

1. What have you done?

The Group has met monthly to discuss and make comments on the revised Plan Maryland and to develop the themes, objectives and actions for a state-wide housing plan. Plan Maryland makes a specific reference to the development of a statewide plan and the Workgroup had previously submitted comments and concerns about the failure to adequately address housing issues. The Workgroup agreed that the revised plan makes great strides forward in making housing a central aspect of future growth decisions. The revised Plan references the need for new housing over the next 20 years, the jobs-housing imbalance, the different needs of the aging population and for low income residents. The Plan continues to be location focused for housing growth.

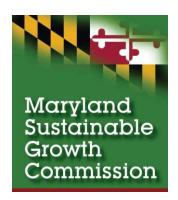
The Workgroup has submitted comments to MDP regarding important guiding princilples that Plan Maryland must include:

- Opportunities and Choice
- Revitalization and preservation
- Coordination
- Appropriate locations
- Accountability

In order to develop the statewide housing plan, Workgroup members broke into teams to develop the objectives and actions around basic themes that emerged in discussing other states' plans, important policy issues and local concerns. These themes are:

- Focusing growth and housing development
- Sustainability
- Revitalization/redevelopment
- Mixed income and mixed use communities
- Resources and tools
- Performance standards
- Local and state relations providing a full range of housing opportunities
- Regional approaches to housing provision
- Housing's impact on community stability

The teams have been uneven in their response and efforts to develop then needed detail. The Workgroup has begun to review and discuss the work as a committee of the whole but has made slow progress. Data and background information is also being gathered to provide context and basis for the recommendations that will be made.



2. What do you intend to do next?

We are scheduled to meet on December 6 to continue to review and solidify the content of a statewide plan. Teams that have not presented their information have been reminded to provide more detail or to provide some objectives for discussion.

3. We are scheduled to meet in early December and it is expected that there will be at least one meeting, and likely more, in January.