

2017 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM

2017 Local Government Forum

Date/Location: June 7, 2017, 10am – 4pm / Crowne Plaza, Annapolis

2017 Theme: Future Land Use Scenarios Relevant to Local Planning Decisions to Maintain Water Quality

Problem Statement: Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (due in April 2019) must account for anticipated increases in nutrient and sediment loads associated with population growth between 2019 and 2025, the end date for meeting the Chesapeake Bay TMDL goals. One way to account for changing conditions is to compare plausible scenarios of future land uses with current conditions. The Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model (CBLCM) developed by the U.S. Geological Survey at the Chesapeake Bay Program Office is designed to simulate future land use conditions for the year 2025 based on county-level population and employment projections while accounting for local zoning, the suitability of land for development, slopes, housing and employment densities, and other factors. These forecasts can be fed through the Bay Program's watershed model to estimate potential changes in nutrient and sediment loads that would result from changes in land use.

Under the direction of its Land Use Workgroup, the CBP plans to develop several future land use scenarios to bracket potential changes in land use resulting from a continuation of historic trends and/or partial buildout of lands zoned for development. The CBP would like to get as much local input as possible for designing future land use scenarios that are locally relevant and useful for [Phase III WIP](#) development. The objectives of the forum are:

1. **Review historic trends scenario for the Chesapeake Bay watershed.**
 - Do the forecasts appear plausible? If not, why?
 - What information is needed to improve the historic trend forecasts?
2. **Identify local policies and actions needed to alter trends in land use change.**
 - E.g., zoning, infill & redevelopment, riparian forest protection
3. **Identify metrics to be used to evaluate future scenarios**
 - E.g., change in nutrient loads, impervious surface per capita, forest conversion
4. **Develop consensus around a few future scenarios that are most relevant and useful to local governments for informing the Phase III WIPs.**

Approach: The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Alliance), in cooperation with the Local Government Advisory Committee to the Chesapeake Executive Council (LGAC), and the CBP Land Use Workgroup (LUWG) will convene a day-long forum to learn about the potential use of future scenarios to inform local restoration and conservation actions, explore possible scenario narratives and assumptions, and build consensus around a subset of scenarios to inform Phase III WIP development.

The Alliance's approach is to engage land use planning and policy experts to review historic trends and current policy scenarios and gain sufficient understanding of the methods used in developing these scenarios to enable them to review and build consensus around a set of Proposed Alternative Future Scenarios.

Outcome: Consensus guidance for developing alternative future growth scenarios

Deliverables: 2-3 alternative future growth scenarios, each based on a unique set of assumptions, for incorporation into Land Use Change Model.

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Wednesday, June 7, 2017

- 10:00 AM Welcome/Introductions, Hon. Bruce Williams, Chair, LGAC
- 10:15 AM Workshop Overview/Purpose
- Mary Gattis, AICP, Director of Local Government Programs, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
 - Karl Berger, Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program's Land Use Workgroup
- 10:30 AM Introduction to Chesapeake Bay Future Scenarios: Narratives, Assumptions, Evaluation Metrics; and Applications
- Peter Claggett, U.S. Geological Survey
 - Claire Jantz and Antonia Price, Shippensburg University
- 12:00 PM Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 PM Designing the Future: Alternative Scenarios for the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
Small-group facilitated discussions
- Review and comment on trend scenario
 - Brainstorm policies and actions to alter trends
- 2:30 PM Break
- 2:45 PM Building Consensus around a set of plausible and useful scenarios.
Small group report out, plenary discussion
- 3:45 PM Summarize Recommendations & Next Steps
- Mary Gattis and Peter Claggett
- 4:00 PM Adjourn