



TO: Susan Summers, Chair
FROM: Jim Kruger, Workgroup Chair, and Joe Griffiths, Planning Staff
SUBJECT: Progress Report
DATE: March 26, 2018

Since the last work group report in November 2017, the Education Workgroup (workgroup) held three regular meetings; on 12/6/17, 1/9/18, and another on 2/6/18. During the four months since the last meeting of the Sustainable Growth Commission (SGC), the workgroup continued engaging Maryland institutions of higher learning in the Sustainable Growth Challenge (Challenge) and establishing partners for the development of a Reinvest Maryland training. More details on each initiative are outlined below.

1. Sustainable Growth Challenge

Eight student groups representing The University of Maryland, Harford Community College, and Morgan State University submitted projects for consideration in the 2017 Sustainable Growth Challenge by the January 19, 2018 deadline. The [Challenge](#) website has been updated to include all presentations/submissions.

Members of the workgroup (Jim Kruger, Jessica Zuniga, Sandi Olek, Karen Mierow, Joe Griffiths) hosted and scored the following student presentations in Crownsville on 2/8.

Waverly Community Plan (Morgan State University)

Living Lab: Global Maryland (Morgan State University)

Site Plan for South West Baltimore Charter School (University of Maryland)

Harford Fit Zone Outdoor Gym (Harford Community College)

The workgroup also considered two other submissions, without presentations.

Greywater Implementation in Montgomery County (University of Maryland)

Eastport Historical Survey (University of Maryland)

On 2/22, the Education Workgroup Challenge review team submitted scoring sheets for the six submissions and decided on the following winners and certificate earners.

Winners (Charter School and Harford Fit Zone) (see [Challenge](#) link to view submissions)

Certificates

Excellence in Community Planning: Waverly

Excellence in Innovation: Living Lab

Excellence in Sustainability: Greywater

Letters inviting winners to present at, and certificate earners to attend, the March 26 SGC meeting, were mailed in early March. Notification letters and invites were also mailed to University Presidents, Deans, and Department Heads. The winning presentations are the first item on the March 26 agenda.

2. Reinvest Maryland Professional Training

Due to other work demands, significant progress on this training stalled in the four months since the Commission last met. In response to the need for more assistance, the workgroup reached out to two Maryland groups seeking partnerships on the development of the pilot program. The workgroup also decided to specifically focus the initial training on development design and density, and Karen Mierow continues to develop the program outline in accordance with this shift.

Developing Partnerships:

1. Southern Maryland Association of Realtors (SMAR)

SMAR has partnered with the Commission in previous years on the Sustainable Growth Challenge. Karen Mierow, an MDP Regional Planner for Southern Maryland, and member of the workgroup, invited David Jenkins of SMAR to join the January meeting of the workgroup, at which we discussed the potential for developing the training in collaboration and to meet the needs of both groups. Because of this discussion, the group decided to focus the initial training to be Module 2: Density, Design, and Economic Viability, as it has more direct relevance for a Realtor group. Karen and Joe will be joining the early April meeting of SMAR's education committee to further establish roles and next steps.

2. APA Maryland

Joe participates in APA Maryland's monthly meetings and joined their Professional Development Workgroup to become more involved in the organization's training programs. APA Maryland's Executive Committee has expressed an interest in supporting the development, organization, and marketing of any future Reinvest Maryland educational program. This is an evolving partnership, but one holding promise.

The following is a previous request from the workgroup, reiterated here:

The workgroup still desires to engage the rest of the Commission in the development of the training, as it could benefit many different audiences, including:

Local planning and other governmental staff

Developers

Citizen planners (Planning Commissioners, Boards of Zoning Appeals members)

Elected officials

Realtors

Business Owners

The workgroup requests support in developing content and case studies that could be used in the training, compiling data and other resources, and reaching out to individuals and industry organizations that have a compelling interest in the development of such training. This support will not only assist in expediting the completion, but also in crafting a superior product. Reinvest Maryland 2.0 will be a valuable tool with continuing and evolving utility through the application and growth of this training program. Please contact Joe Griffiths at joseph.griffiths@maryland.gov or 410-767-4553 with any questions or suggestions.

3. Project Green Classrooms

Outside of the work of the Department of Natural Resources staff member Sandi Olek, the workgroup has not progressed on Project Green Classrooms since the last meeting of the Commission. The workgroup seeks any new members who would be interested in joining; specifically, to take the lead on this initiative.

Next Workgroup Meeting: 4/5/2017