

# Cecil County Comprehensive Plan

Scenarios Workshop July 31, 2008



## Agenda

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Overview of Process/Schedule/Roles of Technical Advisory Committee and Oversight Committee
- 3. Trends, Constraints and Issues
- 4. Criteria
- 5. Driving Forces and Possible Futures
- 6. Goals, Objectives and Overlaps/Desired Futures
- 7. Potential Scenarios
- 8. Evaluating the Scenarios



# **Overview of the Process**



## **Technical Advisory Committee**

- Eric Sennstrom, Cecil County Planning and Zoning
- Anthony DiGiacomo, Cecil County Planning and Zoning
- Al Wein, Cecil County Administrator
- F. Scott Flanigan, Cecil County Public Works
- Vernon Thompson, Cecil County Economic Development
- Diane Lane, Comprehensive Plan Citizens Oversight Committee Chair
- Gerrit Knaap, National Center for Smart Growth Education & Research
- John Leocha, Maryland Department of Planning
- Melissa Appler, Maryland Department of Transportation
- Mike Nixon, Maryland Department of Transportation
- Janice Outen, Maryland Department of the Environment
- Dan Blevins, WILMAPCO
- Dave Gula, WILMAPCO
- David Nemazie, Facilitator, Maryland Extension Service
- Clive Graham, ERM
- Michael Bayer, ERM
- Ben Sussman, ERM



## **Project Organization**

#### **Cecil County**

County Commissioners Planning Commission

#### **Planning and Zoning Department**

Eric Sennstrom Anthony Di Giacomo David Black

#### **ERM Team**

Clive Graham, Project Manager Michael Bayer, Senior Planner Ben Sussman, Water Resources

#### **Oversight Committee**

7 subcommittees





#### **Cecil County Comprehensive Plan**



#### Schedule

Task	Dates
Kick off	January 2008
Identify Issues, Define Goals and Objectives, Develop Preliminary Policy Recommendations	February- June 2008
Prepare Draft Comprehensive Plan	July 2008- January 2009
Review of Oversight Committee Draft Plan (Subcommittees/Full Committee)	February- March 2009
Public Forum	April 2009
Planning Commission Review	May 2009
Interagency Review	June-July 2009
Planning Commission Public Hearing/Work Sessions	August- September 2009
County Commissioners Public Hearing/Work Sessions	October 2009
Plan Adoption	November 2009



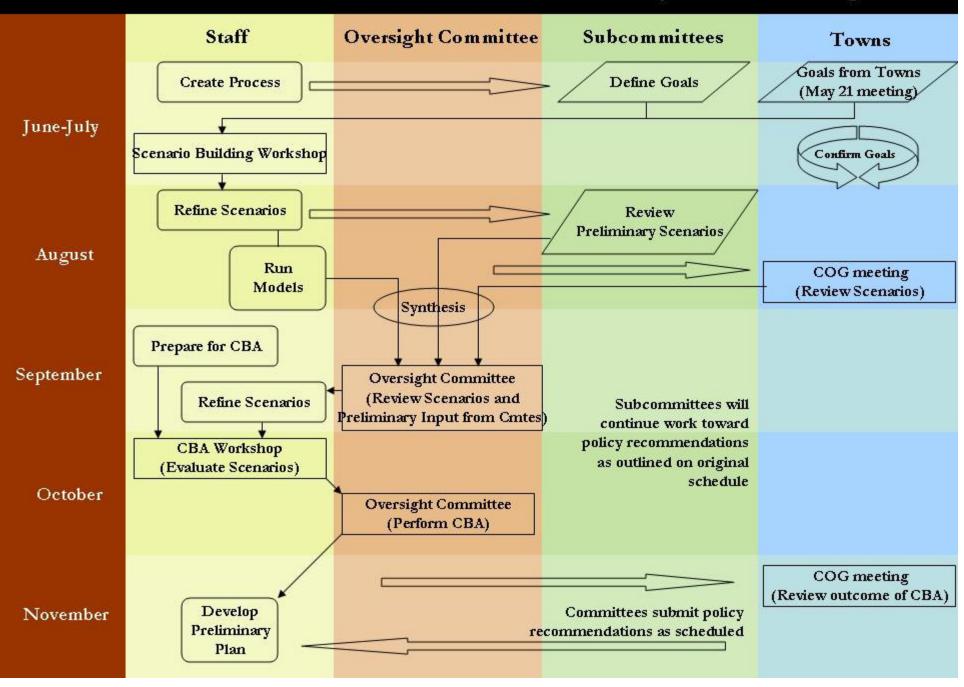
Cecil County 2009 Comprehensive Plan Schedule REVISED -February 22, 2008

Schedule		adula.			<u> </u>			Subcommittees			
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Year	Phase	Month	Zoning Staff	Oversight Committee	Agriculture and Preservation	Housing and Recreation	Economic Development and Tourism	Infrastructure and Transportation	Land Use	Public Services	Water Resources
		July	Transmit agenda and minutes to OC by July 9	Plan Topic: Water Resources (July 16, 6:30 p.m.) Old business Review water resources element and how water issues relate to future land use in Cecil County Review preliminary goals, objectives and issues for the plan (input from sub.) Questions and comments from subcommittee meetings PLAN ELEMENTS: Background, Water Resources Element Preliminary Comprehensive Plan vision	Meetings as scheduled by subcommittee chairs						
		August		No meeting	Explore issues and develop preliminary policy recommendations Transmit meeting minutes to P&Z staff by Sept. 3	Same as Agriculture and Preservation	Same as Agriculture and Preservation	Same as Agriculture and Preservation	Review preliminary policy recommendations and land use alternatives with subcommittee for presentation at next month's OC meeting	Same as Agriculture and Preservation	Same as Agriculture and Preservation
	Phase II	Sept.	Transmit agenda and minutes to OC by Sept. 10	Plan Topic: Land Use (Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m.)  Old business  Review preliminary policy recommendations and land use alternatives drafted by subcommittee  Questions and comments from subcommittee meetings  PLAN ELEMENTS: Land Use, Land Development Regulations  Comprehensive Plan vision				Review preliminary policy recommendations with subcommittee for presentation at next month's OC meeting Transmit meeting minutes to P&Z staff by October 1		Review preliminary policy recommendations with subcommittee for presentation at next month's OC meeting Transmit meeting minutes to P&Z staff by October 1	
		October	Transmit agenda and minutes to OC by Oct 8	Plan Topic: Infrastructure and Transportation Public Services and Facilities (October 15, 6:30 p.m.)  Old business Review preliminary policy recommendations drafted by subcute Questions and comments from subcommittee meetings PLAN ELEMENTS: Transportation Plan, Community Facilities Plan	Review preliminary policy recommendations with subcommittee for presentation at next month's OC meeting Transmit meeting minutes to P&Z staff by November 5						
		November	Transmit agenda and minutes to OC by Nov. 12	Plan Topic: Agriculture and Preservation (Nov. 19, 6:30 p.m.)  Old business Review preliminary policy recommendations drafted by subcommittee Questions and comments from subcommittee PLAN ELEMENTS: Sensitive Areas, Historic, Priority Preservation Areas			Review preliminary policy recommendations with subcommittee for presentation at next month's OC meeting Transmit meeting minutes to P&Z staff by December 3				

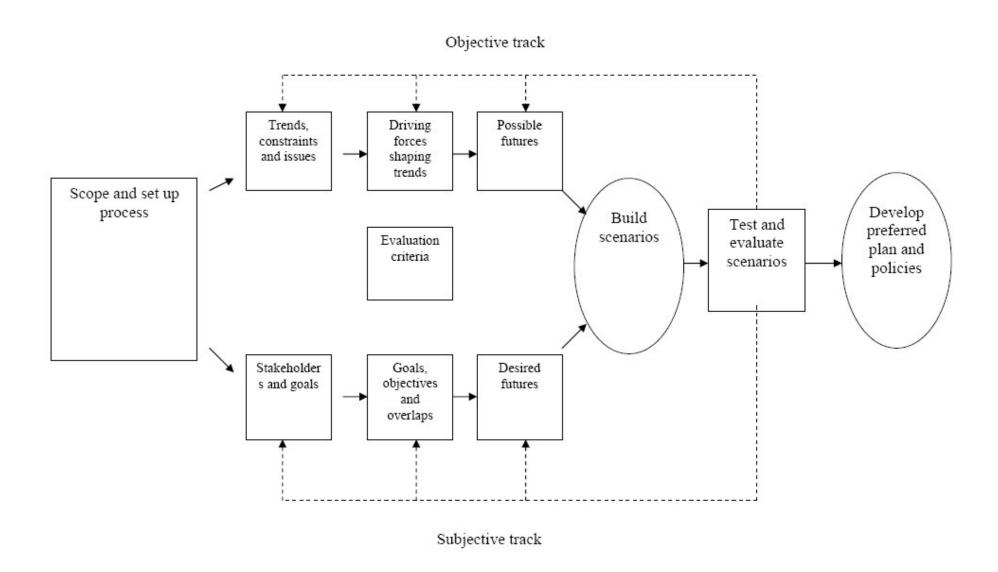
#### **Cecil County Comprehensive Plan process**



#### **Cecil County Scenario Building Process**



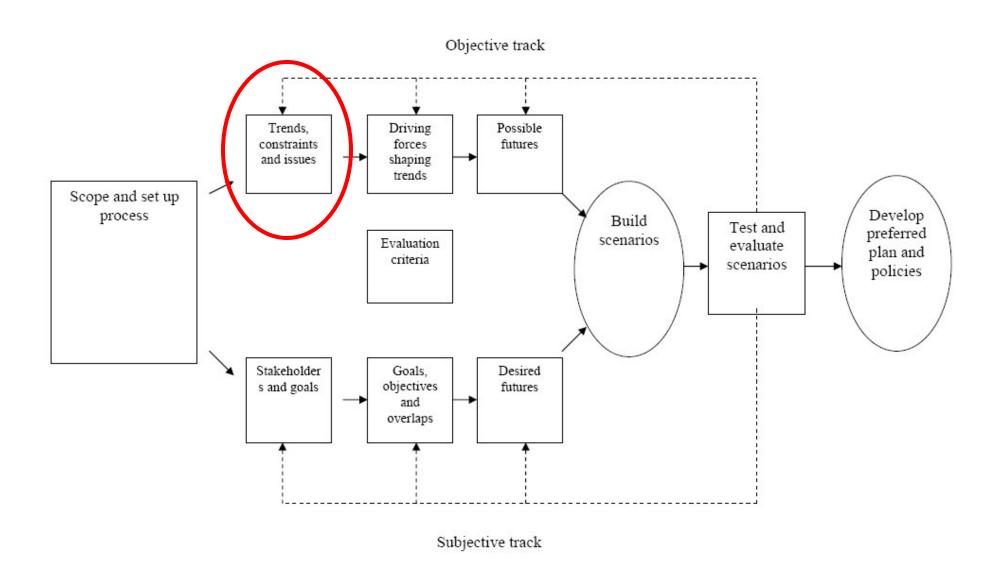
#### **Scenario Building Process**



# Trends, Constraints and Issues

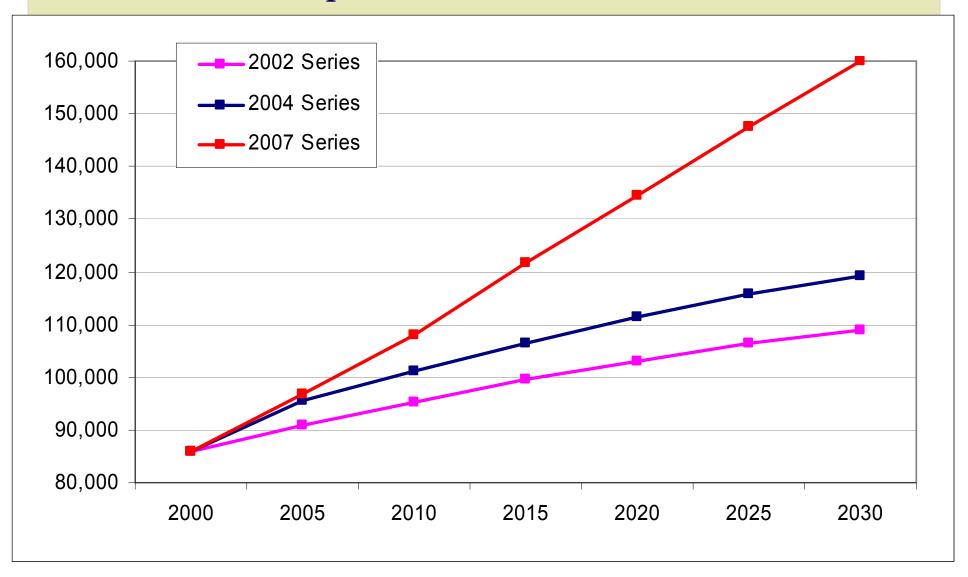


#### **Scenario Building Process**



## County is Projected to Grow Significantly

#### **Cecil Population Growth 2000-2030**



# Projected Growth Rate Highest in MD

Maryland	2000 Population	Year 2030 Estimates from 2002 Projection Series	Year 2030 Estimates from 2004 Projection Series	Year 2030 Estimates from 2007 Projection Series	Difference Between 2030 Estimates
State of Maryland	5,296,486	6,362,100	6,446,400	6,737,750	5.9%
Cecil County	85,951	108,800	118,100	159,950	47.0%
Delaware					
State of Delaware	786,448	1,032,974	1,029,203	1,029,203	-0.4%
New Castle County	500,265	603,525	606,338	599,805	-0.6%

- Cecil population growing 65%: fastest percentage in MD
- 6<sup>th</sup> largest in total population growth behind Montgomery, Prince George, Fredrick, Charles, Baltimore



# Projected Population Change Also Significant

	2005	2030		
Area	<b>Population</b>	<b>Population</b>	Change	% Change
Cecil County	96,950	159,950	63,000	65.0%
Harford County	237,900	282,100	44,200	18.6%
<b>Baltimore County</b>	782,550	848,500	65,950	8.4%
Kent County (MD)	19,850	23,400	3,550	17.9%
New Castle (DE)	522,103	599,805	77,702	14.9%

- Cecil's growth exceeds Harford County
- Nearly as much growth as New Castle County (DE) and Baltimore County
- Cecil projections may be over-estimated
  - Needs 1,100 units annually to reach projection total by 2030 (currently averaging 750)



#### **Current Status of 2008 Update**

County-wide control totals established

Cecil	2005	2030	Change
Households	31,233	61,175	29,942
Population	96,950	159,950	63,000
Employment	38,500	62,000	23,500

- WILMAPCO completing planning district estimates
- Update based on changes in the countywide totals since 2005 data

	Year 2030 From 2005 Series	Year 2030 From 2007 Series	Difference
Households	61,825	61,175	-650
Population	160,000	159,950	-50
Employment	56,000	62,000	6,000



# Allocation of Projected Growth

Total Population by Planning District					
District	POP 1990	POP 2000	POP 2005	2030 Populat ion	April 2005- 2030 Change
Cecilton	3,386	3,933	4,394	5,892	1,498
Chesapeake City	4,444	5,351	6,035	7,878	1,843
Elkton	17,693	22,523	26,255	41,880	15,625
Fair Hill	6,490	8,082	9,144	13,093	3,949
Northeast	16,204	18,673	20,592	38,229	17,638
Rising Sun	7,172	9,102	10,307	14,820	4,512
Port Deposit	9,533	10,325	11,305	25,747	14,442
Oakwood	3,572	3,667	4,407	6,143	1,736
Calvert	2,853	4,295	4,862	6,268	1,407
TOTAL	71,347	85,951	97,300	159,950	62,650

"Latest and Greatest" - but Still a Draft



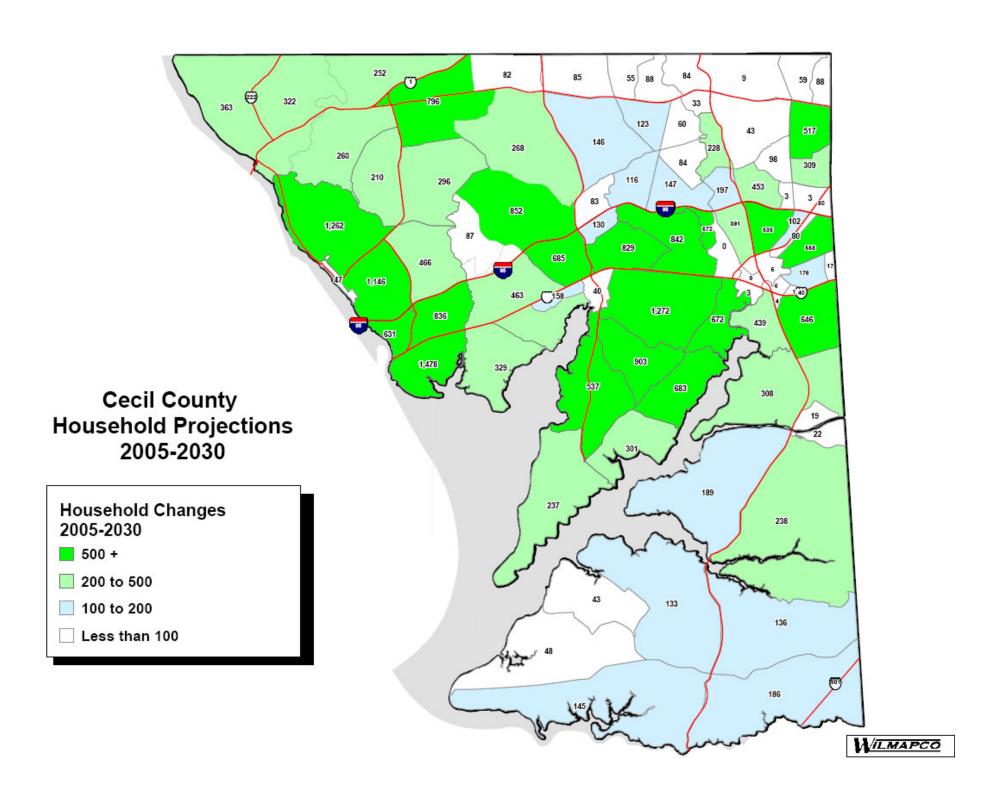
# Allocation of Projected Growth

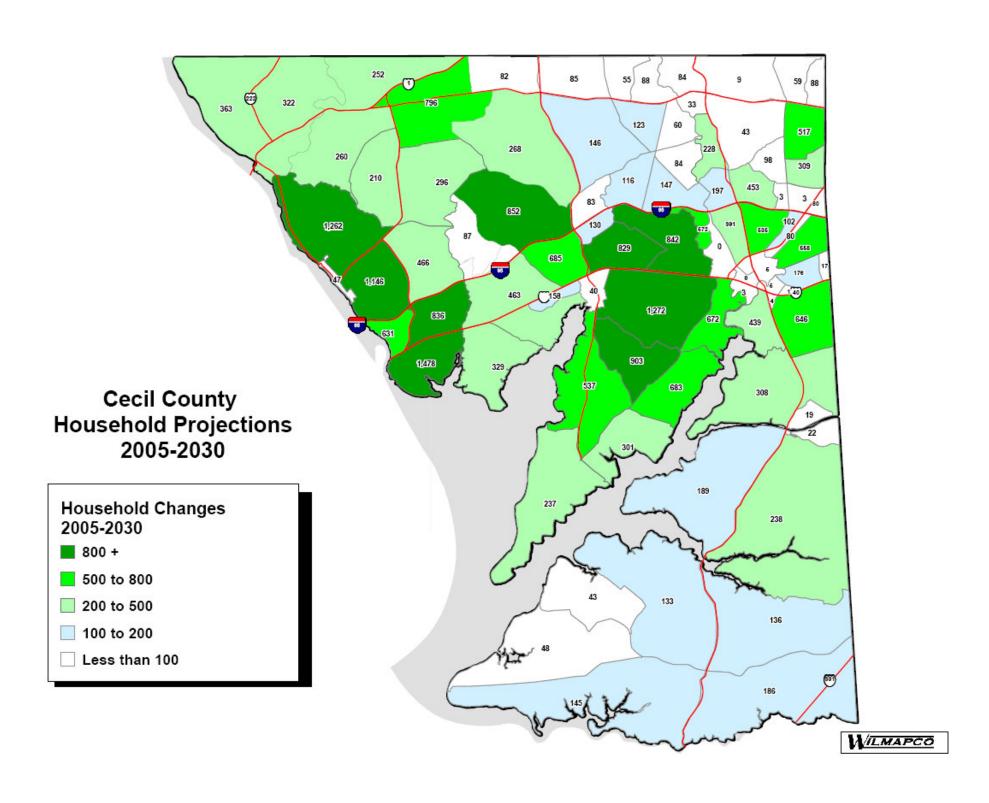
**Total Occupied Households by Planning District** 

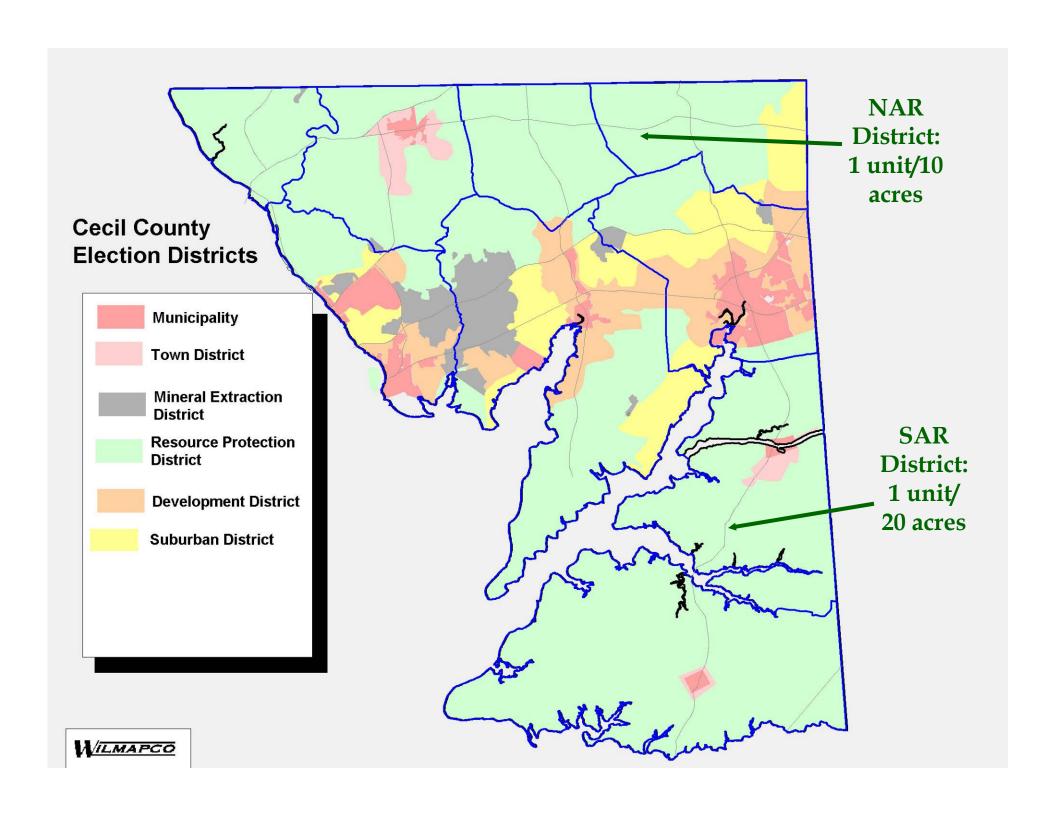
District	HH 1990	HH 2000	HH 2005	Committed, unbuilt HHs as of 3/1/08	2030 Households	April 2005- 2030 Change
Cecilton	1,319	1,591	1,773	663	2,464	691
Ches. City	1,649	2,026	2,279	518	3,103	824
Elkton	6,243	8,299	9,649	6,258	16,260	6,611
Fair Hill	2,097	2,805	3,165	1,549	4,741	1,576
Northeast	5,760	6,814	7,495	4,914	14,772	7,277
Rising Sun	2,551	3,253	3,674	732	5,522	1,848
Port Deposit	3,062	3,790	4,139	998	10,005	5,866
Oakwood	1,095	1,269	1,521	278	2,206	685
Calvert	949	1,376	1,554	288	2,101	547
TOTAL	24,725	31,223	35,250	16,198	61,175	25,925

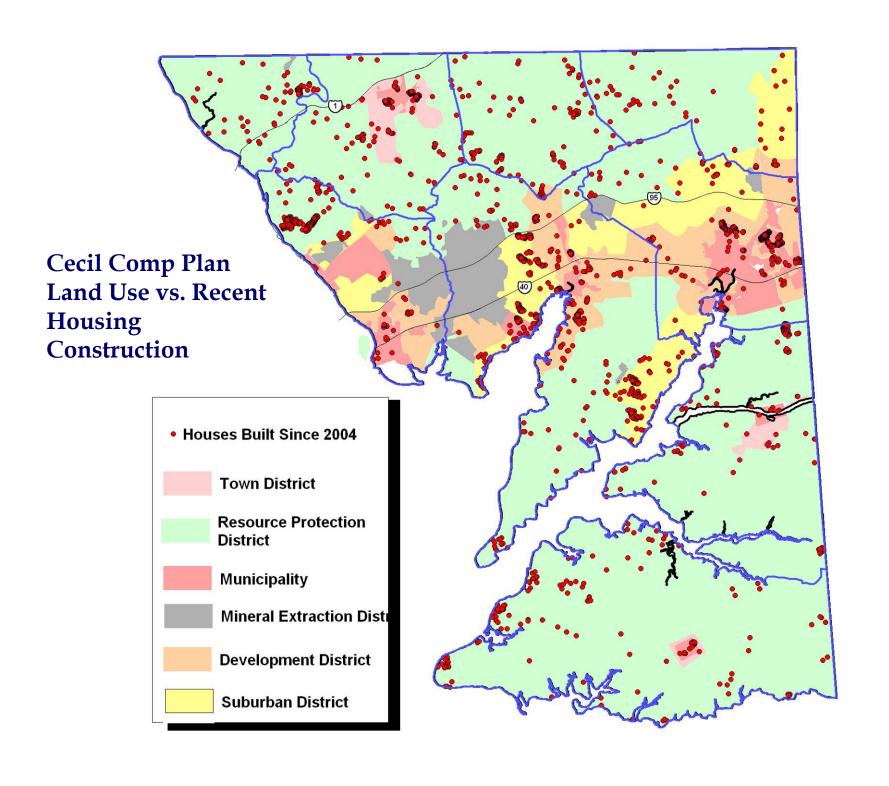
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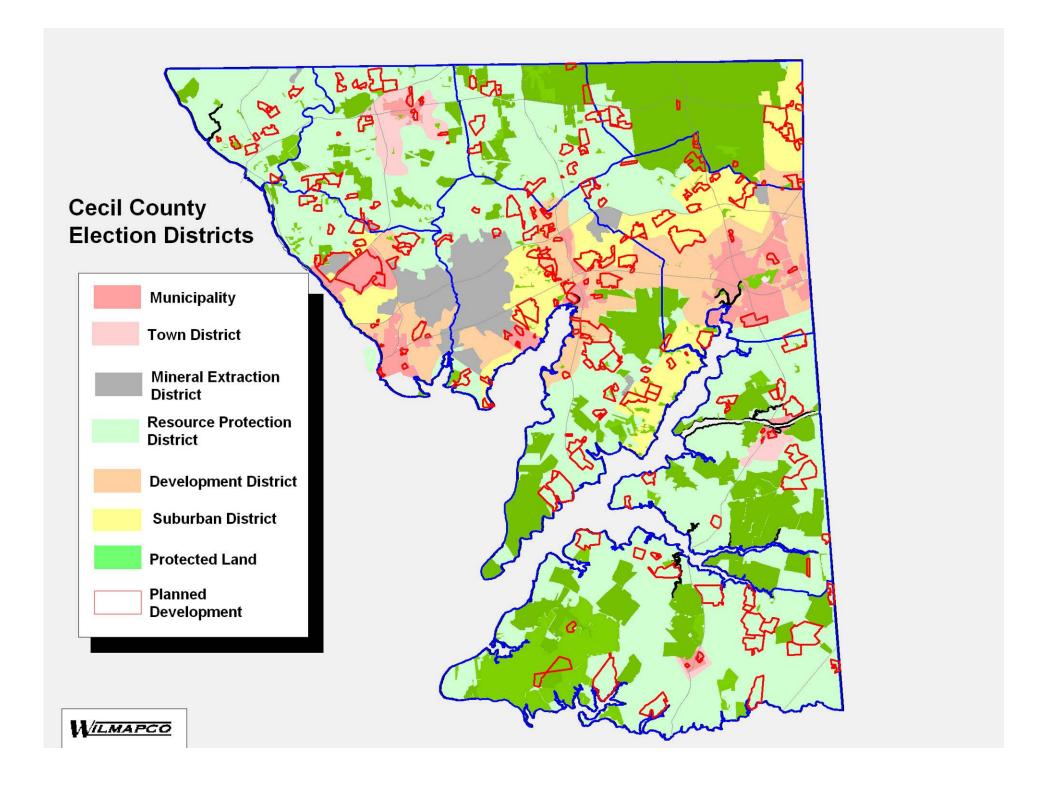




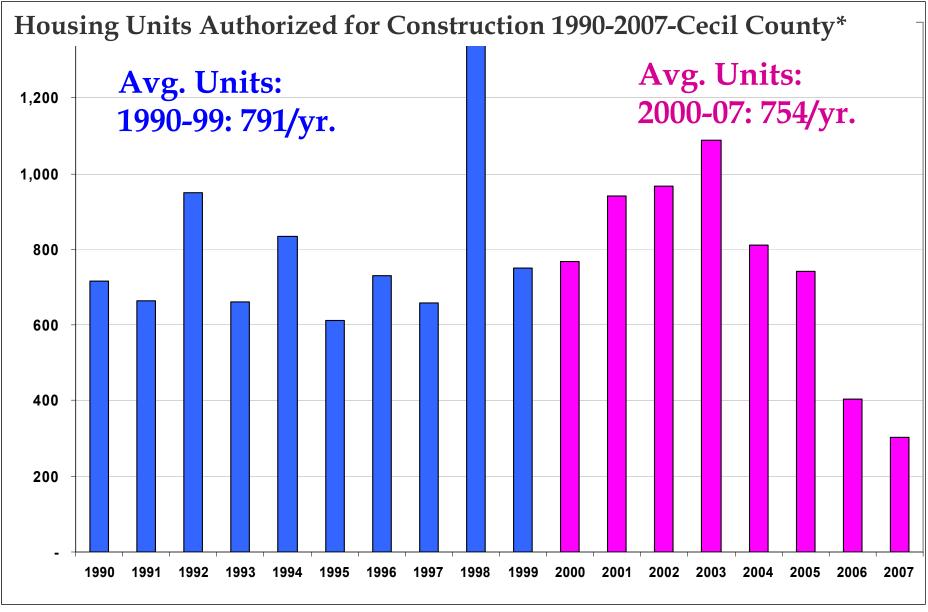






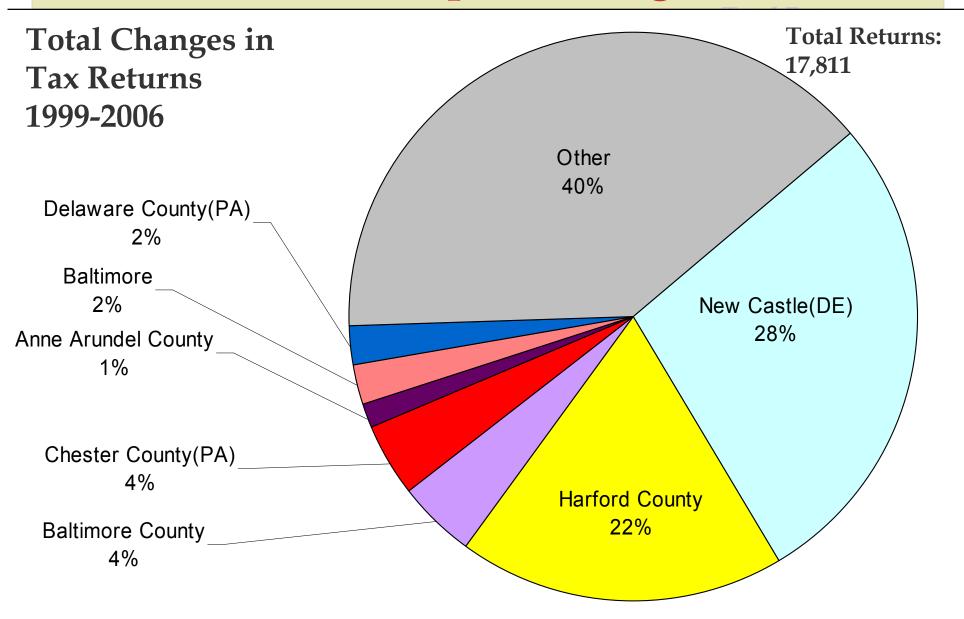


## **Housing Market Strong Til Recently**

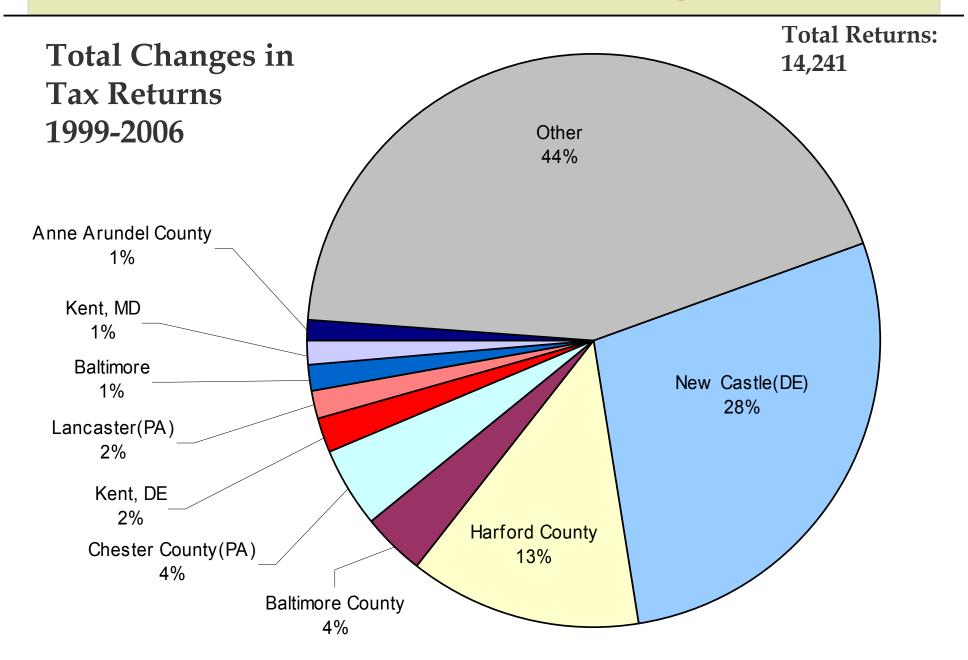


<sup>\*</sup> Includes Incorporated Areas. Source: MD Dept. of Planning

#### Where Are People Moving From?



# Where Are People Moving To?

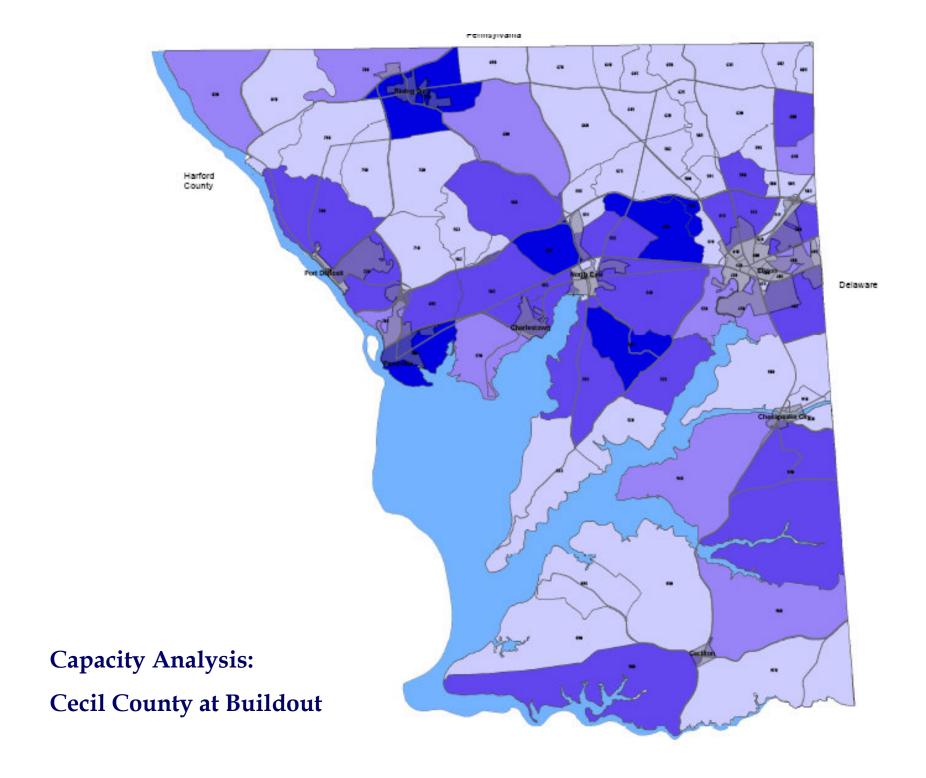


#### **Capacity Analysis**

- Based on current zoning, Cecil County has capacity for 67,512 additional households.
- Of this, 35,600 new households could be accommodated within the County's Priority Funding Areas
- This is more than the 26,000 households identified in the 2030 projections.
- Almost 90% of Cecil's capacity can be found on large, undeveloped lots rather than smaller, infill-type lots.

Zoning District	Current New Household Capacity
BG	0
BI	0
BL	0
DR	14,919
M1	0
M2	0
MB	0
MEA	0
MH	3,664
NAR	3,985
OS	0
RM	12,742
RR	2,298
SAR	1,645
SR	18,695
TR	3,840
VR	496
Municipalities	5,228
Total	, 67,512

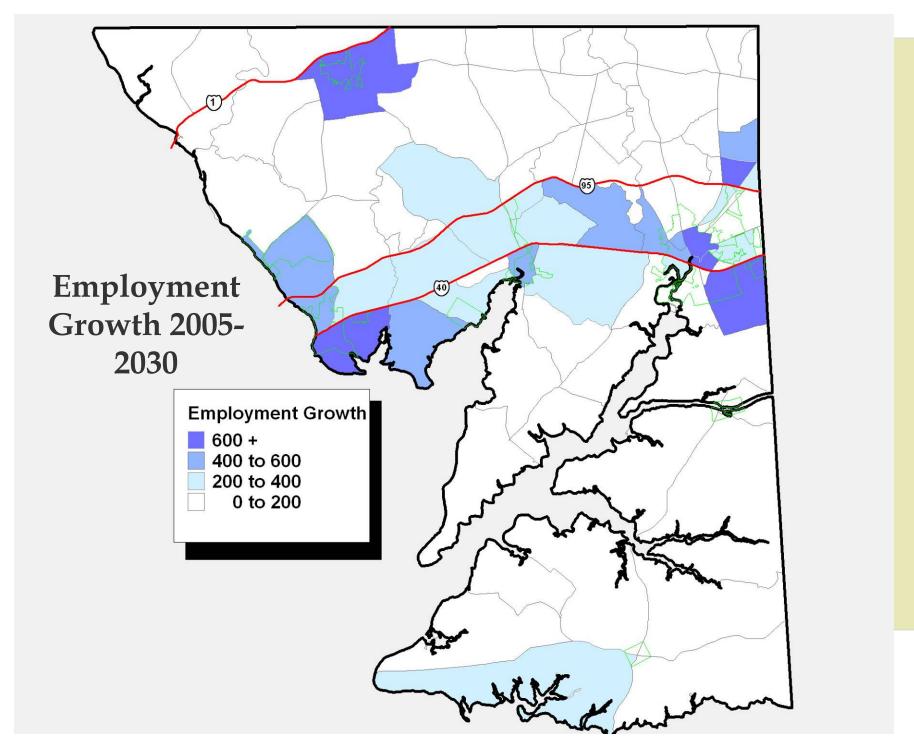




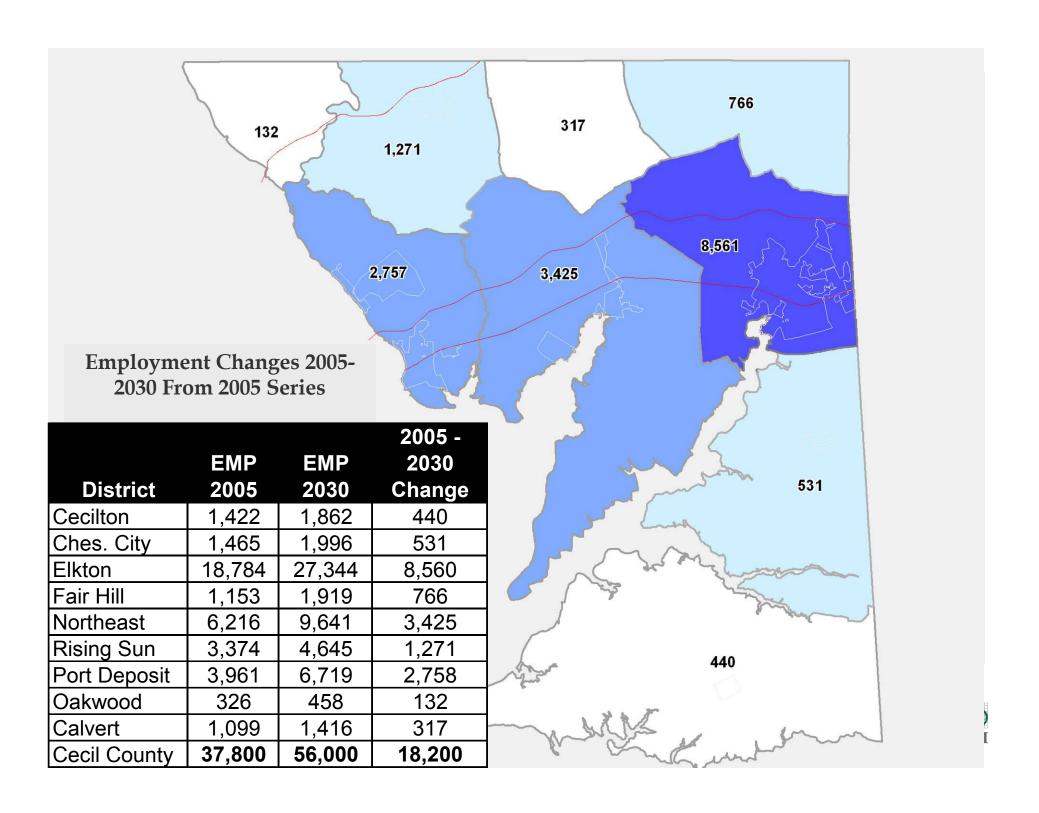
#### **Employment Trends**

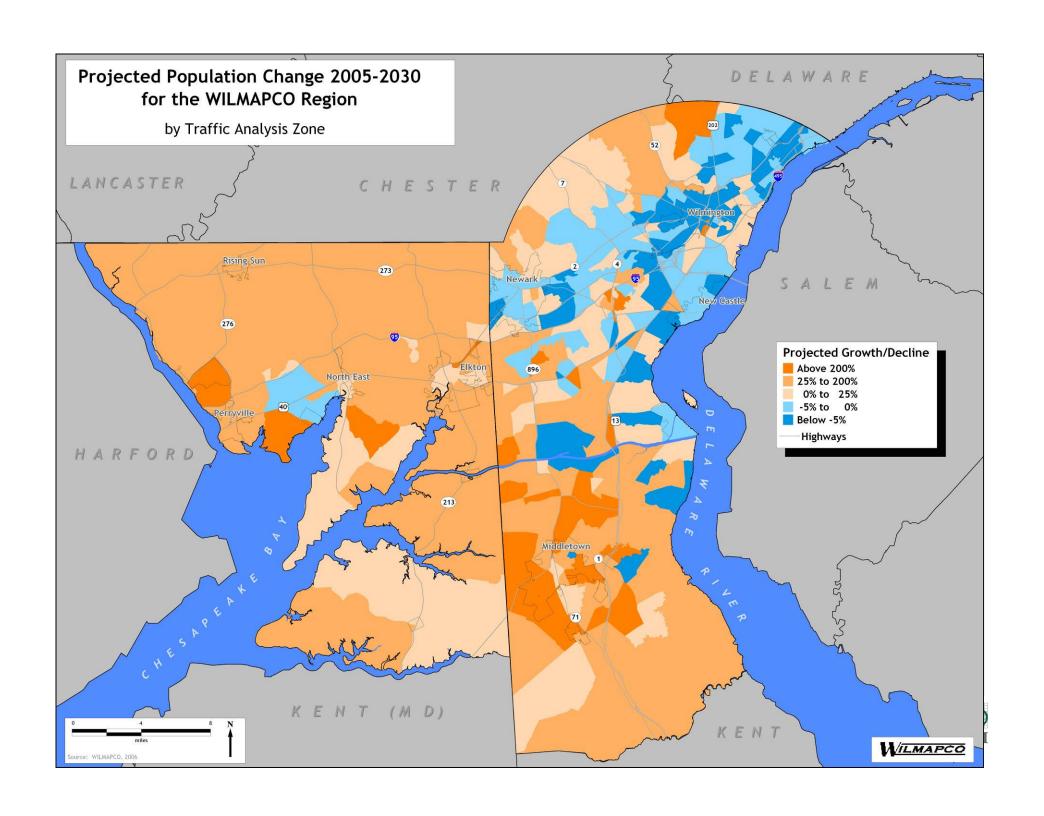
- Over the past five years, employment increased 27% while population rose 13%
- Labor force participation among working-age males has been declining in Cecil County, generating a myriad of social ills
- Cecil County has one of Maryland's highest and most rapidly climbing divorce rates.
- Cecil County's average weekly wage is higher than neighboring Harford County's
- Manufacturing represents 15.6% of all non-agricultural employment in Cecil County, but is less than 6% statewide.
- Manufacturing saw an increase between 2002 and 2004 of 12.2%, while manufacturing in the United States as a whole decreased.
- Retail Trade had the most business establishments in Cecil County each year from 2001 to 2004. The number of establishments increased 12.1% in this period.
- The Construction sector had the second most business establishments in Cecil County, and the number of business establishments in this sector increased 5.8% from 2001 to 2004.
- The number of business establishments in the Health Care-Social Assistance sector increased 30.1% from 2001 to 2004.

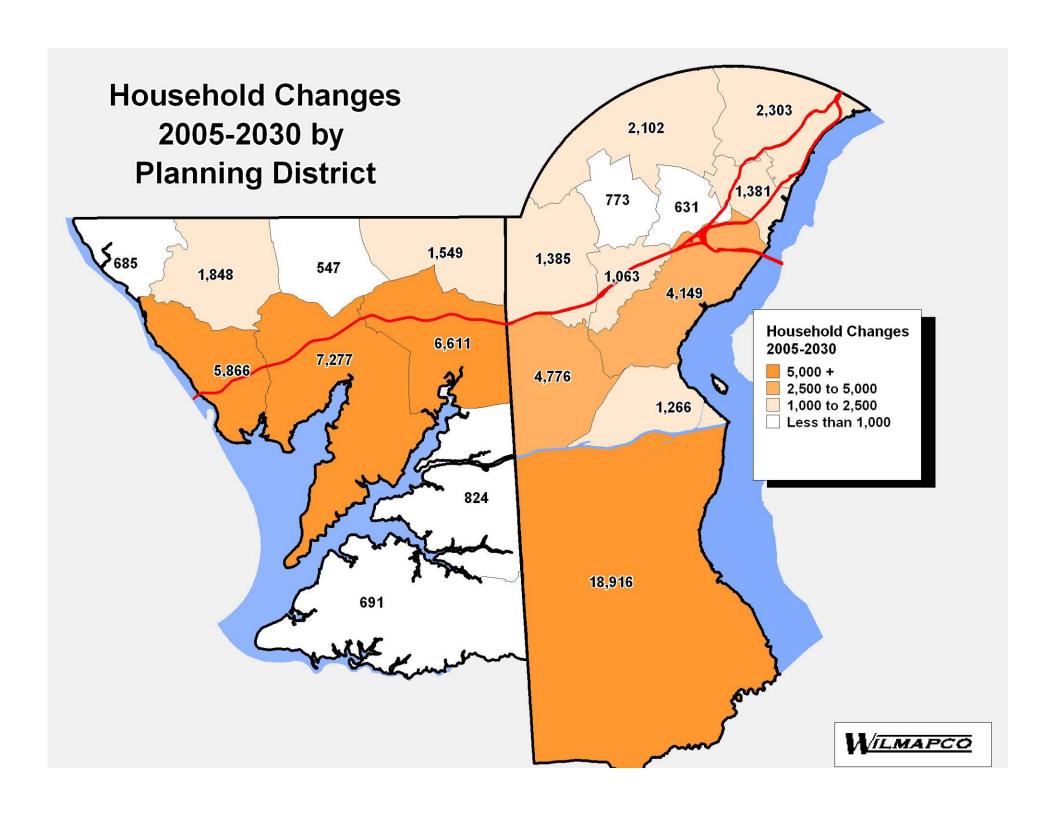


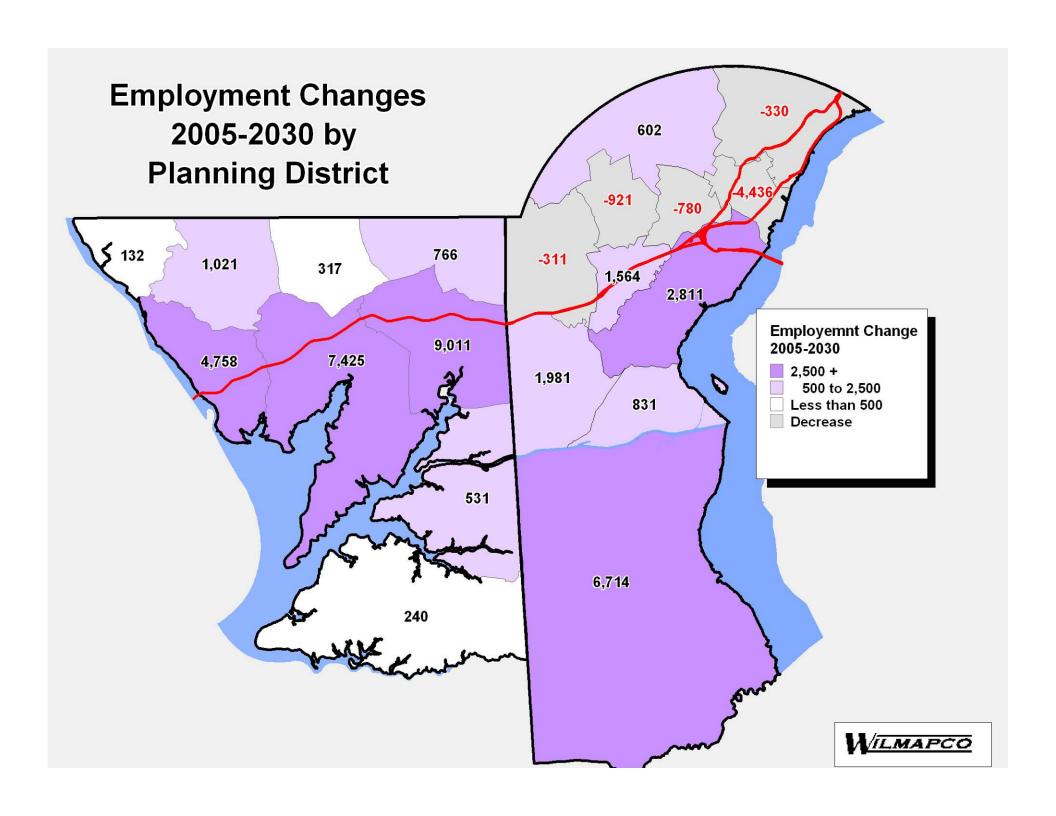


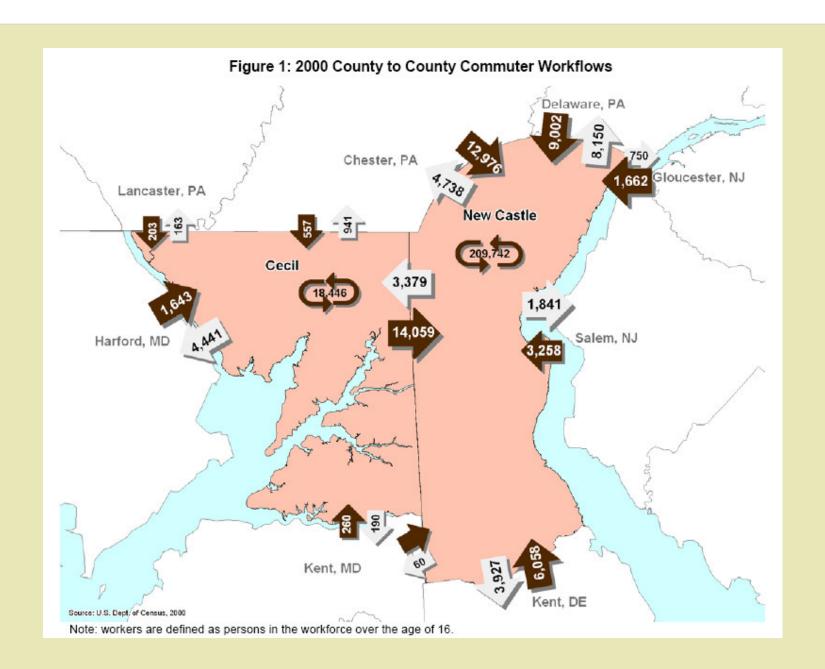














#### **Transportation:**

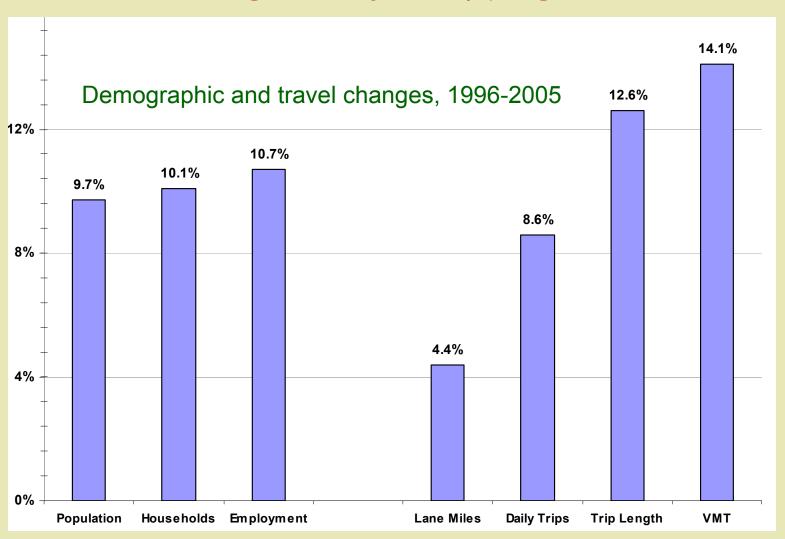
#### Challenges and opportunities

- Creating travel choices
- Accommodating the needs of older citizens
- Maintaining economic prosperity
- Preserving aging infrastructure
- Addressing rising gas prices
- Ensuring transportation equity
- Addressing congestion
- Improving air quality
- Financing our transportation system



### Where have we been?

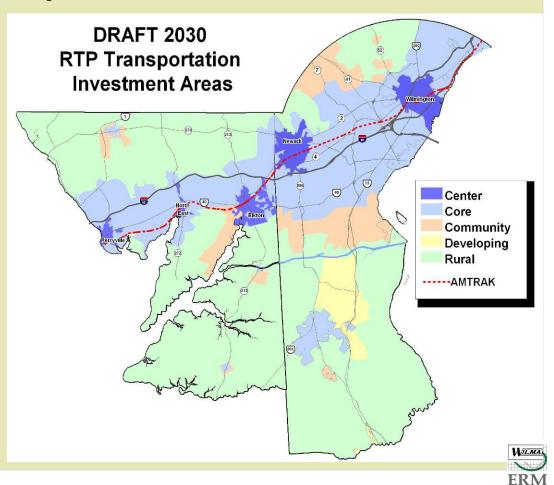
### Building on ten years of progress

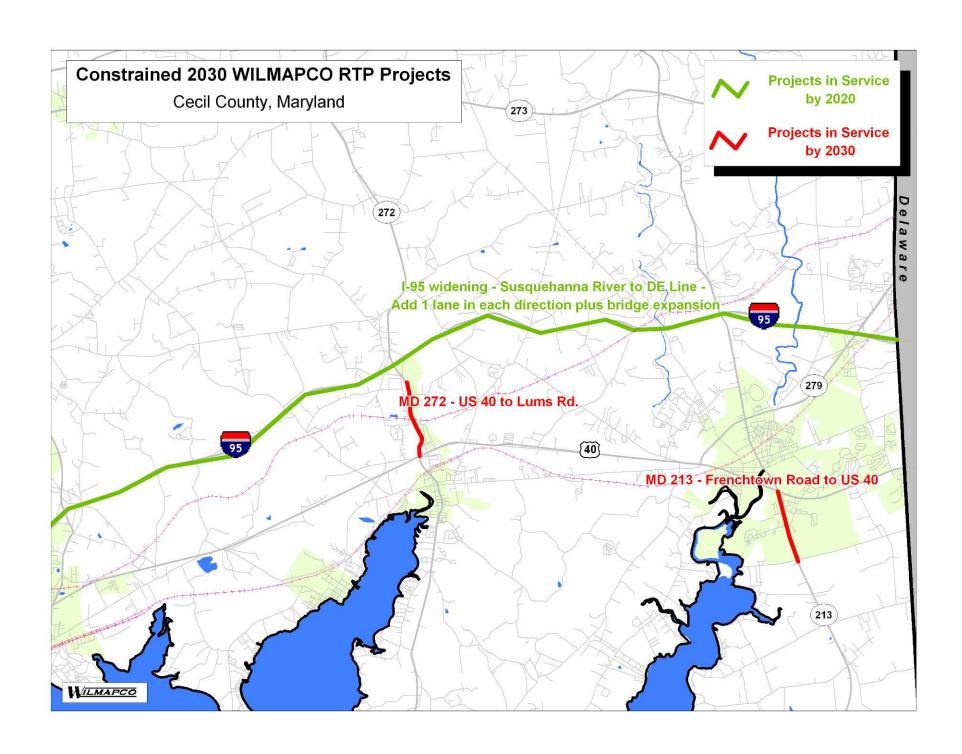




# Where are we going? Challenges and opportunities

- Future land use shaped by:
  - Future households (67,380 more households)
  - Future employment (53,980 more jobs)
  - NCCo Comp Plan
  - BRAC





## **Aspiration List - Cecil County Projects**

#### Transit Projects

- Bus Maintenance Facility
- Park-and-Ride Lots
- Bus Transfer Facility
- MD Commuter Rail: Perryville to Wilmington
- Increase Bus Service
- New Bus Service

#### Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

- Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway
- Susquehanna River Ped/Bike Crossing
- East Coast Greenway Cecil County

On project list, but no funding yet



## **Aspiration List - Cecil County Projects**

Roadway Projects On project list, but no funding yet

I-95 Interchange between Perryville and Northeast

MD 213 (Augustine Herman Highway), MD 285 to Frenchtown Rd: Divided highway reconstruction

MD 213 (Bridge St.), US 40 to MD 279: Multi-lane urban reconstruction

MD 279 (Elkton-Newark Rd.), MD 213 to MD 316: Multilane urban reconstruction

US 301 (Blue Star Memorial Highway), Kent County line to Delaware State line: Access control improvements

MD 7 (Philadelphia Rd.-Cecil Ave.), East limits of Charlestown to MD 272: 2 lane reconstruction

MD 213 (Singerly Rd.), North of Providence Rd. to MD 273: 2 lane reconstruction

MD 222 (Perryville/Bainbridge Rd.), US 40 to MD 275: Multi-lane reconstruction

MD 222 (Bainbridge Rd.), MD 275 to Bainbridge entrance: 2 lane reconstruction

MD 272 (North East Rd.), North end of couplet to US 40: Multi-lane urban reconstruction

MD 273 (Telegraph Rd.), East Limits of Rising Sun to Sylmar Rd: 2 lane reconstruction

MD 279 (Elkton Rd./Newark Ave.), North of US 40 to west of MD 213: Divided Highway Reconstruction

US 40 (Pulaski Highway) MD 279 to Delaware State line: Divided highway reconstruction



### **Water Resources**

- Except for Rising Sun, most water supplies have capacity for some growth, but will likely face longer-term (2035 or so) problems.
- Most WWTPs currently exceed their nutrient cap limits on Phosphorus.
- Some WWTPs currently exceed their cap limits for Nitrogen.
- Without upgrades, all WWTPs face long-term limitations.
- With upgrades, many public WWTPs will still need to find offsets (nutrient trades) or alternative disposal methods (land application, tertiary treatment wetlands, etc) to accommodate growth.



### **Current Nutrient Loads**

- The Cherry Hill, Cecilton, and Harbour View WWTPs currently exceed their point source caps for both nitrogen (TN) and phosphorus (TP).
- All plants except for North East River and Elkton are over the limit for phosphorus.
- Strategies are in place to upgrade these plants and to trade credits for additional discharge ability.
- However, based on existing conditions, the County will need to consider restricted growth or service area limitations to achieve nutrient caps.
- Alternatively, creative options include land application, Point to Point nutrient trading, Septic hook-ups, etc.



### **Public System Drinking Water Capacity 2007**

Public System	Existing Water Production	Demand, 2007	Net Available Capacity, 2007	Percent Available
	gpd	gpd	gpd	0/0
Cecilton	98,000	47,800	50,200	51%
Charlestown	207,000	92,400	114,600	55%
Chesapeake City (N)	85,000	42,000	43,000	51%
Chesapeake City (S)	85,000	60,000	25,000	29%
Elkton	2,150,000	1,700,000	450,000	21%
Harbour View	51,700	19,800	31,900	62%
Meadowview / Highlands	1,685,000	390,000	1,295,000	77%
North East	1,200,000	670,000	530,000	44%
Perryville	800,000	376,000	424,000	53%
Pine Hills	165,000	73,000	92,000	56%
Port Deposit	400,000	150,000	250,000	63%
Rising Sun	260,000	216,100	43,900	17%
TOTAL	7,186,700	3,837,100	3,349,600	47%

### **Current Wastewater Treatment Demand & Capacity**

Public System	Existing Treatment Capacity, 2007	Average Daily Flow	Net Available Capacity, 2007	Percent Available
	gpd	gpd	gpd	0/0
Cecilton	50,000	60,305	(10,305)	-21%
Cherry Hill	250,000	150,000	100,000	40%
Chesapeake City (N)	, 75,000	73,000	2,000	3%
Chesapeake City (S)	88,000	57,000	31,000	35%
Elkton	2,700,000	1,625,000	1,075,000	40%
Harbour View	65,000	31,000	34,000	52%
Highlands	50,000	44,000	6,000	12%
Meadowview	700,000	400,000	300,000	43%
North East	2,000,000	1,400,000	600,000	30%
Perryville	1,650,000	696,000	954,000	58%
Port Deposit	150,000	124,000	26,000	17%
Rising Sun	, 275,000	228,000	47,000	17%
TOTAL	8,053,000	4,888,305	3,164,695	39%

### **Current Nutrient Loads**

		Existing WWTP Demand	Existing Nutrient loading (lbs/year)		Load Cap (lbs/year)	
Watershed	Wastewater System	MGD	TN	TP	TN	TP
Back Creek	Chesapeake City (N)	0.07	3,997	1,332	4,112	685
	Chesapeake City (S)	0.06	3,121	1,040	4,441	740
Big Elk Creek	Cherry Hill	0.15	8,213	2,738	7,881	1,314
Bohemia River	Cecilton	0.06	3,302	1,101	2,466	411
Christina River	Meadowview	0.40	9,734	2,434	42,560	2,128
	Highlands <sup>1</sup>	0.04	2,409	803	3,039	152
Lower Elk River	Harbour View	0.03	1,697	566	460	77
Lower Susquehanna R.	Perryville	0.70	16,937	4,234	20,101	1,508
	Port Deposit	0.12	6,790	2,263	8,223	1,371
Northeast River	Seneca Point	1.40	17,035	1,278	24,364	1,827
Octoraro Creek	Rising Sun	0.23	12,484	4,161	15,076	2,513
Upper Elk River	Elkton	1.63	19,772	1,483	37,156	2,787
Total		4.89	105,492	23,433	169,879	15,513

2008 OVERAGE (lbs/year)			
TN	TP		
(115)	647		
(1,320)	300		
332	1,424		
836	690		
(32,826)	306		
(630)	651		
1,237	489		
(3,164)	2,726		
(1,433)	892		
(7,329)	(549)		
(2,592)	1,648		
(17,384)	(1,304)		
(64,387)	7,920		



### **BRAC**

- Commuting patterns indicate that roughly half of the Cecil County housing demand would focus on Perryville and North East (within a half-hour commute). The remaining half of demand would extend to Elkton and other areas more distant from APG
- The County is projected to have a shortage of WWTP capacity, schools and housing supply
- The county's schools are essentially at full capacity. By 2017 BRAC would result in demand for school capacity that is approximately 14% to 19% greater than current capacity
- BRAC could increase the total demand for new retail space over the next decade to 718,000 to 758,000 SF, an increase of between 16 to 22% over baseline demand.
- Increased growth most likely in western region of County, whereas health services, hospital, health department, police, and other services are concentrated in eastern region.



## **BRAC**

Summary of mid-case scenario BRAC impacts by jurisdiction					
Jurisdiction	Employment	Households	Population	Public school population	
Harford County	19,237	7,059	19,059	4,624	
Baltimore County	4,849	5,168	13,954	3,385	
Cecil County	1,460	1,984	5,357	1,300	
Baltimore City	941	877	2,368	575	
York County	586	835	2,254	547	
Lancaster County	266	379	1,025	247	
New Castle County	281	380	1,025	249	
Total	27,620	, 16,682	45,042	, 10,927	



## **Agricultural Preservation**

- Cecil County comprises 222,824 acres, of which about 34.6% (77,089 acres) is farmland.
- According to data published by the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Statistics Service for the year 2000, Cecil County produced a grand total of \$19,843,145 million in wholesale value
- As of April 2008, Cecil County had 21,722 acres of permanently protected land through easements, with another 5,937 acres pending through the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program (MALPF).



## **Agricultural Preservation**

- Preservation Programs in Cecil County include:
  - Cecil County Purchase of Development Rights 299,435 acres preserved
  - Rural Legacy: Eastern Shore Land Conservancy & M.E.T. 1,978 acres
  - Rural Legacy: Cecil Land Trust & M.E.T. 1,330 acres
  - Forest Legacy: MD DNR 854 acres
  - Eastern Shore Land Conservancy & M.E.T. 1,083 acres
  - Maryland Environmental Trust 2,830
  - Other Private Easements 460 acres

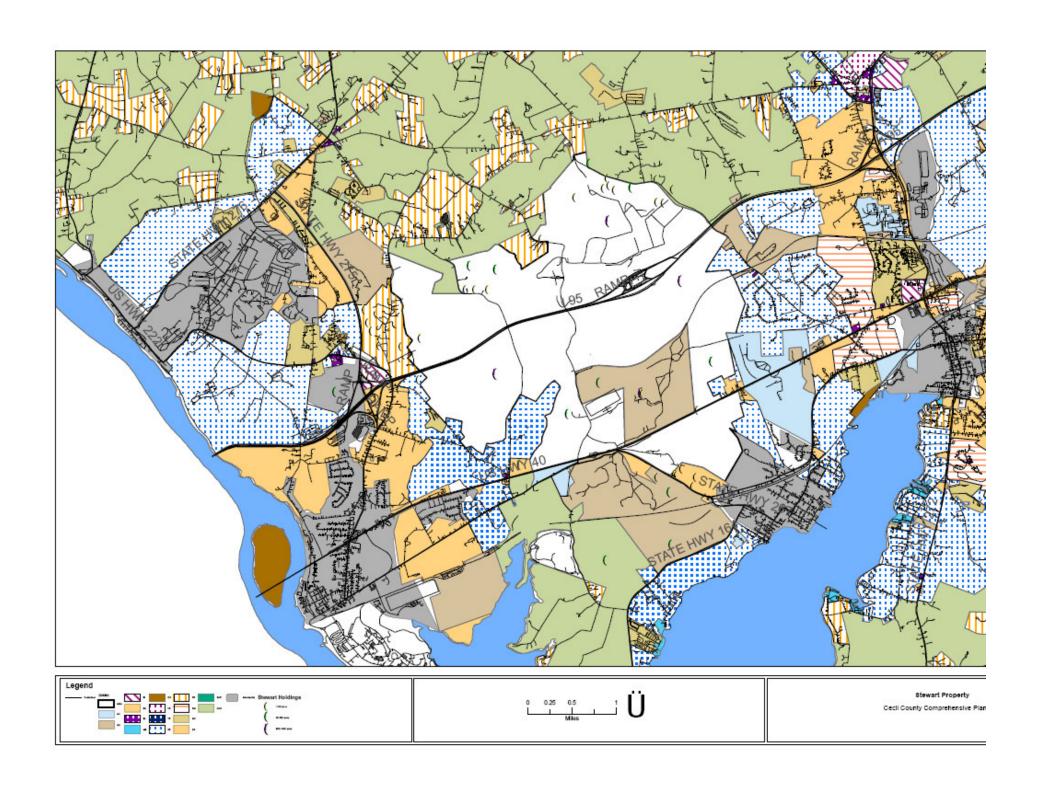


### Green Infrastructure

- 1. Leverage key state and federal conservation incentive programs.
- 2. Incorporate green infrastructure analysis into landscape and site level land use decisions.
- 3. Develop a green infrastructure tracking and reporting system.
- 4. Initiate a new County department focused on protection of green infrastructure, water quality, and natural resources.
- 5. Explore a potential nutrient trading system.
- 6. Explore new mechanisms for obtaining conservation capital, including a new local transfer tax.

Hub

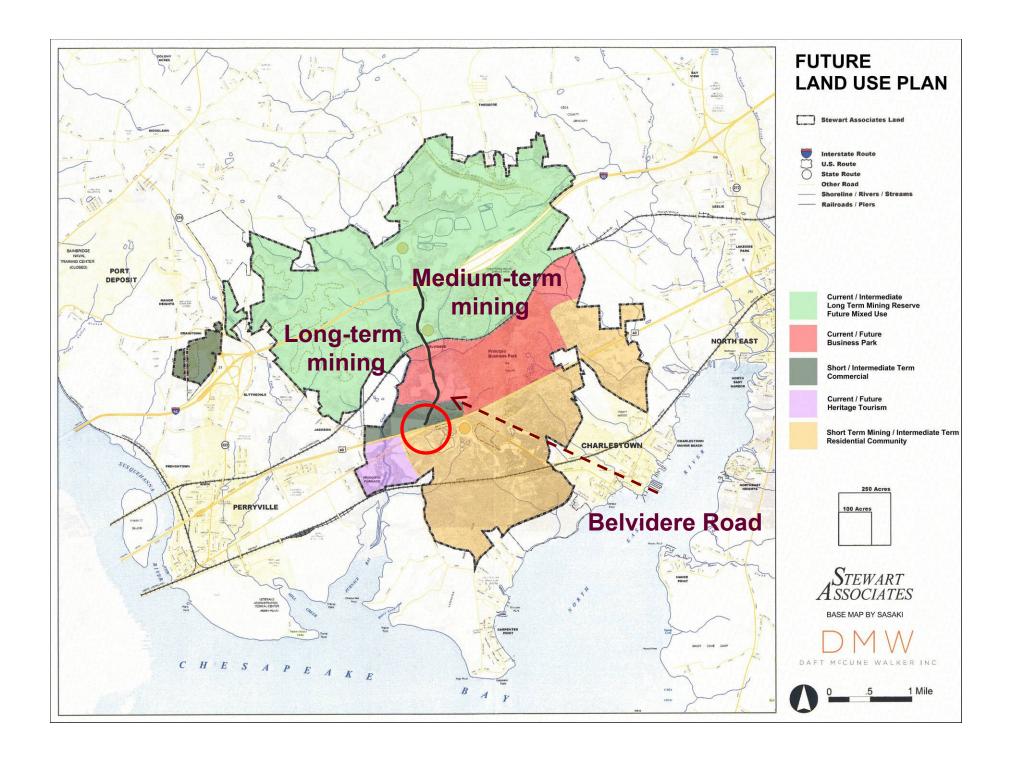
- 7. Foster partnerships and educate the public about green infrastructure.
- 8. Implement identified water quality strategies.



# Property Owner Goals for Stewart Property

- Mining will remain the primary use of the property between I-95 and US 40 (at least 15-20 years for the area east of Belvidere Road, 50 years to the west), and north of I-95 (with structures supporting mining operations)
- Owners support the concept of a master planned "new town" when this area develops, potentially as a master planned, mixed-use community "like Columbia" centered around the intersection of US 40 and Belvidere Road
- Residential areas would have a range of housing types
- Near-term development will continue to focus on employment uses (including commercial) at Principio Business Park





# Property Owner Goals for Stewart Property

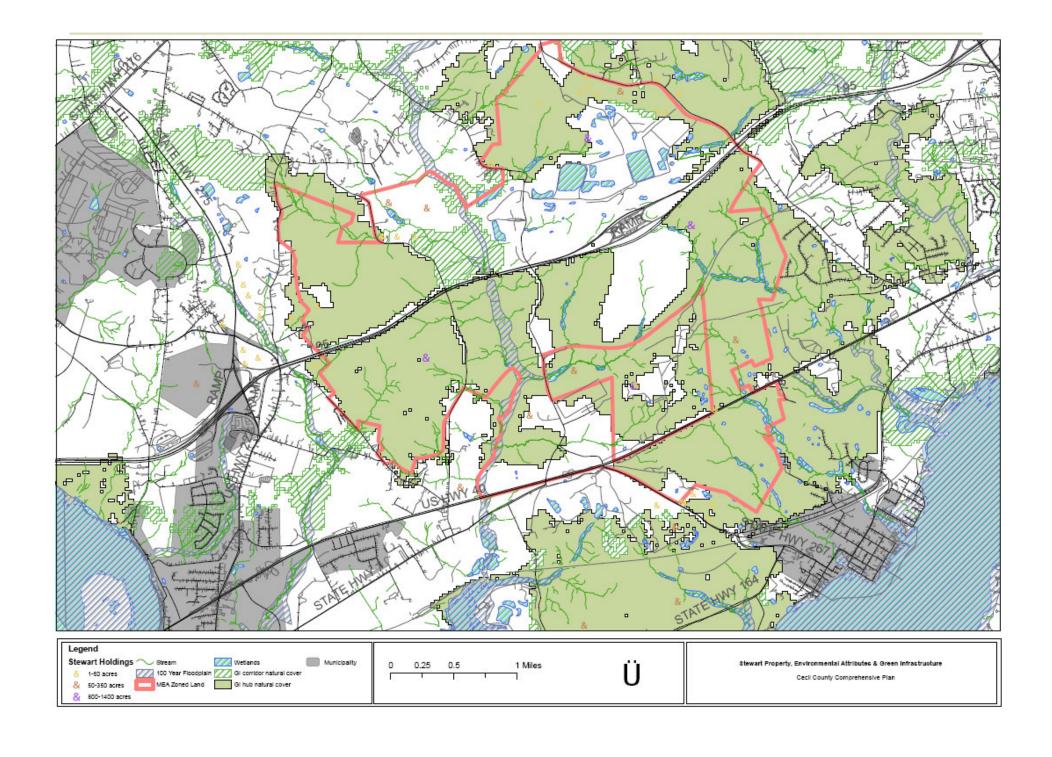
- The first residential areas to be developed are south of US 40, starting in 10-15 years; as these develop, the commercial area west of Principio would come online
- Residential areas would be developed at densities that support transit
- Longer-term transportation and infrastructure issues: Desire for MARC station, incorporated as part of development, adjacent to employment and residential uses, as well as new interchange at I-95 and Belvidere Road



# Property Owner Goals for Stewart Property

- Owners are willing to work within an environmental framework that allows them to develop the property
- Steep slopes, wetlands, streams and creeks would be protected as part of a master plan for the site

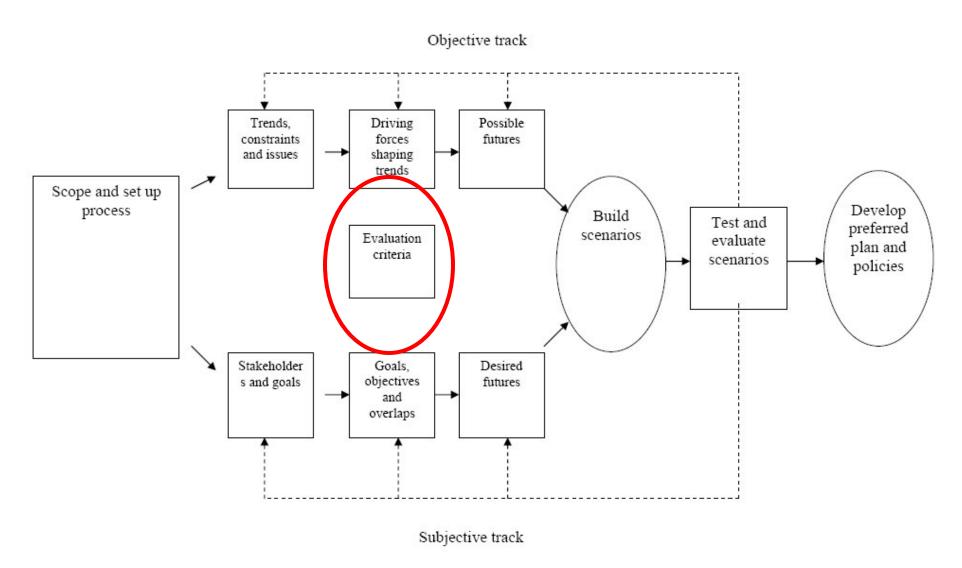




# Criteria



#### **Scenario Building Process**



### Criteria

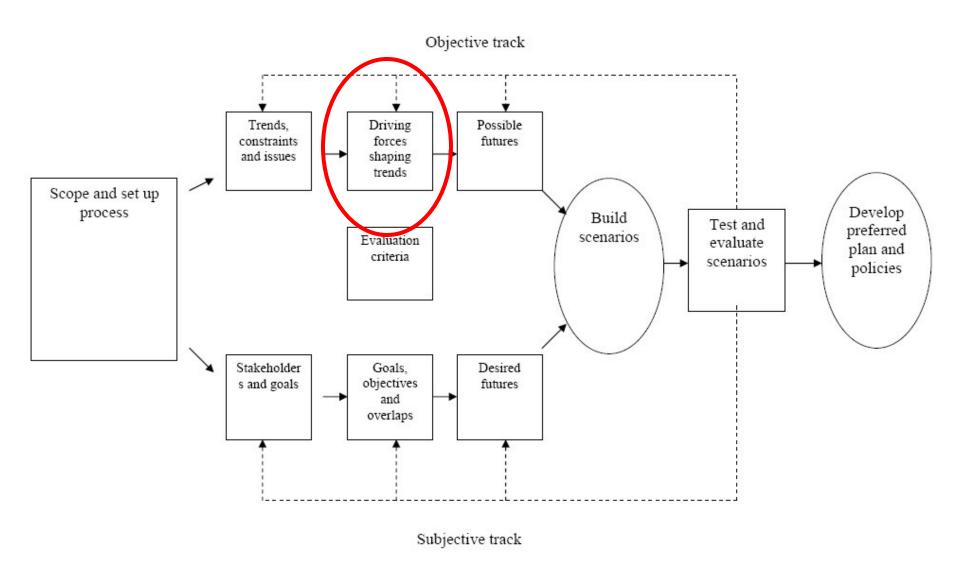
- Scenarios will be evaluated using the Choosing by Advantages process
- Criteria will include output from:
  - Traffic model (MDOT)
  - Growth Simulation model (MDP)
  - Water Resources model (ERM)
- In addition, quantitative/qualitative measures related to:
  - Agricultural lands affected
  - Impervious surface
  - Quality of life measures
  - Relative cost
  - Capacity of local governments to implement
  - Others?



# **Driving Forces**



#### **Scenario Building Process**



# What is Causing Change in Cecil County?

- The County's location along I-95 corridor, on the edge of one major metropolitan area and within commuting distance of another, generates demand for land
- The County's considerable supply of undeveloped land and location within the region makes development relatively inexpensive
- Access to the I-95 and US 40 corridors has generated significant demand for warehouse and distribution uses
- The County has a relatively small employment base, so many residents must commute to jobs outside of the County
- The County's labor force participation rate has been declining, particularly among men



# What is Causing Change in Cecil County?

- Population growth has been rapid and is projected to continue through 2030
- Household size continues to decrease as the number of single-person households increases
- The population is aging and will continue to do so, but the County is also projected to get significant growth in the number of people under 19
- Scattered development may threaten the future viability of agriculture
- BRAC will increase demand for housing and result in spin-off demand for employment sites



### Givens

- The price of resources is rising
- Increased protection of the Chesapeake Bay will constrain growth unless technology is changed and/or the provision of sewer and water infrastructure is better coordinated



### **Uncertainties**

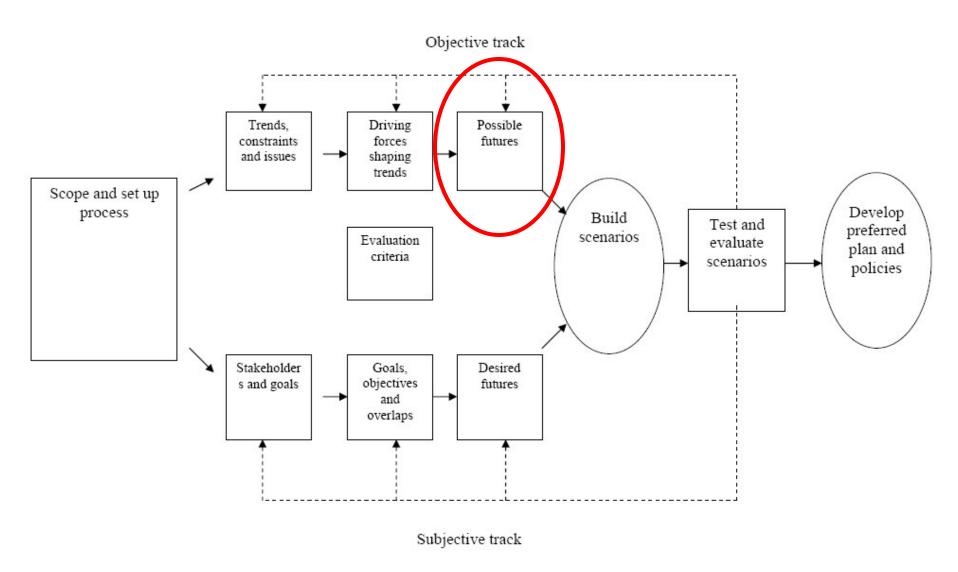
- Rising energy costs, at least in the short term, may affect locational decisions for housing and jobs
- Cecil County's mix of employment and role in the regional economy is changing
- The era of inexpensive water may be over
- How sewer and water infrastructure will be provided in the future is uncertain
- The County's fiscal capacity to implement largescale infrastructure solutions is uncertain



## **Possible Futures**



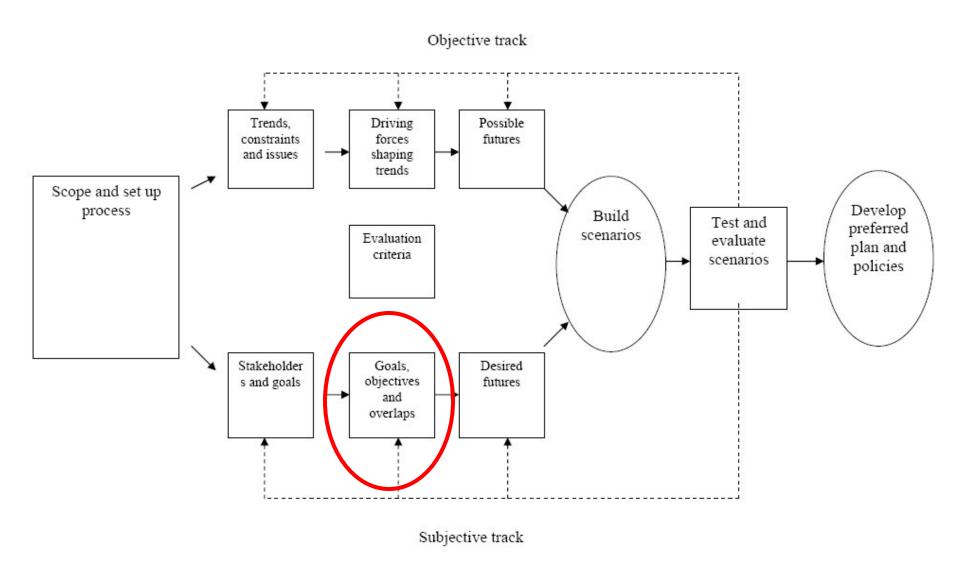
#### **Scenario Building Process**



# Goals, Objectives and Overlaps



#### **Scenario Building Process**



## **New Development**

- Limit growth
- Require new development to pay for the cost of providing the water it needs
- Encourage sustainability / green buildings
- Direct growth to existing transportation corridor (I-95/US-40/Amtrak/Conrail)
- Add flexibility to development controls to allow for creative and alternative solutions
- Restrict public utility extensions into rural areas

**Citizens Oversight Committee Draft Goals** 



### **Growth Corridor**

- Designate growth areas & facilitate high density, mixed use development that will support transit
- Discourage growth outside of growth areas
- Direct growth to existing public facilities
- Focus transportation and infrastructure investments in growth areas

**Citizens Oversight Committee Draft Goals** 



## Agriculture

- Protect, preserve and sustain prime agricultural land
- Encourage the economic viability of farming and farming related business



## Mining

- Identify and set aside areas most suitable for surface drinking water reservoirs, large scale tertiary treatment wetlands, spray irrigation and other future public service needs
- Provide for reclamation of mineral extraction district land in the County



### Preservation/Natural Resources

- Protect, preserve and restore the natural resources, open spaces, and historic sites throughout the County
- Develop and use innovative techniques, such as clustering and conservation easements, to help preserve open space
- Develop a comprehensive inventory of natural resource lands, and track and monitor these areas
- Locate recreation land and facilities close to population centers
- Use storm water management programs to reduce non-point source loading of nutrients and sediment into the bay, and to increase infiltration and aquifer recharge
- Sustain and protect existing water supplies



## **Employment**

- Attract and encourage manufacturing, high tech, and R&D industries, and have land available for economic development
- Encourage private and public economic activities, such as eco-tourism, natural resource-based outdoor recreation, commercial fishing
- Train and develop a labor force to fulfill the needs of these industries
- Support municipal economic growth initiatives
- Create employment opportunities near residential areas



## **Transportation**

- Pursue multiple modes of transportation, such as rail, buses, bicycles, trails, water transport, to decrease automobile use
- Encourage development of mixed use, pedestrian friendly communities
- Provide easier access to airports
- Promote and support ride sharing
- Reduce truck traffic on local roads



## Housing

- Provide a range of housing types to meet the needs of people at all income levels
- Identify and provide for the needs of the homeless
- Promote mixed-use developments
- Integrate housing options with shopping and employment opportunities



#### Infrastructure

- Identify funding mechanisms such as impact fees and special taxing districts to finance County improvements
- Limit the provision of facilities and service in rural areas of the County
- Promote recycling, both commercial residential
- Sustain and optimize existing wastewater treatment capacity
- Develop new water supplies and wastewater treatment capacity to meet projected demand



#### Parks and Recreation

- Create a variety of quality recreational environments and opportunities
- Improve programming, coordination, and the integration of existing and future parks
- Make parks a priority in or near residential areas
- Identify funding mechanisms to create more parks and open space



## **Potential Conflicts**

A	В
Provide for reclamation of mineral extraction district land in the County	Protect, preserve and restore the natural resources, open spaces, and historic sites throughout the County
Attract and encourage manufacturing, high tech, and R&D industries, and have land available for new development	Limit growth; Reduce truck traffic on local roads
Require new development to pay for the cost of providing the water it needs	Add flexibility to development controls to allow for creative and alternative solutions
Use storm water management programs to reduce non-point source loading of nutrients and sediment into the bay	Encourage the economic viability of farming and farming related business; Protect, preserve and sustain all remaining prime agricultural land
Direct growth to existing transportation corridor (I-95/US-40/Amtrak/Conrail)	Direct growth to existing adequate public facilities
Identify funding mechanisms to create more parks and open space to be utilized by County residents	Focus transportation and infrastructure investments in defined growth areas



#### **Town Goals**

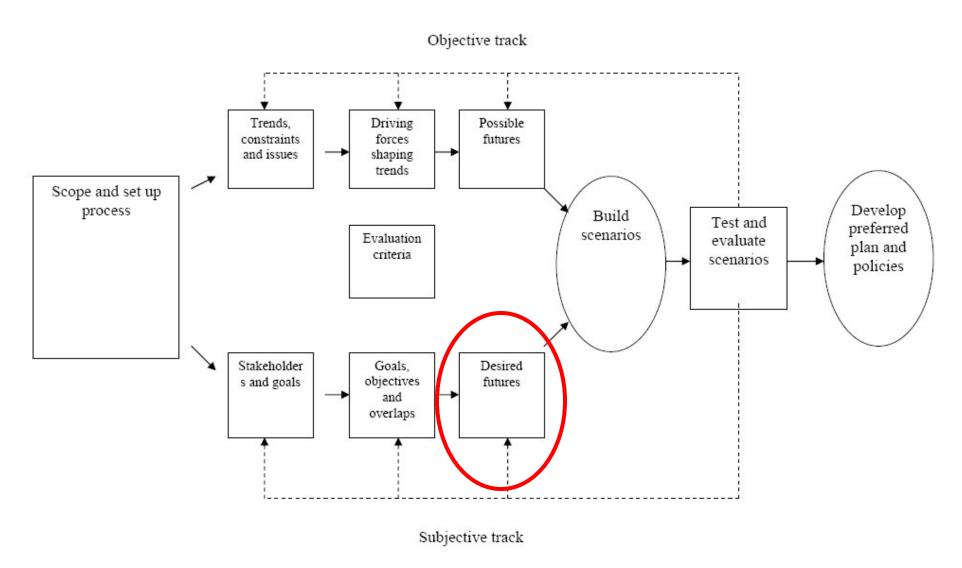
- Elkton, North East, Perryville and Port Deposit want to grow, but in a manner that protects and enhances community character
- Directing development to growth areas with adequate sewer and water infrastructure and public facilities will require careful planning and coordination among the Towns and the County
- The Towns need infrastructure to grow but do not have the organizational capacity to build and manage it alone
- The Towns and the County should strive to make plans consistent
- Key areas of coordination include annexation, economic development, neighborhood and commercial revitalization and the protection of natural resources



## **Desired Futures**



#### **Scenario Building Process**



#### **Desired Futures**

- Direct growth to defined areas where there are adequate public facilities & infrastructure to support development
- Maintain the rural character of the County and preserve agriculture's place in the economy (discourage development in rural areas)
- Protect, preserve and restore natural resources throughout the County, particularly Green Infrastructure and sites critical to water quality
- Attract and encourage manufacturing, high tech, and research and development industries. Train and develop a labor force to fulfill the needs of these industries.



#### **Desired Futures**

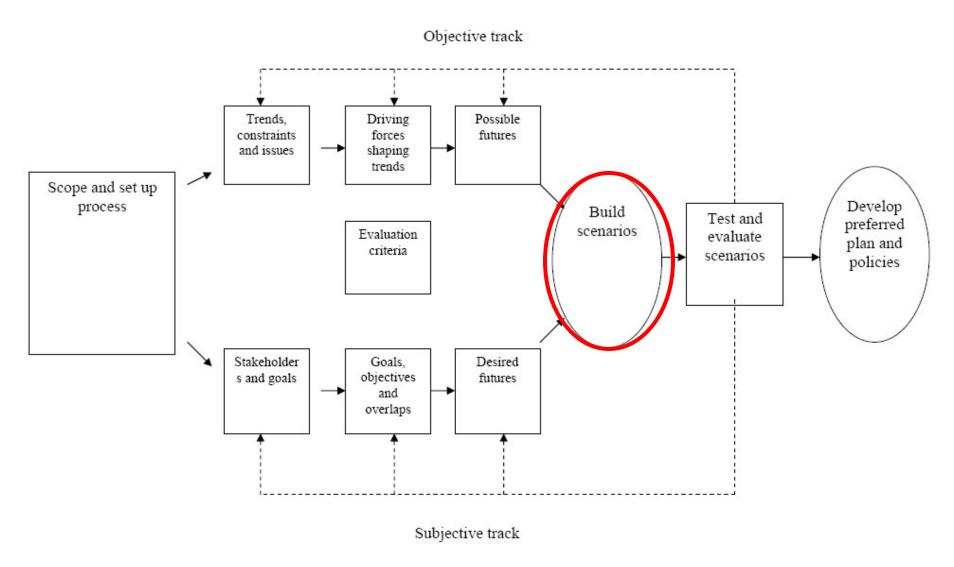
- Pursue multiple modes of transportation to reduce car traffic and facilitate movement within the growth area, as well as to create a pedestrian friendly community
- Make a variety of quality recreational environments and opportunities readily available to all citizens
- Pursue alternative funding sources for infrastructure and other improvements
- Provide a variety of housing options to support a diverse community, choosing mixed-use developments where appropriate



## **Potential Scenarios**



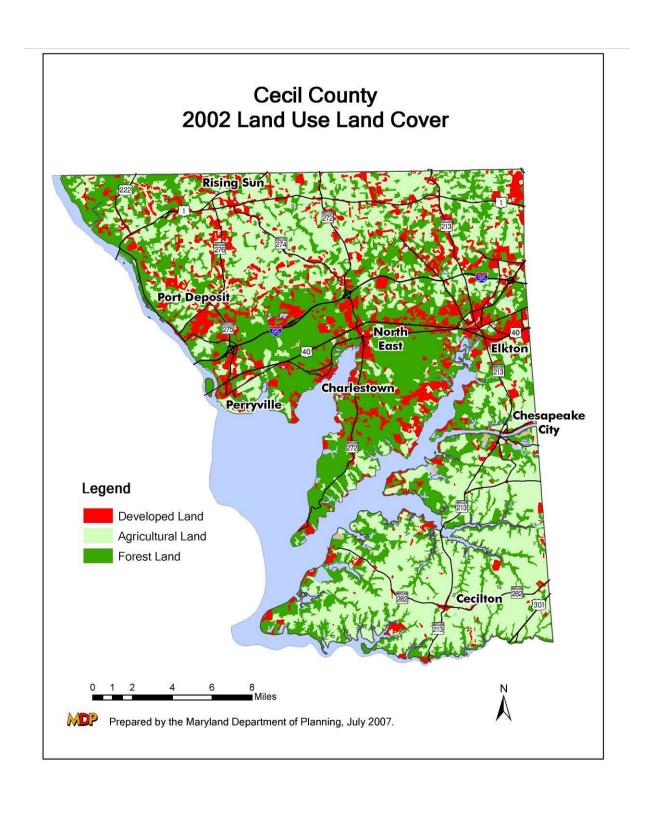
#### **Scenario Building Process**

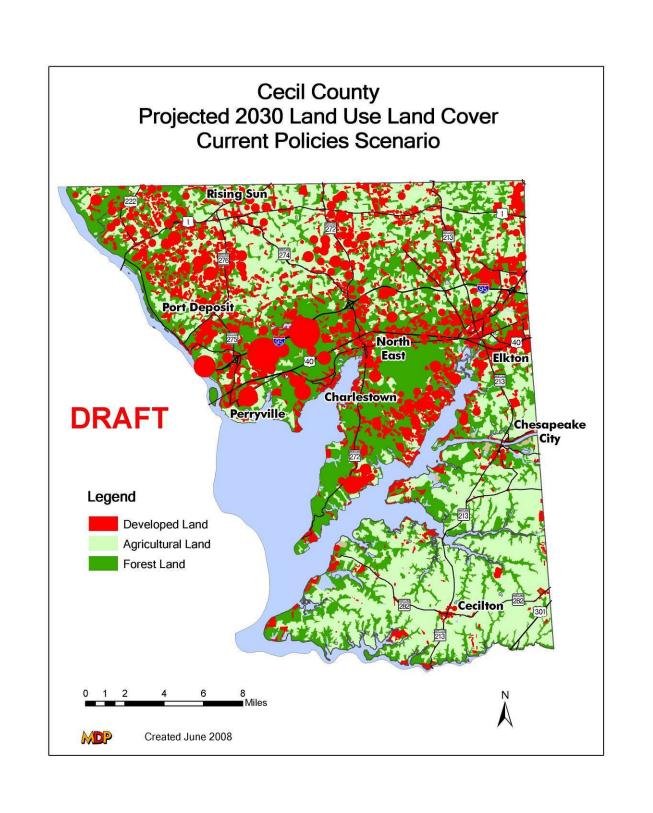


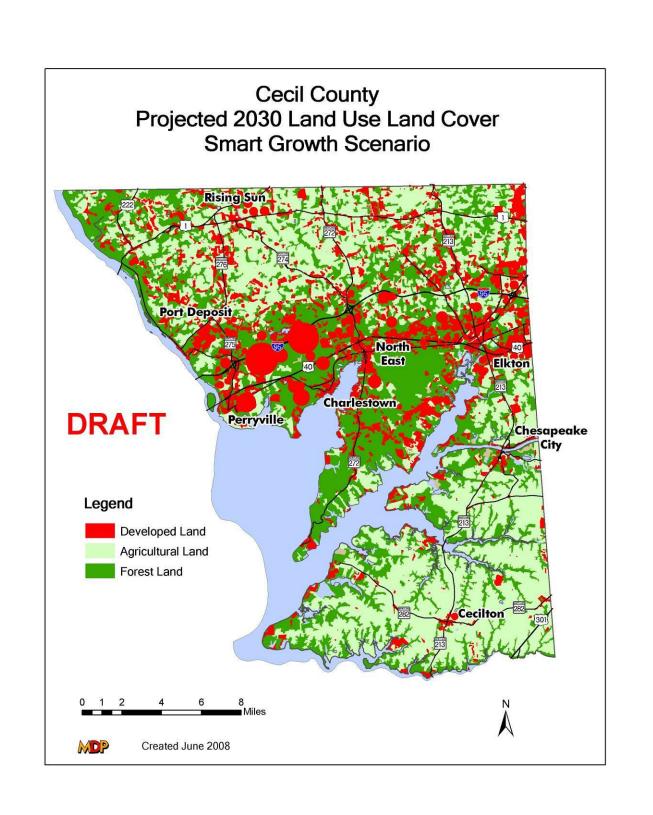
#### **Potential Scenarios**

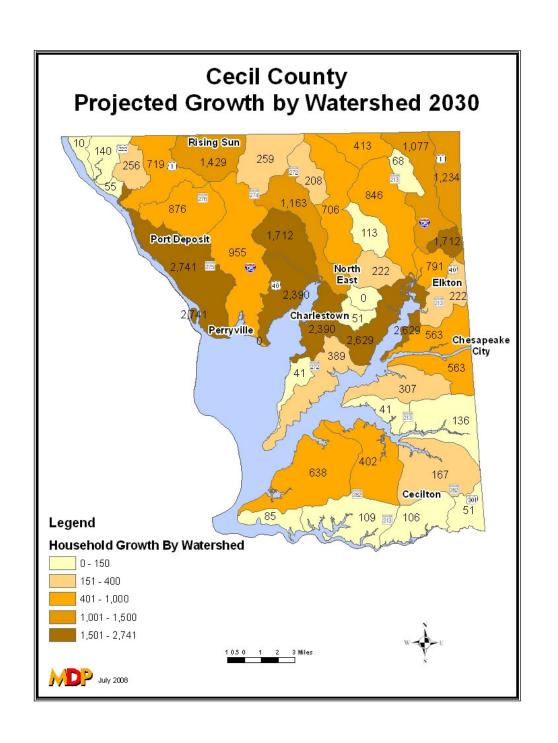
- Buildout/Trends
- Town-Based Growth
- New Town on Stewart Property
- Constrained Approach
- Environmental-Based Growth
- Others?







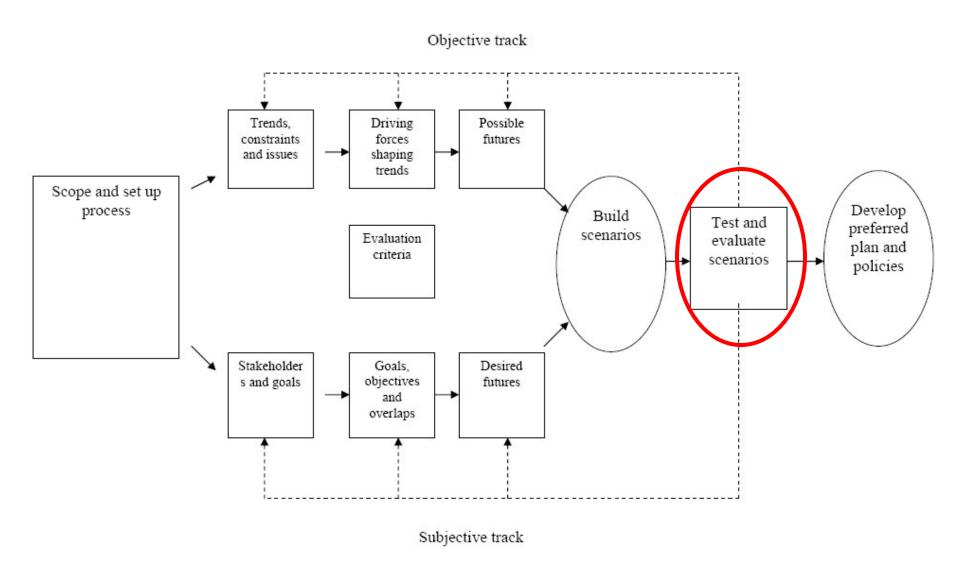




# Testing and Evaluating Scenarios



#### Scenario Building Process





## Cecil County Comprehensive Plan

Scenarios Workshop July 31, 2008

