

STURGIS MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN

SNOW HILL, MARYLAND

May 7, 2018





111 Cathedral Street, Suite 100
Annapolis, MD 21401

May 7, 2018

Town of Snow Hill
Attn: Ann Gibb
P.O. Box 348, 103 Bank Street
Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

Re: Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan

Dear Ms. Gibb,

Campion Hruby Landscape Architects, LLC, is pleased to submit to you the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan. Please find attached in this email the report that includes the scope of work, schedule, background, site assessment, design process, community interaction and recommendations for the future development of Sturgis Memorial Park and the adjacent neighborhood.

We have enjoyed working with the gracious and hospitable people of Snow Hill. The Mayor and Town Council, the Town staff and the members of the community generously offered their time and their thoughtful ideas about what might lie ahead for Sturgis Memorial Park. We were welcomed into the community immediately and we continue to feel connected to the citizens of Snow Hill. Together we have begun to realize a new vision for Sturgis Memorial Park and how the park can become even more loved and more appreciated for many years—and many generations—to come.

Sincerely,

Robert Hruby, PLA, Principal

Campion Hruby Landscape Architects

STURGIS MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Town of Snow Hill

Worcester County, Maryland

Municipal Building

P.O. Box 348

Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

Mayor and Town Council

John Charles “Charlie” Dorman, Mayor

Kelly Pruitt, Town Manager

Jenny Hall, Central District

Alison Cook, Eastern District

LaToya Purnell, Western District

Town of Snow Hill Staff

Ann Gibb, Grants Administrator

Jon Hill, Code Enforcement Officer

Randy Barfield, Director of Public Works

Michael Day, Economic Development

May 7, 2018

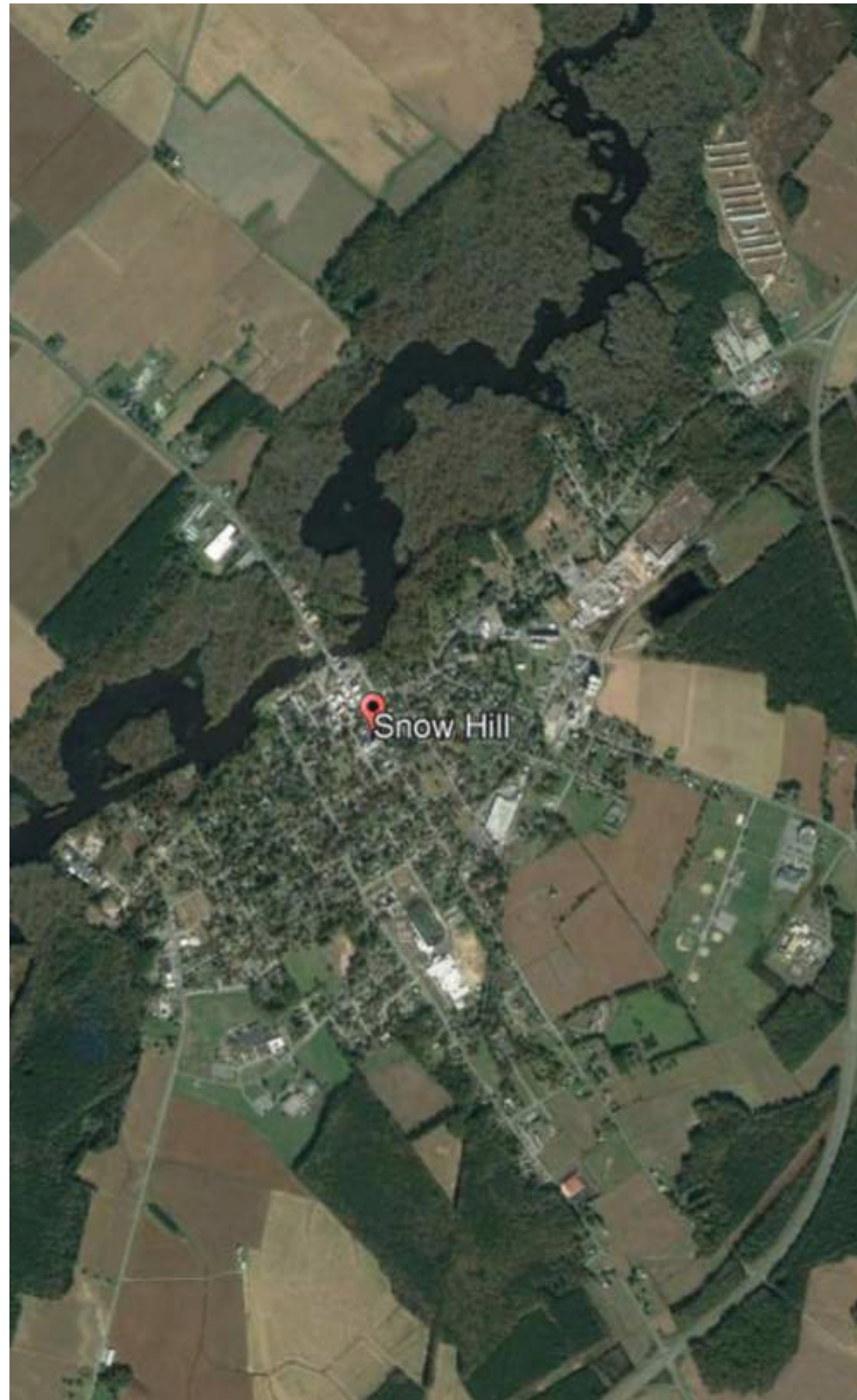
PREFACE

What to expect from a Master Plan

A Landscape Master Plan is a planning study that assesses the existing circumstances and physical conditions, identifies desired programs and makes future land use proposals for one or more sites within a specified area. The approved planning document identifies access, general improvements to the site and required infrastructure to support changes to the landscape. It is intended to guide growth and development over a number of years and in phases over time.

A Master Plan provides comprehensive recommendations for the use of publicly and privately owned land. Each plan reflects a vision of the future that responds to the unique character of the local community within the context of a countywide perspective. This vision is developed by planning departments and planning consultants in consultation with community members through public meetings and outreach tools. When making land use and design decisions, public officials and private individuals should refer to plans as well as relevant planning and design policies.

Snow Hill is positioning itself for the future by preparing a number of town-wide initiatives that include innovative tourism, arts events, and outdoor recreation programs that will set the foundation for a downtown revitalization. A major goal of these plans is to build on Snow Hill's historic homes and buildings, natural features such as the Pocomoke River, small town atmosphere and friendliness, new retail and restaurant businesses and tourist attractions and seasonal events. Working as a project team, town staff provided guidance to the planning program and collaborated with the consulting group from Campion Hruby Landscape Architects. The Mayor and Town Council worked with the staff and consulting team to craft a vision for Sturgis Memorial Park that will reach into the downtown community and connect retail opportunities with outdoor health and recreation, new educational programs and special events. The Mayor and Town Council reviewed and commented on benchmark reports and was instrumental in shaping the recommendations of the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan.



Purpose of the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan

The purpose of this plan is to provide a new vision and framework for Sturgis Memorial Park that will encourage Snow Hill to value and invest in its quality of place. Parks, greenspaces, and recreation are viewed as essential for maintaining a sense of community, health and well-being, and prosperity. The Master Plan is intended to be a comprehensive document with a time-frame of one to ten years. Specific objectives include the following:

- To position the Town of Snow Hill to build on its historic, cultural, and landscape heritage, as well as its special charm and friendliness;
- To establish clear policy direction and priorities for upgrading and maintaining existing recreation facilities, closing gaps in services, and meeting the park and open space needs of the community;
- To create and maintain a “green infrastructure” system of connected parks and greenspaces that capitalize on “opportunity areas” - moving away from automobile-based planning to community-oriented public spaces;
- To protect, restore and enhance Snow Hill's significant natural resources, habitats, and open spaces
- To connect adults, families, and children with nature and fulfill their needs for recreation, play, entertainment, and outdoor education; and
- To establish a framework for implementing the plan including management strategies and funding options.

If these objectives are accomplished, Snow Hill will not only excel in becoming an exceptionally livable community, it will continue to position itself as an integral part of a growing, vibrant recreation-tourism region.

INTRODUCTION

The historic town of Snow Hill, Maryland, was founded on the banks of the deep Pocomoke River in 1642 and received its first charter on October 26, 1686. It maintains a rich architectural heritage, a strong agricultural connection and a healthy environmental character. Located on the Lower Eastern Shore of the Delmarva Peninsula, it retains its rural roots and authentic visual appeal, yet it supports and keeps abreast of the latest digital and electronic technologies, the newest trends in the visual and performing arts, and advances in public education. A renewed Sturgis Memorial Park has the potential to demonstrate all of these valuable and highly appreciated characteristics of this most cosmopolitan of small towns.

A large part of Snow Hill's charm are the many historic buildings in town and nearby. All Hallows Episcopal Church, Chanceford Hall, Old Friendship United Methodist Church, Samuel Gunn House, Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church, James Martin House, Nasawango Iron Furnace Site, Nun's Green Plantation, George Washington Purnell House, and Gov. John Walter Smith House are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.* Several well-maintained cemeteries contribute to the historic landscape and publically accessible open space. The downtown historic district has many civic and commercial buildings that were built in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. Sturgis Memorial Park, which was initially developed in the late 1970's, has the potential to reflect the values of the 21st Century community and demonstrate its respect for the past.

The Town of Snow Hill, the seat of Worcester County, wants to continue to be responsive to its citizens—a population of 2,134—and reach out to first-time and returning visitors and potential future residents. As stewards of the natural environment, the community leaders also want to be responsible caretakers, advocates and enthusiasts of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and its distinctive natural landscapes. Sturgis Memorial Park, at the edge between town and nature, can be the place where the uniqueness of Snow Hill is at its most memorable best.

*National Park Service (2010-07-09). "National Register Information System". National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service.



HISTORIC BACKGROUND

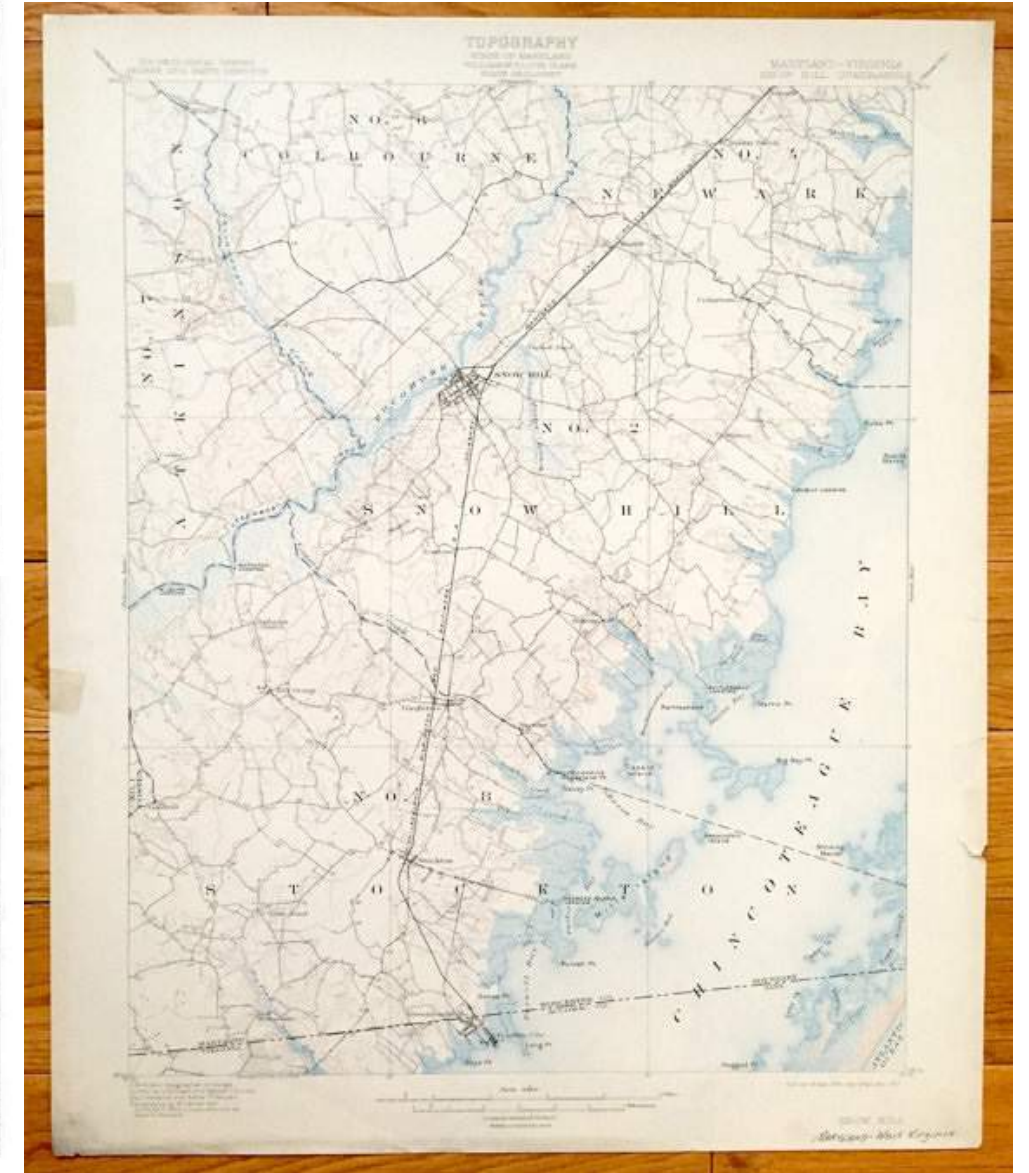
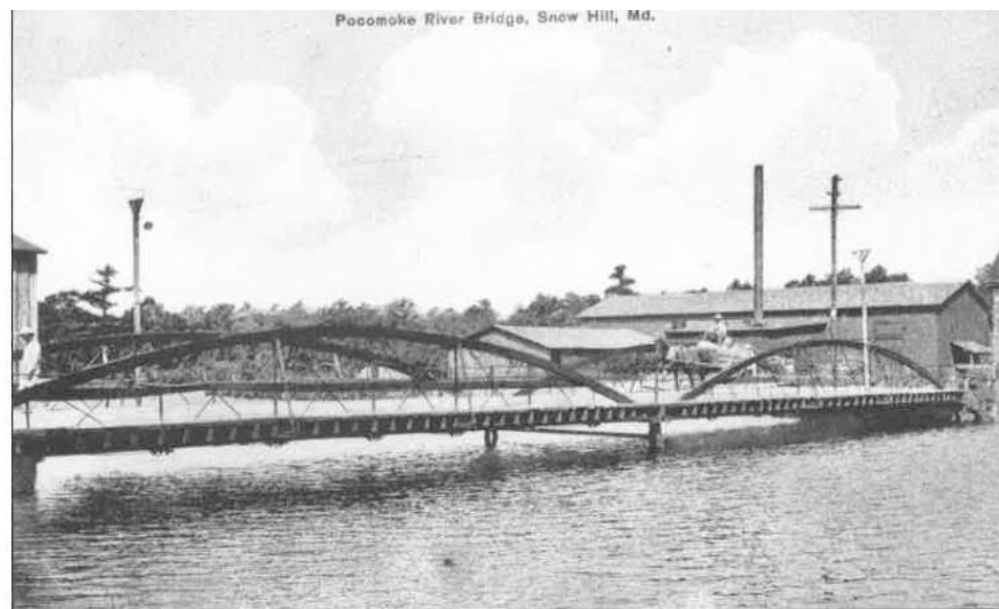
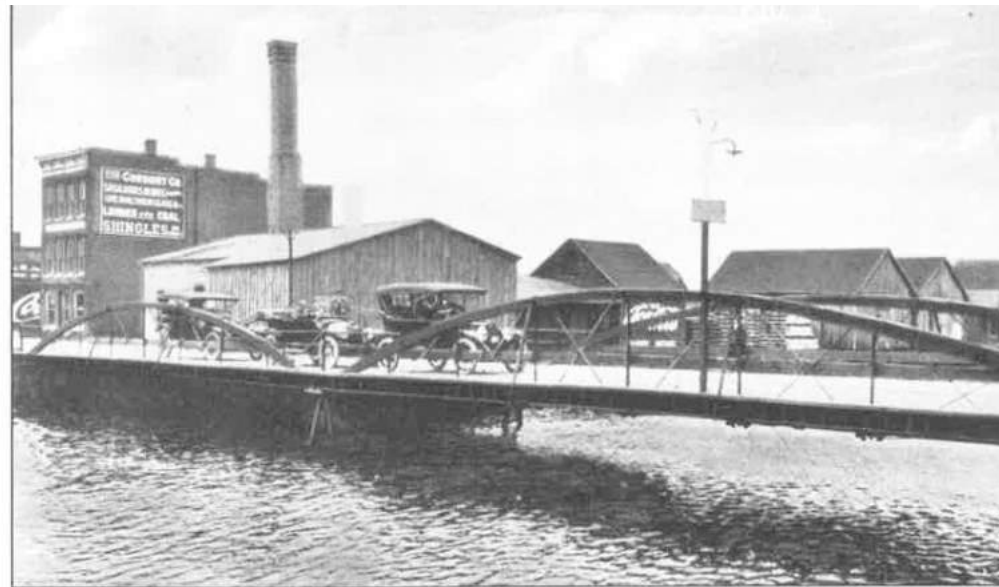
In 1694, the town of Snow Hill was made a Royal Port by William and Mary. Imported goods came through Snow Hill to be taxed. Exported goods included cypress lumber and tobacco. An increase in river traffic led to economic success and growth. Throughout the 18th Century, Snow Hill had a thriving ship-building industry and the lumber yards dominated the waterfront as the largest employer in Worcester County. Hotels, boarding houses, general stores, liveries, coopers, smiths, and wagon-makers all took their living from the river traffic. After the Civil War, railroads surpassed river transportation for inexpensive and fast movement of goods and people. The markets for lumber and other agricultural products expanded to Philadelphia and New York but travel on the Pocomoke River declined.*

Sturgis Memorial Park was built on the site of early lumber mills, shipping docks, and, in the first half of the 20th Century, the former Worcester County Fertilizer Works, which received raw materials by schooner and distributed its products by way of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The park was originally dedicated to the memory of James Thomas Sturgis, who was the Mayor of Snow Hill from 1960 to 1974. In 2002, the park was rededicated to include his wife Frances Scarborough Sturgis, a “tireless advocate for the historic, civic and cultural affairs of Snow Hill”.** Her collection of historic photographs is preserved in the Julia A. Purnell Museum, which is located on West Market Street, a short walk from Sturgis Memorial Park.

As Snow Hill’s second largest park at 1.6 acres, it is located in the Town’s central business district and surrounded by the Town’s Historic District. It was developed as a scenic waterfront park with a covered pavilion (Port Pavilion dedicated in 1986) and a promenade. Located in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, it is frequently used by church groups, families and civic organizations for a variety of functions, including picnics, festivals, art fairs and other outdoor events. Sturgis Memorial Park offers docking facilities, electrical access, public bathrooms, and a pump out station for overnight boaters. The docks were repaired and extended in 1996.

* A Walking Tour of Snow Hill, Maryland (Look Up, America!), by Doug Gelber

** 2010 Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 4 - Community Facilities, page 41



Above: Antique Chincoteague Bay, Maryland 1901 US Geological Survey Topographic Map - Snow Hill, Stockton, Newark, Assateague, Pocomoke. Source: <https://www.etsy.com/listing/477566023>

Left, Top: Boats lined up at the Corrdry Company and The Worcester Fertilizer Works, Inc.

Left, Center: Bridge crossing Pocomoke River, Snow Hill, Md., 1930's. The Corrdry Company hardware store is on the far left in the photo.

Left, Bottom: The Pocomoke River Bridge, early 20th Century photograph.

Source for all three photographs: Images of America: Snow Hill, by Mindie Burgoyne. All images are in the Francis Stugis Collection at the Julia A. Purnell Museum in Snow Hill.

CONTEXT

Parks in Snow Hill

Snow Hill has three main parks within the town boundaries and one large recreational and sports park to the south of town.

BYRD PARK is a public park of 16.5 acres along the Pocomoke River on the northwest side of town. The facilities available at Byrd Park include a concession stand, boat launching ramps, picnic facilities and pavilions, public fishing areas, and playground equipment. The Byrd Park Master Plan was prepared in January 2005. Recent improvements include completion of a new ADA-compliant playground as well as the concession stand which enables it to serve as the home of the Worcester County Fair and the annual Delmarva Chicken Festival. Byrd

Park is the jewel of historic Snow Hill, providing an expansive waterfront park that serves as both a recreational and social focus for the community.

Left: The pedestrian bridge in Byrd Park.



Just offshore from Byrd Park, in the middle of the Pocomoke River, is **Goat Island**, which is accessible to humans by means of water transveyance only. It is the 8.5-acre home to a small herd of goats and several peacocks. The annual “Return to Goat Island” is an entertaining and challenging race for paddle boarders and kayakers

Right: The annual “Return to Goat Island”.



GATEWAY PARK is a 0.15-acre riverfront boardwalk, garden path and bio-retention planting area east of the Snow Hill bascule bridge. This park was created with Federal, State, and local government funds and was the first project of this type to be approved on the Eastern Shore. The National Park Service has promoted this site as a Chesapeake Bay Gateways Demonstration Project that is meant to serve as a model for other jurisdictions to replicate. It incorporates well-conceived and durable interpretative signage that communicates the history of the area.



Right: Gateway Park

JOHN WALKER SMITH PARK, named for US Senator, Congressman, Governor and Snow Hill native son, is a 105-acre park, of which 88 acres are developed parkland. It is located on Public Landing Road in Snow Hill. It serves as the athletic complex to citizens in the central section of the County. Programming and maintenance operations are administered by the Worcester County Department of Recreation & Parks

To date, John Walker Smith Park has one senior league field, three little league fields, two softball fields, and five multipurpose fields.

It should be noted that Snow Hill High School has recently (2015) created state-of-of-the-art athletic fields.

Snow Hill Park Facilities Acreage

- Byrd Park 16.5 acres
- Sturgis Memorial Park 1.6 acres
- Gateway Park 0.15 acres
- John Walter Smith Park 88 acres

Town of Snow Hill, Maryland - 2010 Comprehensive Plan.
Table 4.3 Parks and Recreation Facilities



Locations of Snow Hill Parks

1. Byrd Park
2. Gateway Park
3. John Walter Smith Park
4. Sturgis Memorial Park

STURGIS MEMORIAL PARK is the “town square” of Snow Hill. Built on landfill that supported early industrial uses in the 19th and early 20th centuries, the park is a prominent feature at the northern entrance to town and a central gathering place for downtown civic events, active and passive recreation, and access to nature along the Pocomoke River.

The northeastern boundary of Sturgis Memorial Park is located at the intersection of River Street and Bank Street, one block southwest of North Washington Street. The park can be seen upon arrival on the Snow Hill Bridge, a single-leaf bascule bridge, one of the simplest and smallest of Maryland’s movable spans, which was built in 1932. Carrying MD 12 (Washington Street) into Snow Hill, it measures only 90 feet long, including the approach span. Its neoclassical concrete tender’s house is unoccupied and boaters must call in advance to schedule an opening. The bridge is a graceful visual anchor to the eastern end of the park



Above: The Pocomoke River Canoe Company, tender’s house, bridge and trees make a balanced composition and a unique portrait of Snow Hill. Below: View from Sturgis Memorial Park Marina looking toward the bascule bridge. Photos by Jack Sullivan.



Above: The marina dock serves as the waterfront promenade. It invites people to the water to enjoy a stroll and participate in water sports but runs short of making a complete connection to Washington Street. Photo by Steve Makrinos.



Above: The bascule bridge over the Pocomoke River. Photo from <https://bridgehunter.com/md/worcester/100000230002010/>.

The bascule bridge is the northern gateway to Snow Hill. Its bright white, neoclassical tender’s house is ever more distinctive as seen against the deep red clapboard of the Pocomoke River Canoe Company or the lush green landscape on the northern shore of the river. The northern arrival makes a strong and positive first impression and the shops on Washington Street add to the charm of a welcoming small town.



Unlike other parks in Snow Hill, Sturgis Memorial Park is front-and-center to the daily lives of citizens and workers. Many county residents come to River Street to conduct business and address legal and court issues with state and county agencies. Offices and court rooms of the State of Maryland District Court, Worcester County Juvenile Justice, Worcester County Social Services Department, Worcester County Agriculture, U.S. Consolidated Farm Services Agency, Natural Resources Conservation, and the University of Maryland Extension

Service are all housed within a three-square-block area. These buildings, which were constructed in the 1990's, are either privately owned and leased to the State of Maryland, or they are owned by Worcester County for its own purposes and leased to other government agencies. Although many Worcester County services are located in the historic County Courthouse at 1 W. Market Street, several judicial services, social and family service programs and drug rehabilitation programs attract a large number of employees and a diverse cross-section of the population to this part of Snow Hill.

On a daily basis the park accommodates lunch-time strolls, early morning and late evening dog walks, jogging and exercise walking, waiting for the regional bus and, during the warm-weather months, snacking or lunching at the picnic tables under the shade and shelter of the open-air Pavilion. During the summer, business at the marina picks up with local boaters making periodic stops for social purposes and the occasional "ferrying" of campers to and from Pocomoke State Park. Kayaking, canoeing and paddleboarding are popular summer activities on the water and sportsman come from miles around to fish the river. However, out-of-town customers at the marina are few, even when



the cost of docking, electric hook-up, bilge-pumping and other marina services are inexpensive (currently there are no charges at all).

Sturgis Memorial Park is also a popular place for special events. Family reunions and neighborhood social gatherings take place in the Pavilion. Annual events like the Blessing of the Combines, the highly anticipated Sturgis (South Dakota) motorcycle rally, the Fall Pumpkin Festival, the Spring Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Craft Sale, Seagull Century Bicycle Race and other sports events attract a full range of interested participants from all over the state, the region and beyond.

Advantages and Limitations As magnetic as Sturgis Memorial Park can be with a little help from steady programming efforts, the park needs some special attention. It has been well-loved and well-used and, as a result, it is now well-worn. The Town has taken the initiative to make important improvements to the dock and boardwalk along the Pocomoke River. It has also recently restored the low "knee walls" that contain the space below the pavilion, which is a centerpiece of the park. Restrooms need significant updating for comfort, health and safety reasons, as well as for aesthetic and accessibility purposes. Plants need pruning, removal and replacement. Paths need to be more accommodating for universal access and pedestrian safety. Walkways along River Street and the streets that intersect it, which include North Washington Street, Bank Street, Commerce Street and North Church Streets, are unintentionally "stingy", compromising the pedestrian environment and creating deterrents to comfortable access between Market Street, Green Street and Willow Street and the river's edge. Children need an artful and inspiring place to play in nature and everyone needs a place they can be proud of.



Above: There are no sidewalks along the park on River Street and no buffer between moving cars and the park.



Above: Cars park up against the park at the west end. and few trees mark the distinction between street and park. Photos by Steve Makrinos.

Far left: The aerial photo demonstrates how much impervious paved surface surrounds Sturgis Memorial Park. The former PNC Bank (near foreground) and the Lower Shore Land Trust next to it, share the waterfront with Sturgis Memorial Park. Source: <https://thebrokerlist.com/have/former-pnc-bank-15611>

SITE CONDITIONS

The current conditions belie the Town's intentions to make this park the centerpiece of civic life in Snow Hill. Some problems that the Town must address are the result of flawed structural concepts, such as the lack of universal accessibility inside the park, the lack of sidewalks along River Street, and keeping up with the changing needs over time, such as inadequate restroom facilities. The Town has also experienced ongoing unattended or overwhelming maintenance issues beyond mowing, clean-up and seasonal beautification efforts. Since the dedication of the Port Pavilion in 1986 (over 30 years ago), it has been a challenge to stay attuned to the maintenance needs of ever-growing (and sometimes declining) trees, shrubs and display plants, as well as the wear and tear of constant community use. Tree pruning has been kept to a minimum over the years and the plant palette has been simplified by choices that are familiar, readily available and minimally demanding, not without reason, of course.

Lawn is abundant for many reasons: it is quick and easy to grow, mow and blow, and it provides a relatively durable surface for



periodic recreational activities. But a large amount of lawn offers very little to the biodiversity of plant and insect populations that is necessary for a balanced, ecologically sound environment. As a monoculture that covers a large area, too much lawn inhibits the potential for a rich urban wildlife experience for animals and humans alike.

Stormwater in Sturgis Memorial Park and on the adjacent streets is addressed with the standard "gray" infrastructure of storm drains and underground pipes. Very little surface water runoff is absorbed into the ground and none of the water is filtered or treated before it reaches its ultimate destination, the Pocomoke River and the Chesapeake Bay.

One sure way to attract people to the river is to make the river as visually accessible as possible, without eliminating the beauty of a "slow reveal" or a thoughtful way to frame the view. Low-branching trees currently obscure the view at and above eye level, whereas larger, high-branching trees provide abundant shade and an artful frame of reference. The low concrete walls that extend beyond the covered part of the Pavilion block the view to the boats at the marina dock and unnecessarily separate the



marina from the park. By removing part of the wall without creating an unsafe condition along the water, the marina, the river and the park will be more readily appreciated for its complementary activities and connectedness. That openness will also extend the viewers' experience to include an awareness of the beauty of the opposite shore of the river.

For its proximity to all of the main commercial streets of Snow Hill, including Washington Street, Green Street and Market Street, the park should be an integral part of the downtown. Yet the psychological distance created by narrow, uneven sidewalks, completely absent pedestrian and bicycle accommodation, and uncomfortable, unshaded and uninteresting pedestrian environments keep people from making the two-block walk from the heart of downtown to the waterfront.

There is currently a lack of marked pedestrian crosswalks at all intersections and the feeling is that the car has dominion over the street. Generous sidewalks and amply marked bike lanes would put drivers on notice that the pedestrian and the bicyclist have preference and cars are not allowed to dominate the civic landscape.

Periodic flooding issues could be addressed with green infrastructure that will also enrich the pedestrian environment. Narrow, crumbling concrete sidewalks need to be replaced. Street trees will bring shade, coolness and a sense of protection and security.

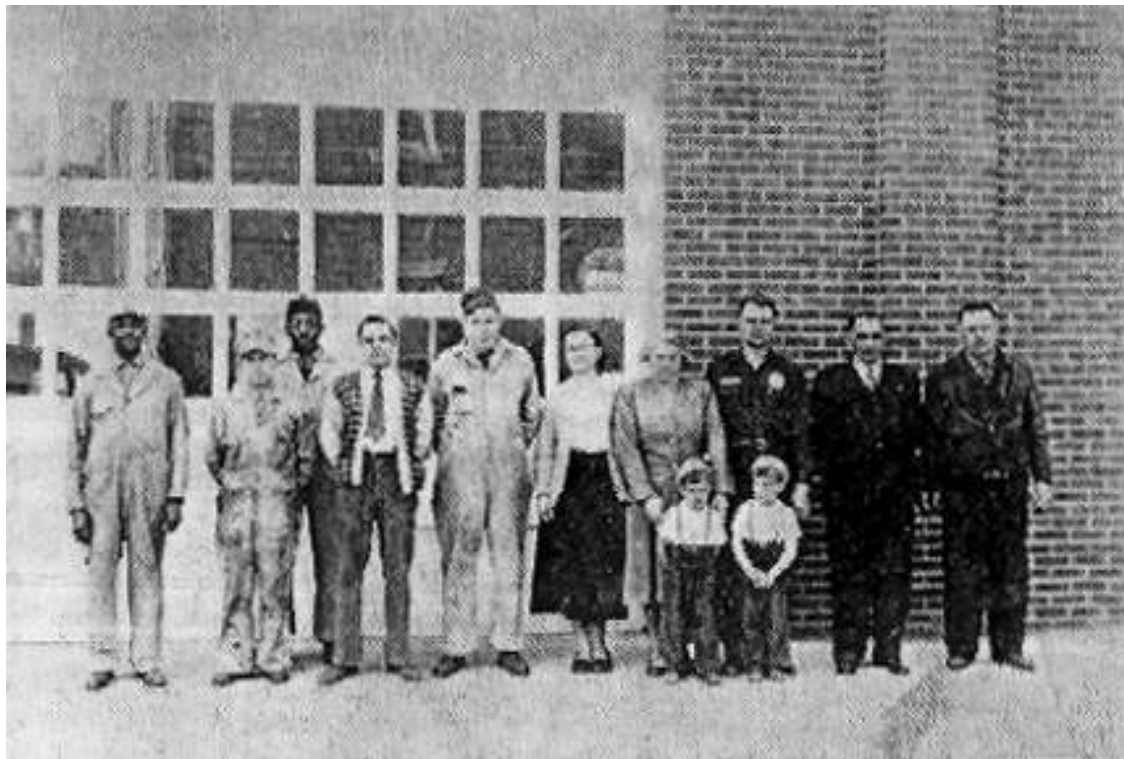
Retail storefronts, restaurants, well-maintained homes, and other thoughtfully designed buildings and landscapes invite walkers, bikers and drivers to slow down and take in the scene and the surroundings. A rich and full street of plants and art and people communicate a culture that is specific to a small town and contribute to the small town charm. Vacant lots, too many parking lots, too many tree-less streets and too much blankness between point of departure and destination establish an awkward, uncomfortable ill-at-ease that can be discouraging. Visual interest, psychological comfort, and the sense of safe enclosure on Bank Street and Commerce Street could *literally* pull people to the threshold of Sturgis Memorial Park

CORE VALUES

Core values are the beliefs and sensibilities of Snow Hill residents concerning important qualities of the community. These values provide direction for the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan, including goals and policies and specific recommendations for the design of Sturgis Memorial Park.

- Valuing the rich history, traditions, and historic charm;
- Celebrating history and the arts, especially architecture and the art of fine craftsmanship;
- Sustaining a sense of community, friendliness and safety;
- Appreciating the strong town character with its surrounding rural landscape;
- Reinforcing walkability, human scale, and connectivity;
- Protecting the surrounding natural beauty that is so representative of the Lower Shore landscape;
- Enhancing downtown greenspace along the Pocomoke River;
- Following Smart Growth principles in a compact community with an historic downtown;
- Raising children in a safe, inclusive and livable community;
- Supporting community health and well-being;
- Integrating land use with parks, open space and green infrastructure;
- Encouraging volunteerism as a community resource.

Snow Hill has had a diverse population for much of its long history. The archived photo at right shows local residents in front of the Snow Hill Fire Co., c. 1940's. Source: <http://bishopsstock.com/about-bishops-stock/>



DEMOGRAPHICS

Snow Hill has a diverse population and, as such, has diverse park needs. As of the census of 2010 (later statistics deviate by about a 5% margin of difference), there were 2,103 people, 871 households, and 557 families residing in the town. The population density was 698.7 inhabitants per square mile (269.8/Km²). There were 1,005 housing units at an average density of 333.9 per square mile (128.9/Km²).

The racial makeup of the town was 57.0% White, 39.0% African American, 0.2% Native American, 1.3% Asian, 0.3% from other races, and 2.2% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 1.6% of the population.

There were 871 households of which 31.3% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 36.7% were married couples living together, 21.9% had a female householder with no husband present, 5.3% had a male householder with no wife present, and 36.1% were non-families. 32.0% of all households were made up of individuals and 16% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.32 and the average family size was 2.90.

In 2010 the median age in the town was 44.7 years; 23.2% of residents were under the age of 18; 7.9% were between the ages of 18 and 24; 19.3% were between the ages of 25 and 44; 29.4% were from 45 to 64; and 20.2% were 65 years of age or older.

The gender makeup of the town was 45.9% Male, 54.1% Female.

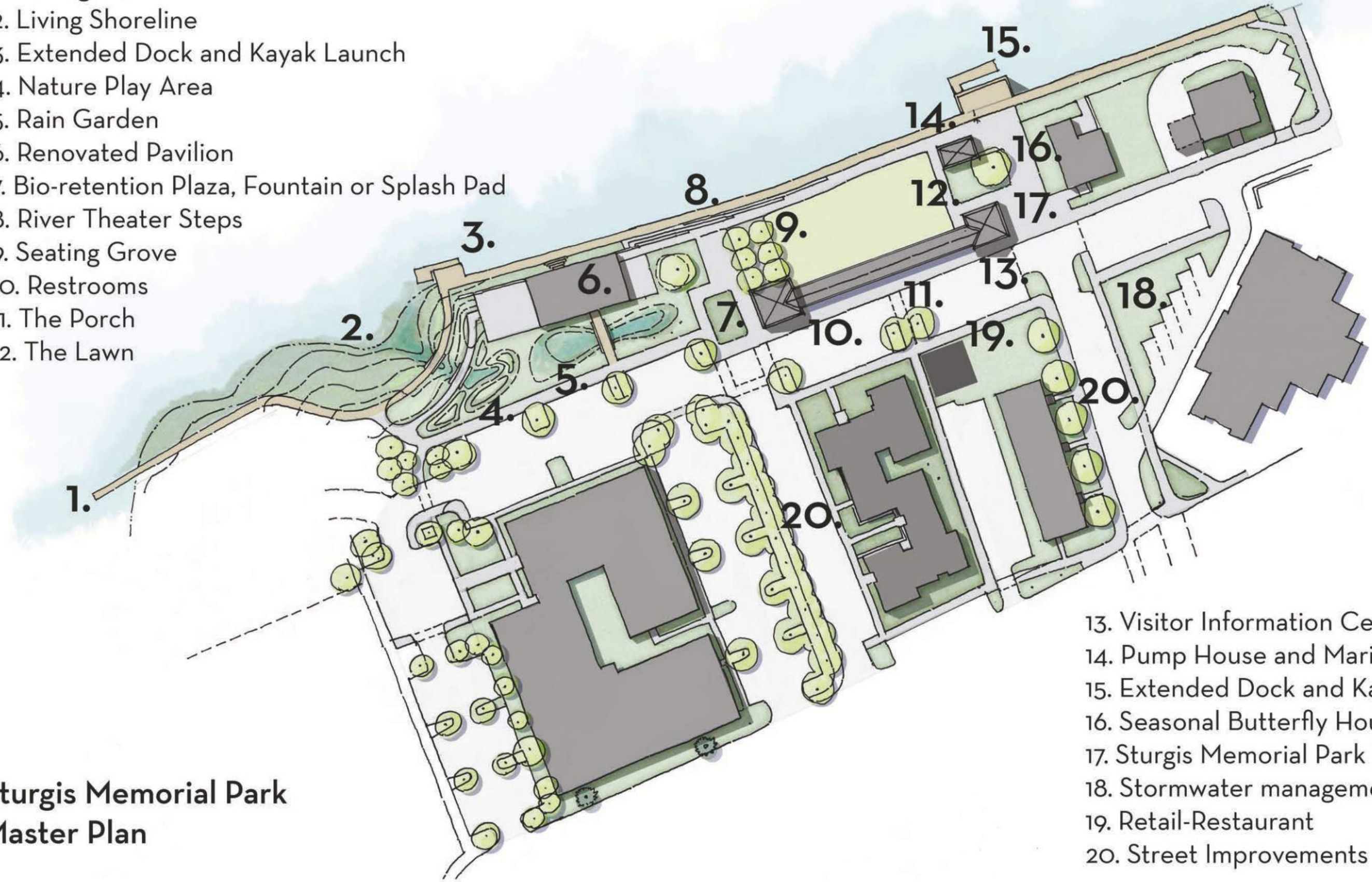
Data Sources: <http://www.city-data.com/city/Snow-Hill-Maryland.html> and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snow_Hill,_Maryland

VISION STATEMENT

The Snow Hill Vision Statement (2010 Comprehensive Plan) reflects shared core values and aspirations of the community. Describing a preferred future excites the imagination and provides direction not only for parks and recreation planning, but also for other community planning policies and decisions.

- Snow Hill is one of the gateways to the Pocomoke River State Park, Millburn Landing and Shad Landing, Pusey State Game Refuge, and Pocomoke State Forest. As a vibrant and compact community surrounded by pastoral landscape, Snow Hill is a special town that has maintained its charm, friendliness, and natural beauty.
- Hillsides, wetlands, and natural habitats are protected by a system of connected greenspaces that guide community growth and foster livability.
- Increasing Snow Hill's tree canopy will reinforce the community's values and character while purifying the air and providing wildlife habitat.
- The heart of Snow Hill is its inviting downtown. With the Pocomoke River as its centerpiece, the rich history, superior design and traditional architecture create a downtown where people live, work, shop, and play.
- Snow Hill is a walkable and bicycle-friendly place that enhances a sense of neighborliness and community, reduces reliance on the automobile, and eases traffic congestion and air pollution.
- Parks, scenic vistas, natural habitats, farms and forestlands define the Town's boundaries.
- Snow Hill places a high priority on community health and well-being by ensuring access to nature and recreation for all ages, and celebrating the arts and its artists.
- As a livable and welcoming community, Snow Hill has the potential to become a vital part of a thriving tourism region.

1. Fishing Pier
2. Living Shoreline
3. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch
4. Nature Play Area
5. Rain Garden
6. Renovated Pavilion
7. Bio-retention Plaza, Fountain or Splash Pad
8. River Theater Steps
9. Seating Grove
10. Restrooms
11. The Porch
12. The Lawn



13. Visitor Information Center
14. Pump House and Marina Facilities
15. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch
16. Seasonal Butterfly House
17. Sturgis Memorial Park Plaza
18. Stormwater management or building
19. Retail-Restaurant
20. Street Improvements

Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan

STURGIS MEMORIAL PARK

A Design Proposal for a Master Plan

The design for Sturgis Memorial Park considers a variety of uses and users. The community has requested that the park become a place for a diverse, multi-generational population to explore ways to live an active, healthy life outdoors in the wonderment of nature. The Pocomoke River will become the focus of most of the activities at the park.

1. Fishing Pier

- a. A new path within the city-owned property along the river shore will become an interpretive trail
- b. The path will lead to a long, narrow pier over the river, well above the anticipated high-water level
- c. Pier will be used to open views to the lower Pocomoke River, Byrd Park and Goat Island
- d. Pier will be used as a fishing pier as well as a viewing platform
- e. The fishing pier is meant for quiet reflection and passive activity, not as a boat dock
- f. The pier will be an exceptional place for viewing wildlife birdwatching, and admiring the beauty of sunsets.

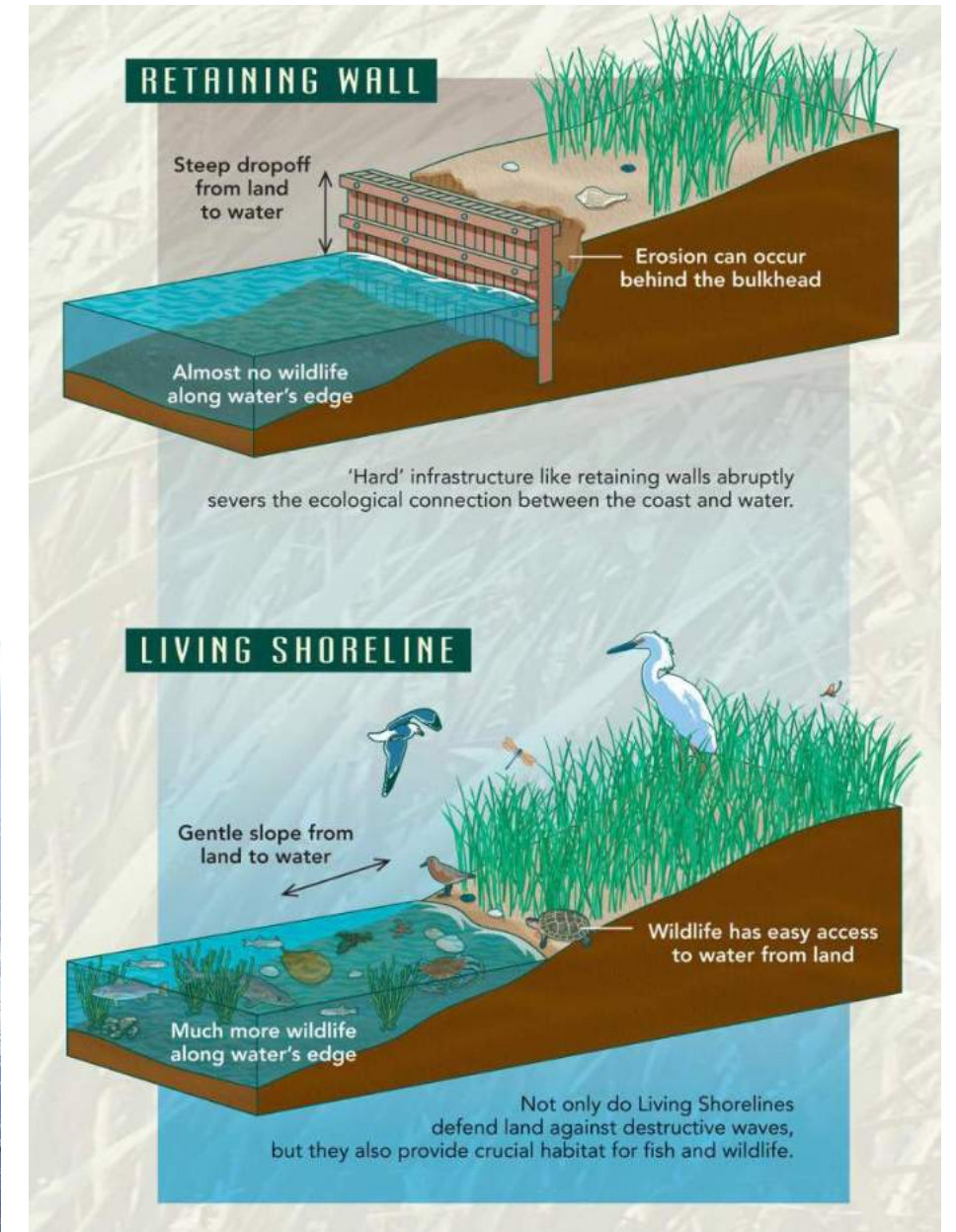


2. Living Shoreline

- a. Reshape and restore the shoreline for increased and improved wildlife habitat and safe access to the water
- b. Create a place for exploration and discovery
- c. Remove invasive plants and frame views to the river with native trees and riparian-appropriate shrubs, grasses and groundcovers.



- d. Create rich and rewarding educational opportunities through interpretive signage and naturalist-lead tours
- e. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources will encourage and support the transformation of the shoreline as an ecologically sound practice for riparian restoration, habitat creation and increased wildlife diversity.
- f. The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) works with communities to create natural resilience to flooding and sea-level rise in the wake of climate change for waterfront communities at risk.



3. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch

- a. Bring the “unfinished” boat dock to a logical conclusion with a dock terminus as a place to engage the river:
- b. Establish a place where people can stop and appreciate the views
- c. Physically transition to the living shoreline and visually appreciate the change in character of the river’s edge
- d. Launch a kayak
- e. Explore the aquatic and amphibian life along the river



consistent themes of native pollinator-attracting plants and the appropriate placement of shade trees for human comfort and enjoyment and for wildlife habitat diversity.

- e. Use wood and stone as imaginative and playful elements for bridging, leaping, climbing, sitting, viewing, hiding and exploring the natural world of bugs, leaves, sticks and rocks.
- f. Keep the nature play area within view of the street, the pavilion and the extended terrace associated with the pavilion. Parental surveillance will be important for safety and security.
- g. Expand the nature play area to include access to the river edge and to the rain garden adjacent to the pavilion.



4. Nature Play Area

- a. Use the art of earth sculpting to create a landscape for play and discovery.
- b. Use natural materials (stone, wood, water) to create beautiful spaces for a variety of visual and physical experiences
- c. Create physical challenges that engage children, inspire confidence in their movement and encourage a positive and supportive interaction with other children
- d. Integrate a re-sculpted landscape form and hardy new planting with the surrounding environment, using



5. Rain Garden

- a. Reshape the landscape to direct surface and flood water to a new, lower location between River Street and the Pavilion.
- b. Use native rain garden plants that perform well in dry and wet conditions



- c. Use shrubs, groundcovers, grasses and perennials that will keep views open toward the western side; Add trees to the south and eastern side that will frame views, provide shade and encourage a diverse plant palette.



6. Renovated Pavilion

- a. Assess and improve (if necessary) the structural integrity of the structure.
- b. Remove concrete walls on the south side to open the access to the surrounding landscape
- c. Widen the central opening on the river side and rebuild the stair as a more graceful access to the dock and a seating-and-viewing spot to the river.
- d. Refinish surfaces, such as post column paint, roof shingles, and wood ceiling surface treatment for visual appearance, weather protection and assurance of long-term maintenance care
- e. Consider using a brighter color (white or light sand) on the post columns to give an appearance of more weight to the slim post columns, which currently look out of proportion with the somewhat “top heavy” roof
- f. Study the structural integrity of the existing structure before assuming that the Pavilion could be climate-controlled with either drapes, tarps, or a more permanent garage-door enclosure
- g. Remove part of the concrete slab pavement near the large existing oak at the eastern end of the Pavilion, improving the growing environment and protecting the life of the tree. Plant with native groundcovers and low shrubs to discourage walking over the roots of the tree.

7. Bio-retention Plaza, Fountain or Splash Pad

- a. This area at the Commerce Street entrance has an opportunity to become a major gathering place in the park. Located between the restrooms and the Pavilion, it is certain to become a serendipitous meeting place as people enjoy the park for everyday activity and special events.
- b. There are three options available for the use of the space:
 1. As a place to display sculpture or a flag with a eating area around a surface-water collection and treatment rain garden;
 2. As a fountain pool and water display; or
 3. As a splash jet plaza for kids of all ages.
- c. Capital costs, maintenance expectations and health and safety regulations will determine which is most appropriate.
- d. The restrooms will be designed as a structure that will be large enough to house electrical and plumbing for potential water-related attractions (See images on the following pages)



Bio-Retention Plaza at Commerce Street park entrance



Fountain Pool and Water display at Commerce Street park entrance



Splash Pad Plaza at Commerce Street park entrance

8. River Theater Steps and Promenade

- Remove the concrete wall between the lawn and the existing dock to open up views from River Street to the Pocomoke River and Marina.
- Use the change in grade (between 6" and 2'-6") to create an open stair and seating area
- Create a place to comfortably enjoy the view to nature, watch boating, kayaking and paddle-boarding events, and participate in potential water-barge theatrical presentations and musical performances.
- Make the Pocomoke River the main event and a regular attraction for everyday life in Snow Hill
- Assure access for all citizens and visitors with a well-designed, universally accessible river promenade at the top of the steps and on the dock below.
- Connect the Pavilion to the River Promenade with an on-grade accessible connection.
- Connect the River Promenade with the Bank Street Plaza, the Commerce Street Plaza and on the park frontage along the full length of River Street



Above: Rendering of the proposed lawn, seating grove, promenade and theatre steps along the existing riverfront dock.

Left: Heavy wooden seats and masonry steps recall the timber industry that was such a large part of the site's industrial past. Design by Rehwaldt-Landscape-Architects. Image Source: www.landezine.com

Right: The seating grove at Lincoln Center Plaza by OLIN Landscape Architects. A grove of shade trees establishes a soft shelter in the open plaza. Moveable chairs allow for individual choice of view and proximity to others. Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/deeproot/15303035218>

9. Seating Grove

- Create a seating area with movable chairs under a grove of Sycamore, London Plain trees or other appropriate species suitable for a high water table and for establishing a sufficient shade canopy.
- Make a comfortable spot for casual meetings and conversations, as well as a viewing position for both water-related and lawn activities. Allow for small vendors (kiosk, food and drink carts, table displays, etc.) to use the space during special events.
- Use compacted gravel or stone dust for a ground surface that is both porous and universally accessible.
- Create an artful environment that feels different yet connected to its surroundings.



10. Restrooms

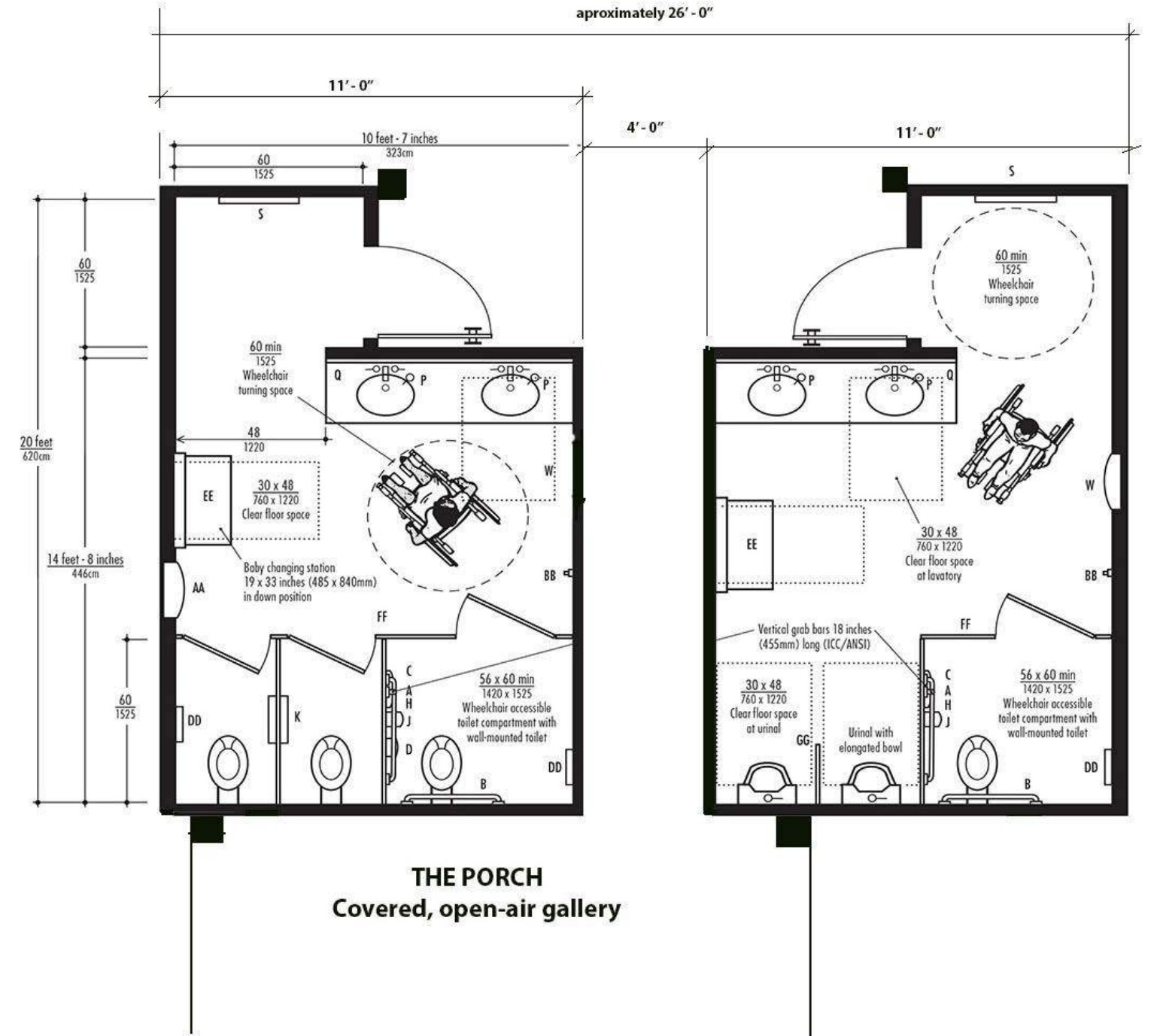
- New location closer to the Pavilion will allow for easy access during special events
- Increased size will give greater capacity during special events and performances
- Extra space could be added to the structure for storage of electrical and plumbing equipment and maintenance supplies
- Include an outdoor drinking fountain for visitor comfort and to encourage people to drink more water
- Make sure that all restroom facilities are universally accessible and provide baby-changing stations in both men's and women's facilities (see layout diagram)
- Consider the option of creating restrooms that allow either gender to use single-occupancy stalls with shared washing and baby-changing facilities (for reference, see image below and at <https://coddingtondesign.com/the-creativity-of-gender-neutral-bathrooms>)
- Use sufficient, efficient and color-corrected lighting in and near all restroom facilities. Provide a safe environment without over-lighting with harsh and glaring illumination

Right: The design of a single restroom structure divides the separate facilities for women and men with a common hall between the Commerce Street Plaza and the Porch. Features include handicapped accessible stalls and sinks, a baby-changing station in each facility and a drinking fountain on the Porch side.

Below: The illustration shows the proposed restroom as seen from River Street. The structure is attached to the Porch for convenience and waiting comfort in inclement weather. An outdoor chalkboard becomes an ad hoc art canvas and a message center for the community.



Accessible Public Restroom.



THE PORCH
Covered, open-air gallery

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>A B-5806 x 18 Vertical Grab Bar
B B-5806 x 36 Horizontal Grab Bar
C B-5806 x 42 Horizontal Grab Bar
D B-270 Surface-Mounted Sanitary Napkin Disposal (mounts below grab bar)
E B-2740 Surface-Mounted Double-Roll Toilet Tissue Dispenser, no controlled delivery (mounts below grab bar)
F B-301 Recessed Toilet Seat Cover Dispenser (mounts below grab bar)
G B-353 Recessed Sanitary Napkin Disposal (mounts below grab bar)
H B-4221 Surface Mounted Toilet Seat Cover Dispenser (mounts below grab bar)</p> | <p>J B-4288 Surface-Mounted Multi Roll Toilet Tissue Dispenser (mounts below grab bar)
K B-357 Partition-Mounted Toilet Seat Cover Dispenser, Sanitary Napkin Disposal, Toilet Tissue Dispenser with Theft-Resistant Spindle (serves two compartments)
L B-3574 Recessed Toilet Seat Cover Dispenser, Sanitary Napkin Disposal, Toilet Tissue Dispenser on right when facing unit with Theft-Resistant Spindle
M 819843 Recessed Toilet Seat Cover Dispenser, Sanitary Napkin Disposal, Toilet Tissue Dispenser on left when facing unit with Theft-Resistant Spindle
N B-822 Lavatory-Mounted Soap Dispenser
P B-824 Automatic, Universal Countertop-Mounted Soap Dispenser</p> | <p>Q B-165 Series Wall-to-Wall Mirror
R B-165 Series Mirror, 18" W x 36" H (455 x 915mm)
S B-165 Series Full-Length Mirror, 24" W x 60" H (610 x 1525mm)
T B-318 Recessed Paper Towel Dispenser
U B-369 Recessed Paper Towel Dispenser and Waste Receptacle
Y B-526 Paper Towel Dispenser
W B-43944 Recessed Paper Towel Dispenser and Waste Receptacle
X B-3644 Recessed Waste Receptacle
Z B-7128 Surface-Mounted Hand Dryer
AA B-4706 Recessed Sanitary Napkin/Tampon Vendor</p> | <p>BB B-687 Door Bumper
CC B-76727 Double Robe/Clothes Hook
DD KB102-00 Wall-Mounted Child Protection Seat
EE KB110-SSWM Horizontal, Wall-Mounted Baby Changing Station
FF 1031 Series Floor-Anchored Laminated Plastic Toilet Compartments
GG 1035 Series Wall-Hung Urinal Screen
HH 1542 Series Overhead-Braced Laminated Plastic Toilet Compartments</p> |
|--|--|---|---|

11. The Porch

- a. A covered porch or “loggia” will serve a variety of functions for practical everyday use and special events
- b. The connection between the restroom and the visitor center will be covered for protection during inclement weather as well as on hot, sunny days
- c. The Porch will function as a bus and trolley stop and waiting shelter for regional transportation and local town services, as well as a drop-off point for private autos, school buses or commercial vans services (senior living centers, tourist transport)
- d. The Porch will have wifi and access to electrical outlets for charging personal electronic devices, It could also have charging stations for electric automobiles.. Solar panels on the sloped roof will provide the needed electrical supply for lighting, pumping and charging demands.
- e. Electrical outlets will also allow for special event lighting, event display purposes, and temporary or permanent sound systems.



- f. Provide movable seating or removable hammocks under the shelter of the Porch. Benches or chairs can be moved to accommodate special event space layout and the potential need for fluid, open movement under the Porch
- g. Consider the possibility of using the Porch as a venue for interactive interpretive signage that tells the history of Snow Hill and the Pocomoke River, the ecology and environmental science of the region, and sustainable practices for a richer future.
- h. Offer information for athletic use, recreational suggestions and gaming entertainment.
- i. Use the Porch for yoga lessons, Tai Chi exercises and painting classes.

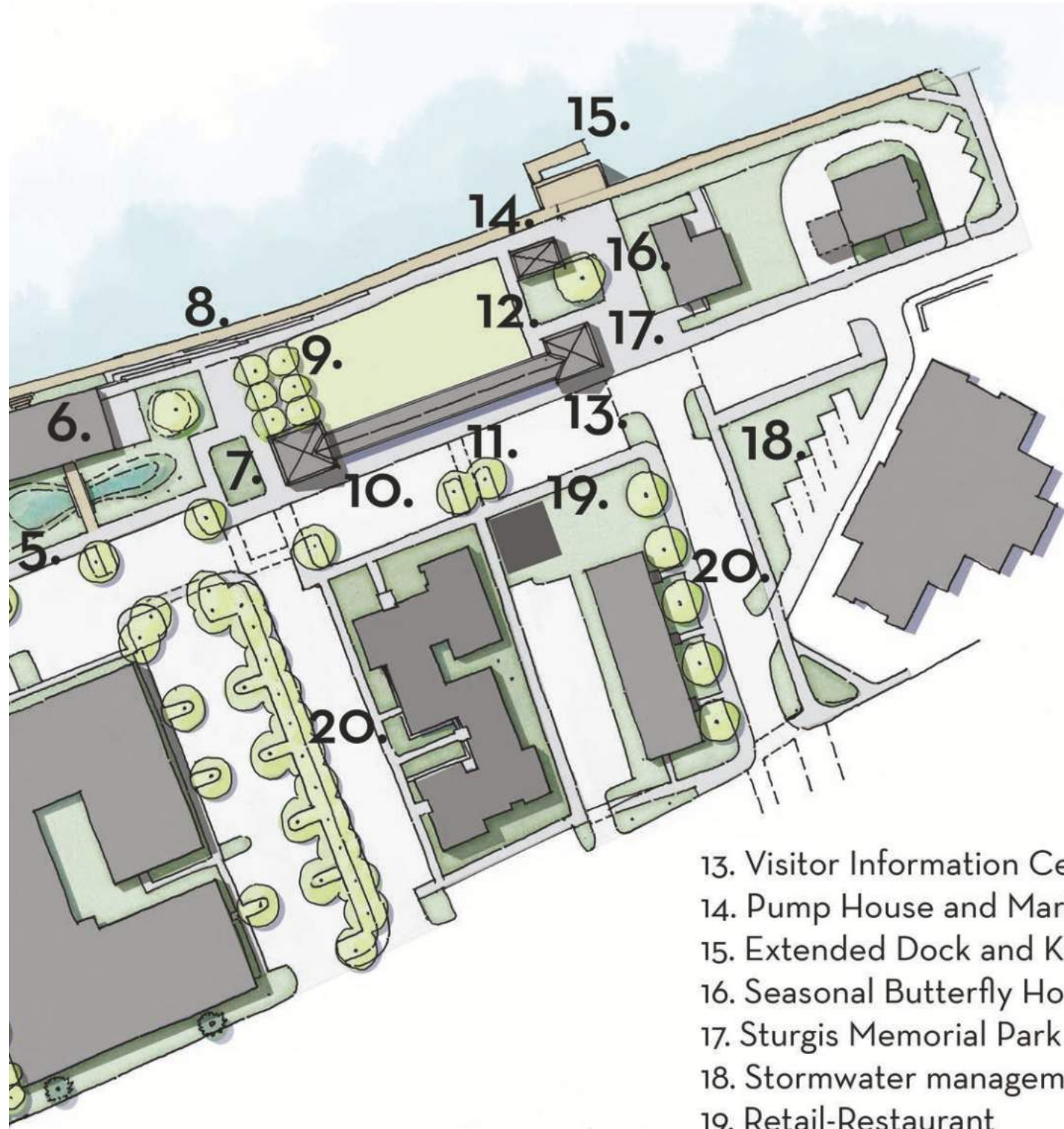


Above, right: An aerial view of the proposed Sturgis Memorial Park design shows an architectural frame around the open lawn area, created by the Visitor Information Center, the Porch, the Restrooms and the Marina Pump House facilities. The architectural structure of the space is complemented by the Seating Grove at the western edge of the open lawn.

Left: The open-air covered Porch keeps the view open across the Lawn to the Promenade and the Pocomoke River beyond.

12. The Lawn

- a. This is a multi-purpose, all-season, recreation and special event space. It allows for active “pick-up” recreation (kick the soccer ball around, pass the football, throw a Frisbee, run from one end to the other) as well as passive activities like a picnic on the lawn, Tai Chi classes, a blanket laid out for a musical performance, a summer nap (provide self-supporting hammocks).
- b. Use a hardy, low maintenance turf that will accommodate drought and high impact usage (Zoysiagrass or easily replaceable fescue sod)
- c. Establish the lawn with a well-designed subgrade foundation and drainage and irrigation system. This is NOT a sports field but it will have high impact use.
- d. Lighting should be low intensity, downward focused light that is subtle yet safe and does not overwhelm the night sky.



- 13. Visitor Information Center
- 14. Pump House and Marina Facilities
- 15. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch
- 16. Seasonal Butterfly House
- 17. Sturgis Memorial Park Plaza
- 18. Stormwater management or building
- 19. Retail-Restaurant
- 20. Street Improvements

13. Visitor information Center (with option for a permanent Conservatory and Butterfly House)

- a. This glass-enclosed structure will be clearly visible day or night upon arrival to the park from River Street and Bank Street, which is the most direct connection from Market Street, three blocks to the south.
- b. Trolleys and buses should be directed to this location. The Porch can serve as a sun and rain shelter for waiting passengers.
- c. The structure could be designed to accommodate a small space for seasonal information distribution or a larger space for year-round displays for education and interpretation poses
- d. By increasing the size, capacity and climate control in part of the space under the Porch, the Visitor Information Center could also serve as a seasonal butterfly house and a sunny, year-round botanical conservatory.
- e. The convergence of the Visitor Information Center, Butterfly House, and improved Marina facilities will make Bank Street Plaza an attractive place to draw guests and residents to the park.



14. Pump House and Marina Facility

- a. Increase capacity for the Marina with additional docking space, access to electrical hook-ups, an improved Pump House that includes such amenities as showers facilities for overnight boaters, an earth-and-water friendly pump-out station, improved lighting along the docks, and easily accessible drinking fountain for use by boaters and all out door enthusiasts in the park.
- b. Improve marina facility to allow for increased boat mooring for a diverse clientele,. Include docking facilities for luxury yachts as well as small crafts.
- c. Grants for improving pump-out stations are available through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources: <http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating/Documents/MDMarineSewagePumpoutGrantApp.pdf> .

15. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch

- a. Improve boating and pedestrian access along the shore line between existing facilities at the end of Bank Street and Washington Street.
- b. Make a stronger connection from Sturgis Memorial Park to the Pocomoke Canoe Company and Gateway Park by creating a safe pedestrian crossing on Washington Street.
- c. Make boating more visible from the the Snow Hill Bridge as visitors arrive to Snow Hill from the north.
- d. Increase the capacity for a diverse clientele with a new movable dock and launch for small row boats, canoes, paddle boats and kayaks.

16. Seasonal Butterfly House

- a. Relocate existing utilities and air conditioning unit on the west side of the Lower Shore Land Trust headquarters at the proposed Bank Street Plaza.
- b. Improve the planting area at the junction of LSLT and Bank Street Plaza, using a low wall structure to provide seating and delineate the planting border.
- c. Work with LSLT to develop a seasonal (May-September) butterfly house as an attraction for tourism and environmental education.

17. Sturgis Memorial Park Plaza at Bank Street

- a. Create a strong visual terminus to Bank Street in the form of an inviting plaza that will be the focus of many year-round seasonal events;
- b. Include electrical infrastructure and sound systems for winter holiday decorations and winter outdoor events, festive and colorful celebrations of spring, summer art exhibits, car shows, rallies and community gatherings, and autumn beer festivals and harvest celebrations of all kinds.

18. Site development options for the Worcester County Library parking lot

- a. The Worcester County Library parking lot is currently a large and inefficient pavement of impervious asphalt.
- b. The parking lot should be used for more user-friendly purposes:
 1. A building site for community or commercial/retail services closer to Sturgis Memorial Park;;
 2. A stormwater management facility that would serve double-duty as a shade garden between the park and the library.
- c. Either a shade garden or a building would fill the visual gap in the experience along Bank Street between Market Street and Sturgis Memorial Park and the gap along River Street between Washington Street and Bank Street.

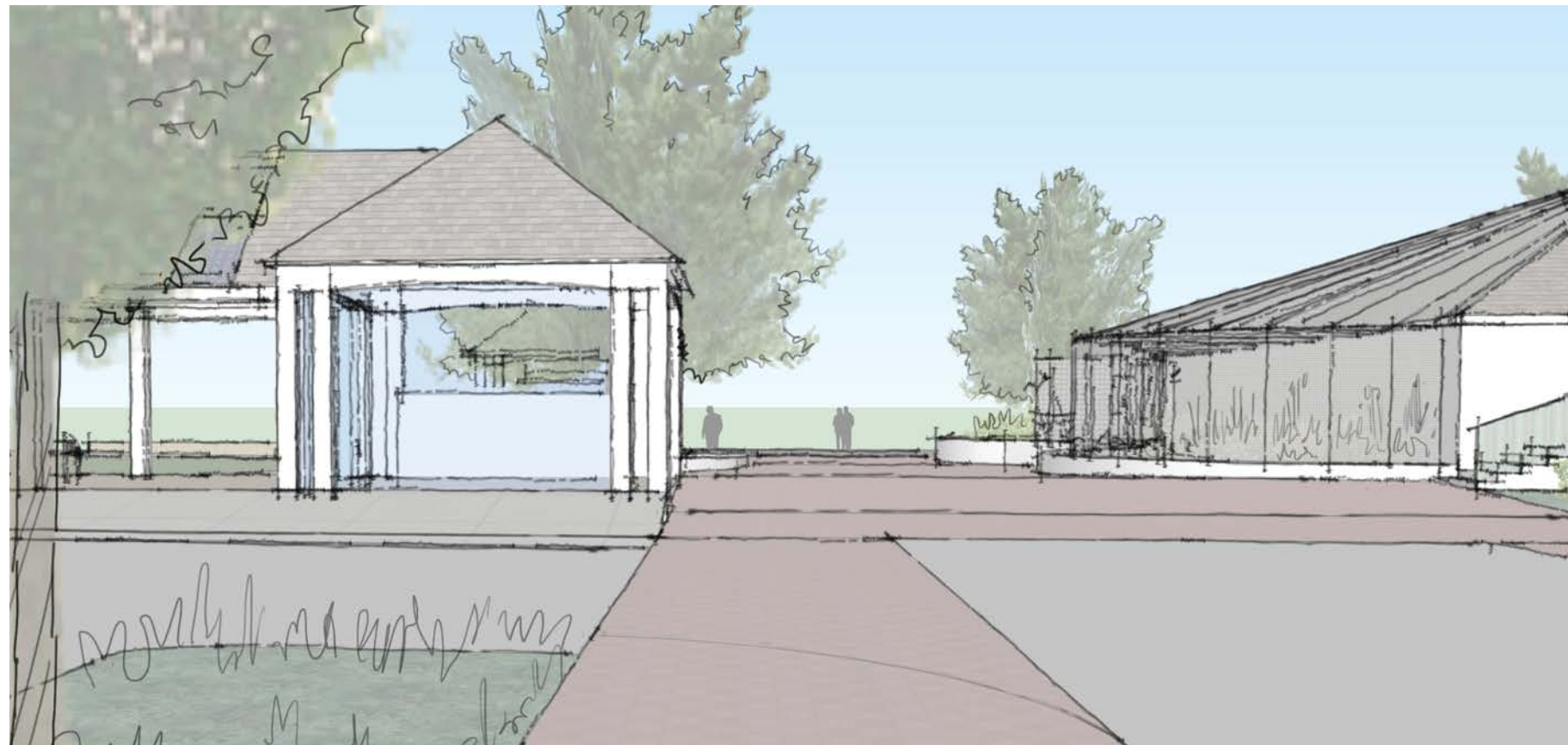
19. Retail-Restaurant

- a. If the existing stormwater management facility at the corner River Street and Banks Street could be relocated to the Library parking lot, redesigned for more efficiency or split between the Library and its existing site, a new retail-restaurant building could be located at the north end of the county-owned office building parking lot.
- b. Its presence close to Sturgis Memorial Park could add café and/or take-out service for park visitors and office workers.
- c. A well-designed, efficient and sustainable building would

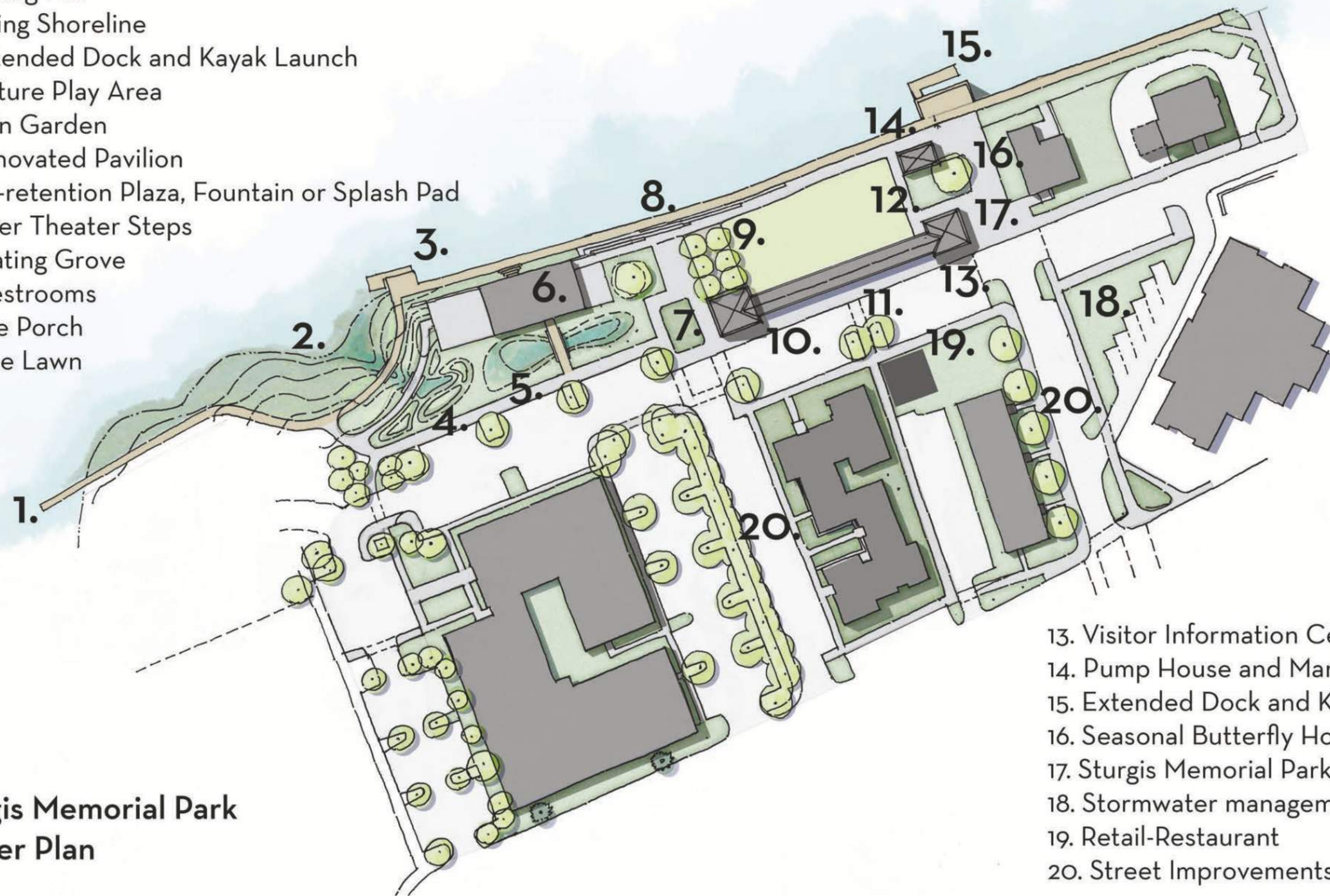
become a model for future building development throughout Snow Hill and Worcester County.

20. Street Improvements

- a. It will be important to make the walk from the historic downtown to Sturgis Memorial Park a comfortable and encouraging experience.
- b. Street improvements will establish wider, tree-lined sidewalks, handicapped accessible curb-cuts, and well-marked pedestrian street crossings.
- c. Trees will be planted in bio-retention cells that collect surface water runoff from the streets, filter the water and improve the water quality before it is discharged into the Pocomoke River.



- 1. Fishing Pier
- 2. Living Shoreline
- 3. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch
- 4. Nature Play Area
- 5. Rain Garden
- 6. Renovated Pavilion
- 7. Bio-retention Plaza, Fountain or Splash Pad
- 8. River Theater Steps
- 9. Seating Grove
- 10. Restrooms
- 11. The Porch
- 12. The Lawn



- 13. Visitor Information Center
- 14. Pump House and Marina Facilities
- 15. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch
- 16. Seasonal Butterfly House
- 17. Sturgis Memorial Park Plaza
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- 19. Retail-Restaurant
- 20. Street Improvements

**Sturgis Memorial Park
Master Plan**

Planning Process Methodology

Snow Hill Mayor, Town Council and Town staff provided guidance for the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan project. The consultant team performed major planning tasks and prepared site and program analysis, three alternative park development scenarios, and a list of potential directions for the development and character of Sturgis Memorial Park for community review and comment. These tasks included:

- Greenspace System Analysis – analysis of the existing park and open space system in terms of distribution, connectivity, resource protection, and accessibility to the public
- Physical Conditions Assessment – assessment of physical conditions of existing park facilities to determine maintenance, safety, visibility and other functional capabilities
- Needs Assessment – identifying strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats to parks, open space, recreation facilities, recreation programs and services
- Community Involvement -- engaging residents in a number of different ways to identify aspirations, sensibilities, and perceived recreation needs
- Management and Organization Analysis – assessment of the existing organizational structure, staffing level, and resource support for managing and operating the parks and recreation program
- Policy Framework – identifying strategic issues and core values of the community, preparing a vision statement and goals and policies

Key Findings and Issues

Supported by a number of findings, an overarching issue and eight strategic issues were gleaned from the community outreach and needs assessment process. These issues form the framework for the vision, goals and policies, and recommendations of the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan. Highly valued are the visual

and physical access to the Pocomoke River, the historic downtown, the Town parks, schools, and sports facilities. Art murals and galleries, celebrations and festivals, and community health and well-being rank high in importance. The Pocomoke River is a major asset and tourist attraction.

Little guidance exists for integrating land development and conservation goals into community policy and decision-making. A Pocomoke River Promenade and Greenway lays the groundwork for a system concept – historic downtown, Worcester County Library, Town Hall, Sturgis Memorial Park, Gateway Park and Byrd Park – all connected with improved tree-covered streets and sidewalks and a multi-use trails.

The Lower Shore Land Trust property adjacent to Sturgis Memorial Park has potential as a demonstration urban natural area;

The Snow Hill Marina could be expanded and improved to entice boaters further up the Pocomoke River. Linkages between parks, schools, and open spaces are almost non-existent except for the Pocomoke River greenway.

Pedestrian and bicycle connectivity is lacking with perceived distances exaggerated by narrow sidewalks and broken pavement, few pedestrian street crossing markers, lack of commercial retail activity, no bike lane indicators, and tree-less streets between the downtown and Sturgis Memorial Park. A pedestrian and bicycle friendly, “walkable” community is a high priority of residents.

Snow Hill’s natural landscape is rich and varied, including the Pocomoke River corridor extending alongside the heart of the community, with scenic views, wetlands, and woodlands providing opportunities for walking and fitness, nature enjoyment, river recreation, and environmental education for youth and adult citizens.

Overarching Issues

Snow Hill is a special community and residents want to maintain its charm, human scale, natural beauty, and livability. Weakest element of Snow Hill’s greenspace system is the lack of connectivity. For its size, Snow Hill has extraordinary opportunities to meet recreational and greenspace needs.

These are all ingredients for creating a “quality place” that can help the community achieve economic prosperity, sense of community, and well-being. Dedicated staff takes pride in maintaining parks, facilities, and open spaces in good condition, and they are functional and accessible. Most shortcomings are due to shortage of staff, lack of professional design and planning, and absence of maintenance management plans and guidelines. Sturgis Memorial Park is used beyond its carrying capacity. Runoff from the streets and parking lots is not filtered, and there are infestations of noxious vegetation in some areas within the park and in nearby open spaces, such as stormwater retention areas and shorelines.

The Community Center is the Old Firehouse on Green Street, only two blocks from Sturgis Memorial Park. Constructed in 1925, the Old Firehouse offers a year-round venue for community events, recreation programs and activities. These facilities are maintained at a high cost per participant. A large number of volunteers, vendors, and businesses provide a variety of community event programs and services including art classes, dance and music classes, and, of course, the annual Oyster Roast. Community celebrations, events, and festivals bring families and the community together and draw large numbers of visitors from the region.

Volunteers have been involved in major efforts to remove non-native vegetation and restore riparian habitat along Pocomoke River.

Snow Hill is reaching a tipping point in terms of matching the community's expectations for quality parks and recreation services with the capacity and capability of providers. Unrealistic demands are placed on Town staff, and there is a general lack of oversight and leadership to coordinate, direct, and effectively administer the large number of recreation programs and special events that are offered in the community. Indicators of programmatic stress include tension among partners over mission and goals, perceptions of disproportionate commitment of resources, gaps in services (e.g. alternatives for youth recreation), crisis management, and volunteer burnout.

Snow Hill's dedicated staff, volunteers, non-profit groups, and businesses reflect a remarkable "can-do" spirit. Indicators of programmatic and organizational stress are surfacing in the community.

Highlights of Recommendations

Summarized here are Master Plan recommendations for implementing the vision statement, goals, and policies that emerged from the planning process. These recommendations respond to community park and recreation needs as identified through public involvement and an assessment of existing and future opportunities as well as physical conditions of sites and facilities.

The "Green Infrastructure" urban planning concept was the overarching framework for organizing the preferred system. This concept views parks, open spaces, natural areas, and linkages as key components of a "greenspace" system - with functions that are considered as essential as public streets and utilities.

The Project List in Appendix B includes recommended improvements to the existing greenspace system and proposals for a

future system that provide direction for implementing the vision statement, goals, and policies of the plan. If the system is organized in this manner, Snow Hill's park and recreation needs will be met in an efficient and effective manner, and incremental improvement and additions can be made systematically and in a feasible progression.

Improvements to Existing Parks and Greenspaces
Riparian Buffers, Living Shoreline initiatives, Street Tree planting and street improvements, opportunities can be substantially increased through these enhancements and improvements to existing parks and greenspaces (more detail is provided in the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan report).

Renovation and Greenway connectors.
Renovation and rehabilitation should continue as a high priority so that Sturgis Memorial Park can become highly functioning as a downtown park, and its assets well protected and maintained. A new Visitor Information Center at Bank Street and River Street will function as a gateway, including an information kiosk, historical information, and interpretive displays.

The Town-owned open space along the Pocomoke River should become a model demonstration greenway project (similar to Gateway Park), including riparian restoration and state of the art bio-filtration methods with interpretive signage describing how to protect water quality of the Pocomoke River. River access should also be provided for non-motorized recreation use including kayaks, canoes, paddle boards and tubes. Marina Development

Improvements to the pumping station, additional restroom facilities, enhanced marina services and boating safety information should be made so that the Sturgis Memorial Park marina will function as a regional waterfront park. A park host program should be created to assist in management and oversight of the park. Feasibility for kayaks and canoes to access the river below

the bridge should be studied.

Greenway Opportunity Area.
A sizable, intact riparian forest is located along the Pocomoke River. Opportunity exists to provide river access and open space as a major node and demonstration greenway along the river.

A Greenway Feasibility Study.
The waterfront along the Pocomoke River is recommended as a future greenway to support habitat protection and restoration, connect parks and greenspaces and, where feasible, provide opportunities for pedestrians and bicycles. A feasibility study is recommended to evaluate viable options and directly involve landowners in any proposed recommendations.

Viewshed Protection Opportunity Area.
A Viewshed Protection Area is identified as a potential area to create conservation easements, viewpoints, and forest protection by working with property owners and others. A community Land Trust is recommended to facilitate negotiations and create opportunities for gifts, donations, and living trusts.

Respond to Community Recreation Needs and Trends.
Recent research indicates trends in recreation needs include providing programs for an aging and more diverse population, connecting youth with nature, and addressing a crisis in physical activity that is leading to health problems. Snow Hill needs to identify gaps in community health and exercise programs and services for youth, seniors and adults, including the particular needs of African-American and Hispanic families. Given these gaps and recreation trends, these are examples of programmatic areas where community partners should consider working together to place more community emphasis and priorities.

- Increase health and fitness opportunities, improve community walkability. Improve and expand community health, exercise and recreation programs
- Work with the medical community to determine the kinds

GOALS AND POLICIES

Nine goals have emerged from the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan process. The goals describe preferred outcomes that would be achieved by implementing the vision statement. Policies were prepared for each of the goals, providing direction for implementing the vision and goals.

1. Green Infrastructure
2. Land Use and Growth Management
3. Connectivity
4. Recreation and Education
5. Tourism and Economic Development
6. Sustainability
7. Community Partnerships, Volunteers, and Public Engagement
8. Quality Services
9. Provide transportation alternatives to automobile use and reduce auto use, congestion and pollution.

Green Infrastructure

Goal 1: To develop a Green Infrastructure Network that protects and preserves Snow Hill's character and natural assets, and meets community and neighborhood needs for parks, open space, and recreation opportunities. Policies:

- 1.1 Incorporate a Green Infrastructure Network concept into the Snow Hill Comprehensive Plan and other planning efforts, including elements of greenspace such as public parks, green streets and streetscapes, natural areas, private and public gardens and open space, greenways, wetlands, upland, and other habitats.
- 1.2 Assure that neighborhood parks serve all major neighborhoods, and larger community parks are strategically located to provide a balance of parks, open space, and recreation facilities including sports fields.
- 1.3 The Pocomoke River corridor will be managed as a greenway link for people and for wildlife habitat.
- 1.4 Establish a community education program to help implement

a Greenspace Vision including brochures, maps, posting on the Town's web site, and celebrate milestones.

- 1.5 Work with the Lower Shore Land Trust and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to protect scenic viewsheds with public access opportunities in natural areas, exploring methods such as conservation easements, fee simple acquisition, gifts and donations, and living trusts.
- 1.6 Conduct a feasibility study for implementing the Pocomoke River Greenway and Multi-use Trail, including greenway management and habitat protection goals.
- 1.7 Manage existing greenways in Byrd Park and Sturgis Memorial Park as demonstration areas to help implement the Pocomoke River Greenway concept.
- 1.8 Work with State and County agencies to help protect and restore riparian habitat along the Pocomoke River.
- 1.9 Work with landowners and provide information and education on habitat protection and restoration along the Pocomoke River.
- 1.9 Develop Sturgis Memorial Park as a demonstration urban natural area and develop an interpretive signage program.

Land Use and Growth Management

Goal 2: To shape and guide future land use patterns and new development to maintain a sustainable community. Policies:

- 2.1 Snow Hill's heritage and character will shape the course of change and development rather than new development shaping the character of the community.
- 2.2 New subdivisions will be required to meet neighborhood park and open space needs through the development review process and other development code requirements as defined by the Town Council.
- 2.3 Assure subdivision policies that protect and connect resource areas such as mature tree stands and natural drainage areas, provide adequate and suitable parks and open space, and require sound stormwater management practices that make use of natural processes and systems.
- 2.4 Work with the development community to foster and promote green infrastructure design in new subdivisions; use an

incentive-based approach to the greatest degree possible and avoid dedication of neighborhood parkland and open space that does not meet standards and guidelines.

- 2.5 Establish a recognition and awards program to acknowledge local development projects that achieve design excellence and promote Green Infrastructure concepts.

Connectivity

Goal 3. To create a linked network of parks, natural areas, open space, commercial and employment areas, downtown, and other special areas, incorporating sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, and public multi-use pathways to connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, natural landscapes, and the downtown core. Policies:

- 3.1 Provide connectivity for each area of Snow Hill to ensure pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle access to schools, parks, employment, and recreational areas.
- 3.2 Emphasize incentives and develop positive relationships with property owners in all efforts to develop greenspace connectivity; work to attain mutual goals and objectives.
- 3.3 When barriers to connectivity exist, use creative solutions that maintain linkages and values while respecting private property.
- 3.4 Actively involve property owners in all feasibility studies for implementing greenway trail plans.
- 3.5 Establish the Pocomoke River Promenade to serve as a multi-use trail.
- 3.6 Establish a Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee that will represent key public and private sector representatives to coordinate and implement a linked network of Green Infrastructure, commercial and employment areas.
- 3.7 Connect all Town parks, sports fields and other recreation amenities in the Green Infrastructure Network.
- 3.8 Develop a Comprehensive Trails Plan including on-street and off-street trails and pathways, implementation strategies, and proposed funding options.

Recreation and Education

Goal 4. To assure recreation and education opportunities are available to promote community well-being, health, and wellness. Policies:

- 4.1 Work with health and wellness advocates, such as Peninsula Regional Health System (<https://www.peninsula.org/>), Worcester County Health Department (<http://worcesterhealth.org/>) and others to maintain community health and well-being.
- 4.2 Encourage exercise and healthy lifestyles, provide space for outdoor activities, create places of solitude and respite, and connect people with nature.
- 4.3 Provide enriching family experiences and support youth development, adults, seniors, and persons with disabilities through parks and recreation opportunities.
- 4.4 Develop educational interpretive displays in key locations within the parks system.
- 4.5 Provide adequate recreation facilities to support and accommodate recreation needs; work with schools to provide joint use of local parks for educational purposes.
- 4.6 Develop loop trails that are conducive for short hikes and have multiple outdoor education opportunities.
- 4.7 Support the arts and preserve Snow Hill's cultural heritage by developing a relationship and mechanism with the Arts District to incorporate art in the design of new parks and in renovations of existing parks.
- 4.8 Increase awareness of the need for resource stewardship.
- 4.9 Evaluate the current organizational structure and explore options for improving the planning, administration, and management of community recreation programs
- 4.10 Review recreation research and trends (aging population, connecting youth with nature, increasing population diversity, and work with providers to evaluate and improve existing recreation programs.
- 4.11 Conduct a feasibility study to add family water play amenities, like a water jet plaza at the Commerce Street entrance to Sturgis Memorial Park.
- 4.12 Work with Non-Government Organizations (NGO's), schools and volunteers to expand and coordinate outdoor education programs for youth and adults.

Tourism and Economic Development

Goal 5. To sustain a healthy, prosperous, and diversified economy by maintaining a Green Infrastructure ethic. Policies:

- 5.1 Work with local businesses to invest in Snow Hill's parks, recreation, and greenspace program to help the community's economy thrive and prosper.
- 5.2 Work with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, develop a work plan and strategies to improve the walkability of Snow Hill, promote local businesses, and make it more visitor friendly.
- 5.3 Make enhancements to Sturgis Memorial Park to function as a downtown gateway including an information kiosk, historical information, and interpretive displays.
- 5.4 Support and complement Sturgis Memorial Park through adjacent trails and trailheads with educational and interpretive information, and nature enjoyment opportunities such as birding, plant identification and ecological systems.
- 5.5 Promote the Sturgis Memorial Park Marina as a regional water-based recreation attraction and entrepreneurial business opportunity.
- 5.6 Develop public information on benefits of a Green Infrastructure Network program to promote the community as a sound place for businesses and families to locate.
- 5.7 Protect and enhance downtown greenspace, such as street tree planting and sidewalk improvements, as well as such civic amenities as Sturgis Memorial Park and the Worcester County Library Reading Garden.
- 5.8 Promote downtown as a place for community celebrations, including development of adequate and viable space for community gatherings.
- 5.9 Protect scenic views and vistas and provide infrastructure to access and enjoy them.

Sustainability

Goal 6: To incorporate sustainability concepts when making decisions about park and open space land acquisition, park development, park usage, recreation programs, maintenance programs and practices, and other activities related to the provision of park facilities and delivery of recreation services. Policies:

- 6.1 Provide leadership for the Town of Snow Hill's employees and citizens to understand the importance of sustainable concepts and practices in the work place, in public spaces, and in the home.
- 6.2 Create a Sustainability Advisory Committee to review Snow Hill's services and how they can be improved to meet sustainability goals; e.g. to encourage an employee ethic that could be transferred to the community as a whole. Appoint a staff member as coordinator.
- 6.3 Maintain and strive to improve habitat conditions and ecosystem functions within town parklands and other city-owned open space and resource lands.
- 6.4 Develop a strategic plan to implement sustainable actions for maintaining parks and public facilities, including a robust recycling program.
- 6.5 Integrate environmental, economic, cultural, financial, historic preservation, and social equity considerations as components of parks and recreation planning, development, provision, and maintenance of facilities and services.
- 6.6 Educate and promote removal of invasive, non-native vegetation and habitat restoration on public and private lands.
- 6.7 Promote use of natural systems and practices for stormwater management, with emphasis on cleansing and filtering urban runoff.
- 6.8 Promote recycling in all parks and public spaces, especially during festivals and special events.

Community Partnerships, Volunteers, and Public Engagement

Goal 7: To strengthen and maintain community partnerships and volunteerism, and actively involve the community in implementing the master plan. Policies:

- 7.1 Maintain a strong and active volunteer program with opportunities for citizens to become actively involved in programs such as habitat restoration and other projects, and to develop a sense of community pride.
- 7.2 Create a Green Infrastructure Volunteer program and include a recognition component.
- 7.3 Provide leadership and active involvement of the community in implementing and continual refinement of the green network design, strategies, code provisions, and practices.
- 7.4 Promote and facilitate outdoor classrooms; work closely with schools; engage after-school programs to use the parks and give children a sense of ownership.
- 7.5. Establish a resident park host program at Sturgis Memorial Park and Marina to help enforce park regulations.
- 7.6 Develop a gift catalog for the community to help fund specific needs.
- 7.7 Explore self-policing options when addressing behavioral issues; for example, making concession agreements that include furniture surveillance and storage and help enforce safety, encourage park etiquette and assure public civility.

Quality Services

Goal 8: To achieve the highest possible level of excellence in the planning, design, and management of parks, natural areas, and open spaces, and to facilitate recreation programs and services that enrich the community. Policies:

- 8.1 The Town should take a leadership role in the provision of recreational activities and programs, working cooperatively with others to ensure that the needs of all sectors of the community are met and gaps in services are minimized.
- 8.3 Appoint a Citizen Advisory Committee to help guide the development of park programs and to advise the Mayor and Town Council;
- 8.2 Direct resources toward unmet recreation needs of particular age groups and target populations; for example responding to the need for a children's nature-play space near the Pavilion;
- 8.3 Maintain a viable park, recreation, and greenspace system through a business approach that includes creative and alternative financing, resourcing, and partnering;
- 8.6 Develop a fundraising campaign for potential "named" features and park amenities (such as the Butterfly House, Plant Conservatory, Visitors Information Kiosk, etc.);
- 8.4 In managing public natural areas and open spaces, target resources on degraded habitats and natural ecosystems with proactive adaptive management;
- 8.5 Make maintenance management a high priority to assure that parks, open space, and recreation facilities are clean, safe, functional, and have ecological integrity;
- 8.6 Maintain superior and creative design in all parks, open space, and natural areas with emphasis on the use of natural materials and sustainable, "green maintenance" practices;
- 8.7 Support and work collaboratively with grant-funding agencies and other providers to facilitate high quality community recreation programs, and provide sufficient public information on programs and services.
- 8.8 Assure adequate staffing and organizational structure to provide professional direction for the parks and recreation program, and to effectively implement the Master Plan.

Provide Transportation Alternatives

GOAL 9: Provide transportation alternatives to automobile use and reduce auto use, congestion and pollution. Policies:

- 9.1 Promote walking for better health and well-being and improve sidewalks, crosswalks and the environmental conditions that will establish attractive, safe and healthful conditions for frequent walking.
- 9.2 Develop a bicycle program that will establish separate, safe bike lanes;
- 9.3 Establish shared streets for pedestrian, bicycle and automobile access in low traffic-volume areas;
- 9.4 Take advantage of local bicycle rides (such as the Seagull Century) to promote increased safe bicycle routes through town.
- 9.5 Continue to encourage and promote the development of a train line between Ocean City and the historic Snow Hill train station at the terminus of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Provide a trolley loop service between the Snow Hill Train Station, the commercial center of the historic downtown, and the civic center at Sturgis Memorial Park.
- 9.6 Use the trolley system as a special event remote parking shuttle.
- 9.7 Use the same trolley to provide transportation that will bring school-age children to Sturgis Memorial Park for outdoor learning from the Middle School-Elementary School-Special School campus one mile away.

of exercise and health-improvement programs that would best suit diverse populations in Snow Hill. Conduct Systematic Recreation Needs Assessments.

- Connect youth, families, and seniors with nature and expand outdoor recreation opportunities, such as access to the Pocomoke River
- Recognize and support diversity by working with local community groups throughout Snow Hill's diverse neighborhoods.
- Conduct periodic recreation needs assessments to identify gaps in services, identify satisfaction levels, and determine priorities. With the Town's leadership, it is timely for recreation providers to evaluate existing programs and determine in what strategic ways community recreation programs can be adjusted to address these trends and needs.
- Formalize Community Partnerships.

In large part, collaboration among providers has been done on an informal and as-needed basis. Given increasing recreation demands and needs of the community, it will become increasingly important to develop formal agreements that provide improved coordination, planning, and management, fulfill organizational missions and goals, and offer more effective recreation services to the community.

- Management and Operations

The master plan assessment highlighted the outstanding leadership role, dedication, and accomplishments of Town staff in shaping the current structure and framework for meeting Snow Hill's park and recreation needs. Indeed, given its size, it is remarkable that Snow Hill has such an excellent foundation for creating a high quality park and recreation system. At the same time, increasing community demands are exceeding the current level of staff support, existing organizational structure, and available resources.

Recommended Project List for the Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan (see annotated plan on page 32)

PHASE I (listed chronologically):

A. PRIORITY PROJECTS (design development and implementation)

1. Restroom removal and reconstruction;
2. Existing tree quality assessment and selection for removal;
3. Tree protection and removal per arborist recommendations;
4. Utility relocation projects (park, streets, and adjacent LSLT property);
5. ADA sidewalks on River Street with pedestrian crossings at Washington Street;
6. ADA Riverfront Promenade and Bank Street Plaza;
7. Dock extension at Bank Street Plaza with kayak launch;
8. ADA sidewalk on Bank Street and pedestrian crossings at River Street, Willow Street and Green Street;
9. Bank Street tree planting and stormwater management projects;
10. Protect Oak at eastern end and improve planting conditions;
11. Develop plaza between eastern end of Pavilion and River Street
- 12 Seating Grove and Lawn installation

B. SECOND-TIER PRIORITY PROJECTS

1. Pavilion restoration; remove concrete wall at eastern end;
2. Butterfly House at Bank Street Plaza and LSLT office (if agreed by Town and LSLT);

3. Develop a living shoreline at the northwest corner of Pavilion; Develop a dock extension and terminus with kayak launch;
4. Construct Visitor Information Center and complete the Porch.
5. Rain Garden and Boardwalk/Bridge from River Street parking and sidewalk to pavilion
6. Children's Nature-Play space, earth sculpture and drainage
7. ADA sidewalk on Commerce Street and pedestrian crossings at River Street, Willow Street and Green Street;
8. Commerce Street tree planting and stormwater management projects;

PHASE II (listed chronologically):

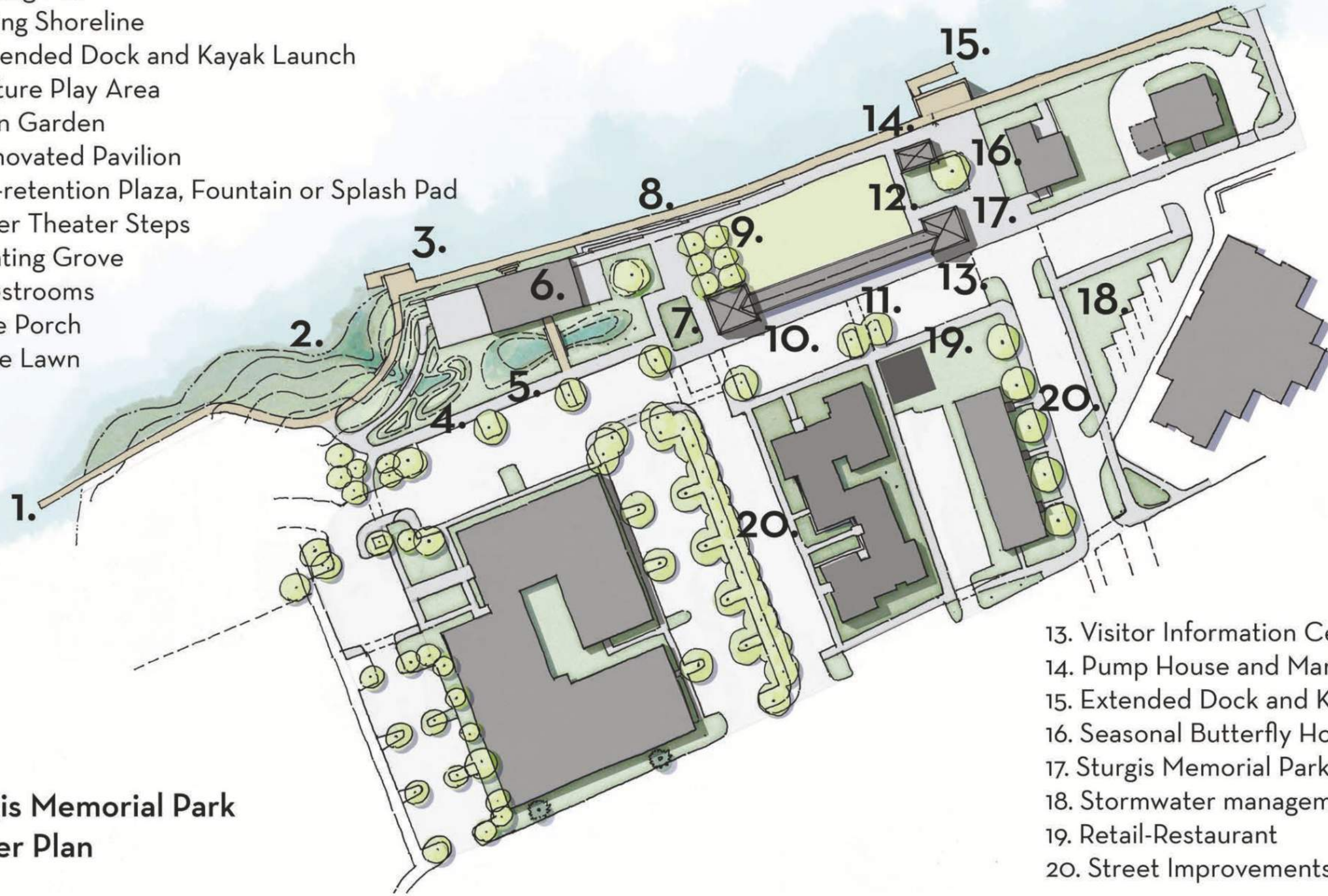
A. PRIORITY PROJECTS (design development and implementation)

1. Marina improvements: Pump House
2. Enclose and condition space within the Port Pavilion
3. Improve conditions at the western end of the Town property, including meadow planting, extension of living shoreline, and implantation of a new fishing/viewing pier adjacent to the south-southwest property line.

B. SECOND-TIER PRIORITY PROJECTS

1. Develop plans and implementation strategies for the corner of Bank Street and River Street, including such potential structures or structured landscapes as:
 - a. A commercial/retail/civic extension of the library on the southeast corner
 - b. An improved stormwater management park on the southeast corner;
 - c. A new building for retail/restaurant facing River Street, at the northern end of the Worcester County parking lot

- 1. Fishing Pier
- 2. Living Shoreline
- 3. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch
- 4. Nature Play Area
- 5. Rain Garden
- 6. Renovated Pavilion
- 7. Bio-retention Plaza, Fountain or Splash Pad
- 8. River Theater Steps
- 9. Seating Grove
- 10. Restrooms
- 11. The Porch
- 12. The Lawn



- 13. Visitor Information Center
- 14. Pump House and Marina Facilities
- 15. Extended Dock and Kayak Launch
- 16. Seasonal Butterfly House
- 17. Sturgis Memorial Park Plaza
- 18. Stormwater management or building
- 19. Retail-Restaurant
- 20. Street Improvements

Sturgis Memorial Park Master Plan

ADDENDUM A

Key issues:

2010 Snow Hill Comprehensive Plan

Below is a list of key issues from the first public forum (2009):

1. The Downtown and riverfront areas were discussed as being residents' favorite part of the Town;
2. There is a need to expand water and wastewater capacity to accommodate future growth and to keep water and sewer rates low;
3. Additional sidewalks are needed for better interconnectivity;
4. The need for street repairs was emphasized;
5. Economic development efforts should be focused on the downtown area, including the development of new attractions in the area;
6. The need for affordable housing was discussed, including the following issues:
 - a. Encouraging residents to live downtown;
 - b. Increasing the employment base so more can afford housing;
 - c. Encouraging the development of lower cost housing.
7. Promotion of the Town's natural and cultural resources;
8. Promotion of additional retail in Snow Hill;
9. Protect "sensitive areas from growth and development;

ADDENDUM B

Future Vision:

2010 Snow Hill Comprehensive Plan

The following has been directly copied from page 15 of the Town of Snow Hill, Maryland - 2010 Comprehensive Plan)

Snow Hill began as a settlement along the Pocomoke River and developed overtime with the river at its heart. Today, Snow Hill remains a community focused around the beauty and recreation of the Pocomoke. Like other communities on the Eastern Shore, one of Snow Hill's challenges is to balance new development pressures while remaining a close knit community with most of its services focused around the historic downtown, and other businesses and industrial districts.

The people of Snow Hill remain steadfast in recognizing its long history and remaining close with their neighbors. While a large subdivision, such as Summerfield, could greatly increase the population of the Town, most current development occurring within the Town is being focused on renovation and rehabilitation. With the possibility looming of developing large commercial uses along the Town's main thoroughfare, residents clearly stated the focus of business and economic development remains on making downtown flourish and keeping the community's character intact.

The cooperative and friendly nature of the community was evident in the discussions to create this plan. Although not everyone agreed on precisely every detail of how to shape Snow Hill, the dedication and pride in the community from the residents was apparent. Members of the community did agree on many issues: the Town wants to keep their small town character while providing additional services and jobs for residents of the Town; affordable and safe housing is necessary to keep the community thriving; the Pocomoke River, the Town's several riverside parks

and the downtown should always remain the focus of the community, and; Snow Hill should remain a safe community where children have recreational and employment opportunities to remain in Snow Hill and pass forward the legacy of the Town.

Snow Hill is not without its future concerns. How should the Town balance the need for additional jobs while maintaining the small town character of the community and promoting economic development? What is the best way to promote growth in the Town and still maintain its invaluable natural resources? This Plan hopes to deal with these issues based on the large amount of input and insight provided by the residents and business owners of Snow Hill. The residents of Snow Hill created a great community, prior to the development of any official "Plan". This Plan will provide a path to continue this Town's great tradition.

Goals and Objectives The following goals and objectives are guided by the community's input and vision for future growth and the State's "Eight Visions":

Transportation Goals and Objectives

1. Provide a link for pedestrians between the town's park system and other community facilities;
2. Focus large truck traffic to areas where roadways are better fit to handle large truck traffic, where feasible;
3. Develop a plan and prioritize the extension of sidewalks and road repairs;
4. Maintain and extend the town's existing grid system into new growth areas;
5. Work with State Highway Administration (SHA) to develop transportation plans for SHA. Maintain the U.S. Business 113 designation and create an interpretive and directional plan to promote downtown services;
6. Follow SHA's Scenic Highway Guidelines for new development along the Blue Crab Scenic Byway.

Community Facilities Goals and Objectives

1. Promote the recreational and environmental importance of the Pocomoke River;
2. Develop additional neighborhood-scale recreational facilities and work with others in the area to utilize existing facilities for the entire community;
3. Provide water and sewer infrastructure to promote growth and redevelopment in the community;
4. Provide additional water and sewer system capacity to accommodate future growth while keeping costs as manageable as possible for residents and businesses;
5. Ensure public safety services are adequately increased to continue providing the same level of service as the town continues to grow;
6. Utilize the library and local schools as a way to keep the community involved in snow hill events and government matters;
7. Develop an education and outreach program to promote the importance of the pocomoke river as a vital community resource to residents of the town.

Land Use and Future Growth Goals and Objectives

1. Continue to encourage infill development and redevelopment of the town's existing neighborhoods;
2. Promote business and residential opportunities downtown, including mixed-uses where possible;
3. Phase future growth as necessary to minimize impacts on infrastructure and community resources;
4. Maintain the character of the community through developing a sound land use pattern based on historic growth patterns of the town;
5. Recognize the historic significance of Snow Hill's downtown and promote its preservation;
6. Ensure that land use along u.S. Route 113 does not conflict

with job creation in the downtown business district. For instance, hotels without restaurants or eateries, medical parks and similar uses are encouraged in the highway commercial area;

7. Continue dialogue with county with regard to development and annexation north of the pocomoke river and southeast of u.S. Route 113. Possibly use mitigation to develop park on northside with cooperation of worcester county;
8. Create a land use plan that promotes regional activity in the area; thereby encouraging passersby to utilize snow hill's resources.

Sensitive Areas Goals and Objectives

1. Protect the Pocomoke River, as it is considered the most important resource for the town;
2. When technologically and financially feasible, reduce the impacts of point source and non-point source discharges into the Pocomoke River including long term goal of relocating the wastewater treatment plant;
3. Continue to seek out opportunities to provide additional public access to the Pocomoke River;
4. Develop a water conservation program, including education and outreach to the community in order to emphasize reducing unnecessary water usage and to protect natural resources;
5. Create plan to provide vegetated buffers, preserve natural areas and reduce impervious surfaces in order to reduce nutrient runoff;
6. Develop policies that take into account adverse weather, including flooding and drought scenarios;
7. Develop in environmentally responsible manner in the critical area, as required under state law;
8. Recognize and protect the town's cultural and historically significant resources.

ADDENDUM C

The State's Twelve Visions for Guiding Future Growth

From the 2010 Comprehensive Plan:

The following twelve "vision statements" are based on the 1992 Planning Act, and subsequent amendments thereto, and are incorporated into this Comprehensive Plan as fundamental goals which will be achieved through a variety of objectives, policies, principles, recommendations, and implementation techniques.

1. Quality of Life and Sustainability - A high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment.
2. Public Participation - Citizens are active partners in the planning and implementation of community initiatives and are sensitive to their responsibilities in achieving community goals.
3. Growth Areas - Growth is concentrated in existing population and business centers, growth areas adjacent to those centers, or strategically selected new centers.
4. Community Design - Compact, mixed-use, walkable design consistent with existing community character and located near transit options is encouraged to ensure efficient use of land and transportation resources and preservation and enhancement of natural systems, open spaces, recreational areas, and historical, cultural, and archeological resources.
5. Infrastructure - Growth areas have the water resources and infrastructure to accommodate population and business expansion in an orderly, efficient, and environmentally sound manner.
6. Transportation - A well-maintained, multimodal transportation system facilitates the safe, convenient, affordable, and efficient movement of people, goods and services within and between population and business centers.
7. Housing - A range of housing densities, types, and sizes provide residential options for citizens of all ages and incomes.

8. Economic Development - Economic development that promotes employment opportunities for all income levels within the capacity of the State's natural resources, public services, and public facilities is encouraged.

9. Environmental Protection - Land and water resources are carefully managed to restore and maintain healthy air and water, natural systems and living resources.

10. Resource Conservation - Waterways, open space, natural systems, scenic areas, forests, and agricultural areas are conserved.

11. Stewardship - Government, business entities, and residents are responsible for the creation of sustainable communities by collaborating to balance efficient growth with resource protection.

12. Implementation - Strategies, policies, programs and funding for growth and development, resource conservation, infrastructure, and transportation are integrated across the local, regional, State, and interstate levels to achieve these visions.

PLANNED GROWTH: The Water Resources Plan Element

This new planning element addresses the relationship of planned growth to water resources for both waste disposal and safe drinking water. It will be required of all county and municipal governments in the State. The element must identify drinking water and other water resources adequate for the needs of existing and future development proposed in the land use element of the comprehensive plan. It must also identify suitable receiving waters for both wastewater and storm water management to meet the needs of existing and

projected development proposed in the land use element of the comprehensive plan. The Maryland Department of the Environment will provide available data to identify these resources. Resource issues expected to be addressed in these elements include water resource protection areas, groundwater resources, water quality standards and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs).

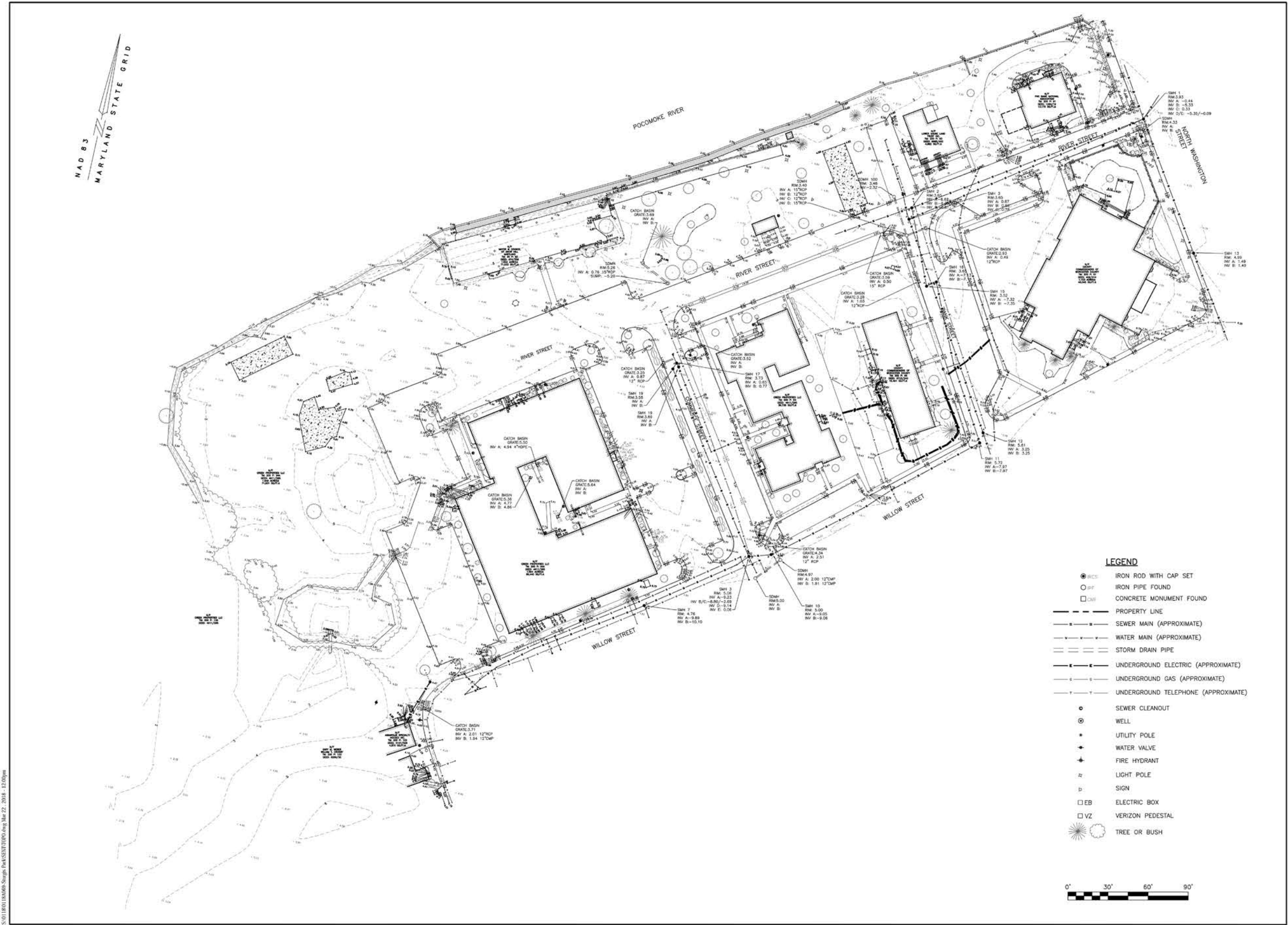
Stormwater Criteria of the MD Critical Area IDA Zone: http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/StormwaterManagementProgram/Documents/www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/sedimentstormwater/Appnd_D4.pdf

Maryland Stormwater Design Manual, Volumes I and II (October 2000, Revised May 2009): http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/StormwaterManagementProgram/Pages/stormwater_design.aspx



ADDENDUM D

A topographic survey of the Sturgis Memorial Park and surrounding streets was conducted by the architectural and engineering firm of Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc., 601 E. Main Street, Suite 100 | Salisbury, MD 21804 | www.dbfinc.com.



S:\011801\18M069-Sturgis Park\SETUP\TOP.dwg, Mar 22, 2018 - 12:00pm

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 MILFORD, DELAWARE (302) 424-1441

DAVIS, BOWEN & FRIEDEL, INC.

TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY PLAN
 of the Lands of
TOWN OF SNOW HILL / STURGIS PARK
 TOWN OF SNOW HILL
 ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2
 WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

Revisions:

Date: MARCH 2018
 Scale: 1"=30"
 Dwn.By: PAB
 Proj.No.: 0118A069
 Dwg.No.:

1 of 1

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The following list is an example of potential funding agencies and philanthropic non-profit organizations. It is not meant to be an exhaustive search but it gives a strong start to a more thorough approach toward grant funding for future projects.

FEDERAL RESOURCES

- HUD Grants Homepage https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/fundingopps
- DOT Grants Homepage: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants>
- FTA Grants Homepage: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/grants>
- EPA Grants Homepage: <https://www.epa.gov/grants>
- EPA Smart Growth Grants Homepage: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/epa-smart-growth-grants-and-other-funding>
- Partnership for Sustainable Communities Grants: <https://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/>
<https://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/partnership-resources>
- Smart Growth Grants (multiple agencies)
- Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities - One- to two-day, targeted technical assistance to give communities tools to implement smart growth development approaches. Eligible applicants are tribal, county, and local governments, and nonprofit organizations that have the support of the local government on whose behalf they are applying.
- Cool & Connected - Helps rural communities use broadband service to revitalize main streets and promote economic development. Any community representative Can apply.
- Governors' Institute on Community Design - Helps governors help their states develop in an environmentally and economically sound way. States are eligible to apply.

- Greening America's Communities - Helps cities and towns envision and implement design strategies for more sustainable communities. In 2018, the program will serve communities in partnership with the EPA Office of Water Stormwater Management Program. Formerly called Greening America's Capitals.
- Healthy Places for Healthy People - Helps communities create walkable, healthy, economically vibrant places by engaging with their health care facility partners such as community health centers (including Federally Qualified Health Centers), nonprofit hospitals, and other health care facilities. Eligible applicants include local government representatives, health care facilities, local health departments, nonprofit organizations, tribes, and others proposing to work in a neighborhood, town, or city anywhere in the United States.
- USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program (includes street improvements) <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grantprogram>
- USDA Rural Development Community Facility Grants This grant program assists in the development of essential community facilities, primarily in rural communities with a population under 20,000. Funds from this program can be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and community and public services. Funds can also provide for the purchase of equipment required for a facility's operation. Public entities such as municipalities, counties, non-profit corporations, and tribal governments are eligible to apply.
- Community Facilities Grant Program The Community Facilities Grant program is funded by the Department of Agriculture (USDA). This program provides grants to communities with fewer than 20,000 residents to construct and renovate facilities used for public service, health care, recreation, community service and public safety. Funds are also used to purchase equipment that is needed to operate the facilities. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, municipalities, towns, districts and tribal government agencies. Areas with the lowest population and income levels receive higher grant considerations. Up to 75 percent of the project costs are covered by

the grant. The amount of funding is dependent on the median income and population of the applicant entity.

- Outdoor Recreational Grant Program The National Park Service (NPS) sponsors the Outdoor Recreational Grant program through the Land & Water Conservation Fund. Grants are used to acquire land and plan and develop recreational areas such as playgrounds, tennis courts, outdoor swimming pools, hiking trails, picnic areas, campgrounds, and boat-launching ramps. Funds are also used to build restrooms, water systems, and other support facilities for the general public. States, cities, counties, and park districts are eligible to apply for these grants, and over the course of NPS's history, more than \$5 billion has been awarded for preservation and recreation grants. Funds are allocated as matching with state grants.
- National Park Service Land & Water Conservation Fund
- Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) sponsors the state administered Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Grants from this program are used to acquire real estate property for public use, demolish blighted structures, and construct and renovate public service facilities, recreational facilities, and public and private buildings. Funds are also used to support economic development activities including assisting micro-enterprises. Grants are administered by states to cities and counties with fewer than 50,000 and 200,000 residents respectively. Up to 3 percent of the grant can be allocated to cover technical assistance and administrative expense.
- States and local governments are eligible to apply for matching grants to fund public outdoor recreation and areas and facilities. O'Fallon, Illinois used a \$750,000 LWCF grant to acquire land for a variety of playing fields

STATE RESOURCES

- DNR Living Shorelines: <http://dnr.maryland.gov/ccs/Pages/livingshorelines.aspx>
- DNR Habitat Restoration and Conservation: <http://dnr.maryland.gov/ccs/Pages/restoration.aspx>
- DNR Marina sewage Pump-out Grant: <http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating/Documents/MDMarineSewagePumpoutGrantApp.pdf>
- Housing and Community Development: Main Street Maryland Street Improvements: <http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/programs/MainStreet.aspx> (Berlin 2008)
- Community Parks and Playgrounds: http://dnr.maryland.gov/land/Documents/POS/cpp_proposal_guide.pdf
- Maryland DHCD: <https://www.ncsha.org/story/maryland-dhcd-stimulatingreinvestment-maryland%E2%80%99s-neighborhoods-55-million-community-legacygrants-announced>

Awardee: Town of Berlin
Amount: \$50,000
Project: Façade & Interior Renovation Program
Description: Continuation of Berlin's Façade Grant Program.
To date, the town has leveraged \$175,000 into approximately \$450,000 in improvements.

Awardee: City of Pocomoke
Amount: \$45,000
Project: MarVa Theater Movie Projection System
Description: To hire a professional contractor to provide and install a new digital movie projection system and processor to replace the outdated and obsolete 35 mm film projectors.

Awardee: Town of Snow Hill
Amount: \$30,000
Project: Façade Improvement Program
Description: To provide assistance to business and property owners for improvements to the façades of their buildings.

Awardee: Town of Berlin
Amount: \$20,000

Project: Berlin Visitors Center Roof
Description: To replace the current flat roof with a sloped, sustainable construction, energy efficient roof.
Maryland Department of Planning
<https://mdplanningblog.com/2017/08/09/planning-and-natural-resources-initiate-careers/>

- Lower Eastern Shore Priority Funding Area (PFA) Certifications: Analysis of whether Planning's PFA Comment Areas could become PFA's (eligible for state funds).
- Climate Adaptation Analysis for the Lower Eastern Shore Region: Analysis of Worcester County's Comprehensive and Hazard mitigation Plans contributing to a state-wide review and compilation of climate adaptation to be presented to the State Climate Adaptation Workgroup.

COUNTY RESOURCES

Department of Recreation and Parks
Paige A. Hurley, Director (410) 632-2144
6030 Public Landing Road, Snow Hill, MD 21863
e-mail: worcorec@ezy.net
web: www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/rec

Recreation Advisory Board
Tourism Office
Lisa Challenger, Director (410) 632-3617; 1-800-852-0335
104 West Market St., Snow Hill, MD 21863
e-mail: econ@ezy.net
web: <http://visitworcester.org/>

Tourism Advisory Commiee
Appointed by Board of County Commissioners to 4-year terms

PRIVATE RESOURCES

- The Trust for Public Land: <https://www.tpl.org/creating-and-funding-parks>
- Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation
The Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has works to improve the communities and schools they serve. The foundation supports nonprofit organizations and public institutions that support public education and community improvement and has grant funds available for playground projects (\$5,000-\$25,000).

- Miracle's Grants for America's Children
<http://www.thegranthelpers.com/municipal-grants/parks---recreation-grants>

Up to \$5 million in grant money is available to schools and parks around the country who want to purchase new playground equipment through Miracle's Grants for America's Children program. Miracle, a playground manufacturer for over 80 years, awards grants for purchase of equipment based on an assessment of the current playground equipment proposal, size of project, and amount of grant funding available.

- KaBOOM!
<https://kaboom.org/grants>
Dr. Pepper Snapple & KaBOOM! offer \$15,000 grants to qualifying U.S.-based organizations to be used toward the purchase of playground equipment that will be built using the KaBOOM! community-build model. These partners also offer \$750 grants to communities who want to make their playgrounds cleaner, safer, and more inviting. In addition, KaBOOM! And Dr. Pepper Snapple offer joint-use grants for communities who partner with schools to open recreation facilities to the public during non-school hours. These grants are solely for the expansion or creation of joint use agreements. There is a rolling deadline for this set of grants.

- Shade Structure Grant Program
<https://www.aad.org/public/spot-skin-cancer/programs/shade-structure-program>
The American Academy of Dermatology's Shade Structure Grant Program awards grants to public schools and non-profit organiza-

tions for installing permanent shade structures for outdoor locations that are not protected from the sun, such as playgrounds. Each grant is valued at up to \$8,000, which includes the structure and installation.

- Lego Children's Fund, <http://www.legocommunityfund.org/> Lego aims to help local and national non-profit organizations committed to helping children develop their creativity and learning skills through constructive play. and it awards quarterly grants with special interest paid to collaborative efforts and in providing matching funds to leverage new dollars into the receiving organization. Typical awards are between \$500-\$5,000.

- Let's Play Initiative: Dr. Pepper Snapple Group has made a three-year, \$15 million commitment, as part of KaBOOM!'s Let's Play Initiative, to help construct and improve playground areas. Municipalities and non-profit organizations with a playground or outdoor recreational space that is currently unsafe for children can apply for construction grants. The Initiative also offers Let's Play Completion Grants, which can be used toward the completion or improvement of an existing playground. This grant program has an ongoing deadline. In addition, there are also opportunities for communities to partner with school districts to apply for Joint Use Grants to open school recreation facilities to the public during non-school hours.

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation www.rwjf.org and <https://www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants-and-grant-programs.html>. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is the nation's largest philanthropy dedicated solely to health. From expanding health coverage to creating healthy communities, the RWJF is committed to helping everyone in America have an equal opportunity to pursue a healthier life.

- Others
<http://www.thegranthelpers.com/municipal-grants/parks---recreation-grants>

- <http://www.reconnectingamerica.org/resource-center/federal-grant-opportunities/>

- <https://www.tpl.org/creating-and-funding-parks#sm.0000psyeracsreptsr718Oz71cbk9>

- <https://parkpride.org/we-can-help/grant-programs/>

- <https://www.planning.org/divisions/smalltown/grants.htm>

- <http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/urban/mucfc-grant.aspx>

- <https://www.planning.org/divisions/smalltown/awards/> <https://bizfluent.com/city-beautification-grants-7415.html> <https://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/downtown-revitalization>

- <https://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/downtown-revitalization#funding>

- <https://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/app/legacy/documents/cs/factsheets/cs-rural.pdf>

- <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/implementing-complete-streets-small-towns-rural-communities/>

- <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-self-assessment-rural-communities>

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

