

North East Planning Commission

2022 Annual Planning Report



Prepared by: Town of North East - Office of Planning and Zoning



2022 ANNUAL PLANNING REPORT

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2022 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMISSION CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

In accordance with the provisions of the Section 1-207 of the Land Use Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Planning Commission shall prepare, adopt and file an annual report for the previous calendar year with the legislative body. The Town of North East Planning Commission hereby adopts the 2022 Annual Report of the North East Planning Commission, filing same with the Mayor and Commissioners and the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning.

North East Planning Commission

Mark T. Dobbins

Mark T. Dobbins, Chairman

July 11, 2023

Date



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MAYOR

Michael Kline

VICE-MAYOR

Hilary Crothers-Moore

COMMISSIONERS

Raymond Mitchell

Kelly Benson

Catherine Bernard-Dutton

EX-OFFICIO TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Raymond Mitchell

January to April

Hilary Crothers-Moore

May to December

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Melissa B. Cook-MacKenzie

ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Robb Carey

January to August

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Vonnie Stemen

February to Current



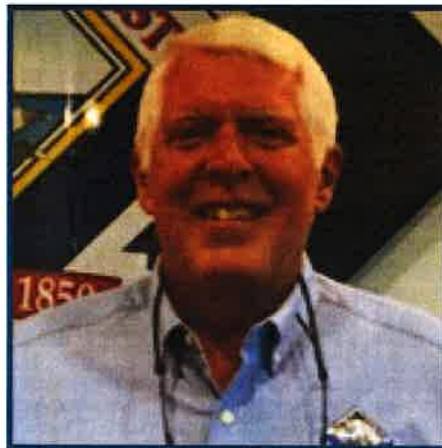
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TOWN ELECTION - 2022

Commissioner Hilary Crothers-Moore and Commissioner Raymond Mitchel ran un-contested and were re-elected in February, 2022 for two-year terms. Commissioner Mitchell will serve as the Ex-Officio to the Planning Commission.



**Commissioner
Hilary Crothers-Moore**



**Commissioner
Raymond Mitchell**



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NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMISSION

The North East Planning Commission, acting under authority granted by the Annotated Code of Maryland, Land Use Article which regulates the development of land in the Town of North East. The Planning Commission consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and Commissioners. The Planning Commission's duties are outlined in the North East North East Zoning Ordinance as well as found on page 8 of this Report.

When the Planning Commission has business to conduct, they meet on the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the North East Town Hall Meeting Room, 106 South Main Street. In addition, special meetings or workshops may be held throughout the year. The Planning Commission meetings are open to the public.

Planning Commission Members

Mark Dobbins, Chairman

Judy Duffy, Vice Chairman Elected as Vice Chairman January 2022

Michael Nair, Vice Chairman, Resigned January 2022

Calvin Wilson, Appointed December 2022

Commissioner Raymond Mitchell, Ex-Officio: January - April 2022

Hilary Crothers-Moore, Ex-Officio: May to Current



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PLANNING STAFF

Zoning Administrator

Melissa B. Cook-MacKenzie

Director of Planning

Betsy Vennell

Planning and Zoning Assistant

Lisa Rhoades

Secretary to the Planning Commission

Lisa Rhoades

Town Attorney

David Beste, Esquire
Dennis S. Clower, Esquire

Town Engineers

ENEngineering
Entech Engineering

Contracted Services

Jodie Shivery, Ecologically Sound Landscapes



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POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

The powers and duties of the North East Planning Commission are found in the North East Zoning Ordinance, Section 9-5. Powers and Duties of the Planning Commission.

1. The Planning Commission may:
 - (a) Make studies and recommendations to the Mayor and Commissioners plans, goals, and objectives relating to the growth, including annexations, development and redevelopment of the Town and develop a comprehensive plan in accordance with the provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Land Use.
 - (b) Develop and recommend to the Mayor and Commissioners policies, ordinances, administrative procedures and other means for carrying out plans in a coordinated and efficient manner.
 - (c) Make recommendations to the Mayor and Commissioners concerning proposed zoning classifications and reclassifications.
 - (d) Hear and decide applications for land development and approve subdivision plats and site development plans.
 - (e) Make recommendations to the Board of Appeals on special exceptions.
 - (f) Prepare and forward to the Mayor and Commissioners an annual report in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland. Land Use.
 - (g) Exercise any other powers as set forth in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Land Use.
2. The Planning Commission may adopt rules and regulations regarding its governing procedures and operations not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance.
3. The Planning Commission may delegate authority for review and approval action to the Town Administrator as deemed appropriate.



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NORTH EAST COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comprehensive Plan is the official statement of the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of North East setting forth policies concerning desirable future growth, which serves as a general guide to public and private development decisions. Once adopted, it becomes the basis for the preparation of specific policies, programs and legislation, such as zoning and subdivision regulations, and other actions, which implement the growth policies set forth in the Plan.

The Plan is comprised of several major elements that are prepared in such a manner that they form an integrated, unified document for guiding future growth and development. As a policy document, it is general, comprehensive, and long range in nature. It is comprehensive in that it encompasses the entire geographic area of the Town and includes all functional elements that bear upon its physical development, such as transportation, land use, and community facilities. It is general in that it summarizes policies and proposals but does not establish detailed regulations. It is long range in that it looks beyond current issues to problems and opportunities related to future growth over the next twenty years.

Pursuant to Section 1-416 of the Land Use Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, requiring a Plan Revision at least once every 10 years when each planning commission shall review the comprehensive plan, and, if necessary, revise or amend the comprehensive plan to include:

- (1) The elements required under Part II Comprehensive Plans
- (2) The visions set forth in 1-201

The last review of the North East Comprehensive Plan by the North East Planning Commission occurred in 2010-2012. The Mayor and Commissioners approved Resolution 2012-11-01 and Resolution 2012-11-02, which officially adopted the updated “North East Comprehensive Plan”.

There were no amendments to the North East Comprehensive Plan in 2022. The Town is currently working with a consultant to update the Municipal Growth Element and the Water Resources Element. An update to the remainder of the North East Comprehensive Plan is expected to be completed by 2024.

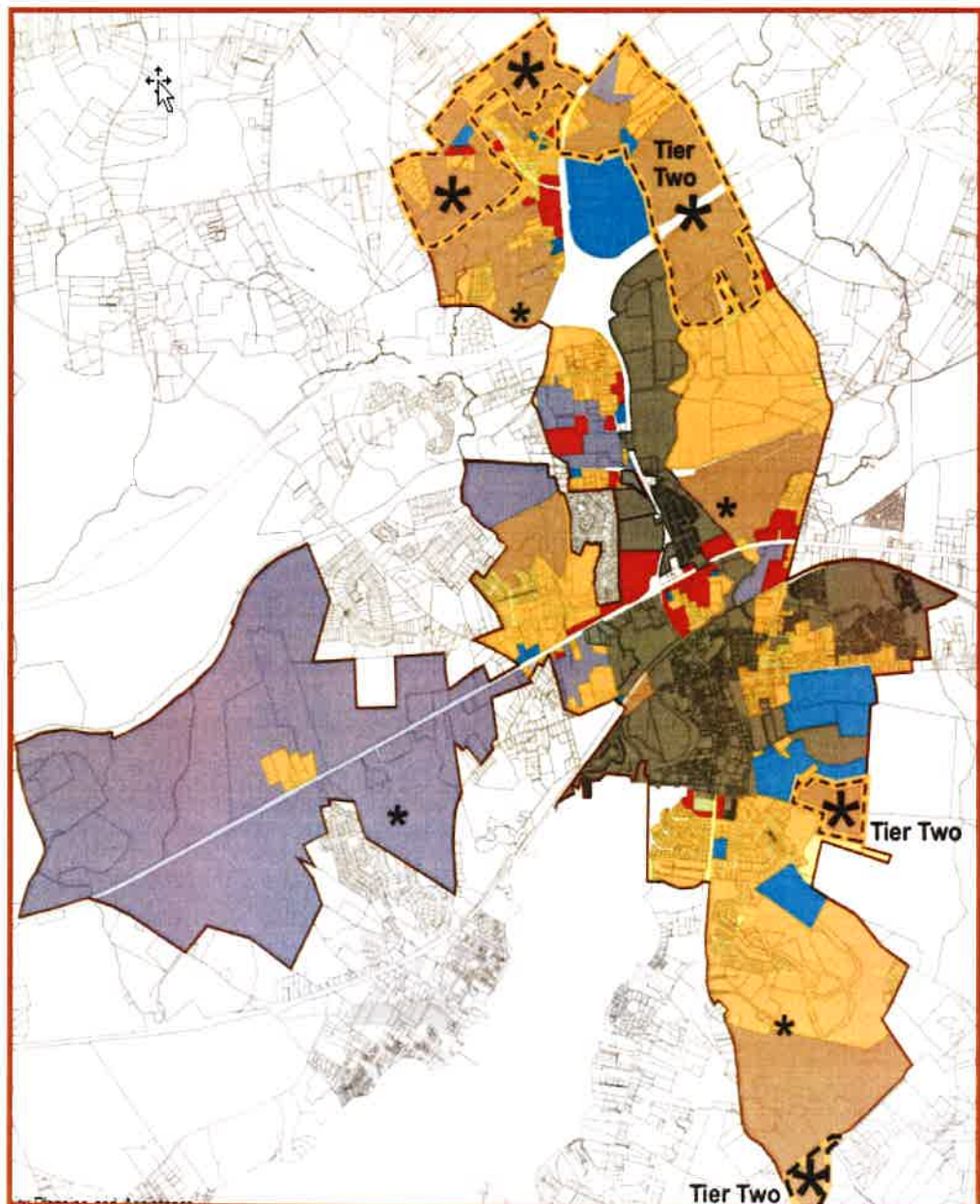


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Changes to Development Patterns in North East

There were no changes to the development patterns in North East in 2022.

Town of North East Growth Area Map





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PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

North East Zoning Ordinance Amendments

There were 2 amendments to North East Zoning Ordinance in 2022.

Ordinance 2022-04-01: Amendment to the North East Zoning Ordinance:

Article 6. Supplementary Regulations. Amending Section 6-15 Alcoholic Beverage Liquor Store; Adding Paragraph 3. To provide for on premise consumption and carry out sales, permitted with an approved special exception, in accordance with all provisions of Article 6. Section 6-36 and 6-37; Adding Section 6-36. Distillery, Craft Distillery or Craft Beverage Manufacturing and Section 6-37. Pub-brewery, Micro-brewery, Gastropub and Taproom. Ordinance provides definitions, regulations, and conditions for on premise consumption and carry out sales with an approved special exception, in the “GC” General Commercial District, “HC” Highway Commercial District and “HI” Heavy Industrial Districts. Amending the Table of Contents, Index Pages to reflect the amendments.

Ordinance 2022-07-01: Amendment to the North East Zoning Ordinance:

Repealing the current (April 5, 2008) Official North East Critical Area Maps 1-7 and Official North East Habitat Protection Maps 1-7 in their entirety, as found in Appendix B in the North East Zoning Ordinance.

In accordance with the requirements of the State of Maryland, Critical Area Commission, Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays, adopting new Critical Area Maps; Map 1, Map 2 and Map 3; which provide an updated Critical Area boundary, updates to the “LDA” Limited Development Areas; the “IDA” Intensely Developed Areas and “SBA” Special Buffer Areas as defined in Section 12-12 “CAO” Critical Area Overlay District Regulations.

Amending the Table of Contents, Index Pages, Appendix B and Page Numbers to reflect the Amendments.

North East Subdivision Regulations

There were no amendments to the Subdivision Regulations in 2022.



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Code of Ordinances of the Town of North East: Road Code Standard Specifications and Details

There were no amendments to the Code of Ordinances or the Road Code Standard Specifications and Details in 2022.

BUDGET

The Town operates on a fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. The approved operating budget for the Planning Department for the FY2023 was \$177,181.58.

GRANTS

1. FY2023 Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Grant \$3,500.00
2. FY2023 Maryland Circuit Rider Town Manager Program Grant \$55,000.00 (position is shared with the Town of Charlestown)

ANNEXATIONS

In accordance with the North East Zoning Ordinance, Article 9. Section 9-5.1. (a) The North East Planning Commission may make studies and recommendations to the Mayor and Commissioners, regarding plans, goals and objectives relating to annexations. In 2022, the Town did not receive any petitions for annexation.

DEEDED TO THE TOWN IN 2022

North East Library: DK North East Station LLC: The public water improvements were deeded to the Town of North East on February 23, 2022.

Public Improvements totaled \$57,540.00

Ridgely Forest Section 2: WORF LLC: The public improvements, water mains, fire hydrants, roads, curbs and gutters, storm drains, street lights, street signs and sidewalks were deeded to the Town of North East August 24, 2022.

Public Improvements totaled \$564,858.00



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Ridgely Forest Section 3A/ WORF LLC: The public improvements, water mains, fire hydrants, roads, curbs and gutters, storm drains, street lights, street signs and sidewalks were decided to the Town of North East August 24, 2022.

Public Improvements totaled \$706,182.00

North East Commerce Center: Center Drive: The public improvements, water mains, roads, curbs and gutters, storm drains, street lights, street signs, and fire hydrants were decided to the Town of North East on December 14, 2022.

Public improvements totaled \$2,155,516.00.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

The Planning Commission conducted 10 meetings in 2022.

PROJECT STATISTICS

Annexations: 0

Minor Subdivision: 0

Preliminary Major Subdivisions: 0

Final Major Subdivisions: 2

Rezoning Applications: 0

Special Exception Applications: 3

Modified Site Plans: 2

Concept Site Plans: 2

Preliminary Site Plans: 1

Final Site Plans: 1



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SITE PLANS REVIEW

The Planning Commission reviewed 6 commercial site plans in 2022

- Cecil County Board of Education, North East Elementary School, 301 Thomas Avenue for (3) Relocatable Classrooms. “R-1” Single Family Residential Zoning District. *The Planning Commission granted approval of the three classrooms.*
- Cecil County Board of Education, North East Middle School, 200 East Cecil Avenue for (1) Relocatable Classroom. “R-1 Single Family Residential Zoning District. *The Planning Commission granted approval of the classroom.*
- North East Station Shopping Center, Lot 4: Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., North East, Maryland. Property Owner: DK North East Station LLC, 1777 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Maryland. Concept Site Plan for a 5,800 square foot restaurant space. Highway Commercial Zoning District. *The Planning Commission granted approval of the concept site plan.*
- North East Station Shopping Center, Lot 4: Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., North East, Maryland. Property Owner: DK North East Station LLC, 1777 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Maryland. Preliminary Site Plan, Highway Corridor Overlay District Architectural review, Landscape and lighting plan for a 5,800 square foot restaurant space. Highway Commercial Zoning District. *The Planning Commission granted conditional approval of the preliminary site plan, the architectural design, the lighting and the landscape plan.*
- North East Station Shopping Center, Lot 4: Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., North East, Maryland. Property Owner: DK North East Station LLC, 1777 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Maryland. Final Site Plan, Landscape Plan and Lighting Plan for a 5,800 square foot restaurant. Also found on Tax Map 031B; Parcel 1314; Lot 4. Zoning District: “HC” Highway Commercial and “HCOD” Highway Corridor Overlay District. *The Planning Commission granted approval of the final site plan, landscape and lighting plan, with conditions.*
- North East Station Shopping Center, Lot 1: Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., North East, Maryland. Property Owner: DK North East Station LLC, 1777 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Maryland. Concept Site Plan for a proposed 2,325 square foot restaurant. Also Found on Tax Map 031B; Parcel 1314; Lot 1. Zoning District “HC” Highway Commercial and “HCOD” Highway Corridor Overlay District. *The Planning Commission granted approval of the concept site plan.*



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SUBDIVISIONS

Minor Subdivisions

There were no minor subdivisions in 2022.

Major Subdivisions

- Ridgely Forest Master Planned Community, Section 6: WORF, LLC, 2301 Rutledge Road, Fallston, Maryland 21047, Final Subdivision Plat. *The Planning Commission granted conditional approval of the final subdivision plat, 47 detached single family home lots.*
- Ridgely Forest Master Planned Community, Section 5B: WORF, LLC, 2301 Rutledge Road, Fallston, Maryland 21047, Final Subdivision Plat. *The Planning Commission granted conditional approval of the final subdivision plat, 52 duplex home lots.*
- Ridgely Forest Master Planned Community, Section 5B, On behalf of Owner/Developer WORF, LLC, 2301 Rutledge Road, Fallston, Maryland 21047, Ryan Homes, the builder in Ridgely Forest, requested a Minor Amendment of the approved housing unit types per the Ridgely Forest Guidelines Book. Request to change 38 units from a two-car garage unit to one-car garage units. *The Planning Commission denied the request.*
- Ridgely Forest Master Planned Community-Section 5B. Minor Amendment: On behalf of Owner/Developer WORF, LLC, 2301 Rutledge Road, Fallston, Maryland 21047, Ryan Homes, the builder in Ridgely Forest. Requested to change 38 of the 52 lots from attached duplex units with a two car garage to attached duplex units with a one car garage and agreed to keep the previously approved parking space and add an additional two off street parking spaces. *The Planning Commission denied the request.*
- Ridgely Forest Master Planned Community, Section 5B, On behalf of Owner/Developer WORF, LLC, 2301 Rutledge Road, Fallston, Maryland 21047, Ryan Homes, the builder in Ridgely Forest. Requested a Minor Amendment of the architectural amenities previously approved per the Ridgely Forest Guidelines Book. *The Planning Commission granted conditional approval.*



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SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS (heard by the Planning Commission)

The Planning Commission heard 3 Special Exception cases in 2022.

- Case A-2022-04-SE: Owner/Applicant, 120EM, LLC, PO Box 336, North East, Maryland, requested a special exception for the purpose of opening a Tavern, bar, pub or sports bar restaurant at 16/18 South Main Street, North East, Maryland per Section 5-8 “GC” General Commercial District Regulations. Also found on Tax Map 31B; Parcel 353 in the General Commercial Zoning District. The Planning Commission heard this case and tabled the meeting for one month. When the Planning Commission reconvened, the Case was continued and *the Planning Commission recommended approval of the restaurant with conditions, to the North East Board of Appeals.*
- Case A-2022-06-SE: Owner/Applicant, 120EM, LLC, PO Box 336, North East, Maryland, requested a special exception for an alcohol beverage license for the proposed Tavern, bar, pub or sports bar restaurant at 16/18 South Main Street, North East, Maryland per Section 6-15, Alcoholic Beverage Sales/Liquor Store Paragraph 2. On-Premise Consumption. Also found on Tax Map 31B; Parcel 353 in the General Commercial Zoning District. *The Planning Commission recommended approval of the alcohol beverage license with conditions, to the North East Board of Appeals.*
- Case A-2022-05-SE: Owner/Applicant, Justine Patterson, 15 Juniper Circle, Elkton, Maryland requested a special exception for the purpose of opening a home day care center at 15 Juniper Circle, Elkton, Maryland per Section 6-26 Home Occupation. Also found on Tax Map 31C; Parcel 235; Zoned “R-4” Mixed Use Residential District with the Master Planned Community Overlay District. *The Planning Commission recommended approval of the home day care, with conditions, to the North East Board of Appeals.*



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ADDITIONAL TOPICS REVIEWED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Maryland Department of Transportation 2022 Priorities Letter: The Planning Department and the Mayor and Commissioners sent their priority requests to the Maryland Department of Transportation in May 2022.

2021 Annual Planning Report: The 2021 Annual Planning Report was approved by the Planning Commission on June 1, 2022. Per the requirements of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Land Use, The Report was forwarded to the Mayor and Commissioners, then onto the Maryland Department of Planning.

North East Community Park: In conjunction with a grant proposal, the North East Planning Commission reviewed plans for the addition of handicap playground and exercise equipment at the North East Community Park. The Planning Commission approved the proposed additions.



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BOARD OF APPEALS POWERS AND DUTIES

The Board of Appeals, acting under authority granted by Section 4-301 of the Land Use Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. The Mayor and Commissioners have the authority to appoint five members and one alternate member.

The powers and duties of the Board of Appeals are found in the North East Zoning Ordinance, Section 9-11. Duties of the Board of Appeals:

1. The Board of Appeals shall hear and decide:
 - a. Appeals from any order, decision, requirement or interpretation made by the Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission, or Town Administrator.
 - b. Applications for Special Exception Uses.
 - c. Applications for Variances.
 - d. Any other matter the Board is required to act upon by Town Ordinance.

The Board of Appeals has scheduled meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the North East Town Hall Meeting Room, 106 South Main Street, North East. If there are no agenda items, the Chairman of the Board may choose to cancel the meeting. All Board of Appeals meetings are open to the public.

BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBERS

Maurice Tenney, Chairman October 2022 - December 2022

Peg Hardin, Chairman January 2022 - October 2022, Resigned

S.J. Anderson, Vice-Chairman, October 2022 - December 2022

Martha Kline, Appointed February 2022



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NORTH EAST BOARD OF APPEALS - CASES IN 2022

Variances

The Board of Appeals heard 2 variance applications in 2022.

Case: A-2022-01-V: A Variance application was filed by Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., North East, Maryland. Property Owner: Klein Enterprises, 1777 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21208. Also found on Tax Map 031B; Parcel 1314; Lot 4. Zoning District: HC, Highway Commercial and “HCOD” Highway Corridor Overlay District. Applicant has requested: A thirty (30) foot variance from the front yard setback requirement of 40 feet; A twenty-five (25) foot variance from the rear yard setback requirement of 25 feet and an eight (8) foot variance from the Perimeter Landscape Requirements. *Both variances were approved by the Board of Appeals, with conditions.*

Case A-2022-03-V: A Variance application filed by Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., North East, Maryland. Property Owner: DK North East Station, LLC, 1777 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Maryland. Applicant has requested a (25’) twenty-five foot front yard setback variance from the required (40’) forty foot front yard setback for the purpose of accommodating 498 square feet of parking. Also found on Tax Map 31; Parcel 1314; Lot 1. “HCOD” Highway Corridor Overlay District. Zoning District: HC, Highway Commercial. *Both variances were approved by the Board of Appeals, with conditions.*

Special Exceptions

The Board of Appeals reviewed three Special Exception applications in 2022.

Case A-2022-04-SE: Owner/Applicant, 120EM, LLC, PO Box 336, North East, Maryland, requested a special exception for the purpose of opening a Tavern, bar, pub or sports bar restaurant 16/18 South Main Street, North East, Maryland per Section 5-8 “GC” General Commercial District Regulations. Also found on Tax Map 31B; Parcel 353 in the General Commercial Zoning District. *The Board of Appeals approved the Special Exception with conditions.*



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Case A-2022-06-SE: Owner/Applicant, 120EM, LLC, PO Box 336, North East, Maryland, requested a special exception for an alcohol beverage license for the proposed Tavern, bar, pub or sports bar restaurant at 16/18 South Main Street, North East, Maryland per Section 6-15, Alcoholic Beverage Sales/Liquor Store Paragraph 2. On-Premise Consumption. Also found on Tax Map 31B; Parcel 353 in the General Commercial Zoning District. *The Board of Appeals approved the Special Exception with conditions.*

Case A-2022-05-SE: Owner/Applicant, Justine Patterson, 15 Juniper Circle, Elkton, Maryland is requesting a special exception for the purpose of opening a home day care center at 15 Juniper Circle, Elkton, Maryland per Section 6-26 Home Occupation. Also found on Tax Map 31C; Parcel 235; Zoned “R-4” Mixed Use Residential District with the Master Planned Community Overlay District. *The Board of Appeals approved the Special Exception, with conditions.*

Appeals

The Board of Appeals did not receive any appeals applications in 2022.



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WATER SERVICE

The Planning Department administers all inquiries for water allocations.

The Planning Department receives applications for water allocations, processes and invoices for water connection and major facility fees. The Planning Department coordinates with the Cecil County Health Department for projects out of the Corporate Limit to ensure that permits are not released from Cecil County unless water allocation has been obtained and fees have been paid. The Planning Office coordinates with Cecil County Planning Office to upload all new addresses into the utility system in preparation for utility billing.

Water Standards and Specifications:

The Planning Department works directly with the Supervisor of the Water Plant and the Town's Engineer annually to review and update, as needed, the Town of North East North East Standards and Specifications for Water Distribution and Details for Water Service. The current set of Standards are posted on the Town's website.

Town of North East 20-Year Water System Master Plan:

The Mayor and Commissioners adopted the Town of North East 20-Year Water System Master Plan in January 2020. The Town contracted with Entech Engineering to evaluate the Town's existing water system, establish future needs and potential shortcomings. The Plan also identifies the necessary projects over the next 20 years to continue and sustain the Town's water system.

Artesian Water Company, Inc:

An interconnection Agreement was signed by Artesian and the Mayor and Commissioners in June 2019. The Agreement outlines the terms and conditions for the construction and implementation of Artesian's Route 40 East Interconnection to the Town's water system.

Water Resources Element:

The Town of North East has a Water Resources Element in the North East Comprehensive Plan, as required by the Annotated Code of Maryland. Land Use. This Element has addressed adequacy of the Town of North East water supply and the suitability of receiving waters for point and non-point discharge. The Element evaluates the adequacy and suitability of water resources on the basis of existing and future land use both within the Town and within the Town's growth area.



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Cecil County Master Water and Sewer Plan:

The Planning Office participates in the preparation of documents and maps which outline areas where the Town currently serves water and proposes to serve water. The Cecil County Master Water and Sewer Plan was adopted on July 22, 2019. The Plan facilitates growth in a way that allows sufficient time to develop adequate drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.

ALLOCATIONS FOR MUNICIPAL WATER

The Planning Office has adopted a written policy for water allocation, entitled “Allocations for Municipal Water-Town of North East, Maryland Policies and Procedures. This Policy is available upon request and can be found on the Town’s website.

Allocations For Municipal Water Preliminary Requests – Appendix C

No applications were received in 2022.

Allocations For Municipal Water Allocation Requests – Appendix B

Water Service Agreements Executed

Date	Address	Map/Parcel	Number of ERU/GPD
7/28/2022	Tricorner-Gemcraft Homes, LLC Chesapeake Club Condominiums Ridge Run Road	Tax Map 31; Parcel 1326	3 ERU/750 GPD
8/11/2022	Cecil Community College Truck Maintenance Facility	Map 19 & 25 Parcels 75, 77, 608, 508	1 ERU/250 GPD
10/26/2022	DK North East Station LLC Lot #1	Tax Map 31B; Parcel 1314	7 ERU/1750 GPD
10/26/2022	DK North East Station LLC Lot #4	Tax Map 31B; Parcel 1314	7 ERU/1750 GPD



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Allocations for municipal water – Extensions to Agreements

Date	Address	Map/Parcel	Number of ERU/GPD
2/2022	North East Commerce Center Lot 5-vacant lot Extension granted for 2 years	Tax Map 25 Parcel 42, Lot 5	60 ERU/15,000 GPD
2/2022	Stanley Watson Nazarene Camp Road, Lots 1,3&4 Extension granted for 4 years	Tax Map 25 Parcel 801; Lots 1,3,4	3 ERU/750 GPD
3/2022	327, 329 Razor Strap Road Extension granted for 4 years	Tax Map 0031 Parcel 1324; Lots 3A & 4A	2 ERU/500 GPD
4/2022	Chesapeake Club Lot 1-5 Range Road Extension granted for 2 years	Tax Map 0031 Parcel 1326; Lots 1-5	5 ERU/ 1250 GPD
4/2022	North East Harbors - 12 SFD Lots 9A-14A, Lots 20-25 Extension granted for 4 years	Tax Map 0031 Parcels 1111 & 1117	12 ERU/3000 GPD
10/2022	Ridgely Forest Phase 1 1 SFD, 15 Goldspire Drive Extension granted for 2 years	Tax Map 0025 Parcel 801	1 ERU/250 GPD
12/14/2022	259 Old Bayview Road – 1 SFD Extension granted for 4 years	Tax Map 0025 Parcel 3	1 ERU/250 GPD
12/14/2022	261 Old Bayview Road – 1 SFD Extension granted for 4 years	Tax Map 0025 Parcel 3	1 ERU/250 GPD

Water Account Statistics - 2022

	<u>1st QTR</u>	<u>2nd QTR</u>	<u>3rd QTR</u>	<u>4th QTR</u>
RTS Customers Total	132	88	67	56
RTS ERU Total	559	482	445	426
Water Customers Total	3,182	3,203	3,221	3,226
Water ERU Total	5,213	5,198	5,201	5,198



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PERMITS AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

The Planning Department processes town permits and code enforcement within the Corporate Limit. The Planning Office tracks statistics using a permit and code enforcement module/software. The software has been utilized for tracking statistics and has proven to be effective in keeping statistics by keeping track of permits, notices of violations and implementing reminder inspections. During the last year the software has been updated on occasion to refine the program to our permit and code enforcement processes and better track our activity within the software.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

The Town of North East Planning Office is charged with code enforcement for the Town of North East. Weekly inspections are performed for the purpose of inspecting for compliance with approved construction and use authorizations. The Code Enforcement officer also inspects for violations of the North East Zoning Ordinance and nuisance violations of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of North East.

2022 CODE ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Friendly Reminder Door Tags, Friendly Reminder Letters	213
Code Enforcement Letters sent by Staff (first, second, third notices)	117
Citations Issued	3
Court Appearances	0
Illegal Signs Removed	170

PERMIT PROCESSING

The Planning Office set up a payment portal for those who desire to pay their fees online. Approved permits can be emailed back to applicants/owners or they can be picked up. The Planning Office continues to work closely with the Cecil County Permits and Inspection office as well as the health department throughout the permit process.



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CONSTRUCTION AND USE AUTHORIZATION STATISTICS 2022

PROJECT	ZONING/CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATIONS; PERMITS AND LICENSES
Single Family dwelling - new	57
Duplex Dwelling - new	36
Commercial building - new	0
Occupancy Permits - Residential - Inside the Corporate Limit of the Town	109
Occupancy Permits - Residential - Outside the Corporate Limit of the Town - Serve Water	89
Occupancy Permits - Commercial	2
Demolition - Commercial	1
Demolition - Residential	0
Demolition and Rebuild Residential	0
Demolition Accessory Building	0
Grading	0
Renovation/Addition - Residential	17
Renovation/Addition - Commercial	6
Cell Tower - Renovation	0
Utility Building	6
Accessory Building - Residential	3
Accessory Building - Commercial	1
Pavilion	0
Tree Cutting Permits (w/in Critical Area Only)	1
Deck	48
Fence	37
Pool	5
Sign	22
Solar Panels	22
Driveway	0



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PROJECTS CONTINUED	ZONING/CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATIONS; PERMITS AND LICENSES
Road Access Permit	0
Utility Access Permit	0
Liquor License	0
Commercial Occupation License	14
Mobile Vendor License	1
Home Occupancy Business License	0

NEW BUSINESSES IN 2022

The Town of North East Planning Office has approved 14 Commercial Occupation Licenses, Home Occupation Licenses and Mobile Vendor Occupation Licenses in 2022

BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
Cecil Hair Salon	4 West Cecil Avenue
Nature's Glow LLC	32 South Main Street, Suite 1
Farmer's Market	32 South Main Street, Suite 9
Bushel & Peck Southern Sweet Tea	32 South Main Street, Suite 11
Long & Foster Business Service Center	22 North Main Street
Benson Outfitters	15 North Main Street
Deep South Posh	28 South Main Street
Belle's Acres	32 South Main Street, Suite 5
The Glow Factor LLC	9 South Main Street
Prime Artistry LLC	32 South Main Street, Suite 12
Power Clean (Office)	22 North Main Street
The Well Cell LLC	32 South Main Street, Suite 6
Patriotic Tag and Title	32 South Main Street
Euro Gym	2562 Pulaski Highway
Mr. Softee	(Mobile Vendor)



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Ribbon Cutting Belle's Acre

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tom Lofland, Chairman

Kelly Benson, Ex-Officio

Tracy Reynolds

Sandra Edwards

Kerry Doordan-Famularo

Brian Morgan

Melissa B. Cook-MacKenzie, Town Administrator

Mabel Huber, Secretary

The Economic Development Committee meets monthly (with the exception of July & August) at the North East Town Hall. In 2022, the Committee conducted 9 meetings.



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Code of Ordinances of the Town of North East. Chapter 2. Government Organization. Article 5. Economic Development Commission. Section 2-504. Powers and Duties of the Commission

The Commission may:

1. Investigate and assemble information pertinent to the Economic resources and industrial opportunities of the Town.
2. Encourage location of new industrial enterprises in the Town and the expansions of present enterprises.
3. Encourage development of recreational areas and encourage tourist business in the Town.
4. Advise the Mayor and Commissioners on any and all matters related to the economic conditions, growth and development of the Town.
5. Review and make recommendations when requested concerning any businesses before the Mayor and Commissioners or any other Town Boards and Commissions which would have an impact upon economic development.
6. Seek and identify any Federal, State or other funds, grants or loans that may be available to encourage and assist the revitalization of the Commercial and Residential Districts of the Town of North East. They shall also recommend to the Mayor and Commissioners uses for all such funds acquired.
7. The Commission shall have the power to:
 - a. However, any of said appropriation by zone shall be in equal amounts.
 - b. The Commission shall have the power to monitor and collect, on behalf of the Town, all loans previously granted by the Downtown Revitalization Commission.
 - c. The Commission shall draft a set of Regulations recommending the qualifications and requirements for the obtainment of funds by property and business owners in the designated Industrial, Commercial and Residential Districts. Specifically, these Regulations shall set forth the conditions for repayment, including, but not limited to: interest rate, time for repayment and any required security. These regulations shall be drafted to be non-discriminatory in nature and have a non-discriminatory impact in application. After approval by the Mayor and Commissioners, copies of the Regulations shall be kept on file at the Town Office and shall be made available to the public upon request.
 - d. The Financial Committee of the Economic Development Commission shall recommend specific loans, applying the Rules and Regulations established above, and subject to the approval of the Town Board.



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NORTH EAST COMMUNITY PARK

The Planning Department maintains a Master Park Plan for the North East Community Park. The Plan provides opportunities for potential donations from the public or from civic organizations to actively participate with landscape, trails, benches, and picnic tables. In 2022 The Town has applied for grant funding from the Department of Natural Resources for handicap accessible playground equipment and handicap accessible exercise stations. Note: while this report was being written, the Town learned that the grant was awarded to the Town.





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North East Community Park home to Cecil County Tourism Office
The Cecil County Office of Tourism Office moved to the "Jackson House" in 2021



Upper Bay Museum

The North East Community Park is home to the Upper Bay Museum. The Upper Bay Museum's mission is "Preserving the Lifestyle of the Waterman and Hunter of the Upper Chesapeake Bay". This agency conducts fundraising events throughout the year including their annual Upper Shore Decoy Show. The Upper Bay Museum is open every Saturday from noon to 4:00 pm through mid-October.



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Chesapeake Wooden Boat Builders School



The Chesapeake Wooden Boat Builders School is located within the North East Community Park. Founded in 1989, the school has members from several nearby counties. The goal continues to be to teach wooden boat building skills using readily accessible materials as one way to perpetuate the maritime heritage of the Upper Chesapeake region. Among several classes that are offered by the school, the Teen Boat Building class is held each summer where volunteer instructors work closely with students to build their own boats.



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NORTH EAST PRESERVE

A donation of land was made to the Town of North East in 2020, containing approximately 60 acres. This land abuts the North East Creek, North East Isles Drive and Route 7. The land has been set aside for a Preserve, “North East Preserve”.

North East Preserve Mission Statement

To create and maintain a renowned nature preserve focused on protecting habitats and native wildlife of the North East Creek watershed while providing waterfront access, passive recreation, and educational opportunities within easy walking distance accessible to residents and the visitors of North East.

North East Preserve Master Plan

The Planning Office scheduled eleven meetings concerning the North East Preserve, in 2022. A Consultant was hired to prepare a Master Plan for the preserve. The Consultant was charged with preparing a conceptual site analysis, and conceptual alternative designs; entry to the site; operations and maintenance analysis; cost analysis; connection to the site; and a phasing plan. A Study Committee was appointed by the Mayor and Commissioners who met with the Consultant on a regular basis. A public meeting/open house within the Community took place to share the mission of the North East Preserve and to receive feedback from the public concerning desired amenities for this Preserve. Outlined Goals for the Preserve included the restoration of the natural resources at the site; controlling invasive species, elimination of man-made structures and debris; providing opportunities for passive recreation to include walking, nature study, birding, creating a natural asset for the Town, minimize the man-made footprint to support passive recreation, and to provide for a pedestrian linkage between North East Preserve and the Town of North East.



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TURNER PARK

Turner Park was obtained with project Open Space money several years ago. Turner Park borders the North East Middle School. Currently, Turner Park contains one chain link backstop and one bench, and tennis courts in need of rehabilitation. Improvements at Turner Park are needed to utilize this property to its fullest potential for our Community. The Town has had numerous conversations with the Boys and Girls Club and the Cecil County School System regarding upgrades to Turner Park. The upgrades are also outlined in the Town of North East Sustainable Community Plan. In 2022 the Town met with consultants regarding a concept plan to assist with obtaining grant funding for Turner Park. Amenities the Town desires for this park include:

- Pickle Ball Tournament Courts
- Soccer fields
- Parking Facilities
- Restrooms
- Lighting for the park
- Bring the existing ball field to little league standards
- Sign to advertise the Turner Town Park
- Dug outs designed and installed
- Revitalize the existing tennis courts
- Revitalize the existing basketball court
- Utility shed for storage of the equipment
- Prepare handicap accessibility for use by the County Sunshine League

HERRING SNATCHERS PARK

The Herring Snatchers Park is located at the northern entry into downtown North East. This park is underutilized, as it has not been improved in several years. Improvements outlined in the Sustainability Community Designation application included:

- Architect to prepare improvement plans for Herring Snatchers Park
- Improvements should include hardscape and landscape
- Improvements should include re-construction of steps down to the park



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HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

The Planning Department is a member of the Town of North East Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee, which was adopted November 7, 2005. The Plan identifies potential hazard, both natural and manmade, which could cause human, social or economic loss to the citizens and business of the Town of North East. The Plan identifies steps that could be taken to minimize the impact of these hazards to the community.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

The Planning Department is a member of the North East Emergency Response Plan Committee, adopted November 7, 2005 and revised August 24, 2011. The Plan directs departments, agencies, offices and employees of the Town of North East, affected by the Plan, to review the document and identify their responsibilities during times of emergencies or disasters.

MS-4 PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

In conjunction with the requirements from the Maryland Department of the Environment, for the Town to obtain an MS-4 permit, the Town put out a request for proposals for a Stormwater Management Study. The contract was awarded to Soltesz LLC, and work on the proposal commenced in 2018 and was completed and presented to the Mayor and Commissioners in March 2019. The report outlined possible projects including shoreline management, stream restoration and stormwater pond retrofits. The Mayor and Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on April 10, 2019 on the final Municipality Separate Storm Water Sstem (MS4) General Permit Baseline Establishment for the Town of North East Report. The Town of North East FY2022 budget included funding of the expenses associated with the Town's MS4 Permit. North East filed their annual report with the Maryland Department of the Environment in 2022.



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CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT – AGENCY SUPPORT

Stormwater Management

The Cecil County Department of Public Works administers and enforces the Cecil County Stormwater Management Ordinance within the Town of North East. Authority is provided in the Code of Ordinances of the Town of North East, Article 7, Stormwater Management Ordinance.

Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance

The Cecil County Department of Public Works administers and enforces erosion and sediment control regulations within the Town of North East. Authority is provided in the Code of Ordinances of the Town of North East, Article 6, Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance.

Cecil Soil Conservation District

The mission of the Cecil Soil Conservation District provides information, technical assistance, and education in conserving the County's natural resources. The District is responsible for all of Cecil County projects and coordinates with the Cecil County Department of Public Works and with the Maryland Department of the Environment in conjunction with erosion and sediment control and grading plans.

Forest Conservation Act

In 1991, the State of Maryland required all municipalities with planning and zoning authority to establish their own local forest conservation program or to participate in such a program jointly with another entity with such jurisdiction.

Section 5-1063 (a) (4) of Title 5 of the Natural Resources Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland authorizes a municipality to assign to the County its forest conservation program obligations, provided the County concurs. The Town of North East exercised its rights pursuant to Title 5 and in January of 2000, the Board of Commissioners of Cecil County accepted its obligations. The Cecil County Office of Planning and Zoning shall have the right and authority to enforce fully the forest conservation program of the Town of North East within the corporate limits of the Town. All applications must be submitted to the Cecil County Office of Planning and Zoning and any and all applicable County fees must be paid by the applicant.



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The Town of North East coordinates its development approval activities for building permits, site plan approvals, subdivision plat approvals, and any grading and sediment control permits with the requirements of Cecil County's forest conservation program.

No building permit, final site plan, final subdivision plat, grading or sediment control permit shall be initiated or approved until the applicant has demonstrated compliance with the provisions of Cecil County's Forest Conservation Program and received approval from the Cecil County Office of Planning and Zoning.

Cecil County Health Department

The Cecil County Health Department coordinates with the Town of North East for permits, projects and subdivisions. The Health Department verifies with the Town Planning Department that adequate water has been allocated from the Town for each building or use permit that has been received by Cecil County Cecil County Department of Permits and Inspections. Their department is concerned with adequacy of public water allocation for specific projects and for water allocation associated with minor and major subdivisions and site plans. The Health Department also coordinates with the Town Planning Department regarding procedures for well abandonment and interim well permits.

Land Use and Development Services

The Land Use and Development Services Department has combined the former Office of Planning & Zoning, Office of Permits & inspections, and the Plans Review Branch of the Department of Public Works into one Department. Cecil County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) program is also administered by the Department of Land Use and Development Services.

Flow Chart for Site Plans/Change of Use

Cecil County Department of Land Use and Development Services coordinated with the Town of North East in 2019 for the creation of flow charts to outline the site plan approval process and change of use process. The Town and County continue to utilize the flow chart to offer guidance and insight to a Developer regarding the processes that will be required.



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Technical Advisory Committee

The Cecil County Planning Office conducts Technical Advisory Committee meetings each month, bringing together County and State agencies to review new development projects. As a courtesy to the Town, the Committee reviews projects within the Town of North East corporate limit, when requested.

Department of Permits and Inspections

In 1986, the Town of North East signed an agreement which authorizes the Cecil County Department of Permits and Inspections to:

- review all construction plans
- condemnation of property and posting of unsafe structures
- enforcement of the Cecil County Rental Housing/Livability Code
- enforcement of International Building Code
- inspection
- licensing and issuance of Hawkers and Peddlers licenses
- enforcement of the codes related to plumbing, electrical and mechanical installations.

In addition, inspections for compliance with the International Building Codes are conducted by the Department of Permits and Inspections.

Cecil County Economic Development

The Cecil County Office of Economic Development seeks to stimulate economic growth and job creation through the expansion of existing business; the attraction of new businesses and the advancement of tourism and the promotion of agriculture. The Economic Development office often coordinates with the Town of North East Planning Office when inquiries come to their attention concerning possible uses on vacant land.

Enterprise Zone

The Enterprise Zone is an important incentive for the Town of North East to encourage existing businesses to expand and to attract new businesses to locate within the Town of North East. This designation provides real property and state income tax credits for businesses, in return for job creation and investments. The Town of North East updated their Enterprise Zone by Resolution in 2018, to include 212.1 acres of land.



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Cecil County Tourism



The Town of North East was recognized with the Cecil County Executive and Cecil County Tourism Award in 2022



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STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program

In 1984 the Maryland General Assembly passed the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program. The Town of North East adopted its Critical Area Program June 26, 1988. The intent of the Critical Area Program is to provide special regulatory protection for the resources located within the Town of North East Critical Area and to foster more sensitive development activity for shoreline areas. The Town has adopted Critical Area Regulations and Critical Area maps.

Development activity, including but not limited to grading, clearing, sediment and erosion control, tree cutting violations and requests, and shall not be permitted until the Town of North East makes specific findings that the proposed development or activity is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Critical Area Program.

The Town of North East has applied for and received grant funding from the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area for the last several years. In conjunction with the grant funding, the Planning Department provides a quarterly report to the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.

Pursuant to the requirements from the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission, the Commission worked with closely the Town to update the North East Critical Area Maps. The maps were adopted in 2022.

Maryland Department of the Environment

The Maryland Department of the Environment assists the Town with inspections, projects and permitting of applicable projects in the Town of North East.

In cooperation with the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Town of North East has adopted Floodplain Management Regulations. The purpose of the Regulations is to protect human life and health, minimize property damage, encourage appropriate construction practices to minimize future damage, protect individuals from unwittingly buying land subject to flood hazards, and to protect water supply, sanitary sewage disposal, and natural drainage. The prevention of unwise development in areas subject to flooding will reduce financial burdens to the community and the State, and will prevent future displacement and suffering of its residents. Floodplain protection is achieved through the review of all activities proposed within identified



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floodplains and by the issuance of permits for those activities that comply with the objectives of the Ordinance.

Workshops were conducted throughout 2022 both in person and online. The workshops were sponsored by the Maryland National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and FEMA. Those invited included the Municipalities along with Kent, Queen Anne's and Cecil County Officials.

Introductory training concerning hazard mitigation and floodplain management were reviewed. In addition, Substantial Improvement criteria was reviewed to encourage a plan for coordination with the County and Municipalities.

U.S. Army Corp Of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers assists the Town Planning Department with inspections, projects and permitting of applicable projects within the Town of North East. The Town coordinates all Corp of Engineer projects with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area and Maryland Department of the Environment. There is typically coordination of all the agencies for project approvals and project monitoring.

Maryland Department of Planning

The Maryland Department of Planning has been sending updates regularly concerning the requirements for the updated Comprehensive Plans which are due in the next few years by the municipalities and the Counties. The Maryland Department of Planning provides "Planning Practice Monthly" which includes information about Legislative Bills which affect and impact Planning, Resources and Tools which could be helpful, informing the Town about the Planning Commissioner Training Courses which take place periodically and providing updates from the Maryland State Data Center concerning the latest releases of Census Data. The Maryland Planning Blog is submitted electronically to the Town to assist the Planning offices throughout Maryland. The Blog provides information outlined above.

Maryland Department of Planning provided webinars throughout 2022. Pertinent topics such as Creating Equitable Transportation, American Urbanist, Past, present and Future of Electric Bicycling, and the occasional Planning Directors Roundtable videoconferences.



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The Maryland Department of Planning also provides land use planning and implementation guidance to support and assist local governments, communities, businesses, and organizations. Mr. David Dahlstrom, Regional Planner for the Maryland Department of Planning has provided the Town of North East assistance through various projects.

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development **Sustainable Community Plan**

The Town received the Sustainable Community status in October 2015 from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, which is effective for five years. As a result of this designation, the Town and other stakeholders will be eligible to apply for resources from the Department of Housing and Community Development to revitalize and attract growth and development in Town. In 2020, the Town Planning Office re-applied for the Sustainable Community status and North East was re-awarded the status of a Sustainable Community.

TRANSPORTATION

Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO)

The Town of North East has been partnering with the Wilmington Area Planning Council, also known as WILMAPCO, with several transportation planning projects for several years. WILMAPCO provides the Town with technical assistance as well as monetary assistance for projects including updates to the North East Comprehensive Plan, North East Zoning Regulations, Subdivision Regulations and the Town's Road Code. WILMAPCO also provides financial assistance for consultants, mapping, and transportation planning opportunities.

Updates to the North East Comprehensive Plan: Transportation Plan

WILMAPCO agreed to partner with the Town of North East in 2022 to assist with updates to the Transportation Plan, last reviewed in 2012. Several meetings were conducted and it was determined that some of the maps had to be updated, while other maps could remain for purposes of continuing through the planning process. WILMAPCO reviewed the Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress in and around North East. Also provided were updates to the Bus Stops and Routes map; the Functional Class map; the Maryland Department of Transportation/State Highway



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Administration Highway Needs Inventory map and a Trails and Greenways map. The updates are still in draft form and are expected to be finalized at the time that the North East Comprehensive Plan updates are completed, in 2024. The Committee proposed the possibility of conducting a sign inventory which would provide a remedy for existing “sign clutter” and provide a mechanism for the Town to implement “Way Finding Signs”. Several examples were reviewed. The Committee also expressed their concerns about the necessity for additional parking in Town and discussed the possibility of providing parallel parking along Mauldin Avenue (North-Bound Route 272) or parking at the North East Middle School during hours when the school is not in operation. Discussion included how to safely transport pedestrians from Mauldin Avenue over to Main Street. The Committee reviewed projects within Maryland where “crosswalk art” was utilized and has been deemed successful within some of the State Highway Right of Ways. The Committee agreed they would like to include “Crosswalk art” in the updated Comprehensive Plan as an area to be investigated as an option to provide safe and attractive pedestrian access onto Main Street.

Transit Oriented Development Plan (TOD)

WILMAPCO provided funding to hire a Consultant to create a Transit Oriented Development Concept Plan for the Town of North East. The process commenced in 2012 and was completed and approved by the Mayor and Commissioners in 2014. To move forward with the next step of the TOD, the Planning Department identified in the Sustainable Community Designation application, a project to receive funding to hire a consultant who will work to develop a TOD Overlay District with guidelines and Zoning Regulations, so the Transit Oriented Development Plan can move past concept.

State Highway Administration **Maryland Transportation Authority**

The Town of North East has major routes serving the Town: US Route 40, MD 272 and MD 7, with Interstate 95 located adjacent to the Town’s northern boundary.

The State Highway Administration coordinates with the Town regarding proposed projects in the Town’s Corporate Limit and proposed projects outside of the Corporate Limit which will have



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an impact to the transportation system. In addition, the Town is provided the opportunity to outline Maryland Department of Transportation their priorities for consideration.

The following list was compiled by the North East Planning Commission and the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of North East and was provided to the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation, and the Cecil County Department of Land Services, to assist with coordination of the priorities. The following priorities were outlined for consideration and inclusion in their final 2022 Consolidated Transportation Program:

- Continued implementation of the I-95 interchange at Belvidere Road.
- Widen Route 7 (West Cecil Avenue), west of Route 272 (South Main Street/North Main Street) and Route 7 intersection. Elevate and widen the State Highway Bridge over the North East Creek on Route 7. Install pedestrian sidewalk, bicycle lane and pedestrian lighting between North East Isles Drive and Catherine Street.

Interim Plan: Installation of a pedestrian activated signal on both sides of the North East Creek Bridge on Route 7 which pedestrians would press when they desire to walk across the bridge. The signal would stop eastbound and westbound vehicles on Route 7 while pedestrians travel over the bridge.

- Add a pedestrian walkway on Route 7. This walkway is requested from Ridgely Forest on Route 7, North East, to connect to existing sidewalk on Route 7, North East.
- Re-surfacing of North Main Street and South Main Street, North East.
- Repairs to the entrance of the Route 7 underpass in North East from West Cecil Avenue. The road has severely deteriorated in this area. Address flooding in the roadway under the Route 7 underpass.
- Installation of a pedestrian sidewalk linkage along Route 40 between Sycamore drive (off of Route 40) and the intersection of Route 272 and Route 40, linking to the sidewalk project which is currently underway Contract No. CE3395176). Note: Sycamore Drive is the road which leads into the Timberbrook Development, a 350+ Townhome Community.



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- Route 7, East Cecil Avenue adjacent to the North East Middle School: Installation of two traffic reduction devices with intermitting signaling lights, with timers for school opening and dismissal. To be positioned on Route 7, approximately 50 yards before the North East Middle School from both east and west directions.
- For the purpose of providing uninterrupted walkability, install sidewalk on Route 272 between Jethro Street and the south/east corner of the bridge over Amtrak.
- Installation of sidewalk from the existing sidewalk on Route 7 (East Cecil Avenue) to Mechanics Valley Road.
- Installation of bicycle/walking/share the road pavement markings along Route 7 from Mechanics Valley Road to Ridgely Forest Drive.
- Review impacts of rail service to State Highway systems in North East.
- Marc Train Service in North East.

Cecil Transit

Cecil Transit plays a valuable role to our residents in North East, with bus service from several locations within the Town's Corporate Limit, providing transportation to shopping centers, hospitals and physician offices throughout Cecil County as well as providing service just over the line into Delaware. Cecil Transit has been very successful in obtaining grant funding from the Maryland Transit Administration for the Statewide Special Assistance Program which is targeted with services to the elderly, disabled and general public in Cecil County. The Town's Planning Department participates in the quarterly Coordination Council/Advisory Board Meetings.

Transit Bus stops are located throughout the Town of North East including stops at the North East Library, North East Station, Gateway Drive, and apartment complexes within Town.



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ELK AND NORTH EAST RIVERS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION (ENERWA)

The Elk and North East River Watershed Association (ENERWA) was established in 2014. The Planning Department attends the monthly meetings, conducted at the North East Town Hall. Town also provides financial assistance to this important partner.

ENERWA provides assistance to the local schools with rain garden installation, after school programs, and library programs. ENERWA participated in the Cecil County “Annual Wade In” in 2022, the annual “Project Clean Stream” which concentrated on the North East Preserve and they conducted their first Annual Event in May 2022 which was well attended. ENERWA provided refreshments and guest speakers also participated in the Event.

The Association has several volunteers who are actively participating in water sampling sites throughout the North East Watershed, which are sent to an off-site location for testing. In 2022, ENERWA released another report card, with a mailing to Cecil County residents. ENERWA has a Facebook page and a website: <https://www.elkandnortheastrivers.org/>



PROJECT CLEAN STREAM AT THE NORTH EAST PRESERVE





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EVENTS HELD THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

The Town of North East hosts many events throughout each year in conjunction with various Agencies including Cecil County Tourism, The North East Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, volunteers and residents, Town of North East Boards and Town Employees.

Events in 2022 included the Winter Lights Cecil Nights with Carriage Rides, Sweethearts on Main, Easter Eggstravaganza, Flag Day Ceremony at the North East Community Park, Salute to Cecil County Veterans Fireworks Celebration, the Unicorn Quest, National Night Out with the Law Enforcement Agencies in Cecil County; the Annual Friends Foundation of the Cecil County Public Library Crab Crawl, Town Halloween Party at the North East Community Park, Shipwrecked & Trick or Treating on Main Street, the North East Christmas Tree Lighting, North East Santa House, St. Mary Anne's Garden Market, the Annual Cecil County Christmas Parade, and the CASA Festival of Trees 2022.



EASTER IN NORTH EAST





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UNICORN QUEST



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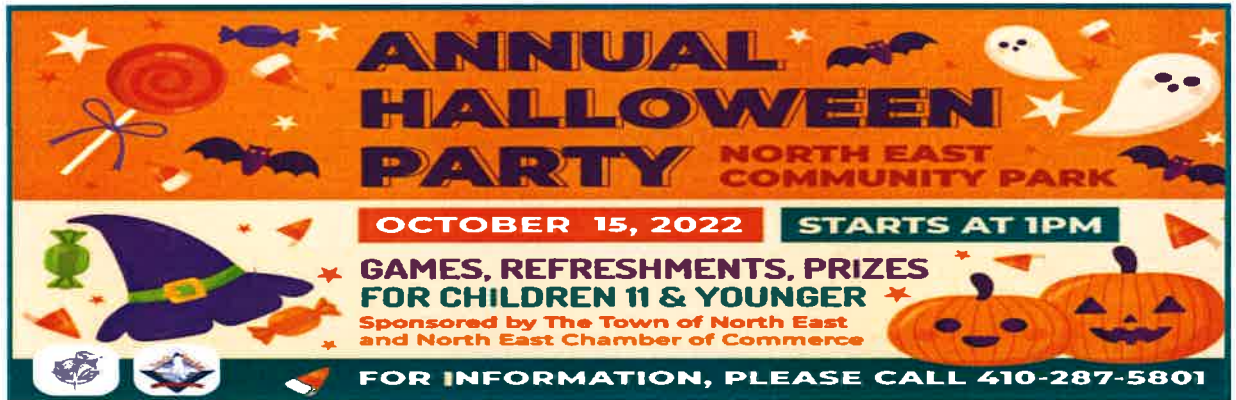
FRIENDS FOUNDATION - ANNUAL CRAB CRAWL FUNDRAISER



NORTH EAST POLICE DEPARTMENT - NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



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HALLOWEEN PARTY AT THE NORTH EAST COMMUNITY PARK



SHIP WRECKED WITH TRICK OR TREATING ON MAIN STREET



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ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING ON "THE GREEN"



SANTA HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS



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ANNUAL CECIL COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE IN NORTH EAST





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WINTER LIGHTS CECIL NIGHTS WAGON RIDES DOWN MAIN STREET





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