

Land Use Workgroup New Land Use Strategy

Shared with the Water Quality GIT July 22, 2024

Presented to the Management Board on June 13, 2024

Approved by the Land Use Workgroup Sept. 20, 2023

Background for the new CBP [Land Use Strategy](#)

The importance of planning and conservation to maintain healthy streams and watersheds and to sustain restoration progress in the face of population growth and associated changes in land use (and climate) has been a primary concern of the CBP Partners since its inception.

Over the past 40 years, the CBP has struggled to define a value-added role in planning and conservation because both activities are mostly implemented locally by county and municipal governments and NGO's.

The proposed new CBP Land Use Strategy, endorsed by the Land Use Workgroup and presented to the WQGIT and HWGIT, provides guidance on how the CBP can be more supportive and effective in promoting more sound land use decisions.

Five Elements of the new CBP Land Use Strategy

1. **Monitor land use/land cover change at high spatial, temporal, and categorical resolution consistently throughout the Bay watershed and intersecting counties.**
2. **Forecast plausible future scenarios of land use change into the future (e.g., 2030, 2050).**
3. **Assess impacts of current and future changes in land use to water quality, wildlife and aquatic habitats, climate resiliency, and other ecosystem services.**
4. **Encourage smart growth policies for new development (e.g., infill, redevelopment, and preserving rural character) by enhancing local capacity to conserve lands and providing information to inform land use planning decisions that minimize losses of valued natural and working lands.**
5. **Effectively communicate land use/land cover information to local decisionmakers. Make it actionable and relevant to their needs and concerns.**