DRAFT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY LAND USE OPTIONS EVALUATION

GOAL: Land Conservation

OUTCOME

By the end of 2017, with the direct involvement of local governments or their representatives, evaluate policy options, incentives and planning tools that could assist them in continually improving their capacity to reduce the rate of conversion of agricultural lands, forests and wetlands as well as the rate of changing landscapes from more natural lands that soak up pollutants to those that are paved over, hardscaped or otherwise impervious. Strategies should be developed for supporting local governments' and others' efforts in reducing these rates by 2025 and beyond.

CURRENT EFFORTS

- Current efforts and gaps in current land conversion reduction efforts will be determined through the tasks listed under the management approach.
- At all levels of government and among many NGO organizations, efforts to promote and implement smart growth measures are underway.

GAPS

- Waiting until 2017 to investigate the development of strategies to support local governments' and others' efforts to reduce land conversion rates.
- The MS highlights additional needs outside the scope of this outcome, including additional support needed for:
 - Information related to the economic justification for implementation of land use policies related to reducing the rate of land change conversion
 - Ensuring ongoing support for education as local government representatives change

MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

- Conduct a comprehensive review/study of existing land use "policy options, incentives and planning tools" currently being implemented at the local/state scale.
- Create an online repository of such examples to serve as a user-friendly knowledge base, including studies and reports of the costs, benefits and effectiveness of such examples.
- Conduct a professional survey of local government and related groups to identify which "policy options, incentives and planning tools" have been most effective at reducing land conversion rates, and to determine additional information and tools needed to achieve a reduction in land conversion rates.



For the full draft management strategy, visit: www.chesapeakebay.net/managementstrategies