

# A BETTER MARYLAND THE STATE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

MARYLAND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH COMMISSION  
JULY 23, 2018



# A BETTER MARYLAND

## GOALS AS OUTLINED IN THE EXECUTIVE ORDER

- Enrich the lives of Marylanders
- Use smart growth principles
- Grow responsibly
- Protect Maryland's resources



# A BETTER MARYLAND VISION STATEMENT

**A Better Maryland** is a dynamic, evolving plan that provides a framework to support a thriving economy and environmental stewardship. The plan supports collaboration among state and local governments and all other stakeholders, providing resources and tools for the long term economic success of Maryland.



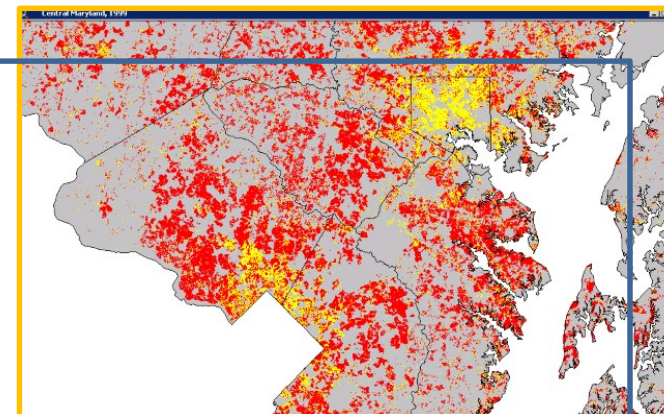
# A BETTER MARYLAND



Involvement



Local Priorities



Information Needs





# LISTENING SESSIONS

72 meetings in every County and Baltimore City; 20 of 24 jurisdictional notes posted on website to date



# SURVEYS AND LIVE POLLING

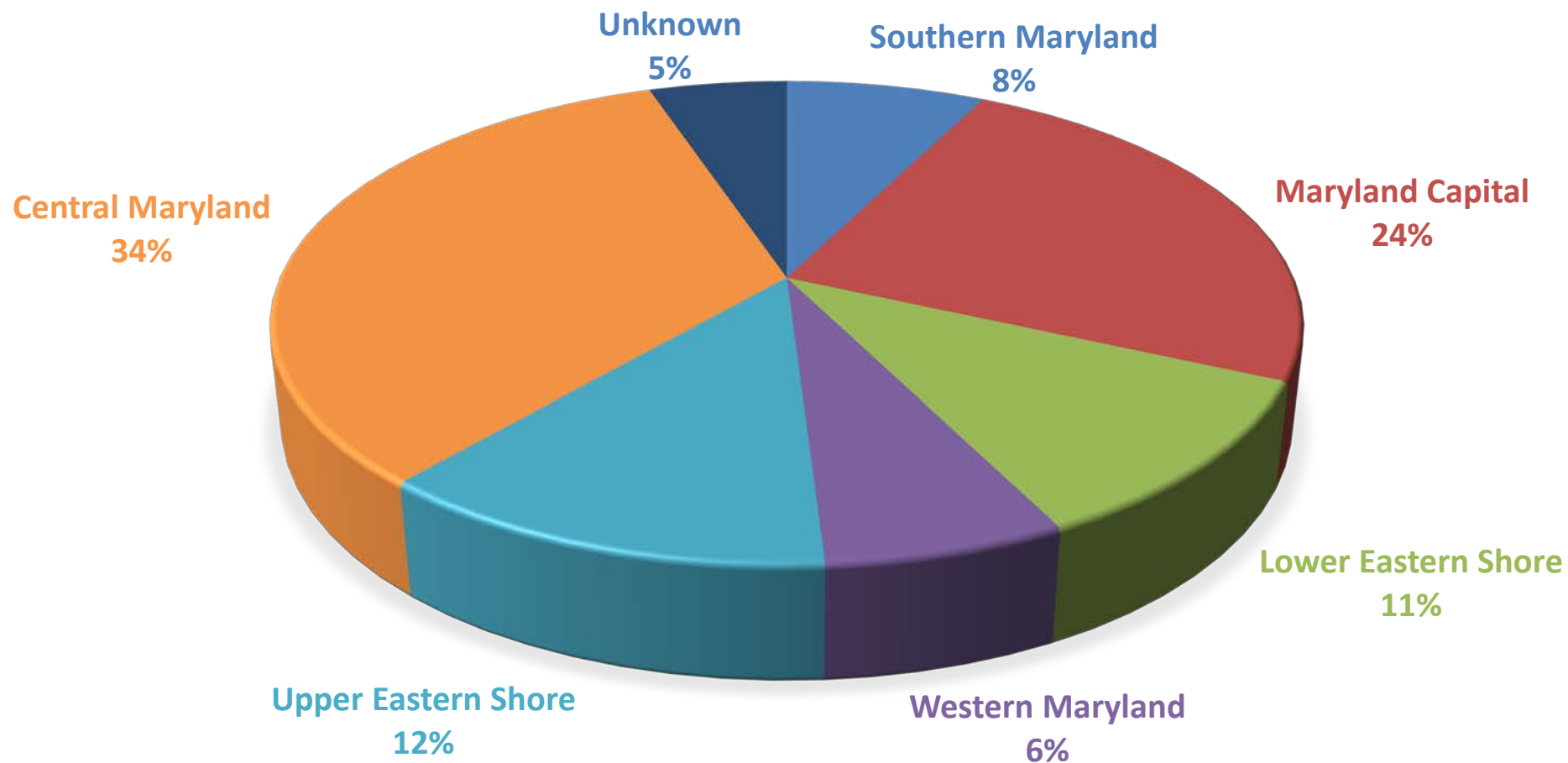


*Kent County  
Community Meeting*



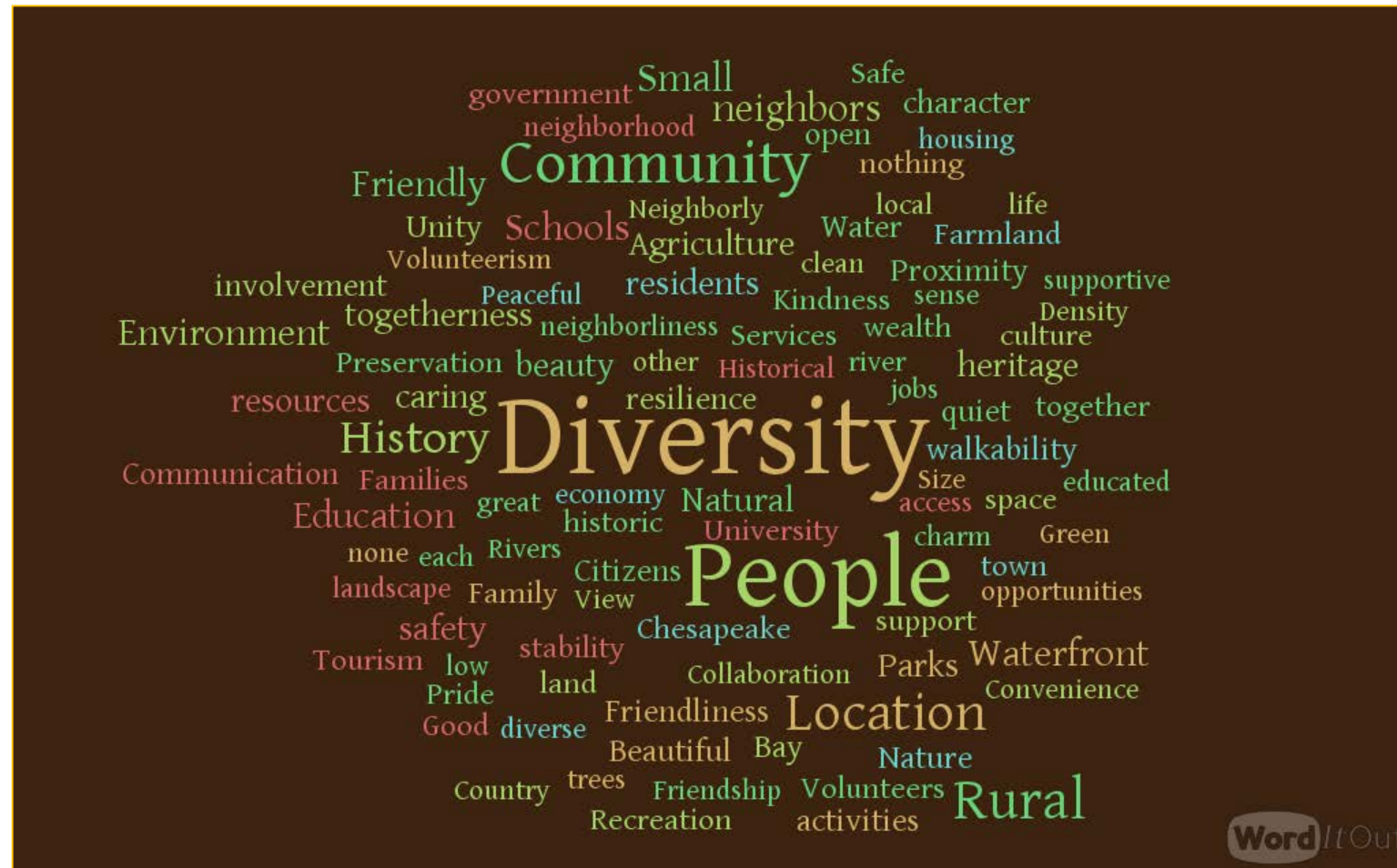
*Montgomery  
County Staff  
Session*

# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES BY REGION



# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES

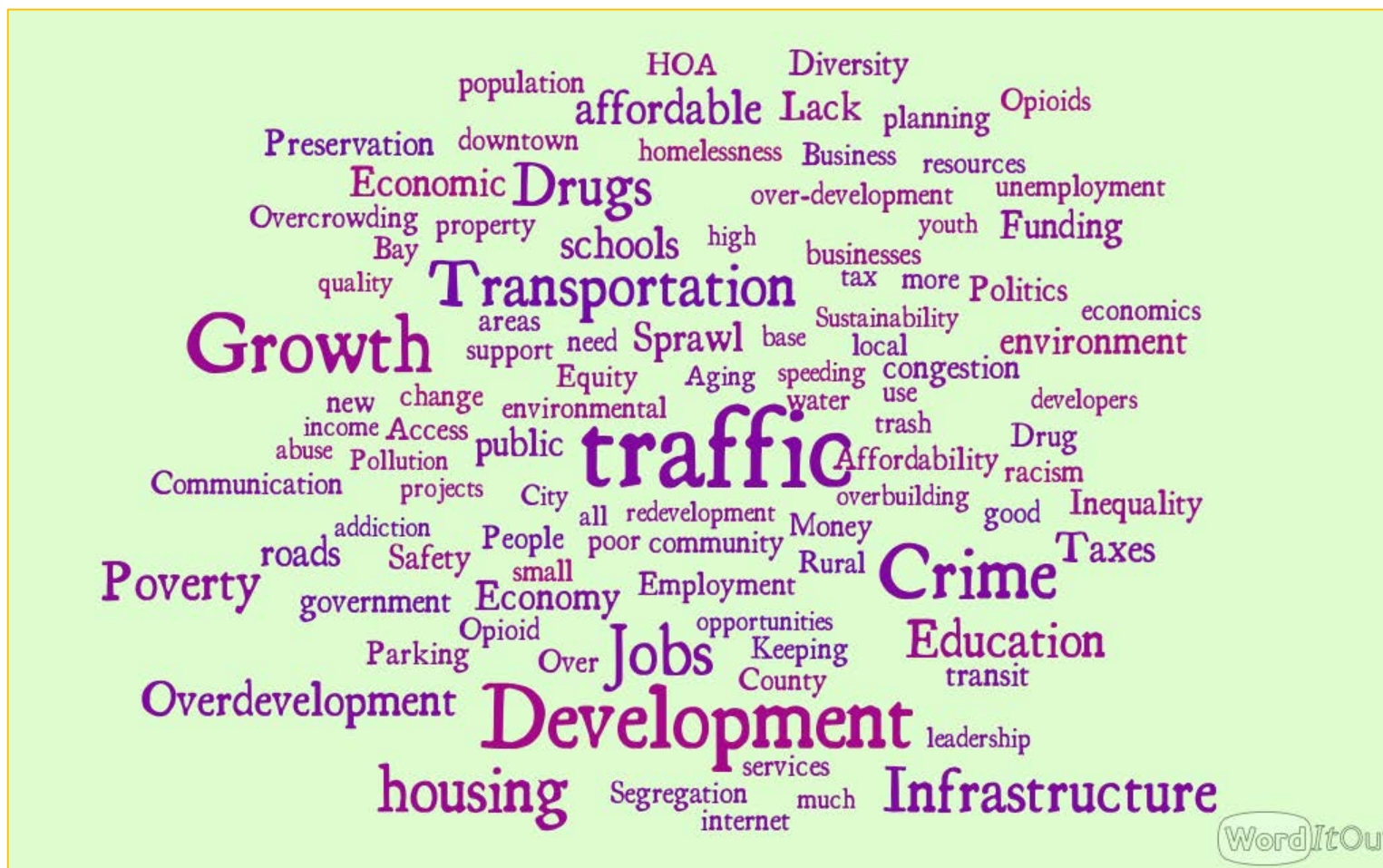
## WHAT IS YOUR COMMUNITY'S GREATEST STRENGTH?





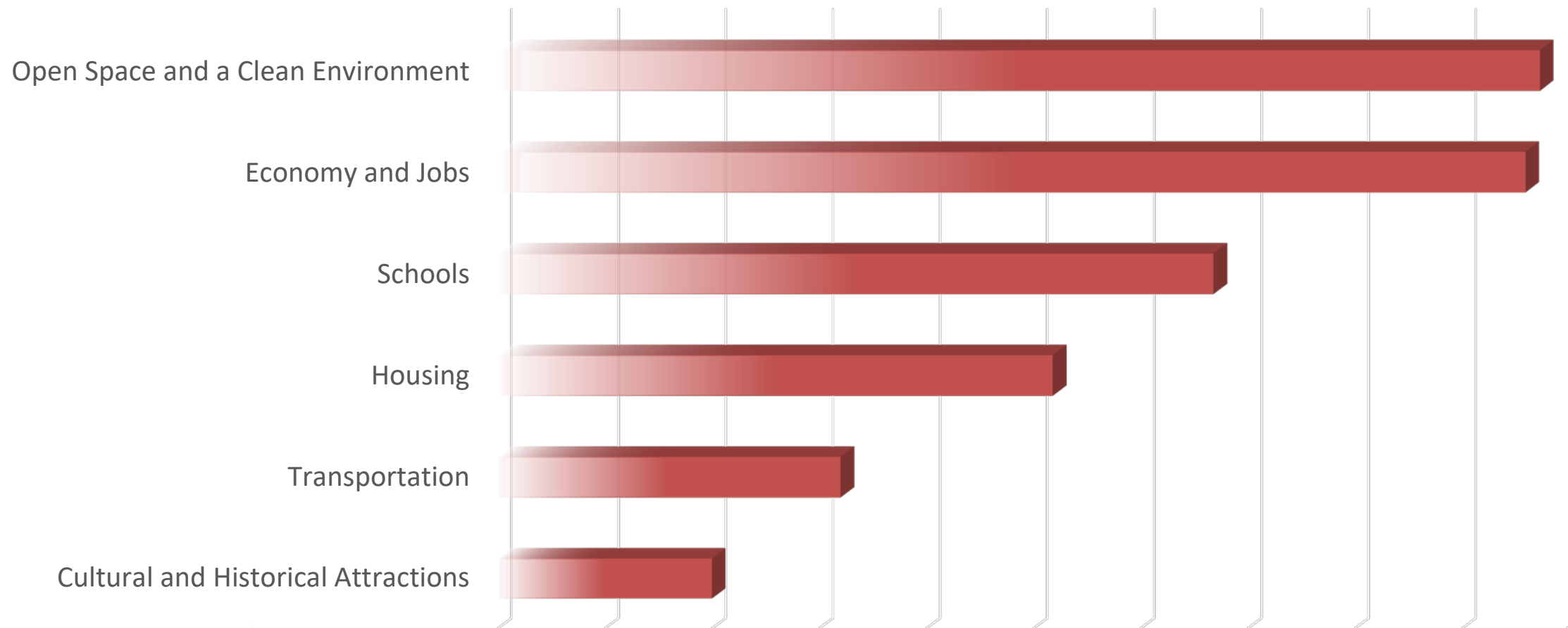
# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES

## WHAT IS YOUR COMMUNITY'S GREATEST CHALLENGE?

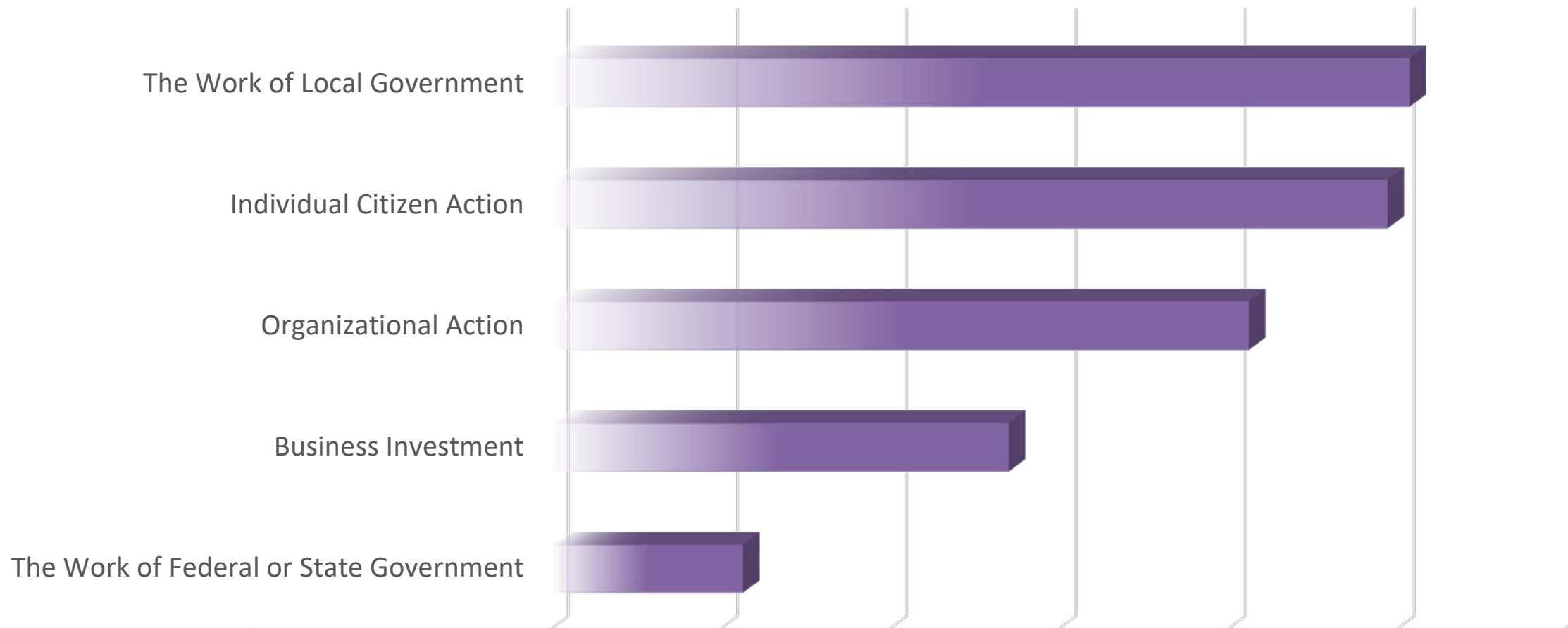


# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES

## IMPORTANCE TO QUALITY OF LIFE

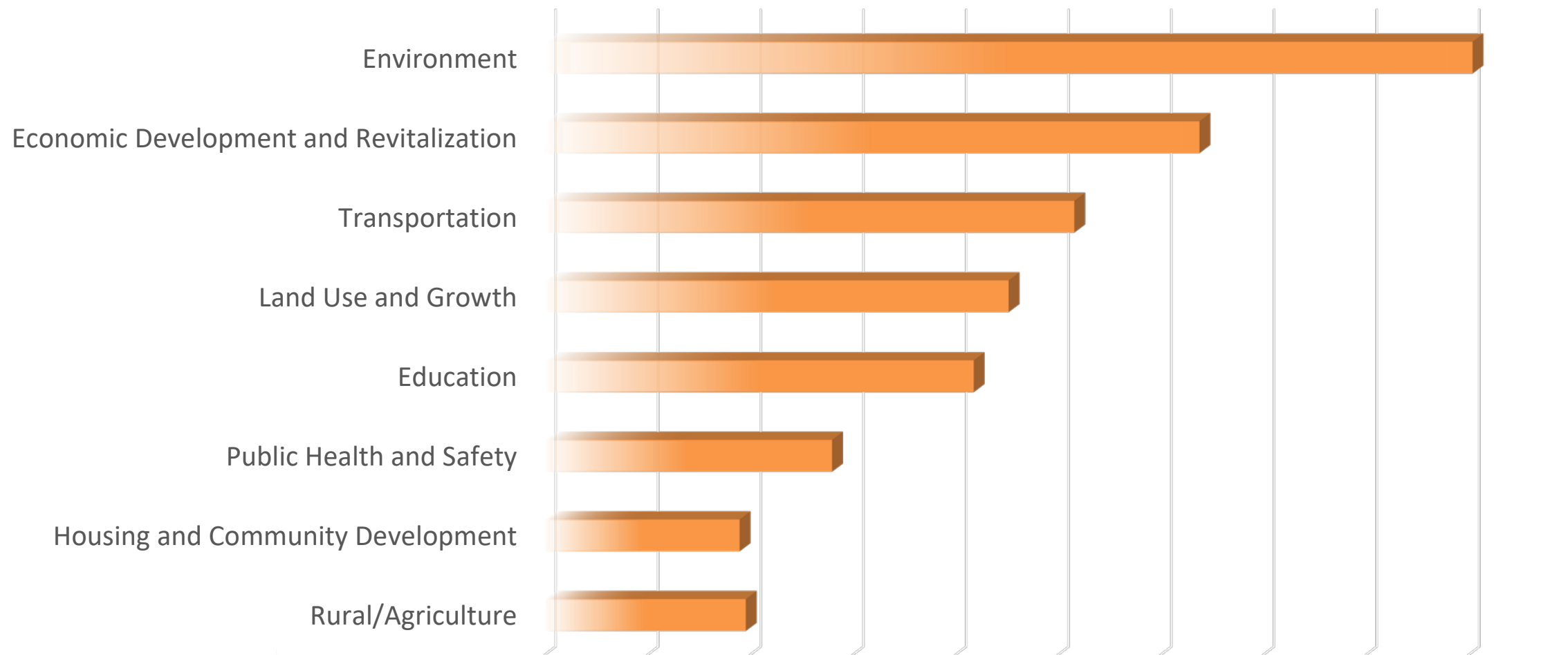


# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES MOST AFFECTS POSITIVE CHANGE

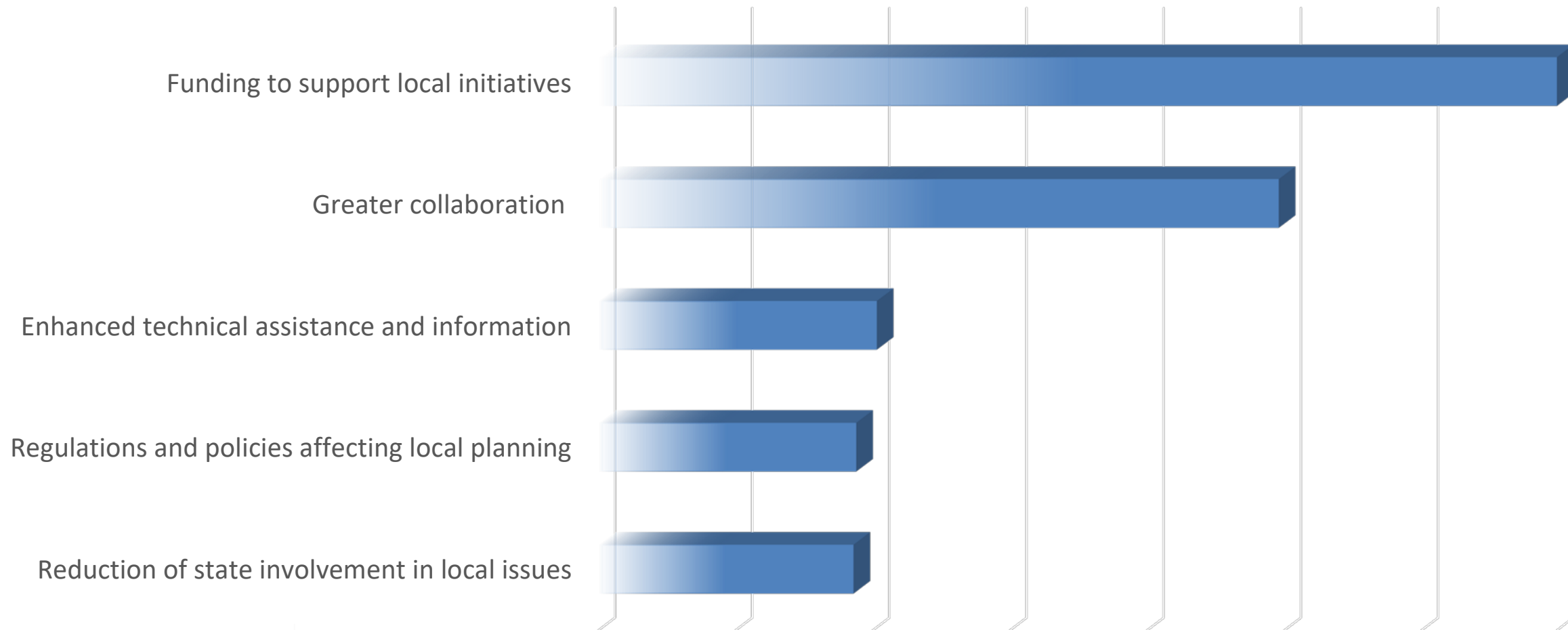


# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES

## WHAT TOPICS SHOULD THE SDP ADDRESS?

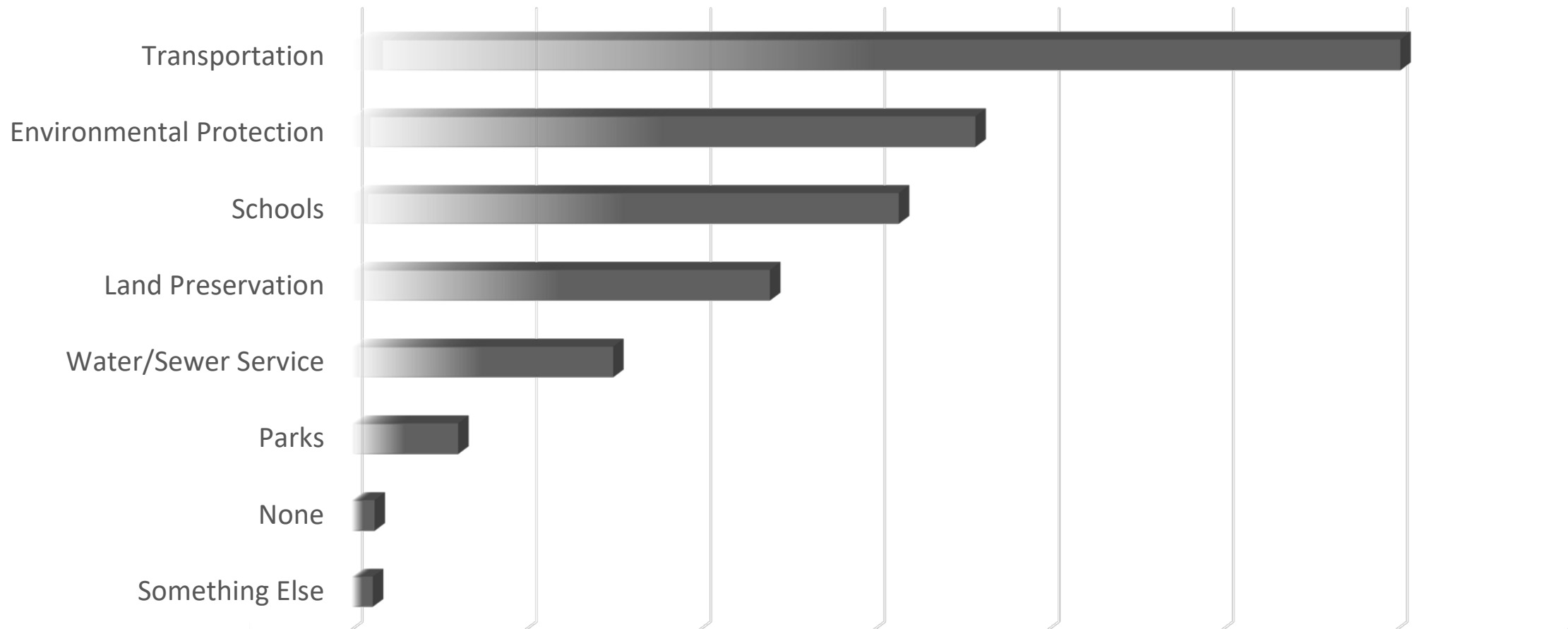


# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES WHAT STRATEGIES SHOULD THE SDP USE?



# A BETTER MARYLAND SURVEY RESPONSES

## WHAT INTERJURISDICTIONAL ISSUES SHOULD THE SDP ADDRESS?



# TOPIC DATABASE

## What We Heard in Response



[Regionalism and Regional Planning](#) ♦ [Concerns Over Previous Mandates](#) ♦ [Public Services](#) ♦ [Mapping Support and Data](#) ♦ [Demographics](#) ♦ [Concern over Growth Tier Map Requirements](#) ♦ [Economic Development](#) ♦ [Housing](#) ♦ [Infrastructure](#) ♦ [Training and Education](#) ♦ [Transportation](#) ♦ [Environment](#) ♦ [Community](#) ♦ [Funding](#) ♦ [Neighboring Jurisdictions](#) ♦ [What the County is Missing](#) ♦ [State Agencies](#) ♦ [Technical Assistance](#) ♦ [Planning](#) ♦ [General](#)

The comments below represent the statements or points of view of one or more individuals who participated in the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) "A Better Maryland" Development Plan Listening Sessions. These comments do not represent any official position or policy of MDP or any other State agency, nor do they represent any official position or policy of any local jurisdiction or local planning agency.

### Regionalism and Regional Planning

A mixed response regarding a regional approach to planning; some voiced support, some were opposed.

Regional approach is only good if all the areas of a region look similar

A regional approach is needed, including Calvert, Anne Arundel, St. Mary's, and Charles County

County staff is willing to help with this

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### Concerns Over Previous Mandates

What will the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) do to tailor PFA requirements for rural counties?

Calvert fought hard against PlanMaryland

It should be undone

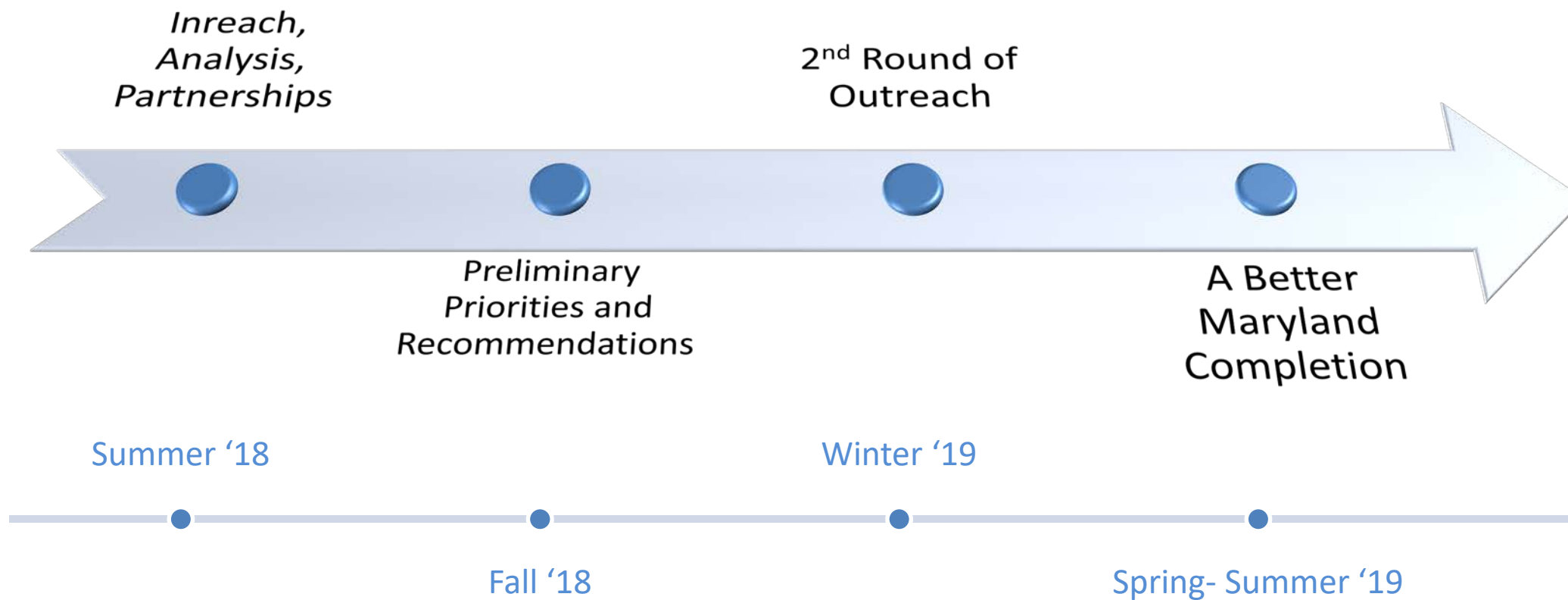
MA: A Better Maryland should not affect local planning and zoning



Topic	County	Region	Comment Made	Lead Agency
Community	Allegany County	Western Maryland	The rich history of the county is one of its greatest strengths.	MDP
Concern over Growth Tier Map Requirements	Allegany County	Western Maryland	Allegany County is pursuing a Tier IV Exemption and requested Maryland Department of Planning's assistance to complete process. The LaVale zoning district has been amended, so they would like to restart the Tier IV exemption application process.	MDP
Concern over Growth Tier Map Requirements	Allegany County	Western Maryland	Only 20 new housing building permits were issued in the county last year.	MDP
Concerns Over Previous Mandates	Allegany County	Western Maryland	The PFA process needs to be far more flexible and scalable to the development conditions, especially in rural and slow growth areas of the state.	MDP
Economic Development	Allegany County	Western Maryland	The county recently revised the LaVale zoning regulations to accommodate the market needs of national chain stores and it helped change business attitudes and interest in developing in the area.	MDP
Funding	Allegany County	Western Maryland	Allegany County is investing in development so far from the County's central area. Why? What is the County's top priority?	MDP
Housing	Allegany County	Western Maryland	There is also a problem with absentee landlords. Lawns are not getting cut and you cannot identify the property owner.	MDP
Mapping Support and Data	Allegany County	Western Maryland	There is a need to work with the state in updating the parcel maps. There are some problems with the versions of the parcel level digital maps. But, there are also opportunities to collaborate and share data.	MDP
Regionalism and Regional Planning	Allegany County	Western Maryland	The PFA process needs to be far more flexible and scalable to the development conditions, especially in rural and slow growth areas of the state.	MDP
State Agencies	Allegany County	Western Maryland	There are also problems getting permits approved from state agencies, such as getting permission from the Maryland Historic Trust to paint columns on a Historic County building (Allegany County Library).	MDP
Communication	Baltimore City	Central Maryland	Need to think about how to get information about A Better Maryland to all members of the public. Baltimore staff and Planning Commissioners want to stay tuned into what is happening	MDP
Demographics	Baltimore City	Central Maryland	Baltimore wants to partner with the Maryland Department of Planning on the 2020 Census to make sure the City gets a complete count (reiterated a couple times) Given reduced federal funding, Baltimore wants to help engage the hard to reach populations The Census is very important to the City, and there is a concern that Baltimore will not be fully counted and result in not getting its fair share of funding To the extent possible, put some focus on equity as part of the Census outreach preparation process	MDP
Mapping Support and Data	Baltimore City	Central Maryland	The Baltimore Metropolitan Council has a monthly permitting reporting service that is very helpful and unique in Maryland. Perhaps this is something the State could replicate elsewhere	MDP



# PROCESS





# FACILITATED DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

## Questions to Consider:

- Should A Better Maryland address this issue?
- What is its relative importance?
- Is there an opportunity for state and local partnership?
- Does it present regional differences?
- What state agencies should be involved?
- Any suggested strategies?



# GROUP A ISSUES



**Sustaining  
Environment  
into the Future**

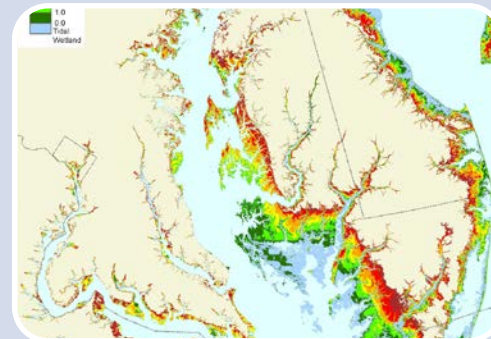
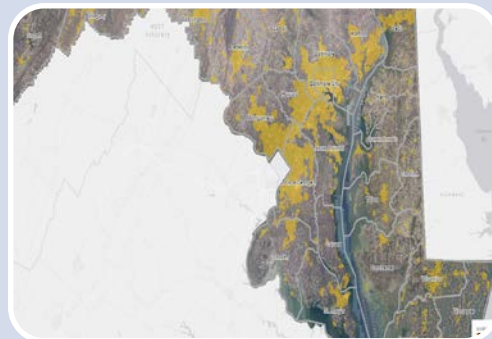
**Creating  
Workforce/  
Affordable  
Housing**

**Tackling the  
Economic  
Development  
Needs of the  
Next Century**

**Building  
Capacity in  
Communities**



# GROUP B ISSUES



**Preserving  
Land**

**Economic  
Growth &  
Development  
in PFAs and  
Focusing on  
Existing  
Communities**

**Adapting and  
Becoming  
Resilient to  
Climate  
Change**

**Coordinating  
State  
Agencies in  
Planning  
Processes**



# GROUP C ISSUES



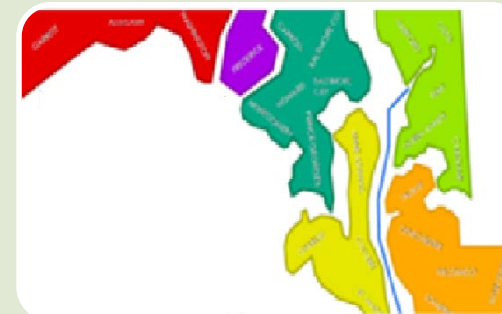
**Protecting  
Historic and  
Cultural  
Resources**



**Meeting  
Renewable  
Energy Goals**



**Creating  
Quality Places**



**Respecting  
Regional  
Distinctions**



# REPORT OUT

- What did we learn?
- Are there recommended next steps?

