

2017 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM PLANNING DOCUMENT

2017 Local Government Forum

Date/Location: June 7, 2017, 10am – 4pm / Crowne Plaza, Annapolis

2017 Theme: Modeling Growth in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed: Land Use Change Scenario Development

Problem Statement: Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (due in April 2019) must account for changing conditions between 2019 and 2025, the end date for meeting the Chesapeake Bay TMDL goals, including, notably, changes in land use. One way of doing so is to use the Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP) Land Change Model in concert with growth forecasts and other information from state and local governments to predict what land use will look like across the watershed in 2025. These predictions, in turn, can be fed through the Bay Program's watershed model to estimate changes in nutrient and sediment loads that would result from changes in land use.

Under the direction of its Land Use Workgroup, the CBP plans to develop several future land use scenarios that will bracket the potential change in land use forecast based on historic trends and/or partial buildout of lands zoned for development. Within the constraints of a very tight schedule, the Bay Program would like to get as much local input as possible for designing the land use change forecasts so that they are locally relevant. The forum will provide an opportunity for local government representatives to:

- Provide feedback on the types of scenarios the Bay Program will develop and the assumptions on which they rest
- Evaluate the extent and accuracy of the zoning data and other information supplied by local governments to help develop the scenarios
- Evaluate the pros and cons of the different scenarios for informing the Phase III WIPs

Approach: The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Alliance), in cooperation with the Local Government Advisory Committee to the Chesapeake Executive Council (LGAC), and the CBP Land Use Workgroup (LUWG) will convene a day-long forum to learn about the potential use of future scenarios to inform restoration and conservation actions, explore possible scenario narratives and assumptions, and build consensus around a subset of scenarios to be used in the Land Change Model.

The Alliance's approach is to engage land use planning and policy experts to review historic trends and current policy scenarios and gain sufficient understanding of the methods used in developing these scenarios to enable them to review and build consensus around a set of Proposed Alternative Future Scenarios.

Question for Peter: Current Policy Scenario will be based on information that can be gathered in the coming weeks. Since required information, such as zoning, may be difficult to acquire, how will Current Policy be applied across the watershed? Will selected areas that have sufficient information be modeled and used as a proxy of some sort?

Outcome: Consensus guidance for developing alternative future growth scenarios (Urbanization, Laissez-faire, Conservation)

Deliverables: 2-3 alternative future growth scenarios, each based on a common set of assumptions, for incorporation into Land Use Change Model.

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Planning Team:

- CBP Land Use Workgroup
 - Peter Claggett, USGS CBPO
 - Karl Berger, WashCOG
 - Pam Shellenberger
 - Lee Epstein, CBF
 - Lindsey Gordon, CBPO
- LGAC Reps (to be invited):
 - Matthew Pennington, WV
 - Andria McClellan (can't be at forum but might help with planning)
 - Ann Simonetti, PA Vice Chair
- Funders:
 - Jake Reilly and/or Elizabeth Nellums, NFWF

Target Participants: Problem solvers with experience in land use planning and policy.

- AICP/FAICP Planners, particularly those with GIS expertise
 - Tara Hitchens, West Lampeter Township, Lancaster County
 - Justin Evans, Mount Joy Township, Lancaster County
 - Megan Lehman, PA DEP North Central Region
- American Planning Association or Smart Growth America Senior or Executive staff
- Agriculture experts
- Forestry experts
- State WIP leads (from WQ GIT?)
- LGAC Members
- CBP Land Use Workgroup Members
- Chesapeake Bay Commission Representative
- Tanya Spano, WashCOG

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Preliminary Agenda *(made a few modifications but did not want to get ahead of myself)*

- 10:00 AM Welcome/Introductions, Hon. Bruce Williams, Chair, LGAC
- 10:10 AM Workshop Overview/Purpose
- Mary Gattis, AICP, Director of Local Government Programs, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
 - Peter Claggett, USGS
- 10:30 AM Introduction to Growth Scenarios: Narratives, Assumptions, Evaluation Metrics; and Applications
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00 PM Designing the Future: Alternative Scenarios for the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
Small group discussion
- 2:15 PM Break
- 2:30 PM Building Consensus around a set of plausible and useful scenarios.
Small group report out, plenary discussion
- 3:30 PM Summarize Recommendations
- 4:00 PM Adjourn