

TOP ISSUES AS IDENTIFIED IN PHASE 1

MOST FREQUENTLY RAISED ISSUES:

- # 1 We want local business areas with more local shops in this part of the city - most desired are places to eat & buy food
- # 2 We want to be able to safely, comfortably walk and bike throughout the sector to shops, parks, schools, jobs, etc., it's key part of city life
(Walkable neighborhoods and districts are a big part of the city's appeal and this part of the city has the most potential for biking)
- # 3 Beautify - We want more a more attractive, green, shady boulevard with more public art & more place making in this part of the city
- # 4 Style/character - Annapolis is special, we want the corridor/sector to look & feel like Annapolis -i.e. low scale urban, less suburban & less auto centric
- # 5 Mobility /Traffic - We want to maintain traffic mobility in, out and around the city and the peninsula now and in the future - or to limit growth
- # 6 We want a clear vision, city leadership, county cooperation and implementation follow-through on current city plans
- # 7 We want developments to involve infill, redevelopment, smart growth, green space, tree canopy, forests & improved water quality
- # 8 We need a vital economy and a good tax base in order to pay for the things the City needs
- # 9 We need regulatory changes to achieve these things - such as guidelines, zoning text changes, etc.

ISSUES RAISED BY THEMES (red text are issues raised at the public meeting #1 and by community survey #1)

CREATE, ADOPT & IMPLEMENT A CLEAR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

- We need a strong clear vision for the SOFO corridor **as an important part of the City**
- We need a vision for Eastport
- We need a vision for the Edgewood area

MOBILITY - VEHICULAR/TRANSIT

- Ensure near and long term mobility for City and Peninsula
- Work with County and property owners to plan for adequate corridor capacity & attractive character
- Improve policies, coordination, communication & training to handle traffic during emergencies & incidents
- Move away from car dominated travel, communities and streets
- Add local street connections and grid network for more route options & connected neighborhoods
- Link to regional transit service & extend regional bus service do the corridor
- Embrace Uber, driverless cars and other technological changes that reduce private car usage over time
- Embrace new technologies to manage traffic - synchronize city traffic signals
- Reduce individual turn-ins i.e. driveways & curb cuts on Forest Drive - and drive through**
- Add eclectic transport to park and rides for access to regional transit**
- Improve local bus service, better stops, cheaper fare, more efficient, make it electric**

MOBILITY- PEDESTRIANS AND BIKES

- Implement the City's 2010 Bike Master Plan - Build the planned bike lanes! We need them! Now!
- Fix gaps in the sidewalk network and add crosswalks - **yes make this a priority**
- Approve low scale urban style infill that helps create walkable mixed use neighborhoods and business areas
- Work with the county to create bike/pedestrian spines & linkages to the greater Annapolis area and peninsula
- Slow the corridor speed down to make it safer place to bike and walk, add a wide multi-use trail not a lane?
- Build wide mutli-use paths along Forest - make it like West street**
- Connect neighborhoods to shops, school and each other with connector trail links**
- Need a safe bike trail spine from Eastport to Quiet Waters Park**

VIBRANT ECONOMY

- Increase city revenues to fund needed city improvements listed in this plan and others - like bike trails!
- Increase city tax base with more valuable commercial properties & added businesses
- Add more jobs so city residents can work in the city & not commute elsewhere
- Anticipate huge changes from driverless cars, online shopping, & next generation values
- Preserve & build on the City's maritime and tourism based economy
- Attract more small shops & services we can walk or bike to instead of driving
- Improve ped/bike access to shopping and businesses to help local businesses compete**
- Annex Bay Ridge Rd/ Hillsmere to the city**
- Add a grocery store in Eastport - we need more places to eat in this area!**

LAND USE & COMMUNITY DESIGN

- Replace aging strip development in the corridor
- Prevent huge out-of-scale development that draws out of town traffic
- Transform the Bay Ridge Area into an attractive local business district for the peninsula
- Zone all the commercial areas in the corridor **(low scale) Mixed Use**
- Make the corridor more attractive, give it a sense of place and community life
- Beautify the corridor to catalyze infill and renovation of older commercial districts**

ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCESS

- Zone all the commercial areas in the corridor Mixed Use - incentivize development
- Revise zoning text to achieve vision, revise the use lists, etc.
- Create **Design** guidelines to allow a mix of smaller shops & services we can walk and bike to
- Protect the maritime zone and the working waterfront
- Speed up the review process while making it clear, fair and open - allow by-right approvals for more things
- Promote conversion of existing auto-centric suburban commercial areas to walkable low-scale urban places**
- Add a map to the city website reports on development applications - communicate more with residents**
- Increase the MPDU program - grant fewer variances to it**

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Attract more small shops & services we can walk or bike to instead of driving
- Protect unique character of Annapolis and Eastport & create one for the SOFA corridor
- Improve our sense of safety. **Violence & petty crime deters pedestrians and small businesses**
- Provide mobility for residents, & commuters and manage incident and event traffic better
- Achieve a greater sense of place, community life, bring in more art and neighborhood events
- Beautify the corridor & set standards to update & enhance the existing older commercial buildings**
- Implement the adopted 2009 Comprehensive plan - don't reinvent or change the wheel!**
- Stop growth or down zone land if traffic can't be fixed**
- We need more smart growth in the city, not no-growth**
- Freeze all development! Stop development at Crystal Springs, Rogers, prop. Watergate, etc.!**
- Build more low and moderate priced housing in the City**

GREENING ANNAPOLIS/ ENVIRONMENT

- Plant more street trees **and plants in medians on Forest Drive, do better maintenance on F. Drive landscape**
- Improve the water quality of our creeks and the Bay
- Promote redevelopment of older paved sites to add in SWM - Set impervious surface cap?
- Create linked greenways, green spaces **and tree canopies all preserved with easements**
- Save priority forests and canopy coverage - **connecting where possible**
- Implement the City Water Resources Improvement Plan