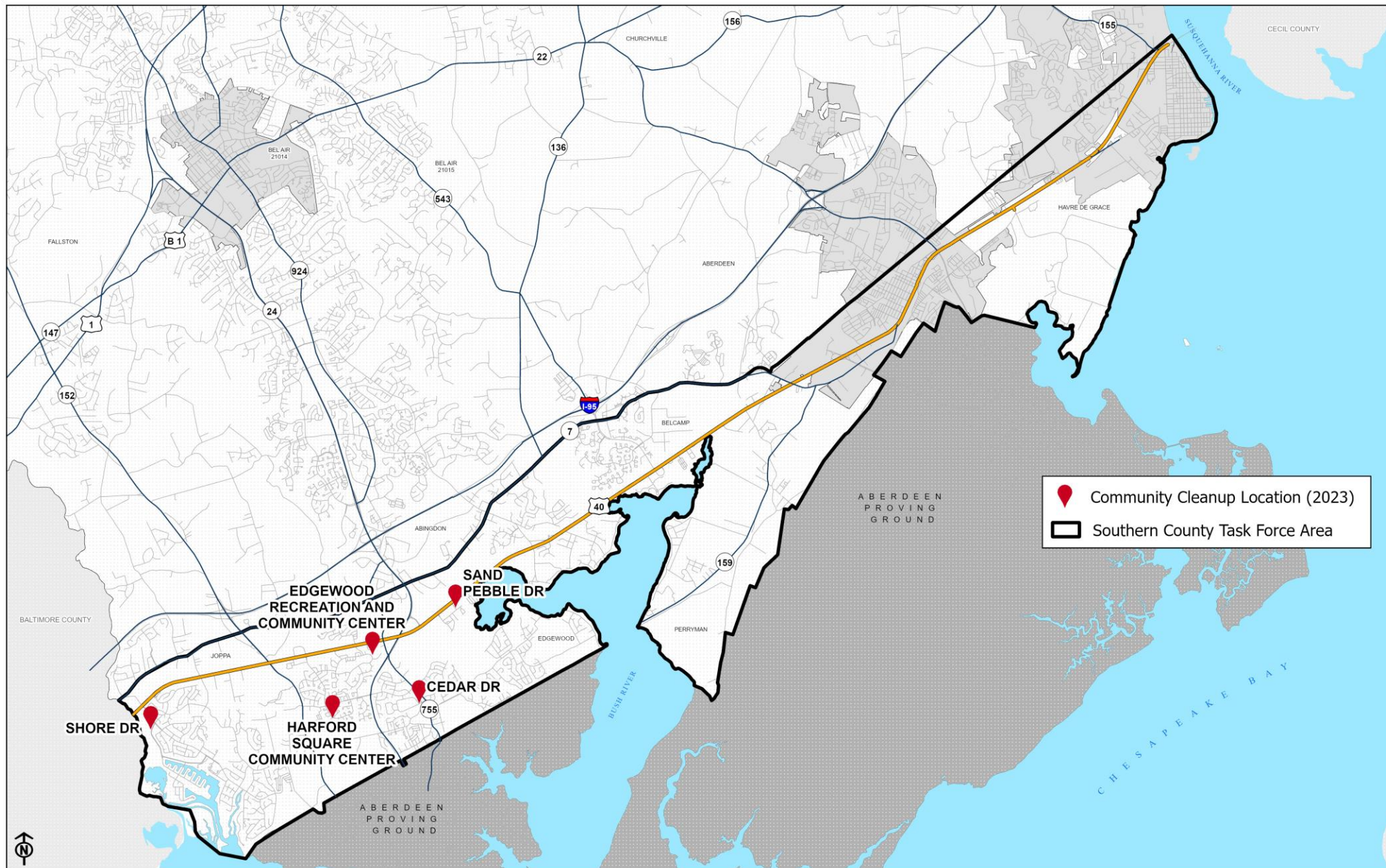
- Assess the current **inventory of roadside mowing** and make adjustments as necessary
- Explore **expansion of the mowing program** to possibly increase mowing frequency

In Progress – Increased mowing on Willoughby Beach Road



SCTF – Public Works

COMMUNITY CLEANUP LOCATIONS





Action Items

- Continue to **support community cleanup requests** as resources allow
- **Create an online program** to support community cleanup requests and approvals

In Progress – supported five community cleanups with dumpsters in SCTF area in 2023

Public Works Water & Sewer



Bob Cassilly
County Executive

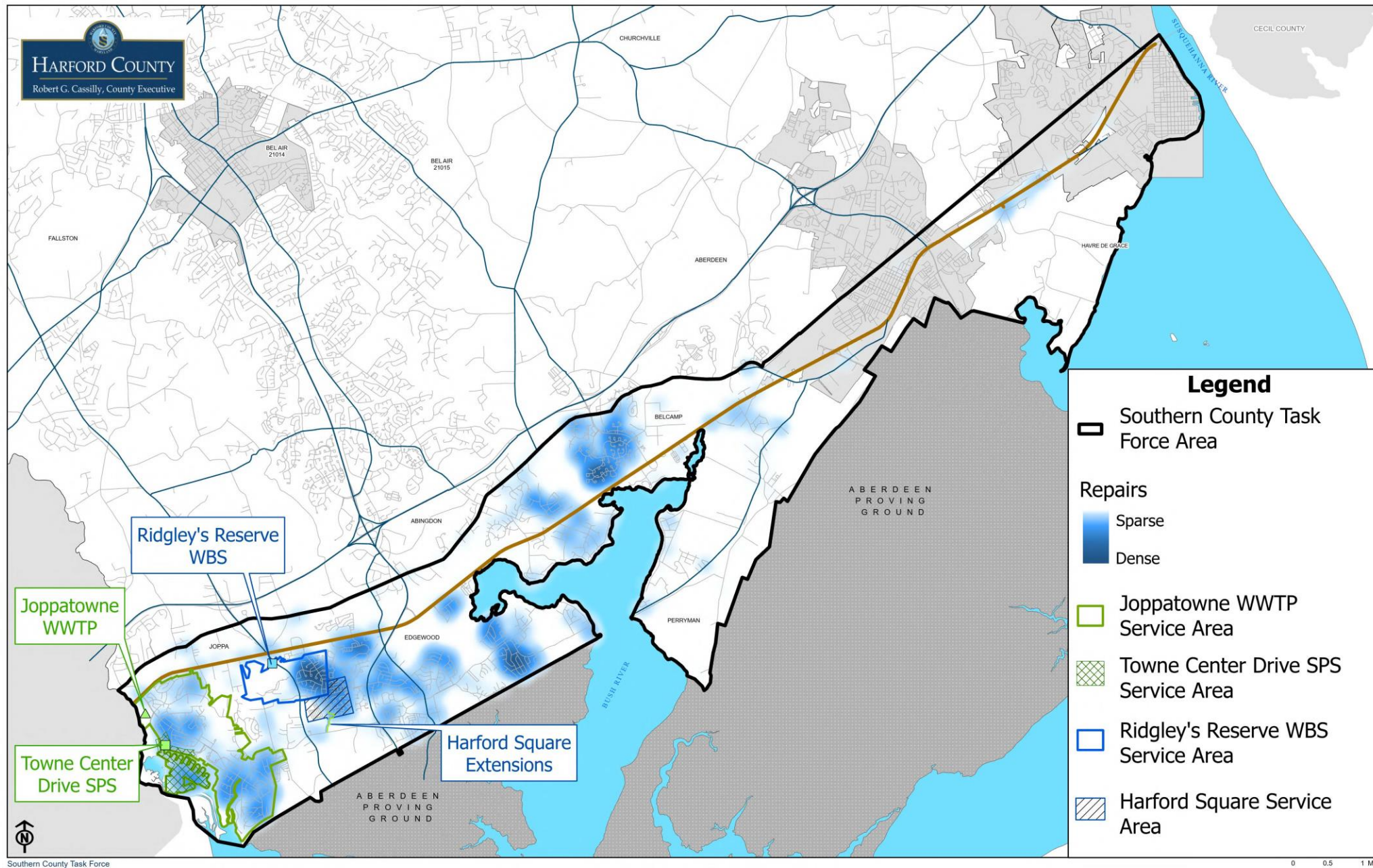
Joseph Siemek, PE
Director



SCTF – Public Works

Water & Sewer Infrastructure Investments

*Repair History
(3 Years) and
Recent/Planned
Capital Investments*





Action Items

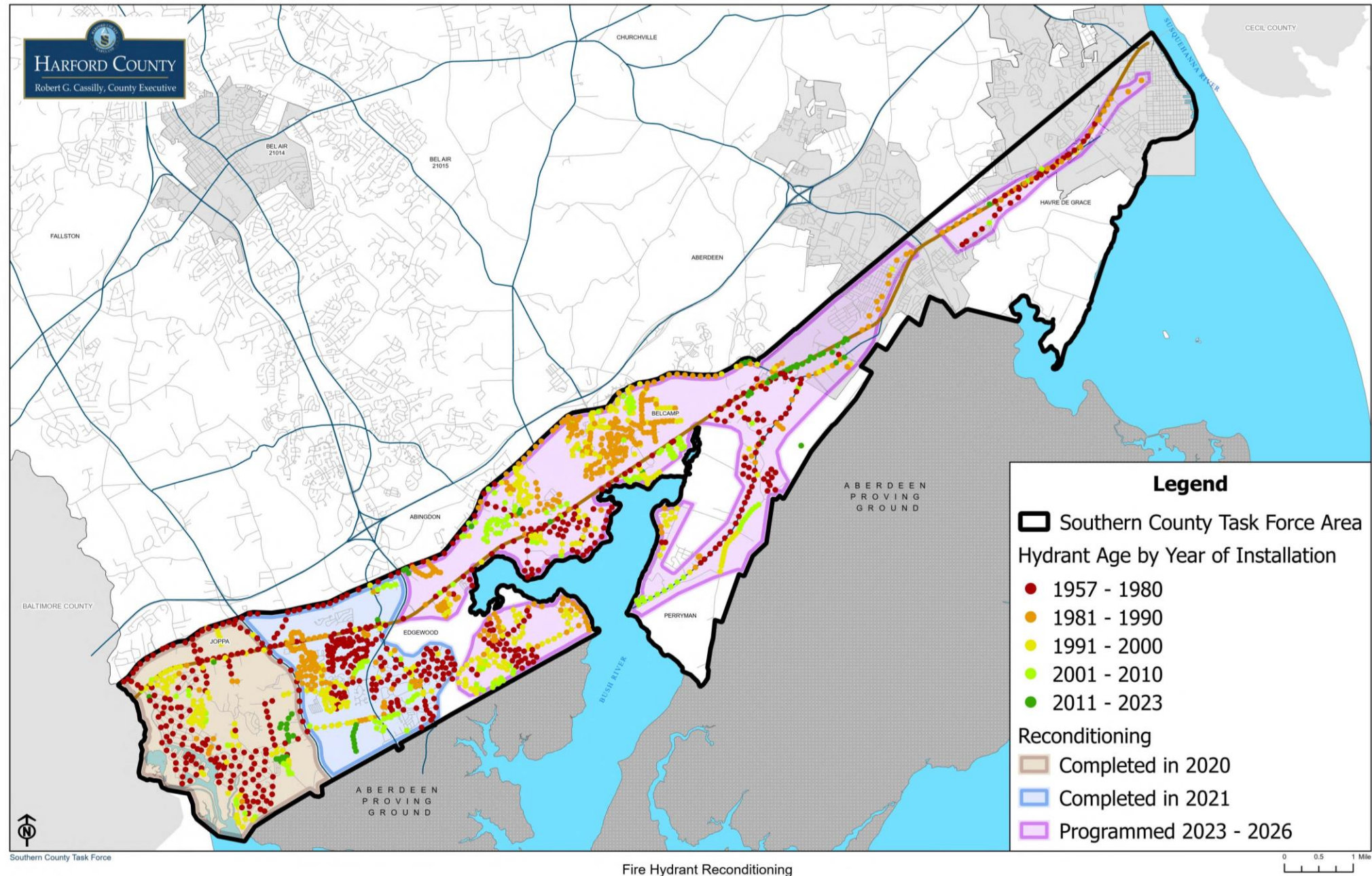
- **Ridgley's Reserve Water Booster Station**
 - Construction in progress
 - Complete by December 2023
- **Harford Square Water and Sewer Extensions**
 - Design in progress
 - Complete by Summer 2024
- **Joppatowne Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements**
 - Design in 2024
 - Construction in 2025-26



SCTF – Public Works

Fire Hydrant Reconditioning

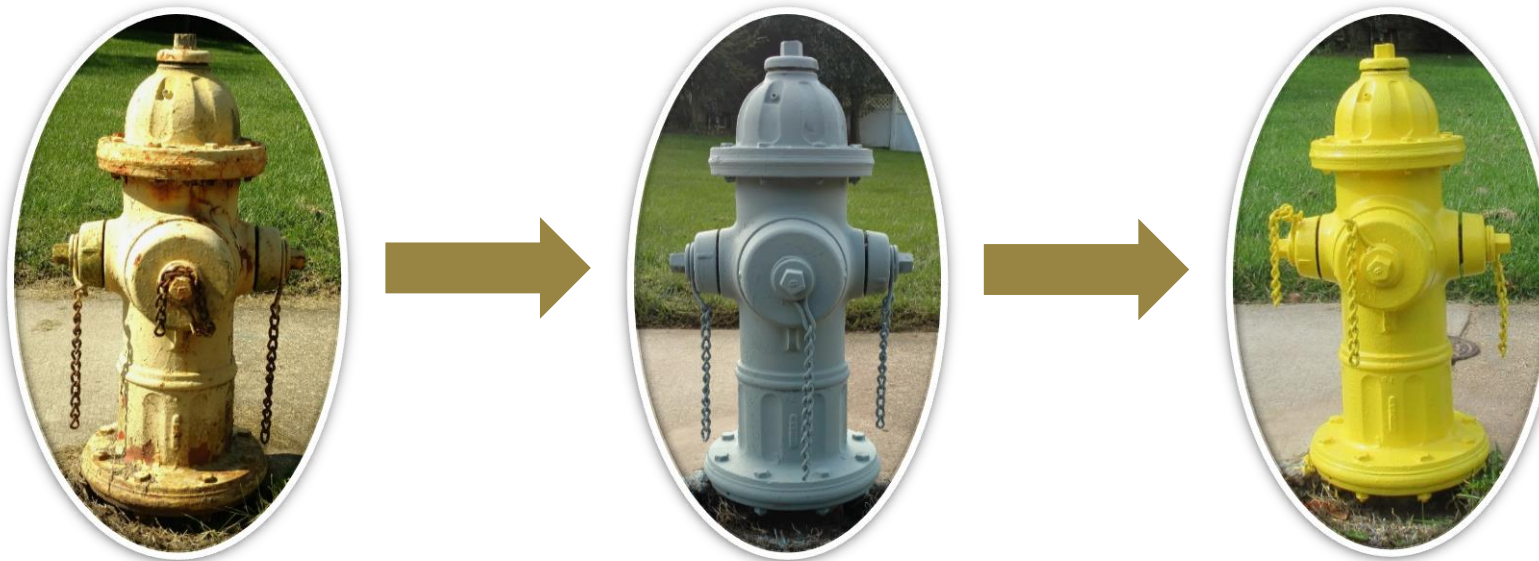
Hydrant Age with Completed and Programmed Reconditioning Areas





Action Items

- Continue investment in fire hydrant reconditioning program
 - Each hydrant – inspect, repair, lubricate, sandblast, prime and paint
 - Invest \$250,000 per year to recondition 500 hydrants per year
 - Balance of SCTF area **programmed for 2023-2026**



Parks & Recreation



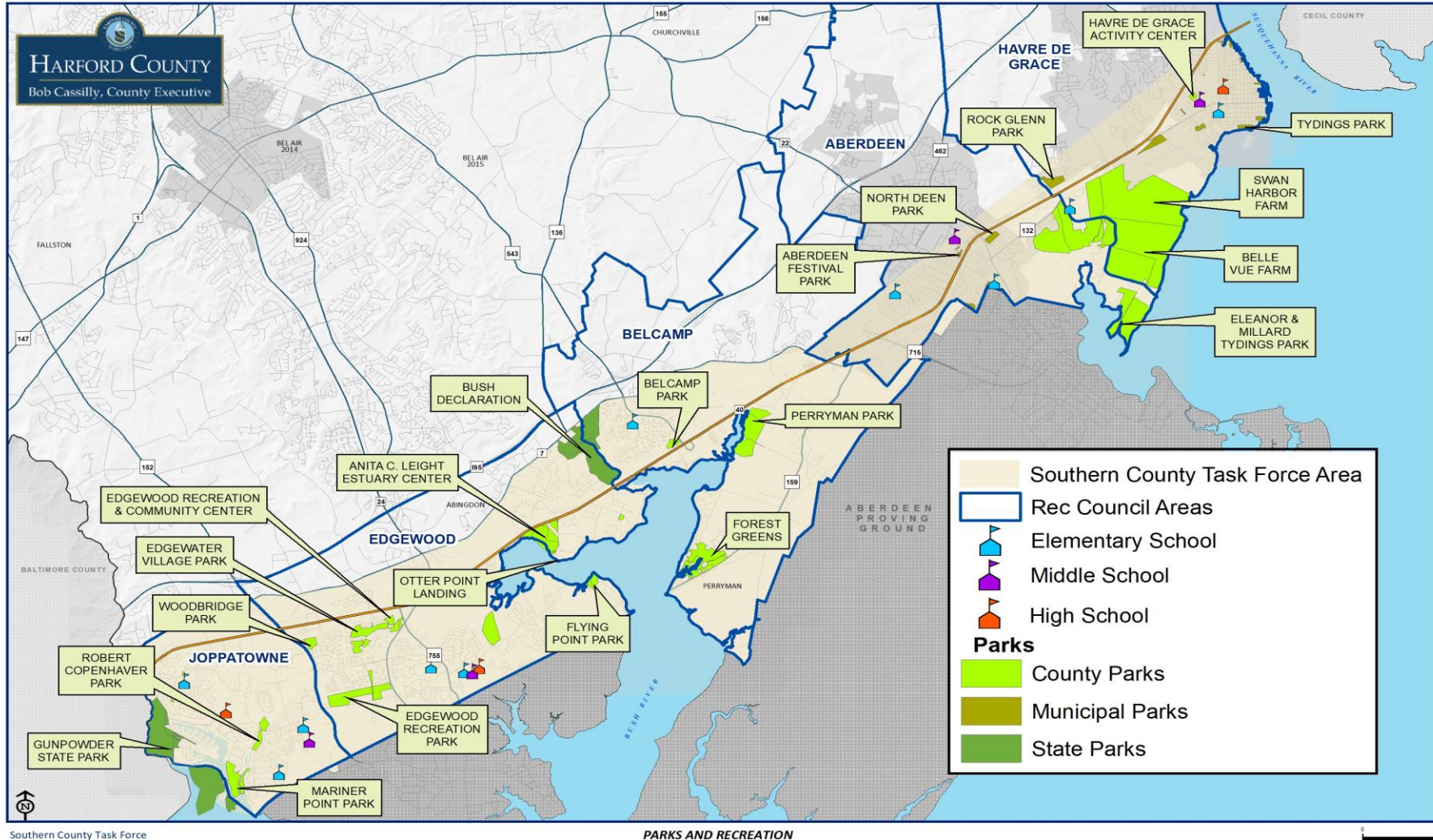
Bob Cassilly
County Executive

Paul Magness
Director



SCTF - Parks & Recreation

Southern County Task Force - Current Recreation Sites





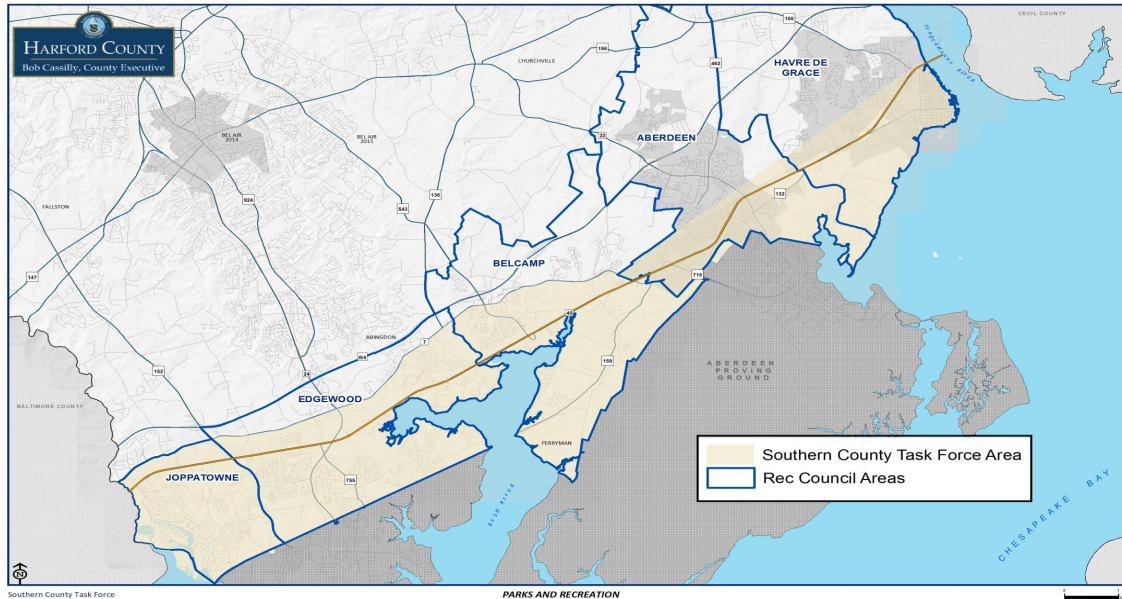
Actions Items

- **To achieve necessary access by all communities:**
 - Fund recreation center in **Joppatowne**
 - Fund recreation center in **Aberdeen**



Parks & Recreation

Southern County Task Force Current Program Registrations



Department of Parks & Recreation Programs (FY 23)

- Edgewood: 10 programs, 18 registrants
- Estuary Center: 90 programs, 659 registrants
- Aberdeen: 9 programs, 58 registrants
- Swan Harbor: 2 programs, 25 registrants

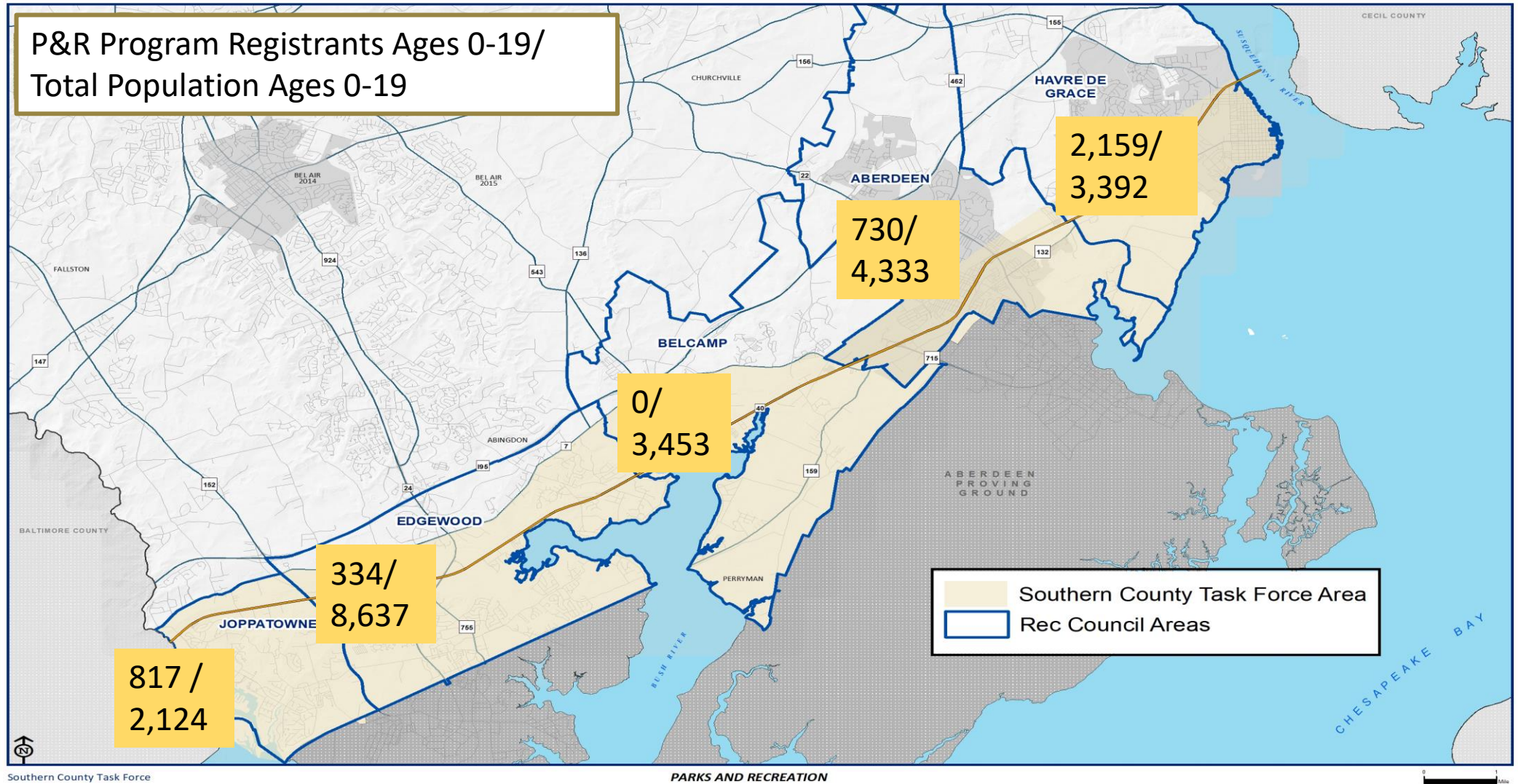
Recreation Council Programs (2022 information)

- Joppatowne: 9 programs, 817 registrants
- Edgewood: 7 programs, 334 registrants
- Belcamp: 0 programs
- Aberdeen: 11 programs, 730 registrants
- Havre de Grace: 17 programs, 2,159 registrants



Parks & Recreation

Southern County Task Force – Rec Council Areas





Actions Items

- Identify obstacles to participation in **county programs**
- Identify obstacles to youth participation in **recreation council programs**
- Recruit volunteers for **recreation council programs** (program chairs, coaches, etc.)
 - County government advertising campaign through social media
 - Work with Harford Community College to identify current and former student athletes who are interested in volunteering with recreation council programs
- Explore funding options to compensate program chairs, coaches, etc. in targeted areas

Economic Development



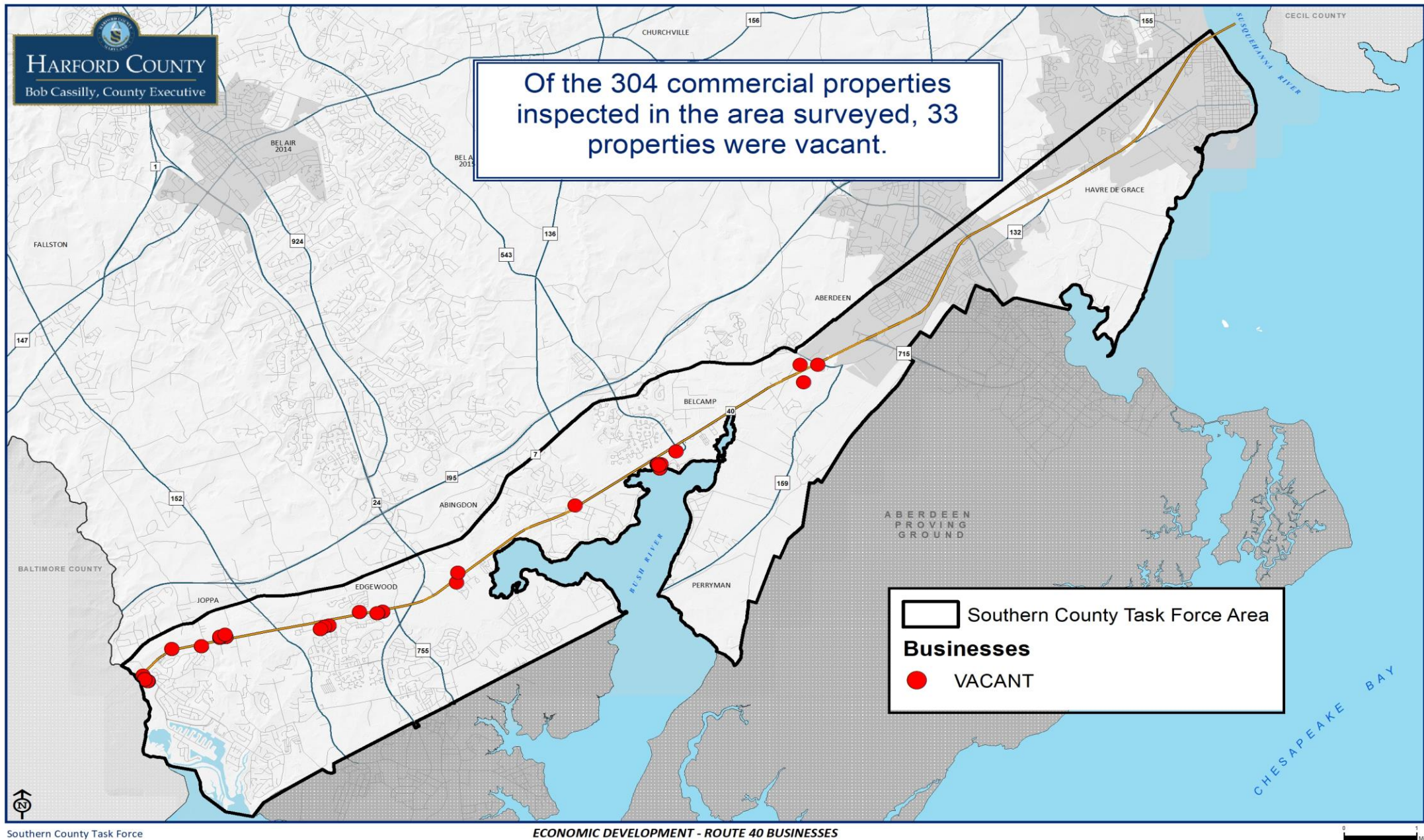
Bob Cassilly
County Executive

Karen Holt
Director



SCTF – Economic Development

*Number of
vacant
businesses*





Action Items

- **Revive dormant county business loan program** to assist small businesses with start up and expansion costs
- Continue Economic Development's **expanded engagements with Route 40 business** community to identify business impediments & opportunities
- Support businesses through the new **business development navigator**
- Promote **workforce development programs** in SCTF area (i.e. Workforce Technical Training Grant, Maryland Apprenticeship Program) in collaboration with HCC, HCPS, University of Maryland
- Create new **overlay districts** to provide local tax credits for additional employment



Action Items (continued)

- Assist jurisdictions and non-profits to qualify for grants and loans through **Neighborhood Business Development Programs** administered by MD Dept. of Housing and Community Development, i.e. **Main Street Improvement Program** (See Ann. Code of MD., Housing and Community Development § 6-102; COMAR 05.13.02, et seq.)
- Working with congressional delegation, secure federal grants and loans available to local businesses (e.g., **Community Development Financial Institutions Fund; Community Development Block Grant - Economic Development Infrastructure Financing; Sustainable Communities Program; Defense Community Infrastructure Program**, etc.)

Inspections, Licenses and Permits



Bob Cassilly
County Executive

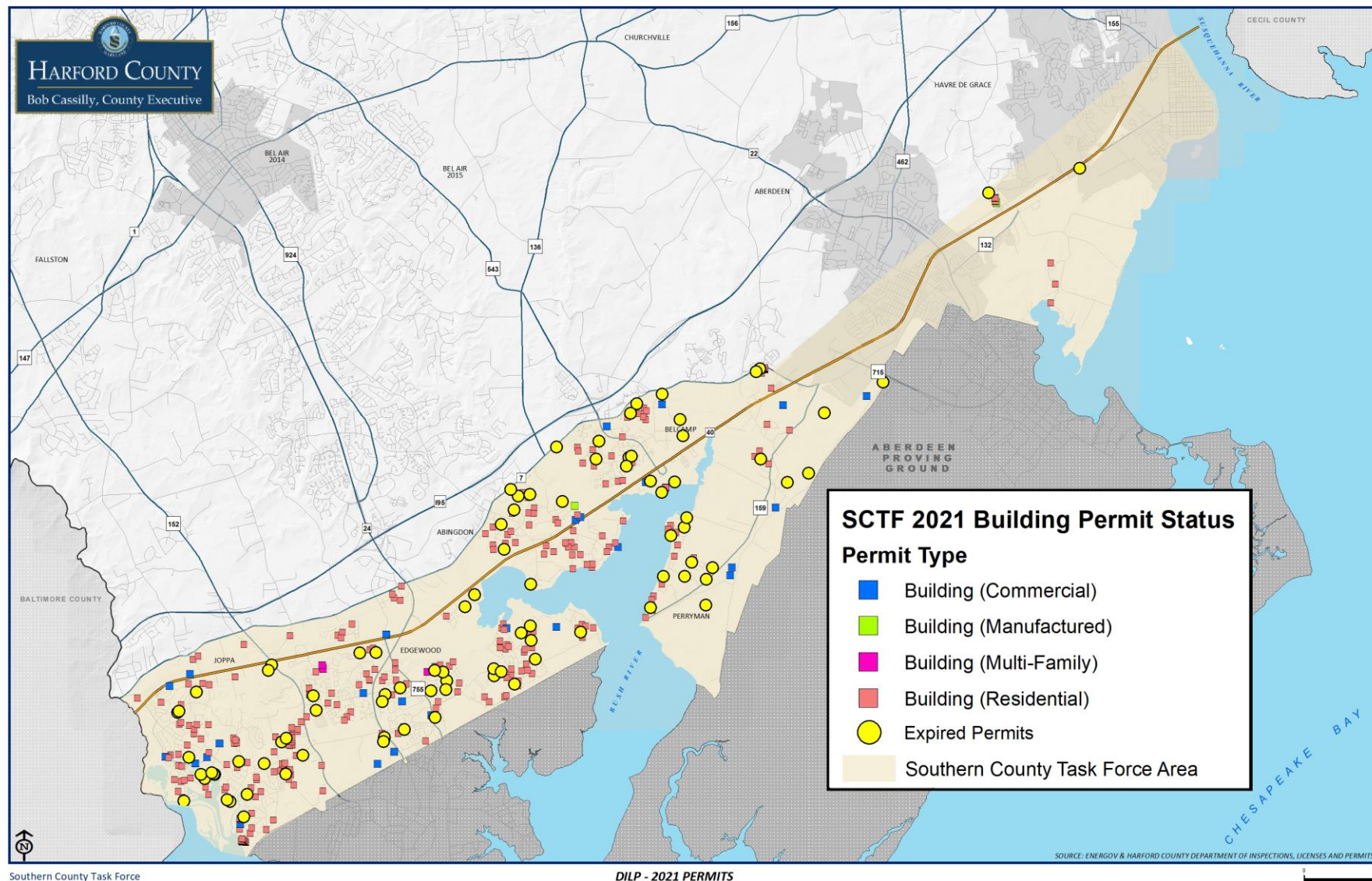
Richard Truitt
Director



Inspections, Licenses and Permits

***Building permits
applied for in the
task force area
in FY 21***

***Too many expired
building permits
cause unsafe
structures and
future complaints***





Action Items - Building Permit Status

- Expand efforts to ensure projects are completed by preventing permits from expiring
 - Send additional **notice to property owners** with expired permits to help facilitate completion within the task force area
 - **Increase enforcement for projects** where the scope of the project can lead to **unsafe conditions**, such as swimming pools and incomplete structures left vacant

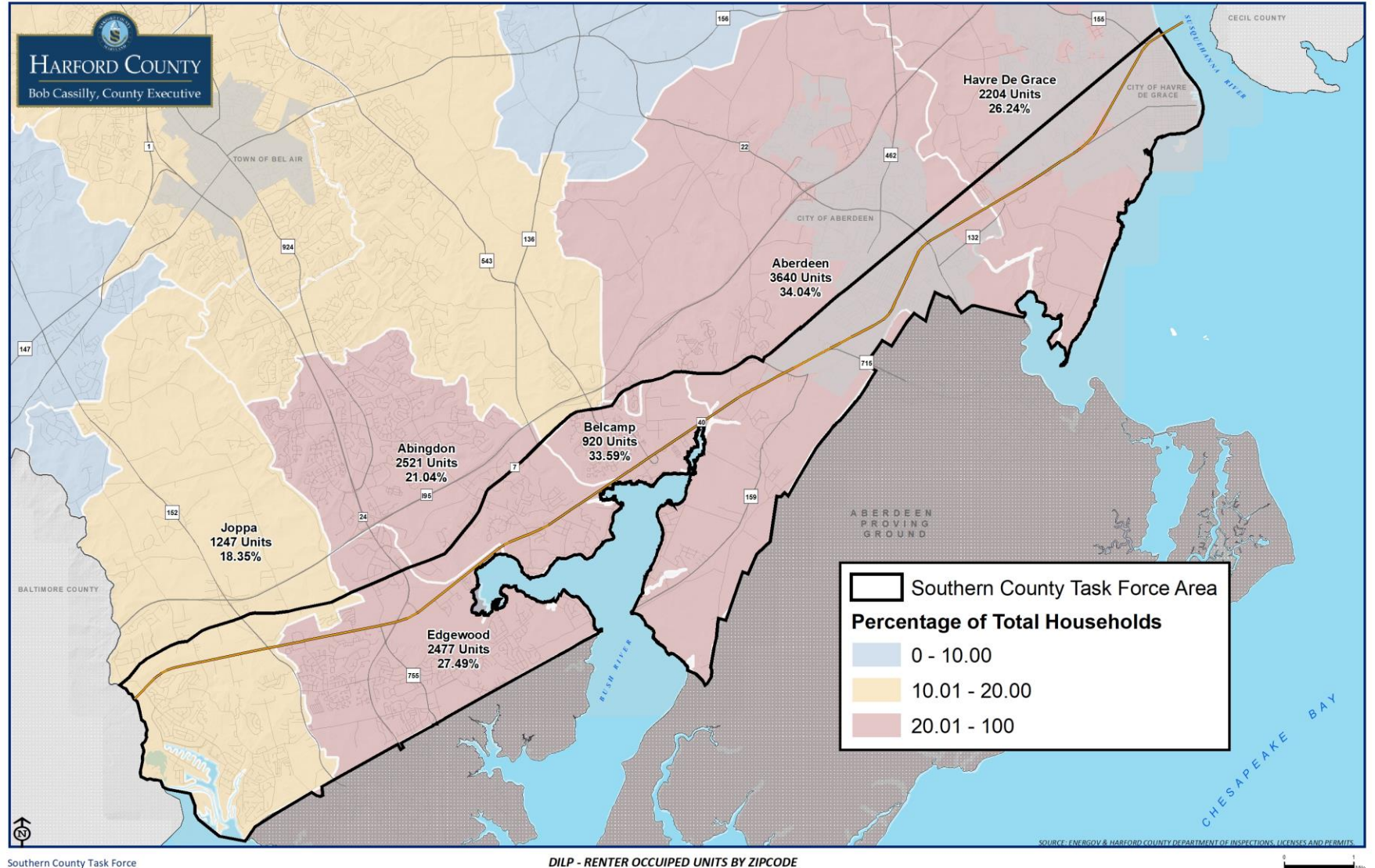


Inspections, Licenses and Permits

Concentration of Rental Units in SCTF area

% 2022 Rental Housing Units

21082 (Hydes)	5.31%
21013 (Baldwin)	5.98%
21047 (Fallston)	6.34%
21084 (Jarrettsville)	7.68%
21132 (Pylesville)	7.80%
21111 (Monkton)	8.19%
21028 (Churchville)	8.36%
21154 (Street)	8.52%
21087 (Kingsville)	9.28%
21161 (White Hall)	9.67%
21050 (Forest Hill)	10.94%
21034 (Darlington)	12.29%
21015 (Bel Air)	16.41%
21085 (Joppa)	18.35%
21014 (Bel Air)	19.03%
21160 (Whiteford)	19.98%
21009 (Abingdon)	21.04%
21078 (Havre De Grace)	26.24%
21040 (Edgewood)	27.49%
21017 (Belcamp)	33.59%
21001 (Aberdeen)	34.04%



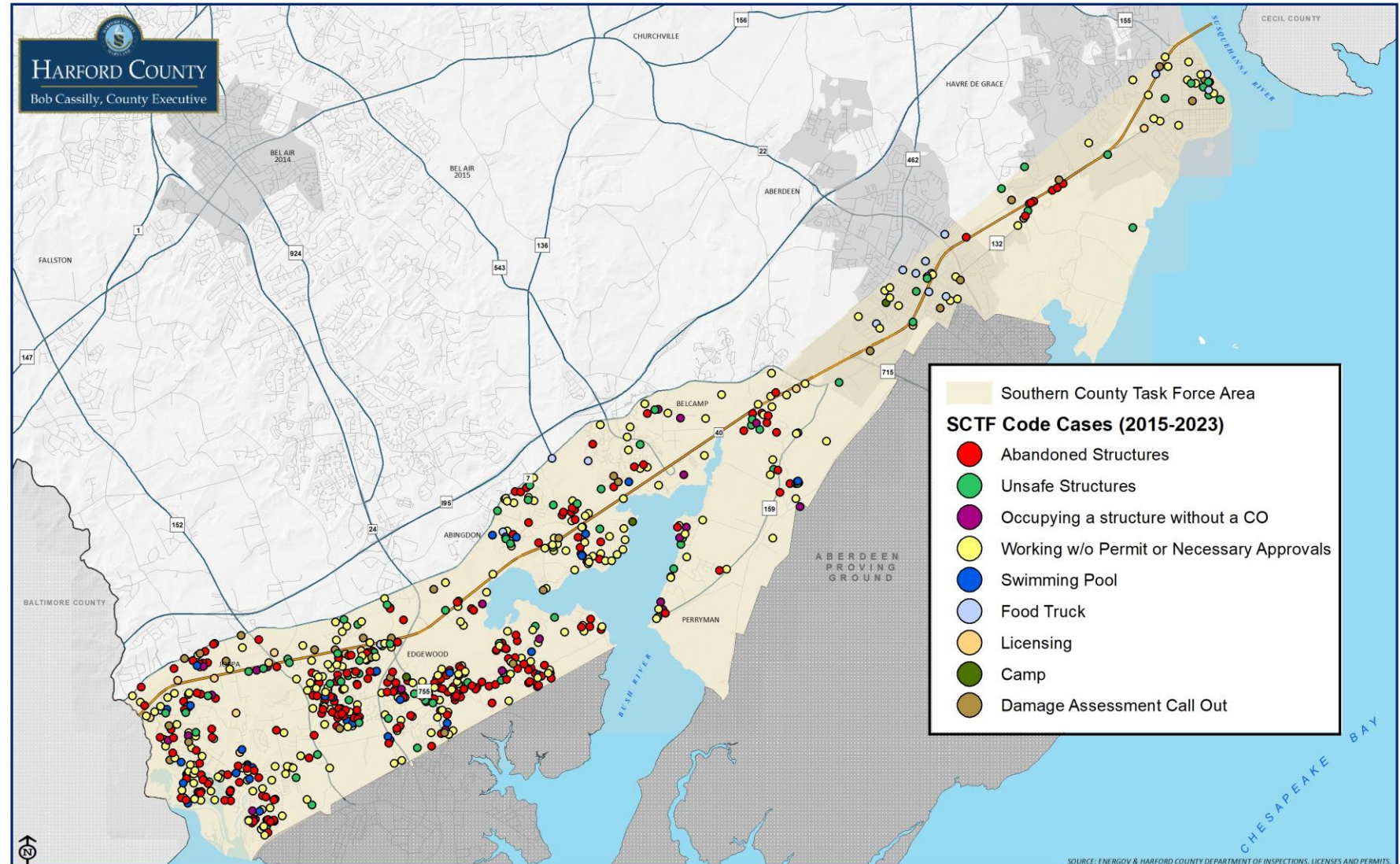


Inspections, Licenses and Permits

Concentration of Abandoned & Unsafe Structures in SCTF area

2015-2023 DILP Enforcement Cases

Reflects enforcement cases investigated by DILP within the task force area.





Action Items - DILP Enforcement Cases

- Intensify efforts to **verify status of complaints**
- Use **civil penalties** in the investigative process to encourage Code compliance
- Update Chapter 162 – Livability Code.
 - Implement **rental unit registration** to set minimum property standard for rental units that must be adhered to by owners and tenants
 - Incorporate 2021 **International Property Maintenance Code**
 - Adopt an **abandoned structure registry** as a data base of abandoned structures and points of contact for each

In Progress – Initiated civil penalty legislation, approved by County Council



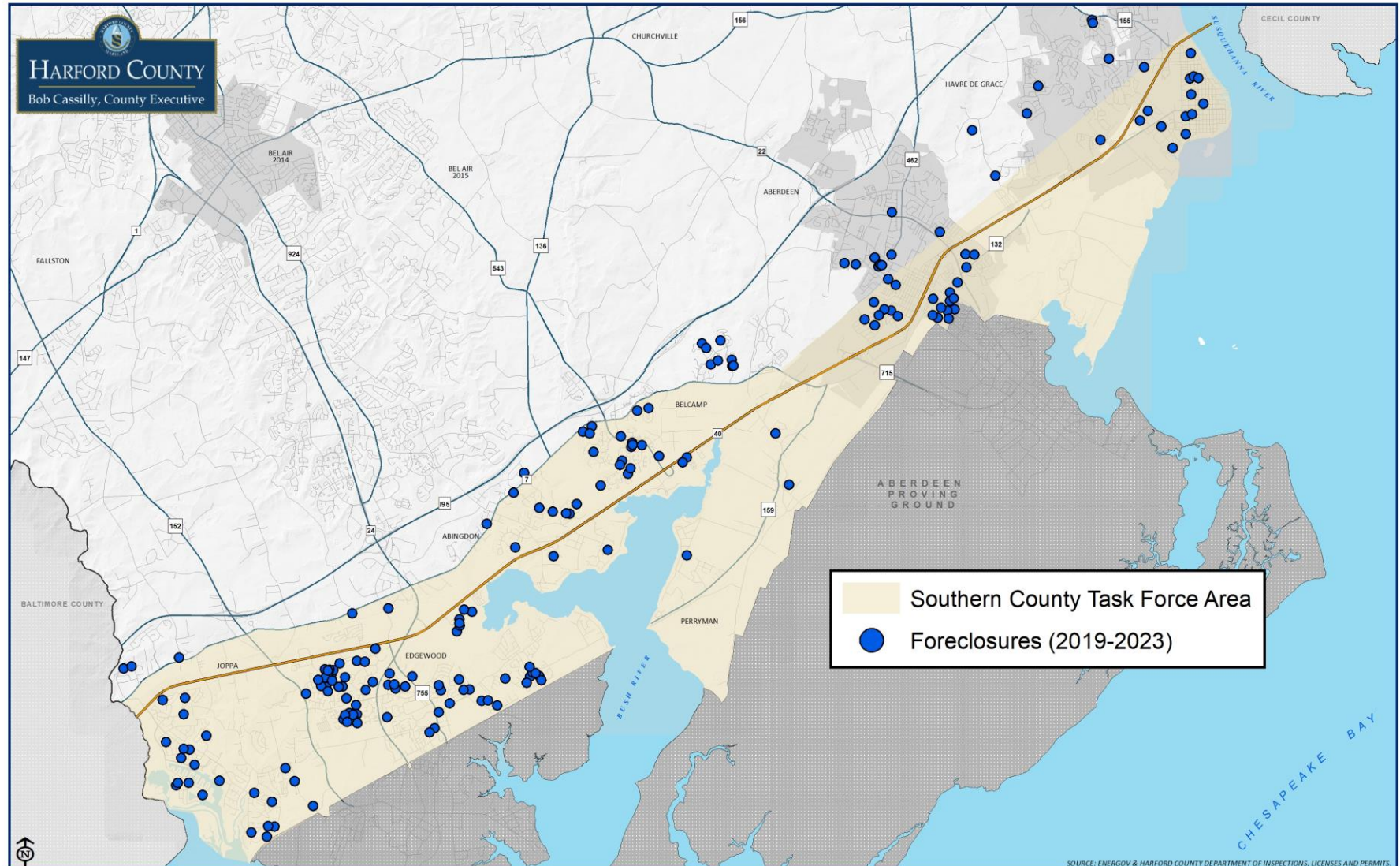
Inspections, Licenses and Permits

2019-2023

Residential Foreclosures

Large number of foreclosed properties are not maintained

Reflects foreclosure registrations submitted to the State Foreclosure Registry within the task force area.



Southern County Task Force

DILP - FORECLOSURES

SOURCE: ENERGOV & HARFORD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS.

0 1 2 Miles



Action Items - Residential Foreclosures

- Continue periodic **drive by inspections of foreclosed properties** to ID unsafe structures.
 - Foreclosed properties often left vacant for extended time until resold.
 - Vacated properties have a greater potential to have unprotected swimming pools, open and accessible structures, vandalism, leading to unsafe conditions
- Utilize **State foreclosure registry** to identify point of contact that the County can contact to address unsafe conditions.

Emergency Services



Bob Cassilly
County Executive

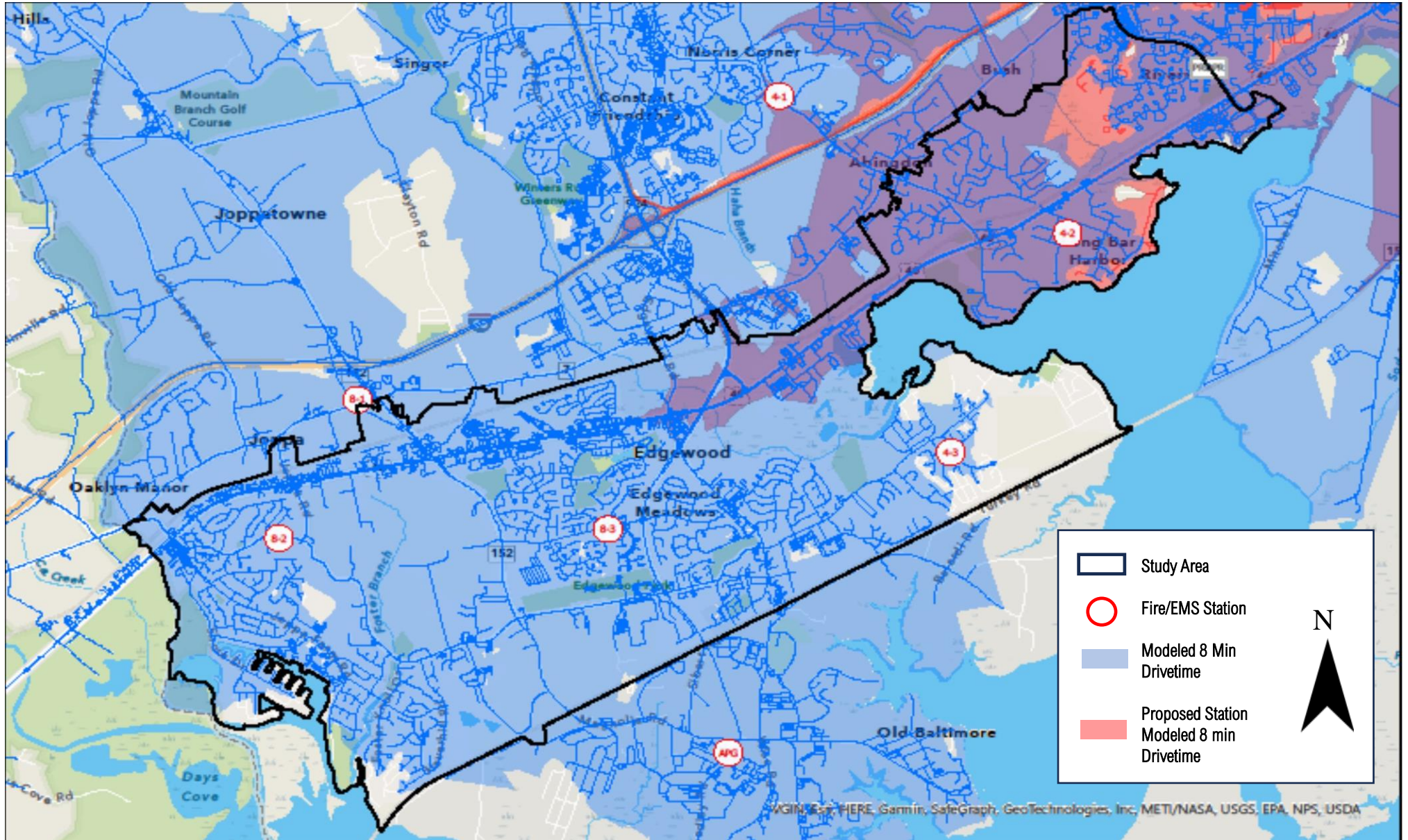
Richard Ayers
Director



SCTF – Emergency Services

Allocation of
EMS resources
was not
adequate to
support an
8-minute
response time.

*Projected
EMS 8-minute
travel time
service areas*





Action Items

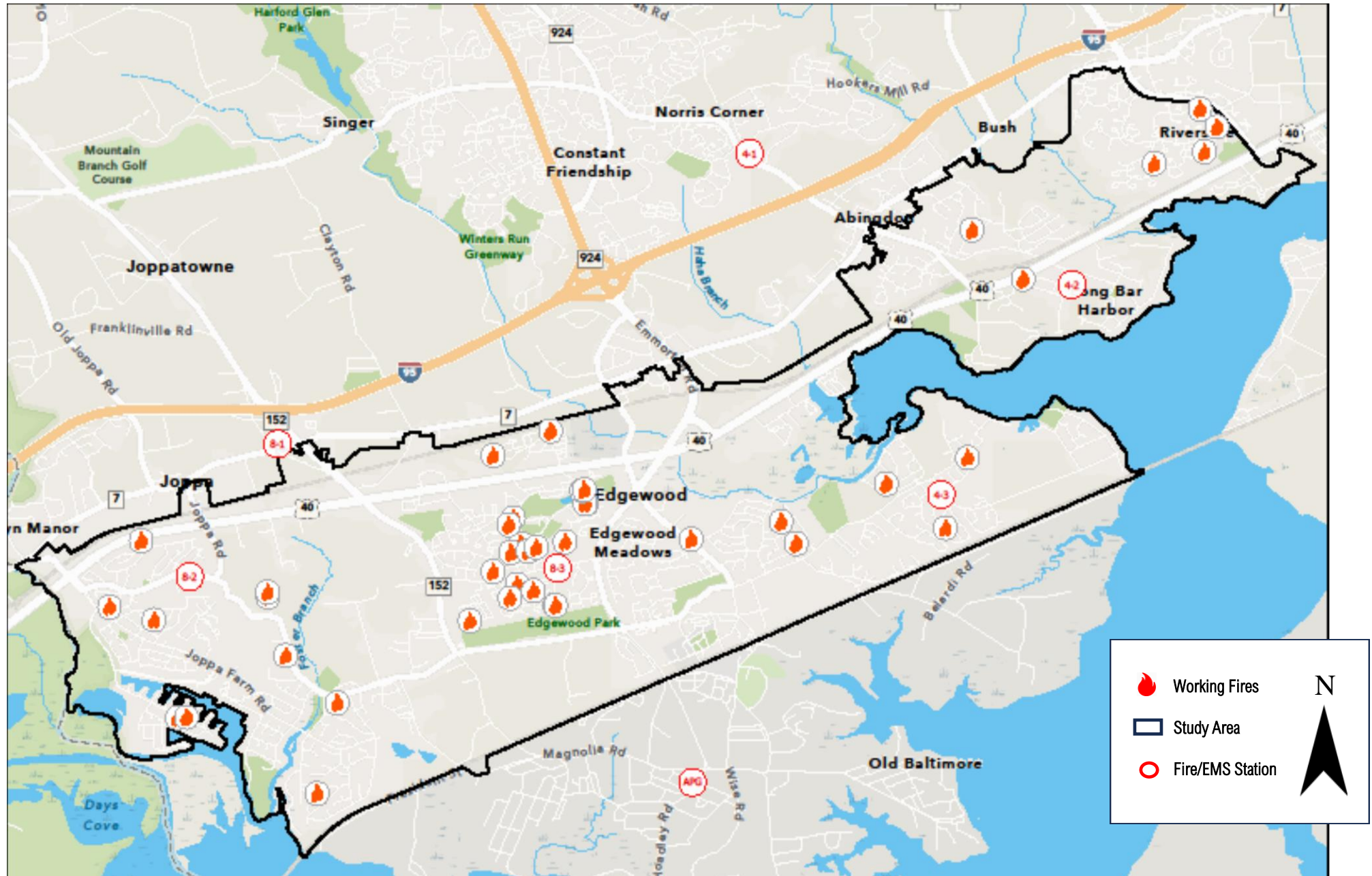
- Deployed additional County Medic Units:
 - Joppa (2) **COMPLETED**
 - Abingdon (2) **COMPLETED**
 - Riverside (1) **PLANNED 2025**
- Offer a “Prepare Because You Care” Program at the Edgewood Community Center



SCTF – Emergency Services

Fire Calls 2021-2023

Substantial
number of
working
structure fires
and burden on
volunteer fire
stations
in SCTF area





Action Items

- Support Volunteer Fire Companies by funding **volunteer incentive programs**
- Coordinate with Volunteer Fire Companies to conduct **neighbor safety walks**
- Support Volunteer Fire Companies through **Harford County funded volunteer recruitment advertising and recruitment drives**
- Work with HCPS to promote the **Volunteer Fire Cadet Program**

Transit



Bob Cassilly
County Executive

Joe Sliwka
Harford Transit



Action Items

- Obtain grant to construct new transit center along the Route 40 corridor
- Encourage location of **dialysis centers in SCTF area** to improve client access
- Obtain grant funding to explore & implement **micro-transit opportunities** in the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas
- Utilize **GIS to develop enhancements to transit development plan**
- Continue funding and support to complete pre-designed and **engineered bus shelters** along the Route 40 corridor
- Rideshare coordinator to visit businesses and services to reintroduce **Transit and Share Tax Benefits** for employers



Southern County Task Force

Contact Us



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