



## Education Work Group Report July 24, 2017

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TO: Susan Summers, Chair

FROM: Jim Kruger, Workgroup Chair, and Joe Griffiths, Planning Staff

SUBJECT: Progress Report

DATE: July 24, 2017

Since the last work group report in May 2017, the Education Workgroup (Workgroup) held two regular meetings; one on 6/6/17 and the other yet to be scheduled as of the writing of this report, but to be conducted prior to the Growth Commission (Commission) meeting on 7/24/17. During the two months since the last meeting of the Commission, the Education Workgroup has focused on establishing a professional training program for the updated Reinvest Maryland document and on building momentum for the new Sustainable Growth Challenge (Challenge). As part of the Challenge, the Workgroup is conducting outreach to institutions of higher learning to engage them once the Fall semester begins in August and September 2017. More details on each initiative are outlined below

### **1. Reinvest Maryland Professional Training**

Jessica Zuniga, a Workgroup member who is also chair of the Reinvest Maryland Workgroup, informed the Workgroup at its 6/6 meeting of the progress in developing a draft of a new Reinvest Maryland document. The Workgroup discussed the proposed completed draft date of early July and expressed its interest in reviewing the document, providing any feedback, and using its content and format to inform a potential focus area for a professional training course. The Workgroup will discuss the document in greater detail at its July meeting. At its 6/6 meeting, the Workgroup expressed an interest in a training that addresses achievable revitalization strategies and objectives considering the current development market in Maryland, historic tax credits, and/or renovation codes.

The training will serve as an extension of the Reinvest Maryland Workgroup and the document, and educate those who currently or may in the future work on revitalization efforts throughout Maryland. As with the new document, the training will be designed as a toolkit of actionable strategies that can be applied at the local level. Potential audiences for this training include:

- Local planning and other governmental staff
- Developers
- Citizen planners (Planning Commissioners, Boards of Zoning Appeals members)
- Elected officials
- Realtors
- Business Owners

Later this summer and into fall 2017, the Workgroup will begin developing an outline and medium for the training, as well as a strategy for marketing to potential students and organizations. The anticipated timeline for the development of the training is as follows:

1. *Reinvest Maryland focus area, content, and medium determined: Summer 2017*
2. *Educational Partner Outreach: Summer-Fall 2017*
3. *Curriculum Developed: Late Fall 2017*
4. *Training Begins: Winter 2018*

## **2. Sustainable Growth Challenge**

Since the May meeting, the Workgroup progressed substantially in re-establishing the Challenge. Workgroup members have reached out to or are in the process of reaching out to the following colleges:

UMBC, Morgan State, Towson University, University of Maryland, Salisbury University, Frostburg University, The College of Southern Maryland, Community College of Baltimore County, Goucher College, UM School of Landscape Architecture, Montgomery College, Bowie State, Harford Community College.

The Workgroup is also reaching out to APA student chapters and the Urban Land Institute.

The Workgroup is finding that summer is a difficult time to engage colleges, as many faculty and most students are on leave. However, a few initial meetings have been scheduled for July and many college representatives have indicated that they will be back in their offices in August and would like to discuss the project further at that time. The Workgroup would like faculty to begin discussing the Challenge with students early in the Fall 2017 semester to allow enough time for January 2018 submissions, based on the newly established submission timeline. This timeline is outlined fully in the May 22 Workgroup report. The Workgroup will finalize a rubric for grading Challenge submissions at its July meeting. The rubric helps communicate the intent and objectives of the Challenge along with expectations and criteria for student submissions. With the overall goals of simplifying submission, the rubric serves as a communicative document that will guide the crafting of submissions. The draft rubric and accompanying scoring sheet are attached to this report.

The agenda for the July Workgroup meeting, which will be conducted the week of 7/17, is below. The Workgroup will report out on updates from that meeting on 7/24.

### **Agenda**

#### **Administrative Matters (Joe)**

- a. Next Growth Commission Meeting - July 24: Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company, 11794 Somerset Ave, Princess Anne, MD.
- b. Maryland Planning Commissioners Association (MPCA) Outreach Update

#### **Children in Nature Initiative Update**

#### **Reinvest Maryland**

- a. Update on the Reinvest MD workgroup and working draft
- b. Continue discussion of professional training

#### **Sustainable Growth Challenge**

- a. Outreach Process
  1. Updates based on previous assignments
  2. Needs remaining and any new strategies
  3. Meetings and/or phone calls
- b. Challenge Rubric Review

#### **Next Steps**

- a. Next Workgroup Meeting: 8/1/2017 1:30 – 2:30
- b. Discussion and Confirmation of Follow-up Actions

**The Next Meeting of the Education Workgroup is August 1 from 1:30 -2:30 PM**