

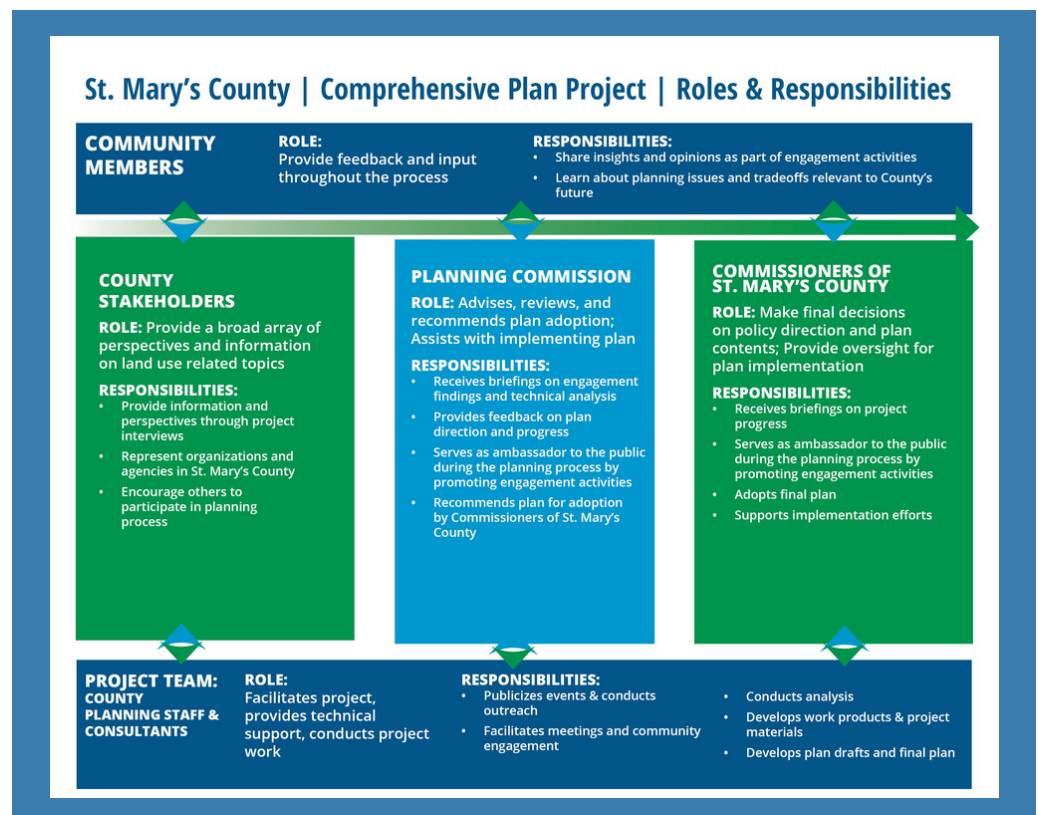
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING IS THE LAW IN MARYLAND

Why does St. Mary's County need a comprehensive plan?

Maryland law requires all local jurisdictions to (1) adopt a comprehensive plan; and (2) implement the plan through the adoption of local ordinances that govern land use and zoning. The comprehensive plan is an important land use tool that should reflect a shared vision of the future.

What information must be included in a comprehensive plan and how is it developed?

The law requires that all local jurisdictions include specific planning responsibilities within their plans, which are intended to guide all aspects of community planning including housing, transportation, economic development, and natural resource protection. Among these required planning responsibilities are goals and objectives for achieving the shared vision that should be reflected in the plan.



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ABOUT THE CURRENTLY ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

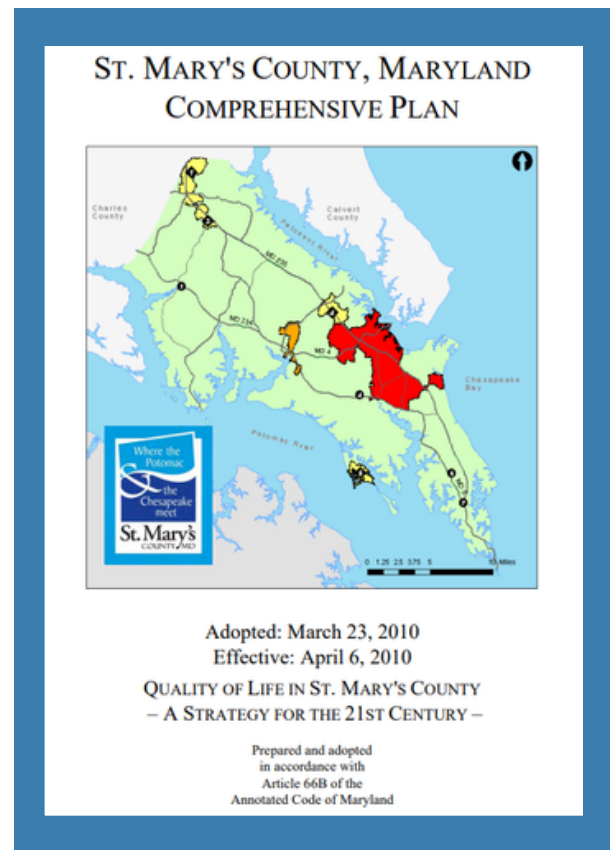
In 2010, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County adopted the Comprehensive Plan. This document has served as a growth and conservation strategy for the last 15 years. It has guided the County as it makes land use decisions within its borders.

Components of 2010 Comprehensive Plan

The 2010 Comprehensive Plan includes 12 chapters:

1. Trends
2. Successes and Challenges
3. Vision and Strategy
4. Growth Management
5. Resource Protection
6. Priority Preservation Areas
7. Water Resources
8. Housing
9. Economic Development
10. Community Facilities
11. Transportation
12. Human Services

Go to the "Resources" page on the project website (accessed via the QR code) to find the currently adopted Comprehensive Plan.



The currently adopted Comprehensive Plan is the starting point for developing the new plan. The vision, goals, objectives, and policies in the adopted plan are being evaluated. Land use planning areas will also be assessed to identify any needed changes to:

- Growth Areas
- Rural Areas
- Protected Areas



ABOUT THE PROJECT

St. Mary's 2050: Charting Our Tomorrow

St. Mary's County has launched a once-in-a-generation effort to plan for the future of the County. Driven by community feedback, the St. Mary's County 2050 Comprehensive Plan will reflect a shared vision and guide future land use decisions that shape our community for the next 25 years.

What is the project timeline?



We are here

How can I participate? Please choose one of the following:



Use the QR code to access the Project Website and stay informed.



Share the QR code with others in the community to get them engaged.



GROWTH MANAGEMENT

As St. Mary's County grows, an intentional approach is needed to **address population growth and attainable housing needs** while protecting what residents value most about the community.

This chapter establishes a framework for **directing growth to appropriate locations** where infrastructure and services can efficiently support new homes and businesses. At the same time, it **protects agricultural lands, environmental resources, and the rural character** that define St. Mary's County.



Topics include:

- **Policies for growth** in:
 - Development Districts
 - Town Centers
 - Village Centers
- Infill development and **redevelopment**
- Land for **agriculture**
- Infrastructure in Growth Areas

Share your thoughts!

What do you think about this chapter?

Fill out the **paper survey or online survey** to:

- Rate the goals in this chapter
- Share additional comments and ideas

You can find the online survey through the project website — use the QR code or type in the website address below!



If you want to learn more, the full draft plan is available for review. Please visit the project website for more information.



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HOUSING

Housing costs have been increasing faster than inflation over the past decade in St. Mary's County, in line with trends across the state and nation.

Housing costs affect economic growth in the county, as many workers cannot afford to purchase or rent a home locally.

This chapter addresses the need for a **variety of price points** for housing and supports a **variety of housing types** in appropriate locations, while maintaining and **enhancing established neighborhoods**.



Topics include:

- **Attainable housing** policies such as:
 - Missing middle housing
 - Senior housing options
- Maintenance of existing housing
- Rural and **neighborhood conservation**
- **Design and safety improvements** for existing neighborhoods
- Policies for new development

Share your thoughts!

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

St. Mary's County has a **flourishing economy** poised to become even stronger. A high concentration of **aviation** and related research occupations, a foundation in **agriculture and aquaculture**, and the expansion of **tourism** and **advanced manufacturing** have blended together to support a thriving economy.

As St. Mary's County continues to grow, a sustained **strategic focus and collaboration** between County departments and employment partners will be key for further advancing the economy of St. Mary's County.



Topics include:

- Protecting, enhancing, and **diversifying** the economic base
- Workforce development
- **Small businesses**
- Heritage and outdoor recreation **tourism**
- **Agriculture**, fisheries, and mineral resources

Share your thoughts!

What do you think about this chapter?

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ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Extensive **forests, wetlands, and stream networks** support biodiversity and water quality in St. Mary's County. Agriculture remains central to the County's identity and economy.

This chapter identifies ways to protect core **natural systems**, sustain **working lands**, keep growth in designated areas, and protect **water resources**.



Topics include:

- Protecting and enhancing **significant resource areas**, sensitive areas, and areas of critical state concern
- **Maintaining farming** as a viable economic engine
- Protecting and enhancing **water resources**

Share your thoughts!

What do you think about this chapter?

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TRANSPORTATION

Transportation systems are crucial in **connecting residents to jobs, services, and recreation.**

As St. Mary's County looks towards 2050, the overarching vision for its transportation system is to be a **safe and efficient** network that supports the county's needs. This chapter addresses the **localized transportation challenges that accompany growth**, particularly in areas identified for development.



Topics include:

- **Walking, biking, and multimodal transportation**
- **Creating a safe and efficient roadway system**
- **Strengthening transit operations**
- **Compatible development near and collaboration with NAS Pax and St. Mary's County Regional Airport**

Share your thoughts!

What do you think about this chapter?

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PUBLIC FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE

Public facilities and infrastructure are essential to everyday life in St. Mary's County, from **clean water** and reliable **sewer service** to **schools, parks, and public safety**. These systems and services determine quality of life, shape growth, protect public health, and ensure economic competitiveness.

This chapter establishes an actionable strategy for **investing** in, **maintaining**, and **expanding** public facilities and infrastructure, linking these vital systems to land use, environmental stewardship, economic development, and access to services.



Topics include:

- **Water, wastewater, and stormwater services**, including guiding service to Growth Areas
- **Core public services**, such as law enforcement, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and fire services
- **Broadband** and electrical utilities
- **Libraries** and government facilities
- **Recreation and parks**

Share your thoughts!

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

As St. Mary's County continues to **increase in population**, including the population of **older adults**, it will be important to support health in all policies, including through the built environment and programs and services.

This chapter takes a **broad lens** to supporting public health and community services, directly addressing **healthy lifestyles, healthcare access, emergency response, and services for older adults**.



Topics include:

- The **health care** and public health systems
- **Community services**, including for aging residents
- **Public safety** resources

Share your thoughts!

What do you think about this chapter?

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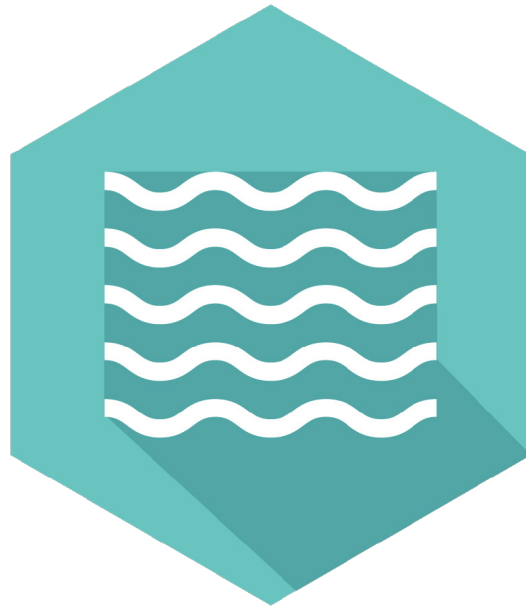
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NATURAL HAZARDS, VULNERABILITY, AND RESILIENCY

St. Mary's County faces four main natural hazards: coastal and river **flooding**, shoreline **erosion**, rising **sea levels** and saltwater intrusion, and periodic **drought** and wildfire risk. These hazards can affect residents through **property loss**, infrastructure vulnerability, increasing **insurance** costs, health concerns, and **economic viability** of professions relying on the natural environment.

This element addresses these hazards and effects with **short-term** and **longterm** policies and actions to **prepare** for severe weather events and **adapt** to our changing environment.



Topics include:

- Development in **vulnerable areas**
- **Resilient infrastructure** and building standards
- Risk assessment, mapping, and **public awareness**
- Building **community capacity** for resiliency
- Preparing for sea level rise and **saltwater intrusion**
- Using **natural systems** in resiliency planning

Share your thoughts!

What do you think about this chapter?

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LAND USE CATEGORIES

Residential Low Density

Low density residential development. A strong focus is on maintenance of preserved open space and sensitive areas through clustering of lots and protected natural areas.

Residential Medium Density

Medium density residential development and accessory services that support clustered development, with a focus on preservation of open space.

Residential High Density

High density residential development and accessory services that support clustered development.

Mixed-Use Low Intensity

Neighborhood-scale development with primarily residential uses and limited compatible commercial and residential uses along auto corridors.

Mixed-Use Moderate Intensity

Moderate-density/intensity developments blending residential, office, and retail uses in urban-suburban transition areas, designed to balance auto and pedestrian access.

Rural Commerce

Small-scale commercial development located at rural crossroads nodes that serves rural communities. These areas maintain low-intensity developments and rural community character and prohibit strip development.

Rural Preservation

Area designated for preservation in support of the land and water resource base necessary for the maintenance of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.

Industrial

Designated for manufacturing, warehousing, and technology industry with a focus on the preservation of sensitive areas.

Marine Use

Water-dependent commercial activities that protect shoreline resources while supporting fisheries, aquaculture, marine-commerce, and public access.

For more details on uses, infrastructure, applicable zoning districts, residential density, and jurisdictional collaboration, please review the draft plan available on the project website.



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Growth Management Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Utilize the Land Use Map and Growth Areas to Guide Development

Use the Planning Areas and Land Use Map for land development and capital investment decision making to prevent sprawl and protect the County's agricultural and natural resources.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 2: Concentrate the Majority of Growth in Development Districts

Most of the growth in St. Mary's County should be concentrated in the development districts outlined in the Planning Areas Framework to maximize existing infrastructure, promote sustainable communities, and preserve rural areas.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 3: Support Compact Town Centers

Support walkable, mixed-use, compact town centers as an alternative to big-box-style development.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 4: Encourage Rural Services and Moderate Residential Growth in Village Centers

Encourage location and expansion of rural services and moderate residential growth in village centers: Callaway, Chaptico, Clements, Loveville, Ridge, Valley Lee, and St. Inigoes.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 5: Support Infill Development and Adaptive Redevelopment

Support infill, redevelopment, and adaptive reuse of existing structures, when possible.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 6: Maintain Land Base Needed for Agricultural and Working Lands Industries

Maintain lands within the Rural planning area and Rural Preservation land use category to support agricultural, equestrian, and other working lands industries. (See Environment and Natural Resources Element for more information on agriculture and working lands preservation. See the Economic Development Element for more information on agriculture and working lands business support.)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 7: Meet the County's Water Supply Needs

Meet the County's long-term water supply needs and ensure that the supply is safe and efficiently provided within defined service areas. (See Public Facilities and Infrastructure Investments Element for more information on this goal.)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 8: Develop Infrastructure to Serve Water and Sewer Needs in Growth Areas

Provide infrastructure to meet water and sewer service needs in growth areas, ensuring adequate capacity to accommodate future development, and address adequate facilities and services outside growth areas. (See Public Facilities and Infrastructure Investments Element for more information on this goal.)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 9: Support Collaboration of Health Department and MetCom to Address Problem Sewer Areas

The County Health Department will work with MetCom to address problem sewer (septic) areas as identified in the Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan (CWSP) in a way that balances community needs and priorities while protecting the environment.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Growth Management Element, please share them below.

Housing Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Support Development of Modern, Attainable Housing Choices

Through the policies included in this plan, including the Land Use Map (LUM), support development of housing options that provide a variety of price points, styles of housing, and types of neighborhoods to meet the diverse needs of the County's current and future residents. This should include a special focus on housing for seniors and supporting workforce and missing middle housing options.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 2: Encourage the Maintenance and Upkeep of Existing Housing

Enhance the livability of both existing neighborhoods and new housing developments by encouraging and fostering the maintenance and upkeep of existing housing.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 3: Foster Rural and Neighborhood Conservation

Continue to support the protection of rural lands and neighborhoods that carry economic importance and historic character in St. Mary's County.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 4: Enhance Community Character of Existing Neighborhoods and Support Quality Design of New Neighborhoods

Foster the protection of neighborhood character by revitalizing existing communities and ensuring new development integrates seamlessly through high-quality design that respects the local context.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 5: Support Fiscal Efficiency by Requiring Developers to Provide Needed Infrastructure for New Residential Developments

Require developers to provide essential infrastructure for new development to reduce financial burden on existing residents and support the County's fiscal efficiency.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Housing Element, please share them below.

Economic Development Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Continue to Protect, Enhance, and Diversify the County's Economic Base

Continue to protect, enhance, and diversify the county's economic base to ensure long-term stability and prosperity, in line with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 2: Center Workforce Development and Talent Attraction as Core Strategies

Center workforce development and talent attraction as core economic development strategies. Promote the county and region as an emerging employment center of a highly educated and skilled workforce. These efforts will align with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 3: Recognize the Contributions of Small Businesses to Quality of Life and Economic Development

Recognize the contributions of small businesses to both quality of life and economic development, and advance policies that encourage more unique, locally owned businesses to open, in line with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 4: Support and Expand Tourism

Support and emphasize existing, unique county assets and rural setting to expand tourism and bring more tax revenue into the county, in line with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 5: Promote a Robust, Diverse Agriculture and Forestry Sector

Promote a robust, diverse agriculture, aquaculture, fishing, and forestry sector that preserves open spaces and strengthens traditional farming, in line with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 6: Promote and Protect Appropriate Mining Activity

Promote and protect the continued economic viability of the mining industry and mineral resources in St. Mary's County, in line with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 7: Support Fisheries and Aquaculture Activities

Enhance fish stock and markets for local watermen and enhance recreational fishing opportunities by supporting fisheries and aquaculture activities, in line with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Economic Development Element, please share them below.

Environment and Natural Resources

Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Protect and Enhance Sensitive Areas and Areas of Critical State Concern

Protect and enhance Areas of Critical State Concern, including the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, State-designated habitats, and other environmentally sensitive lands, to safeguard ecological functions and ensure compliance with State mandates. Sensitive Areas and Areas of Critical State Concern were intentionally grouped under a shared goal because they function as an integrated resource protection system rather than as distinct, unrelated policy domains. Areas of Critical State Concern fall squarely within the statutory intent of § 3-104 of the Land Use Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*. This structure strengthens policy clarity, reflects on-the-ground implementation, and supports a coordinated approach to environmental stewardship consistent with both local planning objectives and State mandates.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 2: Maintain Farming as a Viable Economic Engine

Maintain farming as a viable and resilient industry that supports local food production, strengthens the rural economy, and sustains the working landscapes of St. Mary's County.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 3: Protect and Conserve Significant Resource Areas

Protect and conserve significant resource areas, including locally identified green infrastructure, forests, wetlands, streams, scenic landscapes, cultural and historic resources, mineral lands, and shoreline habitats, to sustain biodiversity, community character, and long-term land productivity.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 4: Protect and Enhance Water Resources

Reduce nutrient and sediment pollution to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries through Tributary Strategies, partnerships, and enforcement of water quality standards.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Environment and Natural Resources Element, please share them below.

Transportation Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Ensure a Safe and Complete Pedestrian Network

Develop and maintain a continuous and accessible system of sidewalks, crosswalks, and pedestrian pathways that connects the community and ensures safety for all residents.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 2: Promote Bicycling as a Viable Transportation Mode in the Growth Areas

Establish a comprehensive bicycle network supported by essential amenities and public awareness, making cycling a safe, convenient, and attractive option for transportation and recreation.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 3: Achieve Full Transportation System Connectivity

Create a fully integrated transportation system where developments, travel modes, and key destinations are seamlessly linked, reducing travel distances and improving traffic flow.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 4: Secure Long-Range Funding and Multi-Modal System Viability

Ensure the long-term success of the multi-modal network through strategic financial planning, support for long-range bicycle and pedestrian projects, preservation of future transit corridors, and expansion of public transportation.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 5: Integrate Trails and Pathways into Community Development

Weave a network of recreational and transportation trails into the fabric of the community by incorporating them into all new land use and development projects.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 6: Concentrate Development to Preserve Regional Highway Capacity

Strategically guide new development into designated growth areas, promoting well-connected local road networks while preserving the capacity and function of state highways for regional and through traffic.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 7: Create a Safe, Efficient, and Integrated Roadway System

Develop and maintain a roadway system that is safe, efficient, and economical for all modes of transportation, supporting community revitalization, economic development, and environmental stewardship.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 8: Enhance Roadway Safety for All Users and Cultural Contexts

Proactively improve roadway safety by reducing conflict locations and integrating the unique cultural needs of all communities, including the Amish and Mennonite populations.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 9: Manage Roadway Access to Improve Traffic Flow and Safety

Improve the safety and efficiency of major roads by minimizing access points and requiring shared access solutions in new and existing developments.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 10: Promote Resilient Infrastructure and Environmental Stewardship

Build and maintain a transportation system that is resilient to environmental risks and actively supports the protection of natural resources and community character.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 11: Achieve High-Performing, Financially Sustainable Transit Operations

Ensure the county's transit system operates at or above state performance standards while maintaining a financially sound structure through continuous evaluation and strategic management of fares and funding.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 12: Expand Transit Services to Meet Growing Regional Demand

Proactively expand transit routes and service opportunities to meet the increasing demand for travel both within and beyond St. Mary's County, fostered by strong regional cooperation.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 13: Ensure Transportation Access for Vulnerable Populations

Create a seamless and accessible transportation system that addresses service deficits for targeted and vulnerable populations, enhancing their quality of life and connection to human services.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 14: Maintain and Build Upon the Effective and Collaborative Transit Management

Strengthen the administration and planning of the county's transit services by continuing to create dedicated management roles, implementing expert recommendations, and fostering stakeholder collaboration.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 15: Increase Ridership Through Strategic Outreach and Service Improvement

Grow public transit ridership by better understanding rider needs, actively promoting the benefits of transit, and continuously improving the quality and relevance of the service.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 16: Leverage Potential Passenger Ferry to Drive Economic Growth and Tourism

Establish St. Mary's County as a key destination on the Chesapeake Bay by using a new passenger ferry service to attract tourists, support local businesses, and generate sustainable economic activity.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 17: Foster Regional Connectivity Through Inter-County Collaboration

Strengthen regional partnerships and enhance mobility across the Chesapeake Bay by actively participating in the five-county consortium and ensuring the successful integration of St. Mary's County into a bay-wide ferry network.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 18: Promote the Successful and Sustainable Implementation of Ferry Service

Develop the necessary infrastructure, secure stable funding, and establish a viable operational plan to launch and maintain a reliable and efficient passenger ferry service in St. Mary's County.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 19: Protect Airport Navigational Safety and Airspace Integrity

Ensure the operational safety and integrity of St. Mary's County Regional Airport by preventing the construction of physical or non-physical obstructions that could interfere with flight paths and approach minimums.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 20: Promote Compatible Land Use Through Effective Airport Zoning

Align all county zoning and permitting activities with established Airport Environs to ensure that adjacent land uses are compatible with airport operations and do not create safety or noise conflicts.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 21: Strengthen the Collaborative Partnership with Patuxent River Naval Air Station

Foster a strong, cooperative relationship with the Patuxent River Naval Air Station through coordinated airspace management, aligned zoning policies, and support for mutual economic interests.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree*
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Goal 22: Drive Regional Economic Development Through Airport Growth

Leverage the St. Mary's County Regional Airport as a primary driver of economic growth by encouraging supportive industries and investing in its continued expansion and modernization.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Goal 23: Secure Long-Term Airport Viability Through Continuous Improvement and Funding

Ensure the long-term operational and financial health of the St. Mary's County Regional Airport by consistently seeking federal funding and implementing capital improvement projects.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Transportation Element, please share them below.

Public Facilities and Infrastructure Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Provide Planned Water/Sewer for Growth and Reduce Stormwater / Nutrient Impacts

Modernize central service in growth areas and reduce pollution from septic and stormwater to protect local waters and the Chesapeake Bay.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 2: Maintain County Transportation Infrastructure

Ensure that the County's transportation infrastructure is well-maintained, efficient, and meets the needs of residents of all ages and abilities, as outlined in the most recent St. Mary's County Transportation Plan and in the Transportation Element of this plan.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 3: Maintain and Increase Quality of Life by Investing in Core Public Services

Maintain and increase the overall quality of life for county residents by investing in core public services such as EMS, public safety, and fire services.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 4: Expand Reliable Utilities and Universal Broadband Access

Provide reliable electric service and countywide access to high-speed internet to support safety, education, health, and economic competitiveness.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Goal 5: Keep St. Mary's County a Desirable Place for Families Through Community Amenities Investment

Keep St. Mary's County an attractive and desirable place for families to live and grow by investing in community sports and recreation facilities, libraries, and other public amenities.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Goal 6: Expand and Connect Parks, Trails, and Public Water Access

Build an equitable, connected park and waterfront system that supports health, recreation, and tourism, serving visitors of all ages.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Goal 7: Align School Capacity and Sites with Planned Growth

Coordinate facilities so seats, sites, and access keep pace with development and educational needs.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Public Facilities and Infrastructure Element, please share them below.

Public Health and Community Services Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Meet the Health and Safety Needs of the Growing Population

Ensure access to healthcare, community services, public health services, and public safety services for all county residents.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Goal 2: Enhance the Availability of Public Services for Aging Residents

Enhance the availability of public services for aging residents to ensure they can live and age well in St. Mary's County.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Public Health and Community Services Element, please share them below.

Natural Hazards, Vulnerability, and Resiliency Chapter

For each goal, please select your level of support by marking the appropriate box.

Goal 1: Increase the County's Resiliency by Preparing for Severe Weather Events

Strengthen the County's ability to withstand, adapt to, and recover from severe weather, flooding, sea level rise, and other hazards through proactive planning, regulation, and investment. Resiliency in St. Mary's also means sustaining the County's working farms, forests, and aquaculture - which are key to rural character, heritage, and economic stability - by directing conservation investment to priority landscapes and adapting coastal and agricultural operations to rising water and storm impacts.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Goal 2: Strengthen Community and Environmental Adaptation for Long-Term Resiliency

Prepare the County's residents, ecosystems, and built environment for long-term risks such as sea level rise, storm surge, flooding, and shifting habitats.

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neutral

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Natural Hazards, Vulnerability, and Resiliency Element, please share them below.

Land Use Map

Land Use Map Support

Do you support the draft Land Use Map as shown?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Additional Comments

If you have additional comments on the Growth Management Element, please share them below.