

## 2014 Western Maryland Local Government Exchange

### *Affording a Quality Community: Balancing the Quality of Life versus the Cost of Living*

Friday, May 9, 2014

#### *AGENDA*

- 9:00 a.m.**      **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**  
*Jim Wieprecht*, Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer, City of Taneytown  
on behalf of the steering committee
- 9:10 a.m.**      **KEYNOTE:** How do we become affordably sustainable under the largely urban definition used in MD? How will rural areas achieve it and how will it affect the cost of living (housing, environment, and energy)? What are the employment and regulatory issues?  
**Facilitator:** Dave Umling
- 9:40 a.m.**      **SESSION 1: BREAKOUT – TOPIC: STRENGTHENING LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT.**  
An overview of the real estate markets in the western Maryland counties will be provided, followed by a discussion on state policies that have affected efforts to recover from the foreclosures and disinvestment that have plagued local communities, and suggested strategies for local governments to work with the business community to attract real estate investments.  
**Presenter:** *Tamar Osterman*, Government Affairs Director, Carroll County and Frederick County Association of Realtors®  
**Facilitator:** Ted Shankle, Director, Hagerstown Housing Authority – Washington County
- 10:40 a.m.**      **BREAK**
- 10:55 a.m.**      **SESSION 2: ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY MANDATES: REASONABLENESS OF IMPLEMENTATION.**  
Counties and municipalities in western Maryland are dealing with the implementation of the TMDL regulations and how to implement best practices in a cost effective fashion to get the most impact. This session will provide the county and municipal perspective.  
**Presenters:** *Shannon Moore*, Director, Sustainability & Environment Resources, Frederick County  
*Jim Bender*, Assistant City Engineer, City of Hagerstown  
**Facilitator:** Alex Rohrbaugh, Planner, City of Hagerstown
- 11:40 p.m.**      **SESSION 3: RECAP OF THE 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**  
**Presenters:** *Les Knapp*, Legal and Policy Counsel, Maryland Association of Counties  
*Tom Curtin*, Associate, Governmental Relations & Research, Maryland Municipal League  
*Colby Ferguson*, government Relations Director, MD Farm Bureau  
**Facilitator:** Nancy Nunn, Outreach, Education & Advancement Coordinator for the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology

**12:30 p.m.**      **NETWORKING LUNCH**

**1:30 p.m.**      **SESSION 4: THE CHANGING FACE OF ENERGY IN WESTERN MARYLAND**

Changes are occurring in the mix of energy sources due to new regulation and new technologies. This session will investigate some of the potential economic implications for the five western Maryland counties.

**COMMERCIAL WOOD ENERGY A REALITY**

**Presenter:** *Jonathan Kays*, Extension Special Natural Resources, University of Maryland Extension

**CHANGING MARKET DEMAND WITH ELECTRICITY: CHANGES IN HOW POWER IS GENERATED AND DISTRIBUTED TO THE REGION**

**Presenter:** *John Emerick*, Potomac Edison

**NEW HYDROELECTRIC POTENTIAL IN WESTERN MARYLAND**

**Presenter:** *Shawn Seaman*, Power Plant Site Assessor, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

**UPDATE ON MARCELLUS SHALE AND THE GOVERNOR'S SAFE DRILLING Initiative**

**Presenter:** *Brigid Kenney*, Senior Policy Advisor, Maryland Department of Environment

**Facilitator:** Dave Umling, City Planner, City of Cumberland

**2:45 p.m.**      **RECAP OF DAY'S SESSIONS: NEXT STEPS**

**Presenters:** *Alan Imhoff, Alex Rohrbaugh, Dave Umling*

**3:00 p.m.**      **ADJOURN**