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President’s Message

We have had lots of activities since our last newsletter. My report includes the following sections:

• The Chapter’s Annual Meeting
• Hot off the press: Results from APA’s latest poll
• Community Planning Assistance Team Deadline is December 5
• The Awards Contest for the fall MD-DE Regional Conference
• A ‘Thank you’ to Jerry Zekert, AICP

The Chapter’s Annual Meeting – Friday, June 29, 2012

The MD APA Chapter Meeting will be held on Friday, June 29, at the Delaplaine Center in Frederick, MD, from noon to 4:00 pm. The meeting is open to all Chapter members. This year the program, registration, and payment are online at http://www.marylandapa.org/news.php.

The Honorable Ron Young, Maryland Senator for District 3, will provide a much needed legislative update—what happened last session and what is anticipated for the upcoming one. Ron is one of our best advocates in the Maryland Senate, and we can expect a lively discussion. Thomas (Tom) McGrath, FAIA, FAPT, will provide the Keynote presentation. Tom is the Superintendent of the National Park Service Historic Preservation Training (HPTC) Tom’s presentation will be “Araby Preserved: The story of how seven years of collaboration, craftsmanship and rehabilitation effort retained 18th century architectural fabric in a new decade of sustainability, safety, and security.” It has only been six months since the completion of the seven year project to rehabilitate Araby, the historic Thomas House, for use as the headquarters for the Monocracy National Battlefield in Frederick, Maryland.

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The Maryland Transit Administration’s (MTA) Purple Line is a proposed 16-mile light rail in the Washington DC suburbs. This new transit service would connect both branches of the Metro Red line in Bethesda and Silver Spring, the Green Line in College Park, the Orange Line in New Carrollton, all three MARC commuter rail lines, and Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor line. With 21 stations the Purple Line would provide faster, more reliable transit service for east-west travel. While funding has not been secured yet, construction for the project is planned to begin in 2015, with opening day anticipated for 2020.

As land uses have changed and more employment and activity centers are located in the suburbs, Washington DC’s radial Metro system does not serve the new travel patterns well and the increasingly congested roadways make bus service slow and unreliable. The Purple Line will serve three basic markets: people in the corridor going to destinations within the corridor, people who live in the corridor traveling to destinations outside the corridor (the Purple Line will take them to the Metro lines for jobs or other destinations in DC, or farther out into the counties – for example, Rockville or Glenmont), and finally people who live outside the corridor going to destinations in the corridor, for example someone who lives in Wheaton and works at the University of Maryland. Thirty percent of the Purple Line’s rides will use Metro for part of their trip.

The Purple Line will be a modern light rail system with low floor vehicles and an off-board fare system for easy, rapid boarding. Because so many Purple Line riders are transferring to or from Metro, the Purple Line’s hours of service will match those of Metro. The trains will run every 6 minutes during peak hours and every 10 minutes off peak. The Purple Line is anticipated to have 60,000 riders per day; making it one of the more heavily used light rail lines in the country.

The Purple Line will operate primarily in or adjacent to existing roadways. Because of the challenges of threading a light rail line through existing development, much of it residential, the Purple Line has had an extensive public involvement program. Over the past seven years the MTA
has held over 800 meetings, working hard to understand community issues, address community concerns and ultimately develop a project that is well integrated into the local community, and will serve local users well, with minimal adverse effects.

Two recent changes in the project were the location and layout of the yard and shop in Lyttonsville, and the alignment on Kenilworth Avenue in Riverdale Park. Lyttonsville is a historic African-American community founded in 1853 by Samuel Lytton, a freed slave. As the Purple Line, originally a 4-mile project from Bethesda to Silver Spring, was extended to a 16-mile line, the yard and shop needs grew and the site was chosen in Lyttonsville. While supportive of the project and looking forward to a station in their community, local residents were not pleased with the proposed yard and shop locations, which would have required the relocation of existing businesses and would have been near homes. Working with local elected officials, the MTA was able to relocate the yard and shop away from the homes, avoiding many of the commercial properties that residents would like to retain for future redevelopment. Local residents were very pleased with the new plans, and impressed that their concerns were listened to.

On Kenilworth Avenue in Riverdale Park the Purple Line was adjacent to the existing roadway. The State Highway Administration (SHA) had identified the need for future widening of Kenilworth Avenue, particularly to serve projected traffic from the University of Maryland’s M Square Research Park. Because of this widening the Purple Line would have been pushed into properties on the west side of Kenilworth Avenue, resulting in the displacement of nine businesses. After much coordination and additional traffic analysis SHA agreed that no additional widening to accommodate future traffic would be required and now only three properties will be needed. The MTA also modified the PL alignment to run in the median of Kenilworth Avenue to maintain access to the existing businesses. Local businesses and elected officials of the Town of Riverdale Park were very happy with the new plans.

These examples are typical of the public involvement of the Purple Line project. The MTA takes very seriously the role of local stakeholders in the development of the project. Several years ago the University of Maryland had serious concerns about the project, but in a collaborative process with the University’s Facilities Master Planning Committee the MTA has developed plans now supported by the University. Last fall the MTA received permission from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to enter Preliminary Engineering. This endorsement from the FTA is not a guarantee of funding, but it is a recognition of the viability of the project. As the project moves forward, the MTA will continue to refine the plans to develop a project that provides the needed service to local users and is well integrated into the communities through which it passes. The Final Environmental Impact Statement should be completed this fall and the MTA anticipates a Record of Decision in spring 2013.
Formed in 2000 as a center for research and leadership training, the National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland (NCSG) has historically served as a balanced, non-partisan voice on the topics of growth and land use. Over the years, NCSG projects have been as interdisciplinary as the concept of growth itself, covering a range of topics including affordable housing, public health, government regulation, transportation modeling, community revitalization, brownfield redevelopment, and environmental preservation. The NCSG also takes seriously the University of Maryland’s land grant mission of providing service to the State of Maryland and has been deeply engaged in a number of Maryland-based projects.

Recent Maryland Projects
By statute, NCSG director, Gerrit Knaap serves as a member of the Smart Growth Subcabinet and the Sustainable Growth Commission. In these roles Professor Knaap has been extensively involved in the creation of the State’s first statewide development plan, PlanMaryland. In addition, the NCSG has worked closely with the State Highway Administration and the Maryland Department of Transportation developing and assessing several transportation and land use scenarios. In April 2011, the NCSG partnered with the Montgomery County Planning Department and the Urban Studies and Planning Program at the University of Maryland to host “Makeover Montgomery,” a well-attended symposium featuring presentations from more than 40 national experts on retrofitting America’s suburbs. Currently, the NCSG is engaged with the Maryland Department of Planning and several non-profit organizations on the Sustainable and Equitable Economic Development (SEED) Initiative. The SEED Initiative’s primary objective is to develop, promote, and implement an equitable and sustainable economic development approach within the constructs of PlanMaryland. This new approach presumes that job opportunity creation is dependent not only on the retention and recruitment of new firms and industries, but on investments in human and natural capital, on removal of obstacles between job opportunities and underserved populations, and on appropriate and integrated public transportation, land use, environmental, and social service policies. Through the creation of statewide opportunity maps, the NCSG is able to measure the accessibility of different population groups to various social and economic opportunities.

The NCSG has also recently partnered with The Greater Cumberland Committee and the University of Maryland Extension to assess the economic development needs and opportunities for Western Maryland. Having conducted extensive research on demographic, economic, infrastructure and land use trends in the region, NCSG staff will be conducting workshops with local stakeholders in Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties this spring. The priorities identified will be documented and presented to the Maryland Department of Planning and the Smart Growth Subcabinet to inform the economic development components of PlanMaryland.

Finally, the NCSG participated in the Baltimore Regional Sustainable Communities grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the grant was approved in November, 2011. Professor Knaap serves on the Nexus and Steering Committees and will be assisting the Baltimore Metropolitan Council in developing opportunity maps and conducting scenario exercises for the Baltimore Metropolitan area.
Center Expansion

Over the years, the NCSG has grown to include several subcenters:

- **In 2007, the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) became an independent operating unit located within the NCSG.** One of ten University-based centers across the country, EFC creates innovative financing solutions that help communities manage the costs associated with environmental protection and improvement. EFC is led by Joanne Throwe and administers the Maryland Sustainable Certified program.

- **The Transportation Policy Research Group (TPRG)** was created in 2009 to explore new transportation policy approaches that give citizens economically and environmentally sustainable mobility choices that promote sound urban development. Under the leadership of Director Fred Ducca, TPRG teamed with consultants and the State Highway Administration to develop and now maintain Maryland's statewide transportation model.

- **The Center for the Use of Sustainable Practices (CUSP)** began operating under the NCSG umbrella in 2009. CUSP is the administrative home of the University of Maryland’s Solar Decathlon entry, which recently took first place in the international competition organized by the U.S. Department of Energy. CUSP is an inter-disciplinary center for the design and research of sustainable practices for buildings, communities and cities.

- **The Housing Strategies Group (HSG)** was established in 2010. Its goals are to advance research and public education around housing affordability, to match housing with employment opportunities, and to expand housing choices, while making connections to smart growth. HSG is led by Casey Dawkins, who joined the NCSG staff in 2011.

The Planning and Design Center

In June 2012, the NCSG will expand once more, creating the Planning and Design Center (PDC) under the direction of **Uri Avin, FAICP**. The PDC will assist local, regional and state agencies in Maryland and across the nation on a wide range of projects. These will include land use planning, urban design, integrated land use/transportation planning, economic analysis, agricultural preservation, housing and environmental issues. A particular strength of the PDC will be its extensive modeling and visualization capabilities.

The PDC will draw on the substantial expertise of the faculty and practitioners associated with the NCSG and throughout the University whose leading scholars can apply their expertise to planning for sustainability. Drawing on Maryland’s 50 years of experience in managing growth and on the national experience of its staff in award-winning work around the country, the PDC will assist agencies with comprehensive plans, smart growth audits, corridor planning, MPO scenario-based planning, and multi-modal planning.

Said Professor Knaap: “The NCSG is extremely pleased to add Uri Avin and the Planning and Design Center to its family of activity centers. With the addition of Uri and the PDC, the NCSG will be able to become more directly engaged in the fundamental planning and smart growth work for which local governments in Maryland have become internationally renowned.”

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- Gerrit Knaap
On Saturday April 28th, 2012, the University of Maryland College Park’s Student Planning Association organized and conducted a walking tour of the Charm City. Entitled Explore Baltimore, the walking tour included an array of Baltimore’s neighborhoods, projects, and developments. The tour was collaboratively led by University of Maryland Master’s Planning students (and Baltimore residents) Andrew Bernish and Phil LaCombe as well as Steve Allan, AICP, from the Maryland Department of Planning. Tour participants also graciously provided unique insights throughout the tour.

The tour featured discussions of development projects, urban design, and transit connectivity occurring within the neighborhoods of Station North, Greenmount West, Mt. Vernon, Harbor East, Little Italy, Lexington Market, and Seton Hill. Some of the topics covered included tax credit projects (historic and low income), city art installations, Phase 2 of the Jones Falls Trail, the Cycle Maryland Initiative, the Lanvale Street TOD, Alley Homes, the Albemarle Square Hope VI Development, the city’s ownership of historic monuments, the Mayor’s Westside Redevelopment Project, the Red Line, and the Wire.

The tour was well-attended with a head count of nearly 50. This turnout was pretty good for a cloudy and drizzly Saturday! Planning students from the University of Maryland, George Washington University, and Morgan State attended along with members of the Maryland Chapter of the American Planning Association and DC-based YIPPS (Young Innovative Professional Planning Superstars). The tour started at Penn Station and by the time the tour ended, participants had walked nearly 4 miles. The tour also included rides on the Charm City Circulator and the Baltimore Metro. The day concluded with a Happy Hour at Brewer’s Art in Mt. Vernon.

Even at 4 hours, the tour could not comprehensively cover all of the topics for the geographic areas of focus. The tour’s attendance and enthusiastic response are indicative of a desire by the Maryland planning community to explore Baltimore further during additional walking tours.
**AICP for Educators Proposal Update**

by Jim Potter, AICP, PP

Last fall a proposal was floated to consider giving Planning professors AICP certification without taking an exam. It caused quite a stir among you, the members, when it hit the ether. The proposal was rescinded at the AICP Commissioners’ meeting in Los Angeles. A task force was created to consider ways to enhance collaboration between practicing and academic/faculty planners. Paul Inghram, Past President of the Commission, is chairing the task force. Paul’s group is reviewing several recommendations that were accepted by the AICP Commission at the LA meeting. His email is paulinghram@gmail.com if you would like to contribute suggestions for the task force. Terry Harrington, our former Region 2 AICP Commissioner, said that future issues of AICP Interact will include up to date info as the task force progresses.

**City, Town, Neighborhood – What is a Complete Community?**

Biannual Planning Conference, October 17-19, 2012

by Jim Noonan, AICP

The biannual planning conference sponsored by the Maryland and Delaware APA Chapters is scheduled for October 17 through October 19 at the Columbia Sheraton. The theme of the conference is “City, Town, Neighborhood: What Makes a Complete Community?” The theme is inspired by Columbia as it approaches its 50th anniversary. Not coincidentally, Columbia is in the midst of planning for revitalizing the downtown area. The selection of the Columbia Sheraton, with its location on Lake Kittamaquendi, is central to the proposed downtown revitalization, and provides an excellent starting point for a discussion of urban revitalization, conversion of older town centers, and suburban retrofit issues.

Nearly 40 session proposals were received from planners representing a mix of government, non-profits and consultant firms from around the region. Many sessions will provide Certification Maintenance credits for AICP members.

National, state, and local leaders of the Planning profession will be present. Confirmed keynote speakers include: Paul Farmer, Chief Executive Officer of the American Planning Association, as well as its Ethics Officer; Mitch Silver, President of the APA and Chief of Planning for the City of Raleigh; and Robin Rather who will speak to the issue of communication for planners. Make plans now to be in attendance at this exciting event.
Welcome to the world of the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, and the Phase II Watershed Implementation Plans that address the causes of water quality impairments at the local scale. As local governments begin to grapple with the costs associated with the Bay TMDL, an existing tool may help solve our water quality woes, while also achieving other environmental and human health goals. Protecting forests and wooded areas, planting riparian forest buffers, and increasing urban tree canopy all work toward improving water quality, but also reduce flooding in local communities, improve air quality, and replenish groundwater supplies needed to sustain natural stream systems.

Forests to Improve Bay Water Quality
A broad policy to plant riparian forest buffers to protect Bay water quality has been around since 1994, when the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership implemented the Riparian Buffer Initiative. The 2000 Chesapeake Bay Agreement increased the goal for planting riparian buffers and established a goal to preserve contiguous (unfragmented) forest in the watershed.

In 2009, Maryland passed the Forest Conservation Act – No Net Loss of Forest Policy. The Act required the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), with help from forestry industry stakeholders, to submit a report on policies to achieve no net loss of forests in the State, by December 2011. The actions included in the 2011 report, “build on existing programs and regulations including the recent development of Watershed Implementation Plans to meet the Total Maximum Daily Load requirements for the Chesapeake Bay, the Forest Conservation Act, and local planning and zoning requirements.”

Tree Plantings and Reforestation Best Management Practices
In its recent guidance for stormwater permits, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) included tree plantings and reforestation in a list of alternative restoration practices. The MDE guidance shows the pollutant loads for different land uses (from the U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Model 5.3.0), with load reductions various restoration approaches. In the Bay Program Model, forest contributes the lowest volumes of runoff and generates the least amount of Nitrogen, Phosphorus and sediment, the pollutants identified in the Bay TMDL. According to the guidance, converting urban impervious or urban pervious lands to trees receives an “efficiency” credit, or

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a percent reduction of pollutant loads to the acreage converted to trees. The following table shows annual runoff loads per acre for forest, urban impervious and urban pervious lands. Converting an acre of urban impervious surface to forest would reduce nitrogen and phosphorus runoff from that acre by 71 and 94 percent, respectively. The model assumes that once the trees are planted, the pollutants are reduced.

The cost of tree planting depends on a variety of factors: project purpose, site requirements, tree or sapling size and expected survival rates, and in-house resources (crew, equipment, supply of trees) versus outside contracting with maintenance (watering and removal of invasive plant species) and warranties. The cost of tree planting can be reduced significantly by partnering with watershed nongovernmental organizations and community groups, to plant and maintain the trees until they get established. Using volunteers means smaller trees (saplings) will be planted. The results take a long time to be realized, but it provides an opportunity for community involvement and long term stewardship. Tree planting using a planting crew on staff and trees from an in-house nursery ranges from $1,200 to $3,000 per acre. Contracting to plant the larger trees specified in MDE’s guidance document (two inch diameter at breast height), with maintenance included ranges from $7,500 to $10,000 per acre.

An Important Role for Planners
During a 2011 Chesapeake Bay Restoration webinar sponsored by the American Planning Association, Department Executive Director of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, John Carlock, AICP, said the role of planners is to use green infrastructure and smart growth to meet the needs of TMDL requirements, and to bring together disparate solutions and partners. Planners are the mediators and problem solvers.

Comparing the cost of tree planting with costs of other alternative BMPs is difficult. Costs must be normalized, and objectives must be comparable. Stream restoration projects require more time and expense, but may be necessary to abate severe erosion and property loss. For design and construction, an average cost of stream restoration is estimated at $350 per linear foot, not including property acquisition costs. Design and construction of on-site stormwater retrofits on residential property, can range from $10,000 to $40,000 per impervious acre treated, not including property acquisition costs.
Why Forests are so Important?

Natural Filtering
From the tree canopy to the leaf litter and deep soils, forests are a complex infiltration system that is not easily replaced or quickly and inexpensively mitigated. For example, the organic matter (the top layer of the soil) in a forest takes 20 years to develop. For infiltration capacity, macropores must develop within the soil around the root structure. Forest canopy, leaf litter and tree roots, and downed woody material all provide essential elements to protect stream banks and support aquatic organisms. During land development, this intricate filtering system is usually removed and is replaced by lawns and landscaped areas that lack this natural filtering system.

Instream Habitat
Loss of forest structure and canopy cover reduces the biological integrity of streams. Good quality streams are not present if more than 10 percent of the watershed is impervious.

Drinking Water Supplies
In October 2011, U.S. Forest Service Liaison to the Chesapeake Bay Program, Sally Claggett, presented “Forests, Water Quality and the Bay TMDL” at the Chesapeake Watershed Forum in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. She reported that for every 10 percent increase in forest cover, surface drinking water treatment costs decrease by 20 percent. For this same increase in forest cover, nitrogen runoff can be reduced by 40 percent. Claggett explained there are four essential steps to maintaining the functions of forests: conserving valuable forest lands, minimizing impacts during development (imperviousness and loss of existing soil profile), planting trees, and managing trees and forests to maintain their natural ecosystem and climate mitigation functions.


2. U.S. EPA, Chesapeake Bay Program Office and the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability, Baltimore County, Maryland. 2012.


Continued from Page # 1, President’s Message

1.0 CM credit is pending for this presentation. Tom is a terrific presenter, so don’t miss this.

Before the meeting, there will be tours of the newly restored Frederick Visitor’s Center, complete with an award-winning guided tour of the exhibits and a brief movie, followed by a tour of the National Restoration and Training Center next door, and finishing up back at the Visitor’s Center for a presentation on the restoration work being done at the Weinberg Center for the Arts.

Hot off the press: results from the latest APA Poll

Many of us have long believed that good planning is good economics, and many of us have also been dismayed that planning has been taking it on the chin recently, as newly elected local leaders seem to regard planning as just another aspect of government that needs “reduction.” Among the important findings of this poll is the clear message that the public understands that economic vitality depends upon good community planning. Please read both the press release and the summary report, and share the information on your website, with local newspapers, radio stations, elected leaders—at all levels of government, bloggers, and civic associations. Get the word out! Give your elected leaders the information they need to understand that the same public who may want less government actually wants more planning.

The press release is at http://www.planning.org/newsreleases/2012/jun14.htm and a report that contains a summary of some of the most relevant information from the poll is at “Planning in America: Perceptions and Priorities”.

Robin Rather (President of the Austin-based firm Collective Strength), Paul Farmer, and Mitch Silver are confirmed keynoters for the MD-DE Regional Conference this fall in Columbia, MD, from October 17th to 19th. By then, you can bet they will have much more to say about these and other findings from the poll, as well as more to say about the implications of the information for our profession.

Community Planning Assistance Team deadlines are December 5

The American Planning Association offers pro bono technical assistance to communities lacking planning resources through its Community Planning Assistance Teams program. If you know of a community in Maryland in need of planning assistance, APA encourages us to pass this information along or submit an application for that community. If you missed the June deadline, then the next submittal deadline is December 5. Find out more at http://www.planning.org/communityassistance/teams/, or go directly to the CPAT application form.

Yes, we will give awards at the MD-DE Regional Conference this fall!

Yes, the Maryland and Delaware Chapters will each be giving awards at the MD-DE Regional Planning Conference this fall! The Awards Committee has decided to change the format of the selection process, though, so that all Chapter members can vote online. We envision an online gallery of submittals by category, with a voting process that starts before Labor Day. So start thinking about what projects, people, and activities you want to nominate and keep checking the Chapter’s Website for updates. (I will also send the information out on the listserv as soon as it’s ready.)

Continued on Page # 12
A thank you” to Jerry Zekert

In 1996, I went to Seattle to attend the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ “Installation Real Property Management” course, taught by Jerry Zekert, who was then Chief of the Planning and Real Property Division of the US Army Center for Public Works. After Jerry welcomed everyone and went over the course syllabus, he described the importance of developing professional skills. He urged the attendees to take their careers seriously, to see planning as a profession, to learn about it, and to become AICPs. Then he asked those of us who were AICPs to raise our hands. Only two hands went up: Jerry’s and mine. He told the group that he envisioned a day when the AICP would be the preferred credential for federal planners. I was impressed to hear such an elegant and inspirational ode to the planning profession, and I could only imagine the push back he would get, because it seemed to me installation planners were nearly always either engineers or architects.

I lost touch with Jerry, but I never forgot about him or his vision of a cadre of federal planners with the “AICP” after their names. In recent years, when an increasing number of federal planners began showing up at our regional AICP exam preparation courses, I suspected Jerry was having some influence. When one of the attendees said that the AICP credential is now required in order to be at the top planner grade, I knew that Jerry had accomplished his goal of gaining acceptance for the AICP for federal planners.

At the close of her session at the LA Conference, Andrea Wohlfeld Kuhn, AICP, Chair of the Federal Planning Division, said over half (55%) of the Federal Planning Division members now have their AICP. And the news got better. I found out that Jerry is the Chair of a DoD-wide effort to develop a Unified

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Facility Planning process, as well as to develop a training program that focuses on the practice of planning, instead of one focused simply on regulations.

It is with great pleasure that I say “thank you” to Jerry Zekert, for his long term commitment to professional planning, for his ability to persuade an entire federal department to value the “AICP,” for his ability to inspire and mentor a generation of federal planners, and, as a result, for making the planning profession a better one for us all.

(You can read more about what Andrea and Jerry are doing in the January/February 2012 Edition of Public Digest.)

In closing

I hope to see many of you at the Chapter's Annual Meeting on June 29 in Frederick and at the 2012 MD-DE Regional Conference on October 17-19 at the Sheraton in Columbia, MD. As I said before, Paul Farmer, Mitch Silver, and Robin Rather are confirmed speakers for the regional conference, lots of great conference sessions are in the works, and the conference awards contest is about to begin!

Our next newsletter will be out in September. Please submit your articles and news as soon as you can. I already sent mine in. One is about some cool apps for planners and the other is about the food truck phenomenon.

Until then, keep an eye on the Chapter's Website for frequent updates on the MD-DE Regional Conference!
Planning for Rural Equity in Western Maryland

by Rick Brace

The theme for the fifth annual Western Maryland Local Government Exchange was **Planning for Rural Equity in Western Maryland**. Lead by Jonathon Kays of the Western Maryland Research and Education Center, this year’s event took place Friday, May 4th, in Hagerstown, with over 90 officials and students from in and out of the region attending. This event serves as a forum for elected and appointed officials, practitioners, and support staff to discuss best practices in various fields and facilitate a dynamic discourse on statewide and regional planning, economic and environmental matters.

The morning sessions focused on successful public/private partnerships and opportunities for communities to become more business friendly. Speakers included Richard Griffin, AICP Director of the City of Frederick’s Department of Development and Duane Yoder, President of Garrett County’s Community Action Committee. The late morning session focused on the impacts of TMDL and septic restrictions on rural communities, followed in the afternoon by ways to make Smart Growth Benefit Western Maryland’s rural communities and an overview of the recent General Assembly session. Panelists for the late morning session included Senator David Brinkley, Jim George of the Maryland Department of the Environment, Shannon Moore, Director of Sustainability and Environmental Resources for Frederick County and Dru Schmidt-Perkins, Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Maryland, while the afternoon sessions included Chuck Boyd of the Maryland Department of Planning, Phil Hager of Carroll County and Candace Donoho of MML and Les Knapp of MACO.

A special thanks are in order to Nancy Nunn of the Center for Agro-Ecology and Pam Thomas of the UMd Agricultural Extension Office in Keedysville for their outstanding professionalism in support of this event.
## Executive Committee Contact Information

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