



**Education Work Group Report
November 18, 2019**

TO: Susan Summers, Chair
FROM: Jim Kruger, Workgroup Chair, and Joe Griffiths, Planning Staff
SUBJECT: Progress Report
DATE: November 18, 2019

Since the last report in September of 2019, the Education Workgroup (workgroup) conducted two regular meetings; on 10/9 and 11/14. The group used those meetings to reflect on the pilot Reinvest Maryland 2.0 Training: *Overcoming Barriers to Infill and Adaptive Reuse* that Victoria Olivier presented at the APA Conference on 10/8, and continued outreach and document updating for the 2020 Sustainable Growth Challenge. More details about each effort below.

Sustainable Growth Challenge

In the fall of 2019, workgroup members continued pursuing their individual outreach responsibilities to Maryland's institutions of higher learning, with a focus on colleges and universities that have not recently participated in the Challenge. The Maryland Planning Commissioners Association (MPCA) invited last year's winners to its 36th annual conference in Aberdeen on 11/6-11/7. Student winners from St. Mary's College (SMC) and the University of Maryland (UMD) set up tables to discuss their work with conference attendees. In addition, Morgan State University, UMD, and SMC faculty also worked tables to discuss their programs. Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) staff announced their presence and explained the Challenge to all attendees as part of the annual meeting of the MPCA, conducted during the conference on 11/7. Planning staff updated the outreach and other information forms for the Challenge and posted them on Planning's website. January 17, 2020 is the submission due date.

Reinvest Maryland 2.0

Victoria presented her shortened version of the Overcoming Barriers training as a session at the APA MD conference in Rocky Gap on 10/8. About 30 people attended and the training was positively received. Participants suggested the curriculum have greater detail (already in the works) and include additional information on brownfield redevelopment resources and how local leaders can attract investors to their priority sites. In the winter of 2020, Joe and Victoria will expand the training to approximately three hours, building upon these suggestions. Starting that spring, and with the support of the workgroup, the two of them will also conduct a regional training (three-hour version) at a yet to be determined location, to which local planners and other staff, planning commissioners, developers, and other interested individuals will be invited. Joe will also create a new Training tab on the Reinvest Maryland site, tracking the progress of this effort and uploading resources as they become available.

Fast Tracking and Pre-Application Research

Planning staff previously presented the initial research into this effort and engaged the workgroup in a discussion about next steps and additional sources of information. The research had been temporarily put on hold to ensure the delivery of the Reinvest MD training for the APA MD conference. Planning staff will resume this research and best practice compilation in late 2019 and include it as a component of the updated three-hour Reinvest MD training, described above.

Next Workgroup Meeting: 12/3/2019