

Regional Resources Reports Eastern Shore



Regional Resources Teams, comprised of the 10 State Agencies of the [Governor's Commerce Subcabinet](#) as well as the Governor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, were formed in 2019 to improve communication and collaboration between state agencies representatives in their respective regions across the state. The teams meet regularly to provide project updates and identify opportunities to assist businesses and local jurisdictions with economic development efforts. This report exemplifies how the Regional Resources Team is collaborating to support Maryland's Eastern Shore

The Eastern Shore Regional Resource Team is dedicated to service in counties from the Susquehanna River to the Atlantic Ocean, including nine counties: Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline, Talbot, Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester. The team holds monthly meetings to discuss project updates and explore opportunities for supporting the region and its communities. The formation of the team has increased communication and collaboration for several projects. Two of them, detailed below.

In Cecil County's growth corridor, Bainbridge Development in Port Deposit has taken significant steps to create job opportunities. The Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) provided technical assistance to the town in revising their comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, and sewer and water master plan. The comprehensive plan was revised to allow for new employment uses. The zoning code was updated to include a new business classification for the Bainbridge site and to incorporate standards for the development. The sewer and water master plan was amended to address the need for a new wastewater treatment facility and water needs. A new wastewater facility has been funded, and the first site plans are being processed. The 1,200 acre site has the opportunity to support thousands of new jobs. The Department of Commerce (Commerce) serves on the Bainbridge Development Corporation and has provided job tax credits for new business development.

In addition to supporting the Bainbridge Development, Commerce has also worked to fulfil other development opportunities in Cecil County, including attracting Great Wolf Lodge. Planning and Commerce also coordinated with the Town of Elkton to accommodate the Southfields development project, assisting with municipal annexation, Priority Funding Area designation, and job tax credits.

In Kent County, Planning has assisted with municipal annexation, [Priority Funding Area](#) designation, [Sustainable Community Area](#) designation, and an amendment to the water and sewer plan needed to accommodate the DIXON Valve development. This project helped retain 480 jobs in Chestertown. Development plans include increases in employment and adjacent development proposals for offices and housing. The Maryland Department of Housing and

Community Development has provided resources for extending water and sewer utilities to the site. The Maryland Department of Labor is also working with DIXON to provide apprenticeship training. These positions are expected to pay more than \$27 per hour.