



Education Work Group Report November 14, 2016

TO: Susan Summers, Chair

FROM: Jim Kruger, Workgroup Chair, and Peter G. Conrad, Planning Staff

SUBJECT: Progress Report

DATE: November 10, 2016

Since the last workgroup report in September 2016, the Education Workgroup held one regular meeting on November 1st and is working on the following projects:

1. Reinvest Maryland

The Education Workgroup has completed its Phase I outreach to organizations with existing, relevant educational programs. Phase I Interviews have been completed with 18 organizations being reached. Several organizations have expressed interest in collaborating with this effort. Following our meeting with adult education experts from CCBC's Dundalk/Essex campus to discuss possible collaboration, Planning staff met with the Penny Yung of CCBC to better understand the process of developing adult education curriculum. Jessica Zuniga is working with the Planning Department on approaches for a more in-depth review of the Reinvest Maryland report, and the Workgroup will be incorporating that reassessment into its educational program efforts.

2. Children in Nature Initiative

DNR and Planning staff have continued a series of meetings on this initiative. The program takes a holistic approach to looking at ways to encourage, support and program increased outdoor experiences for children. DNR will be looking to engage state agencies as partners in this initiative.

3. Sustainable Growth Challenge

We currently have four colleges that have expressed interest in the 2016-2017 Challenge. We are in the process of confirming their participation. We are also following up on sponsors for the awards.

The timeframe for the 2016-2017 SGC is:

1. Summer 2016 – Outreach to professors
2. September 2016 – Deadline for commitments to participate in the challenge
3. October – November 2016 – Work Group members visit classes to discuss Reinvest Maryland and provide early feedback on proposed projects
4. December 2016 – Deadline for submissions
5. December - January 2016 – Review of submissions and invitations to present
6. January 2016 – Presentations to panel
7. To Be Determined – Awards ceremony