

Community Engagement Feedback Session #1

Date: Friday, October 29, 2021

Time: 9:30 – 11:00 AM

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Claudia Wilson Randall	Community Development Network of MD
Dwayne Mingo	Prince George’s County Association of Realtors
Dominic Butchko	MACo
Rick Piereck	Housing Authority of Calvert County
Gregg Kantak	Southern MD Association of Realtors
Sarah Diehl	Maryland Department of Planning
Joe Griffiths	Maryland Department of Planning
Chuck Boyd	Maryland Department of Planning
Sarah Lipkin Sularz	Maryland Department of Planning
Jennifer Chiasson	Maryland Department of Commerce
Dean Ertwine	Maryland Department of Commerce
Lisa Swoboda	Maryland Department of Commerce
Eric Spillman	Spillman Consulting
Anson Blackall	SIA Solutions
Brandy Little	Stantec
Lisa Chiblow	Stantec
Carrie Ann Williams	Andana Consulting

The first feedback session of the community engagement group was held using Microsoft Teams on Friday, October 29, 2021. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an overview of the compatible use project and public outreach methodology, receive input on content creation and existing resources, and receive input on compatible use best practices and success stories at the regional, local, and installation levels. This meeting also provided an opportunity to share the draft mockup of the compatible use website.

The following items were discussed (by agenda item):

1. Introductions

- Introductions included a discussion of how/if participants interact with or support the communities surrounding their affiliated military installation and any additional information they would like to learn about the project.

2. Overview and Purpose of the Compatible Use Project:

- Sarah provided a brief overview of compatible use and provided examples of compatibility factors that are used to assess impacts from the perspective of a surrounding community and installation. The discussion was followed by an overview of the project, including the stakeholder involvement process, and public outreach methodology.
- Participant polling activity:
 - Q1: Were you familiar with the importance of compatible use before today’s presentation? (2 Yes, 2 No, 2 Vaguely Familiar)

- Q2: Are you aware of any compatible use conflicts in your community? (Many respondents answered “not that I am aware of,” there was a comment about how the Maryland National Guard in Baltimore has concerns about available training space that they are working on.)

3. Desired Goals & Outcomes of Feedback Sessions

- Anson elaborated that the purpose of these feedback sessions is to identify additional resource gaps, share additional resources, and also expand our audience. The project team is very interested in other tools and resources that can be included as part of the website and handbook and it is very important that we engage with other stakeholders to gain insight outside the military realm to make sure we achieve intended project outcomes.

4. Resource Review/Collection

- Anson noted that throughout the project, we have heard a lot about coordination that is happening between the installations and communities and the need for data. We have also looked at the JLUS studies that have been done throughout Maryland; highly recommend looking into those – will find information about available housing, workforce development issues and anything that has an adverse effect on military operations. If you are not familiar with compatible use, that is a great resource to find more information.
- Joe asked Dominic about what kind of information would be helpful to someone new in their role that would help to better understand Maryland counties?
 - Dominic noted that it would be helpful to highlight generally as to how counties can be a partner in compatible use – how counties can help or how can benefit at the county level. It would be good practice to highlight any issues, for example with waste or transportation issues, so there can be an open dialogue as to how to get those issues resolved.
- Anson asked Gregg about what kinds of resources the Southern Maryland Association of Realtors uses in regard to noise overlays or other impacts?
 - Gregg noted that the Maryland Real Estate Commission and local counties create forms that have specific clauses within the counties in which purchasing a property and any disclosures. Seeing the forms will provide better insight; he will share with Sarah.
 - Regarding issues related to a disclosure in a contract that resulted in a complaint, Gregg added they go through the local boards through the state and then the Maryland Real Estate Commission. The Commission would have a better view about any issues with any of these disclosures. Complaint data may be posted on their website.
- Anson asked if there are any issues that anyone has seen consistently affect the surrounding areas regarding workforce development or affordable housing?
 - Claudia noted the Maryland Statewide Housing Needs Assessment that was recently completed is an important guiding document. She also noted the digital divide issue that the state is facing and the commitment that has been made in closing the divide and broadband expansions. There is now an office of statewide broadband and this is an example of something that will have a huge impact on the future of what military installations may or may not be able to do.
 - This is also important for workforce development. She provided the link to the study that was done.

- Claudia also reminded everyone of the investment zones in Maryland. Overlaying sustainable communities, opportunity zones, etc. with military installations would be helpful going forward and present possible funding opportunities.
- She also mentioned the coming months and the anticipated increase in need, especially with emergency rental assistance programs. It will be important to connect these resources with the military community, veterans, etc.
 - Eric agreed; certainly a need for and interest in these programs.
- Joe asked Dwayne about the Prince George's County perspective.
 - Dwayne noted Derek Collage, Brittney Drakeford, and Chad Williams at Parks and Planning would have some insight as they have been instrumental in recent projects including the zoning rewrite.
 - He added that Prince George's County Association of Realtors also have their own notice and disclosure forms. He offered to share this information with Sarah.
- Gregg brought up the impact that COVID has had on commercial real estate and the need to revitalize commercial space into multi-use. As we look at affordable housing, he suggested we might want to look at the commercial real estate community as well to see how the two can mix.
- Dwayne asked if there would be a FAQ page on the website?
 - Per Sarah, yes, pertaining to compatible use and varying elements (land preservation, funding, etc.) Still working through the details.
- Joe brought up the broadband discussion as a topic that we had not considered much beforehand. There is a lot of funding out there that the state is using from various recovery acts to help fund broadband extensions. This might be a good question to bring up with our military representatives – how much of an impact will this be to their operations, what are their concerns?

5. Next Steps & Wrap-Up

- The MDP/Spillman teams will be following up on any leads from today's meeting and will use this feedback to inform the tabs on the website. The team will be getting back together with the full stakeholder group in November to present a project update.
- Next feedback session being planned for January 2022. This session will be an opportunity to provide input and feedback on website functionality and design details. The final feedback session will take place in late spring/summer and be a final demonstration of project deliverables.
- MDP has launched a survey effort to get insight on how adjacent communities interact with neighboring military installations around Maryland. Results will the team of other compatibility topics to explore. The survey can be found [here](#) and is open until 12/17.
- Sarah will be sending a copy of the presentation after the meeting.