**Attachment A**

**Stakeholder Discussion Questions**

Introduction

The Chesapeake Bay Program is interested in fostering closer ties with the planning community. We’re (ERG on behalf of the Bay program) conducting a stakeholder assessment and outreach in order to formulate a series of workshops to engage planners and the Bay Program to exchange information and better understand our mutual priorities. We’d like to develop content that is relevant to planners while fostering the goals of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. We are contacting you because of your role in planning (statewide, as relevant) to get your perspective. I’ll be asking you some prompting questions. These aren’t prescriptive; just designed to get a conversation going. I’ll take some notes and after our conversation, I’ll share those notes with you to ensure I’ve captured your advice accurately. We really want to foster closer ties between the planning community and the goals of the Bay Program now and for years to come.

We will be speaking with other planners throughout the watershed. After we’ve finished these discussions, we will draft some recommendations on how to formulate workshops so that they provide the best opportunity for the Bay program partners and planners to mutually educate and establish closer ties.

**Questions**

Please share the reach of your organization’s membership.

What is your organization’s top two highest planning priorities?

In the past year, what have been the top three sources of information you use to help you with your work?

How frequently does your organization meet? Conferences? Regional workshops? And do you have topic specific sessions during these gatherings that have a watershed focus?

How much of your work has a watershed focus? Ex. stormwater, land use, climate, flooding, green infrastructure.

Have you worked with the Chesapeake Bay Program or with your jurisdiction’s DEP, DNR, DEQ etc.? If yes, what has that experience been like? How does it support your work? Are you familiar with your State’s Watershed Implementation Plan?

What tools do you use to make your land use decisions? Are there tools you wish you had? Are you familiar with the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST)?

How do you access information and resources that help you achieve your priorities? (Relationships / technical assistance from staff, experts, professional associations, conferences/workshops, documents/manuals, etc.)

Does your jurisdiction have a Green Infrastructure Plan? Any GI/LID incorporated into zoning, subdivision, or land development ordinances? Any other plans that may relate to water quality, like Watershed Plans on MS4 permitting plans?

We plan on offering AICP continuing education credits as part of the workshops. Based on our conversation, what content within what we have touched on would fit well for CE?

Who else would you recommend we talk with and why?