

***Water Resources Element
(WRE)***

Board of County Commissioners

September 4, 2008

HB 1141

“Land Use - Local Government Planning”

- Signed into law May 2, 2006
- Required Water Resources Element of comprehensive plan
- To be adopted by October 1, 2009

WRE Purpose

To ensure that future county and municipal comprehensive plans reflect the opportunities and limitations presented by local and regional water resources

Components of the WRE

- Water supply
- Wastewater
- Nonpoint Sources (NPS)

The WRE will address the relationship between planned growth and water resources.

Local jurisdictions must:

- Identify drinking water and other water resources adequate for the needs of existing and future development proposed in the land use element of the plan
- Identify suitable receiving waters and land areas to meet the stormwater management and wastewater treatment and disposal needs of existing and future development proposed in the land use element of the plan

Technical Work & Studies Needed to Prepare WRE

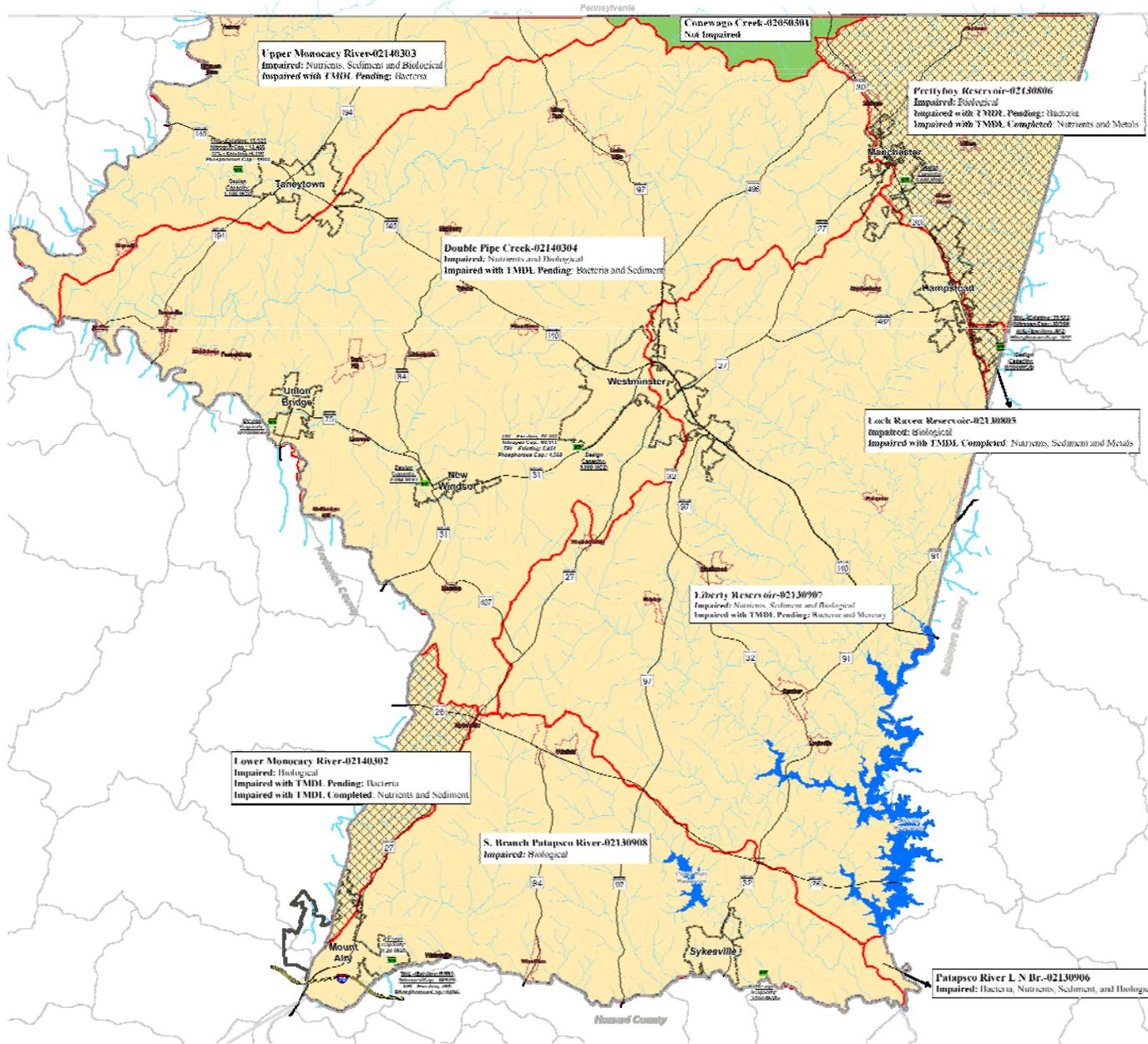
- Water Supply Capacity Management Plan
- Wastewater Capacity Management Plan
- NPS loading analysis
- Water balance study

The plan itself should contain summaries of the technical work, interpretations of their results, supporting maps and tables, and policies/actions/strategies emanating from water resources issues.

Examples of Factors to Consider

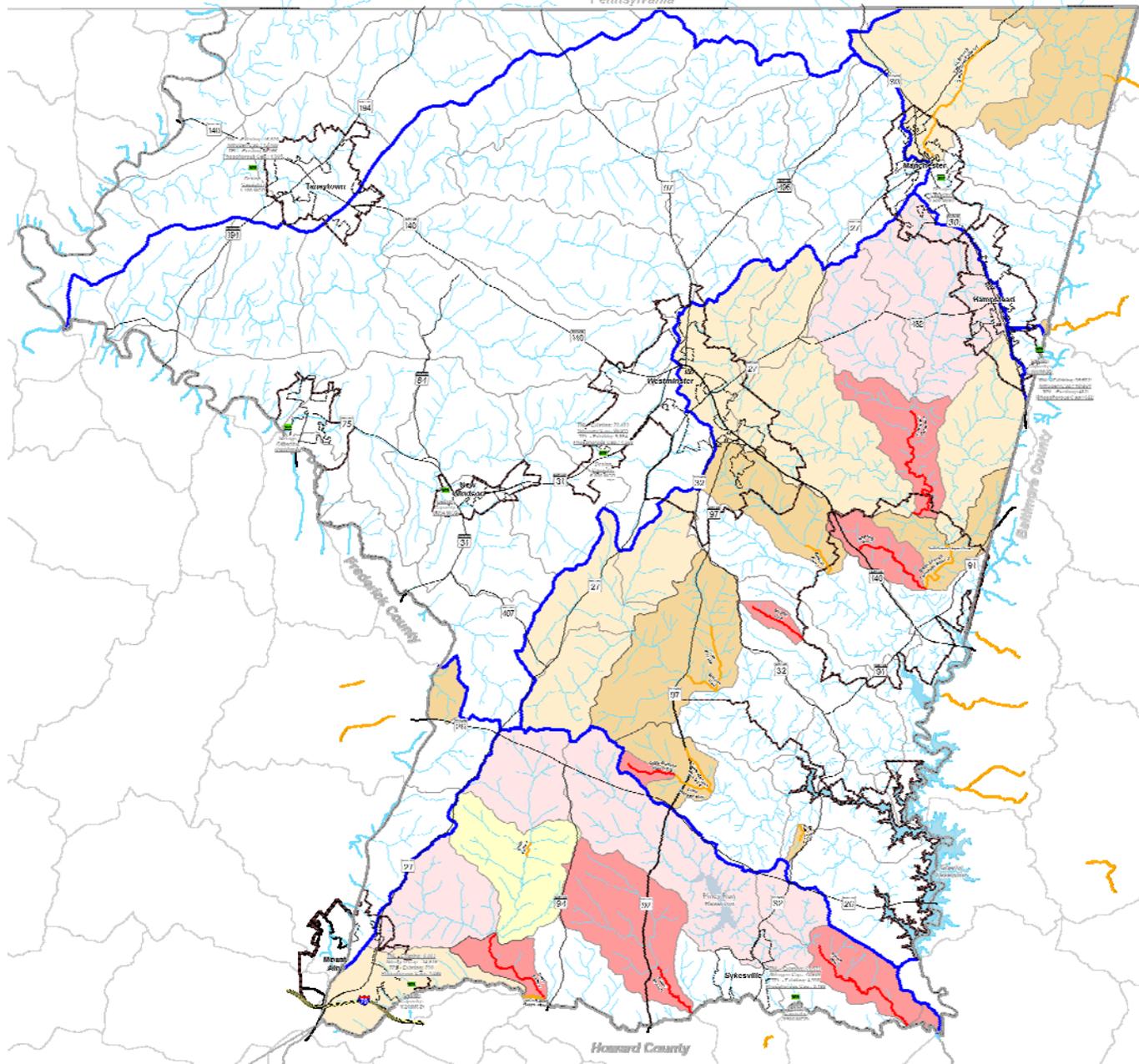
- Water supply and wastewater
 - Capacities
 - Limitations
 - Additional development that could be served
- Existing and projected nutrient loads
- Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy Statewide Implementation Plan & WW Caps
- Impaired waters
- TMDLs
- Tier II waters
- Current septics
- Impervious cover
- Land use
- Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- etc.

Watershed TMDL Status



draft

Existing & Proposed Tier II Watersheds



draft

Carroll County Process

- Collaborative partnership to develop WRE
 - Carroll County
 - Municipalities in county
 - State agencies – MDE, MDP, DNR
- Carroll County Water Resources Coordination Council (WRCC)

WRE Plan Document

- Assess the relationship between the various water resource issues and planned growth
- Identify and balance various alternatives and costs for meeting projected need
- Identify how strategies for all three components fit together
- Develop plan document & go through adoption process

Current Status

- Awaiting capacity management plan data for a few more systems
- Identifying/collecting data for NPS loading analysis
- Collecting data for water balance study
- Requesting Letters of Interest from qualified firms & drafting full RFP for WRE consultant

Next Steps: Near Term

- Summarize complete capacity management plan data and identify capacity limitations; draft a summary report
- Input remaining data for NPS loading analysis and estimate impacts; draft a report
- Complete water balance study; draft a report
- Complete RFP for consultant to identify water and wastewater alternatives to address demand and limitations plus strategies for WRE

WRE Consultant

- Water balance study by watershed
- Assess wastewater limitations and constraints
- Evaluate options/alternatives for addressing future supply demand and water quality issues; prioritize; steps and cost estimates
- Recommend additional strategies for WRE

Next Steps: Long Range

• Complete final staff draft =	May 09
• Planning Commission review & release for public comment =	Jun 09
• 60-Day Review Period =	Jul to Aug 09
• Planning Commission Public Hearing =	Sep 09
• Forward to Elected Officials to consider for adoption =	Sep 09
• Adoption required by State by	Oct 1 09