



# UPPER SHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Cecil County  
Kent County  
Queen Anne's County

## Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Meeting, County Economic Development Directors

### Executive Board

Dr. Alan McCarthy  
Chair  
Cecil County Council  
Commissioner

Ronald H. Fithian  
1st Vice Chair  
Kent County  
Commissioner

Robert Buckey  
2nd Vice Chair  
Queen Anne's County  
Commissioner

Joyce Bowsbey  
Cecil County  
Councilwoman

James J. Moran  
Queen Anne's County  
Commissioner

William W. Pickrum  
Treasurer  
Kent County  
Commissioner

Representing the General  
Assembly:

Senator Stephen S. Hershey  
Delegate Jay A. Jacobs  
Delegate Steven J. Arentz  
Delegate Jeff Ghrist

Maryland General Assembly

Doris S. Mason  
Executive Director  
[dmason@kentgov.org](mailto:dmason@kentgov.org)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/dorismason](http://www.linkedin.com/in/dorismason)

**Date and Time:** Monday, February, 1, 2016, 1:30-3:00PM

**Location:** 122 N. Cross Street, Chestertown MD 21620

**Participants:** Jamie Gilbert, Queen Anne's County Economic Development, Doris Mason, Executive Director for USRC, Scott Warner, Executive Director for Mid-Shore Regional Council, Lisa Webb, Cecil County Economic Development, Jamie Williams, Kent County Economic Development

### Welcome/Purpose of the Meeting

Ms. Mason opened the meeting welcoming the economic development directors and explained that rather than bring in a larger group to launch the work of the CEDS review committee, the plan is now (at the request of the executive board) to begin with them. Ms. Mason did a summary of the work to date, including the work of March 2015 with the EDA in Philadelphia and in September 24, 2015 at the Donaldson Brown Center. The group was also presented with the regional SWOT analysis completed in fall of 2015 with the partner input and the CEDS framework activity, which enlisted the partners to create a table of possible projects.

Next, Scott Warner talked about the CEDS process in the Mid-Shore (Dorchester, Talbot and Caroline Counties). He shared about the fiscal benefits to date in the region and gave an overview of many of the projects to which the EDA has contributed millions of dollars. There are three new projects this year, and Scott has 6 goals. There were 33 projects in total during the past several years which were a part of their CEDS and 25 projects currently still in their CEDS. Twenty three of the Mid-Shore's projects have actually completed the process.

The participants then brainstormed some of the types of projects which may become a part of an Upper Shore CEDS plan. Ms. Mason then recommended a few which were a part of the table on the following page.

Ms. Mason passed around a draft CEDS which has been pulled together from the work conducted by the group during the September 24, meeting and some of the priority project submission forms completed by a few of the partners and some outside studies conducted in the counties such as: the Cecil County Incubator Feasibility Study; the Calvert Park Study; Cecil County EDC Findings and Recommendations Report, 2013 SWOT Analysis and Strategic Plan Update; Economic Development Plan for Kent County MD, October 2013; Queen Anne's County EDC, Ten Year Strategic Plan, January, 2015; Impacts of Land Use on County Finances, Queen Anne's; Cecil Labor Market Analysis, Sage Policy Group; etc. *(copies of reports available upon request)*

122 N. Cross St., Chestertown, MD 21620  
(410) 810-2124 – Phone; FAX (866) 571-5607  
[www.uppershoreregionalcouncil.org](http://www.uppershoreregionalcouncil.org)



# UPPER SHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Cecil County  
Kent County  
Queen Anne's County

## CEDS Framework Possible Projects (includes Questionnaires, April Exec. Bd. Mtg., Sep. CEDS Retreat; Priority Project Submission Forms) [February 1, 2016]

County	Identified Need 1: Workforce	Identified Need 2: High Speed Internet	Identified Need 3: Youth Engagement/Aglyc Out	Identified Need 4: Small Business/Agriculture Business	Identified Need 5: Transportation
<b>Cecil</b>	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Incubator on grounds of Basil 2. mass transit from Perryville to Newark, DE to close MARC commuter gap* 3. Base/CTC Board of Ed, N.E. Library Middle level skills training (equipment support, certifications) (Cecil college, Cecil school of Tech)* 4. Manufacturing trouping initiative that supports business build out (COP/CC/WB programming)*	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Salisbury, data center (3) shared between 3 counties*	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Internships, senior center/multi purpose building lower Cecil county-Cecilton (land use to head start)* 2. Youth center @ Cecilton park*	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. technology sharing**, AG workforce training* 2. Regional Data Center**	1: Getting Mass Transit into Cecil County (Elkton, etc.) (SEPTA v Marc Train)
<b>Kent</b>	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Hi-speed internet, Water/sewer infrastructure 300 corridor* 2. Skills Training, Incubator program* 3. Ag Tech Training (Precision AG), natural gas pipeline*	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. B&B's, high speed infrastructure (last mile)** 2. Home-based business/Cottage industry, business high speed connection*	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Internships 2. Soft Skills/Work Ethic Training; community needs assessment (LME)** 3. Youth Tech Incubator 4. METS Guild location	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Micro-Breweries and B&B's, Chestertown marina* 2. Precision AG Tech Trainings, conference center* 3. Farms/Tourism, Cam House Rock Hill* 4. Olson Valve Expansion*	1. Beer and wine tour 2. Workforce housing (300 High street)* 3. Regional incubator partnership with colleges, 4. Steghe Project 3D-plus*
<b>Queen Anne's County</b>	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Installation of broadband, high speed internet to create hubs to support business development, hospitals/location (Kent Narrows (W/1 hot spot), government buildings, and provide "last mile" access to designated growth areas (business development), rural areas and small towns	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Youth engagement 2. Resource and referral hotline (how specifically will this assist the youth engagement initiative?) 3. Mentoring programs 4. Community needs assessment 5. Early childhood home visiting (Capital Project to House Above Programs)	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Market and promote the Centerville business park for continuing care retirement community (CCRC) and related aging in place services 2. 3. Create a business development made through incubator and co work space, public private partnership, tax incentives	<b>Proposed Project:</b> 1. Cratonville ES-A 2. Church Hill ES-Roof 3. Cratonville ES-fire alarm 4. Kent Island HS-EMS 5. Bayside GS-generator 6. Centerville HS-generator 7. Sudleville ES-the work (please provide more specific information with this submission) 8. Kent Island HS-fire alarm 9. NW Regional CTC center	

## CEDS Framework Possible Projects (includes Questionnaires, April Exec. Bd. Mtg., Sep. CEDS Retreat; Priority Project Submission Forms) [February 1, 2016]

<b>Queen Anne's County (cont.)</b>	2. Provide public sewer, water and transportation improvements in priority funding areas and designated growth zones to create shovel ready land opportunities for commercial projects as identified in the comprehensive plan 3. Create a vocational workforce development center to train students and under employed individuals for employment opportunities in Queen Anne's and surrounding counties 4. Plan and construct a business incubator for small businesses and high technology enterprises	to landlords, counting ED funding for tenant 4. Complete master plans for the pen name and banjo lane corridors to facilitate business development 5. Consider a part time economic development manager position to coordinate and execute town's economic development initiatives 6. Host and promote events in the center, and improve signage at the entrance of town to create a sense of place (from main street study) 7. Create a business incubator and obtain access to the FBI annex of post office building	10. Sudleville ES-wid doors 11. Kent Island HS-chiller 12. Queen Anne's HS- CTC areas (please provide more specific information with this submission) 13. Kent Island HS- CTC areas (please provide more specific information with this submission) 14. Queen Anne's HS- bldg envelope 15. Varnard ES-gym 16. Sudleville ES-water eye 17. New South County ES 18. Sudleville ES-chiller 19. Kent Island HS-roof 20. Church Hill ES-chiller 21. Queen Anne's HS-auditorium 22. Kent Island HS-auditorium 23. Centerville MS-A & LR 24. Bayside ES-classrooms
------------------------------------	---	--	---

\* added during April Executive Board  
 \*\*added during the 9/24/2015 CEDS retreat  
 \*\*\*added from original questionnaires  
 \*\*\*\* added from priority project submission forms



# UPPER SHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Cecil County  
Kent County  
Queen Anne's County

Some of the priority project ideas that were recommended were the: Chateau Bu-De in Cecil County, the wildcat plant in Cecil County, and the Warwick Mushroom plant, which is in growth mode. Ms. Mason also discussed a regional Data Center project that was submitted by Scott Mesneak, IT Director for Cecil County. Lisa Webb shared regarding the layoffs happening at the DuPont plant and its impact on the region. Some additional ideas that were brought up were the: need for a Marketing Coordinator for the as a recommendation of the Cecil County EDC Communications Committee (on which Ms. Mason sits).

## **ACTION STEPS:**

Lastly a set of action steps was made: 1) Ms. Mason will scan and share the draft CEDS document with the ED's; 2) Ms. Mason will share those few priority project submissions received to date for the CEDS; 3) County Economic Development Directors will submit any new projects which fit for the CEDS-within the next 30 days; and 4) the County Economic Development Directors will submit feedback on SWOT shared at the meeting within the next 30 days; 5) Ms. Mason will be in touch via a doodle poll to schedule the next meeting.