



Planning board to revisit draft

The Carroll County Planning and Zoning Commission will hold three work sessions this month to consider revising a draft of Carroll County's comprehensive plan.

During the sessions, commission members will review the more than 335 written comments received on Pathways to Carroll's Future Landscape, as the plan is called.

The work sessions are scheduled for Monday, Aug. 10, from 6:30-9 p.m.; Tuesday, Aug. 11, from 6:30-9 p.m.; and Tuesday, Aug. 18, following the 9 a.m. regular monthly meeting of the Planning Commission.

All three meetings will be held in Room 003 of the County Office Building.

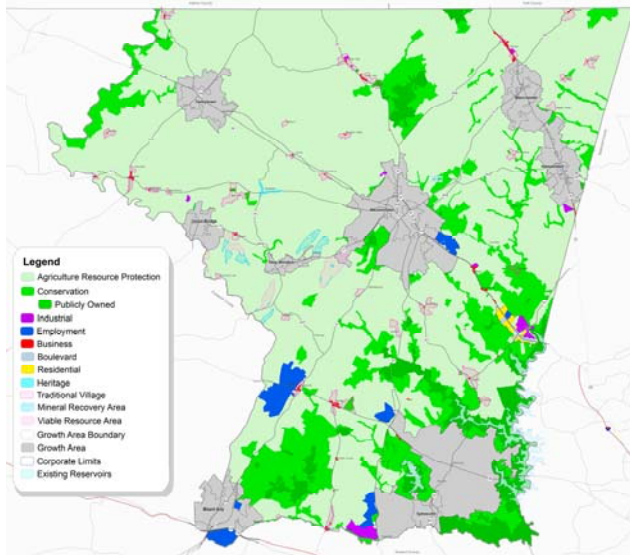
There will not be any additional time for public comments, since the focus will be to assess comments received during a 60-day review period.

Included in the comments are transcripts of the public hearing and three earlier informational meetings, along with comments submitted between May 11 and July 10.

Cable channel 24 will air the sessions. They will also be streamed live on the county's web site, <http://ccgovernment.carr.org>.

Every six years, counties in Maryland are required to update their comprehensive plans. These documents, sometimes called master plans, broadly outline how and where

Pathways Plan Proposal



Work Sessions:

Monday, Aug. 10
6:30-9 p.m. in Room 003 of the County Office Building.

Tuesday, Aug. 11
6:30-9 p.m. in Room 003.

Tuesday, Aug. 18
Following 9 a.m. regular monthly meeting in Room 003.

growth should occur during the next 20 years.

Over the past several years, Carroll County has been gathering feedback from county residents and business owners as it has crafted and revised comprehensive Pathways Plan.

Planning Commission members will consider all comments received during the review period as they determine how to address any changes to the plan before a finalized version can be presented to the Board of County Commissioners.

County Commissioners are not involved in the plan before this point. Eventually, they will decide whether to adopt Pathways in part or as a whole, or send it back to the Planning Commission for reconsideration.

Any rezoning that may take place as a result of the adopted plan would have to be approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

— Matthew Willoughby, intern

Carroll County
*a great place to live
a great place to work
a great place to play*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Wine Festival tickets	2
Finksburg plan	2
Votes	3
Upcoming meetings	4

DID YOU KNOW?

Several election precincts have been combined for the 2010 election in Carroll County:

- If you vote at Northwest Middle School, precincts 1-1 and 1-2 now are 1-1.
- Sandymount Elementary's 4-1 and 4-3 are now 4-1.
- Carrolltowne Elementary's 5-4 and 5-5 are now 5-4.
- Manchester Elementary's 6-1 and 6-2 are uniting as 6-1.
- North Carroll Middle's 6-3 and 6-4 are now 6-2.
- West Middle's 7-4 and 7-5 are now 7-4.
- Westminster Elementary's precincts 7-7 and 7-9 are now 7-7.
- Hampstead Elementary's precincts 8-1 and 8-3 are now 8-1.
- New Windsor Middle's precincts 11-1 and 11-2 now are 11-1.
- South Carroll High's 14-2 and 14-3 are now 14-2.

Buy Md. Wine Festival tickets online now through Sept. 9

This year, for the first time, advance tickets for the Maryland Wine Festival can be purchased online.

Tickets are also available at the Farm Museum's administrative building at 500 S. Center Street in Westminster Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Advance ticket sales will continue through Sept. 9.

If you buy tickets in advance, you will save \$5 off the gate price. The discounted prices are \$20 for adults, and \$45 for Premier Area admission. At the gate, general tickets are \$25, and premier \$50 while supplies last.

Those aged 7-20 are \$5 while children 6 and under are admitted free with an adult. Designated driver tickets are also available at the gate for \$20.

Adult ticket holders are entitled to a logo-engraved wine glass, samples of Maryland



wines, attendance at wine education seminars, continuous on-stage entertainment, guided tours of the museum's 19th century farmhouse, and self-guided tours of period artisan exhibits and demonstrations.

The Premier Area offers an exclusive cocktail-style area with bar-height standup tables. It features samples of premium wines not served at the main festival, samples of cuisine from local restaurants, soft music,

and a private portable restroom. Only 300 Premier Area tickets are available for each day of the festival.

The Maryland Wine Festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 20, from noon-6 p.m.

Since its creation in 1984, this annual event has grown to attract visitors from around the world for its wine sampling, wine education seminars, live music, arts and crafts, and food from local restaurants.

Users of social networking site Facebook can become fans of the Maryland Wine Festival page, which provides updates when new events are announced.

To purchase advance tickets online, visit www.carrollcountyfarmmuseum.org and click on 2009 Maryland Wine Festival Advance Ticket Sales.

— Matthew Willoughby, intern

Finksburg plan draft to be reviewed

A plan outlining a vision of Finksburg's future is moving forward.

Based on feedback from a 60-day review period and a July 28 public hearing, the Finksburg Corridor Plan's next step is to be revised by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The plan is designed to improve the aesthetics and traffic flow along MD 140, protect the area's environmental resources, remove the growth area designation from the land beyond the MD 140 corridor away from a county growth area due to its growth constraints.

The Planning Commission will hold a public work session in the coming weeks to discuss the comments and determine what, if any, changes they would like to see made.

Once the Planning Commission approves a draft plan, it will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration and adoption.

An update to the 1981 Finksburg Area and Environs Comprehensive Plan, the Finksburg Corridor Plan focuses on a much smaller area than its predecessor, addressing only the MD 140 corridor from the county line west to approximately Brown Road.

The balance of the 1981 Community Planning Area is being addressed through the countywide Pathways Plan. Due to their interrelated nature, the draft of the plan is being considered alongside the Pathways Plan.

— Matthew Willoughby, intern



The historic courthouse still houses offices for the Carroll County Circuit Court.

County seeks nominations for Volunteer of the Year award program

If you know someone who has volunteered time and energy to help Carroll County, the Board of County Commissioners invites you to nominate that person for the 2009 Volunteer

Awards. The Volunteer Awards Program recognizes members of the community who work without pay for the county's hospital, fire companies, schools, senior centers, libraries, and numerous

other organizations. This is the program's second year. It is a way to publicly thank volunteers for the tremendous impact they have on our communities. All nominees will be recognized at a

local event in October.

To nominate someone, go to https://ccgovernments.carr.org/ccg/apps/vol_year_form/default.aspx. Apply by Sept. 9.

Votes made, actions taken by the Board of County Commissioners during July

JULY 2

◆ **Impact fee waiver.** Approved 2-0 (Commissioner Julia W. Gouge was absent) a waiver of impact fees. The fee would have been \$2,787 for each of two units that were built in the fire-damaged section of Main Street in Mount Airy.

◆ **School improvements.** Granted approval, 2-0, to transfer \$78,437 from two prior school projects to the general account for HVAC improvements and replacements. The funds will be used to evaluate the condition of HVAC equipment and make plans for future replacement projects.

◆ **Emergency shelter grant.** Approved 2-0 an application from the Department of Citizen Services for \$50,000 from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to be used for the operation of the Intact Family Shelter. The grant will require matching county funds of \$100,209, county office space of \$5,000, and \$9,000 in matching funds from the City of Westminster; for a total of \$164,209.

◆ **Housing.** On separate 2-0 votes, approved the following applications for funds available through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: \$224,910 for the Rental Allowance Program that provides a monthly rent stipend to 30 households for up to 18 months; and \$336,948 for the Bridge Subsidy II program that provides housing assistance for households with one or more disabled individuals.

◆ **Nonprofit grant applications.** Agreed 2-0 to allow the Salvation Army and Human Services Programs (HSP) to apply for grants as partners with the County. No county funds are required with either grant. HSP is requesting \$379,816 for the homeless prevention and rapid re-housing program. Salvation Army is requesting \$38,400 for eviction prevention to help 30 households

for up to 18 months of service.

◆ **Water and sewer plan.** Agreed 2-0 to proceed to public hearing with a proposed amendment to the Master Plan for Water and Sewerage. Manchester officials requested the revision to reflect changes to their comprehensive plan. The amendments were certified as consistent with the Master Plan by the Planning Commission on April 21.

◆ **Road improvements.** Awarded 2-0 a contract for \$775,997 to Gray & Son for improvements to mill and either patch or resurface

◆ **Bonds.** On a 2-0 vote, executed a resolution declaring the County's intent to reimburse capital expenses with debt proceeds from the sale of bonds. The resolution covers the \$35,237,182 of projected bond funding in the adopted fiscal year 2010 Community Investment Plan.

◆ **Vehicle purchase.** Approved 2-0 the purchase of a six-man crew cab truck with stake body from Hertrich Fleet Services for \$43,190. The County used a contract that was previously bid in

Furniture. Approved 3-0 an additional \$122,132 for the purchase of furniture for the Carroll Community College Classroom #4 from Maryland Correction Enterprise.

Swimming pools. Voted 3-0 to proceed to public hearing with a proposed amendment to Chapter 103 of the County Code, Planned Business Centers, regarding swimming pools.

Appeal hearing. Voted 3-0 to reduce an assessment for the clean up of a property, which was deemed a public health nuisance by the Health Department, from \$2891.59 to \$1,000.

JULY 30

◆ **Waste-to-energy.** Voted 2-1 (with Commissioner Julia W. Gouge opposed) to allow the director of Public Works to sign purchase orders for legal, engineering and financial services required for the development of a regional waste-to-energy project.

◆ **Vehicle purchase.** Approved 3-0 the purchase of a ¾-ton crew cab pickup truck from Criswell Chevrolet for \$28,884 to be used by the Bureau of Facilities for general maintenance.

◆ **Domestic violence.** With a 3-0 vote, approved an application for a \$48,325 grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to help fund the Sheriff's Office's Domestic Violence Unit. The County would match the grant with \$8,268 in cash and \$59,397 in in-kind services.

◆ **Domestic violence.** On a separate 3-0 vote, approved an application for a similar grant for the State's Attorney's Office's domestic violence prosecutor. The \$79,095 grant would cover most of the prosecutor's salary. The County covers the remaining cost of salary and benefits for the prosecutor, as well as salary and benefits for the unit coordinator, for a total cost to the County of \$92,819.

**Come to an open community discussion
with the Board of County Commissioners. On
Thursday, Aug. 27, at 9:30 a.m., speak to the board
about any issue related to county government.
Call 410-386-2043 for details.**

Bark Hill, Mayberry, Hughes Shop and Ridge roads.

◆ **Storm drains.** On a 2-0 vote, awarded a \$40,582 contract to Stambaugh's for the reconstruction of eight storm drain inlets.

◆ **Guardrails.** Voted 2-0 to award L.S. Lee Inc a term contract for as much as \$72,000 to install guardrails as needed.

◆ **Property purchase.** Voted 2-0 to exercise an option to purchase the Robert Jones Property at 219 Greenwood Ave. in Westminster for \$497,000. The parcel contains a two-story business and 8,750 square feet of land and is located within the Greenwood Campus.

JULY 9

◆ **Medicaid Waiver for Older Adults.** Approved 2-0 (Commissioner Dean L. Minnich was absent) an application for \$26,922 in grant funds from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The funds will be used to improve the transition of Medicaid-eligible residents who are able to receive care in their own homes or in assisted living facilities.

August 2008 with an option to purchase additional vehicles for one year. The truck will be used by the Bureau of Roads Operations for general maintenance. It replaces a 1998 vehicle.

JULY 16

◆ **Bid approval.** Approved 2-0 (Commissioner Dean L. Minnich was absent) contracts with three firms to provide services for municipal water and wastewater treatment equipment on an as-needed basis. The firms are Swam Electric of Hanover, Pa., Control Systems 21 of Dillsburg, Pa., and TAI of Owings Mills, Md.

JULY 23

Hoods Mill landfill. To comply with federal and state laws, the installation of a gas collection system is needed to correct a gas migration problem at the Hoods Mill landfill. On separate 3-0 votes, the board approved the transfer of \$374,000 to partially fund the gas collection system at Hoods Mill landfill; and awarded the project to Geosyntec Consultants. The total cost of the system is \$635,536.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Unless noted otherwise, meetings will be held in the County Office Building at 225 North Center Street, Westminster. All times are subject to change. Check the County's Web site closer to the date of the meeting, or call 410-386-2400.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

1 p.m. Carroll County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board – Room 007

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

9 a.m. Sustainability Committee – Room 300A

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

1 p.m. Carroll County Farm Museum Board of Governors – George Grier Meeting Room, Carroll County Farm Museum, 500 S Center St., Westminster
3:30 Public workshop on proposed code amendment regarding swimming pools in Planned Business Centers – Room 105
6:30 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission: Pathways Plan work session – Room 003

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311
10 a.m. Board of License Commissioners (Liquor Board) – Room 003
3 p.m. Environmental Advisory Council – Room 003



4 p.m. Behavioral Health and Addictions Council – Room 153, Carroll County Health Department, 290 S. Center St., Westminster
6:30 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission: Pathways Plan work session – Room 003

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

10 a.m. Commission on Aging – Bureau of Aging Administrative Conference Room, 125 Stoner Ave., Westminster
6:30 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission – Room 003

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

10 a.m. Design and Architectural Review Committee – Room 205

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

8 a.m. Department of Social Services Board, DSS Conference Room, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster
9 a.m. Planning and Zoning Commission regular

session, followed by Pathways Plan work session – Room 003

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

8 a.m. Electrical Board, Baugher's Country Restaurant, 289 W Main St., Westminster

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 300A
10 a.m. Roundtable discussion with Cabinet and governmental partners – Room 003
11 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

7:30 a.m. Industrial Development Authority – Room 105
9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003
2 p.m. Water Resource Coordination Council – Room 105

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

9:30 a.m. Open community discussion with Commissioners – Room 311
10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

Nighttime fishing tournament set

Piney Run Park will host a nighttime bass fishing tournament at Piney Run Lake on Friday, Aug. 21, from 6 p.m. until midnight.

Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three largemouth bass weighed in. First place earns \$200 plus a trophy; second place earns \$150; third place earns \$100. This is the final nighttime bass fishing tournament of the 2009 season.

The entry fee for the tournament is \$15 per angler. Vehicle entrance fees will be waived for tournament anglers. However, the standard boat launch fee of \$8 per boat applies. Rental boats are available for \$20 and can be reserved for this event.

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Please call the park office at 410-795-5165 for more information or for a registration form. Reservation forms may also be obtained online at <http://ccgovernent.carr.org/ccg/recpark/pineyrun/fishing.asp>.

The Board of County Commissioners sponsors these and other activities at Piney Run Park and Nature Center through the Department of Recreation and Parks. Piney Run Park is located at 30 Martz Road, Sykesville.

Email your commissioners

Julia W. Gouge: jgouge@ccg.carr.org

Dean L. Minnich: dminnich@ccg.carr.org

Michael D. Zimmer: czimmer@ccg.carr.org

Or reach all three: Commissioners@ccg.carr.org

Not sure who to contact?

Email PublicComments@ccg.carr.org

Vision

Carroll County offers a safe environment in which all its residents may live, work, and play. The rural character of our county is preserved through measures that protect our natural and cultural resources, minimize future residential sprawl, and save farmland. Carroll County is enriched by sustainable agriculture and agribusiness as well as responsible, productive business and industry that offer family-wage jobs and employ the county's skilled workforce.



Mission statement

The mission of Carroll County Government is to provide excellent, efficient service to our residents in a courteous, friendly manner. We conduct business openly. We encourage each resident to play a role in keeping Carroll County a great place to live, to work, and to play.

CARROLL COUNTY

a great place to live, a great place to work, a great place to play