



# ***Managing Maryland's Growth***

## **Transitioning to the Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Review Cycle**

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Maryland Department of Planning  
301 West Preston Street, Suite 1101  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201  
[Planning.Maryland.gov](http://Planning.Maryland.gov)





## Message from Secretary of Planning David R. Craig

In 2013, the Maryland General Assembly passed and the governor signed House Bill 409 that changed the review cycle for comprehensive plans. The bill also directed the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) to work with the Maryland Municipal League (MML) and the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) to create a schedule to transition the comprehensive planning cycle from a 6-year review cycle to a 10-year review cycle. The legislation also:

- Requires all planning commissions and boards to file a local jurisdiction annual report with the legislative body and to include in the annual report, at least once within the 5-year period after the adoption or review of the local jurisdiction's comprehensive plan, a narrative on the plan's implementation status; and
- Requires all jurisdictions that adopted growth tiers, as outlined in the Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012, to incorporate their growth tier map into the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan at the time the jurisdiction was scheduled to conduct its 6-year comprehensive plan review prior to the effective date of this legislation.

This legislation affects every jurisdiction. We are hopeful that you will find this resource informative and a useful guide in your jurisdiction's decision making process for comprehensive plan reviews, amendments and updates. The Department of Planning will work with each jurisdiction to develop a target date for its 5-Year Report and next 10-year review cycle so we can document that for the general public and allocate resources to assist you as needed.

If your jurisdiction has any questions, comments or concerns, please have your staff contact David Dahlstrom, Regional Planner, at (410) 819-4084 or [david.dahlstrom@maryland.gov](mailto:david.dahlstrom@maryland.gov).



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## Introduction

This document was written by the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning), in coordination with the Maryland Municipal League and the Maryland Association of Counties, as a service to local jurisdictions and planning officials. This document includes a series of checklist questions and tables intended to be used as a guide to assist county and municipal planning commissions, planning boards and staffs as they assess local procedures and decisions to periodically update the comprehensive plan. This document does not preclude a local jurisdiction from amending its comprehensive plan at any time to address changes in the community or to update land use policies and recommendations to guide future growth and development decisions.

This document was prepared to help transition the periodic review of local jurisdiction comprehensive plans from a 6-year review cycle to a 10-year review cycle. Local jurisdictions choosing to use this document are not required to submit responses to Planning. It is Planning's hope that after reviewing this document each planning commission or board would work with Planning to mutually establish a target plan review date that could be reported on Planning's website for general public reference.

## Why should you review your comprehensive plan?

Simply put - change. Even if changes do not appear to be happening in your jurisdiction, change is happening around you. Besides demographic, economic, growth, infrastructure, or environmental related changes which may have occurred since the last comprehensive plan update, there have been changes in state planning legislation that affects all jurisdictions and requires changes to the procedures of local planning commissions and boards.

## What legislation has changed?

In 2013, House Bill [409](#) amended Sections [1-207](#), [1-416](#), [1-509](#), [3-301](#) and [3-303](#) of the [Land Use Article](#), Annotated Code of Maryland.

The 2013 legislation changed the review process and cycle of comprehensive plans:

- (1) Increases the review time period of a local jurisdiction's comprehensive plan cycle to 10-years instead of 6-years;
- (2) Requires all planning commissions and boards to file a local jurisdiction annual report with the legislative body and to include in the annual report, at least once within the 5-year period after the adoption or review of the local jurisdiction's comprehensive plan, a narrative on the plan's implementation status (5-Year Report);
- (3) Directs Planning, along with the Maryland Association of Counties and the Maryland Municipal League, to create by December 1, 2015 a schedule to transition the comprehensive planning cycle of each local jurisdiction from a 6-year cycle to a 10-year cycle, coinciding with the release of census data; and
- (4) Requires all jurisdictions that adopted [growth tiers](#) (aka septic tiers), as outlined in Senate Bill [236](#), to incorporate their growth tier map into the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan at the time the jurisdiction was scheduled to conduct its 6-year comprehensive plan review prior to the effective date of this legislation. If the growth tier map is not incorporated into the local comprehensive plan, the local health officer may not be authorized to approve any

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new major subdivisions on septic systems. See *Table 1: Growth Tiers – Six -Year Review Cycle Schedule* for a list of jurisdictions that have adopted growth tiers.

In 2015, House Bill [919](#) amended Sections [3-204](#) and [3-205](#) of the [Land Use Article](#), Annotated Code of Maryland.

The 2015 legislation changed and clarified the authority of a local legislative body for a non-charter county or municipality to adopt, amend, or reject a comprehensive plan submitted by its planning commission:

- (1) Authorizes the legislative body of a non-charter county or municipality to adopt, modify, remand, or disapprove all or part of a comprehensive plan submitted by its planning commission;
- (2) Requires the legislative body to hold a public hearing before adopting or modifying the plan and authorizes the body to hold a public hearing before remanding or disapproving the plan;
- (3) Requires the planning commission to hold a public hearing before submitting a new recommended plan to the legislative body, if the body remanded or disapproved the prior submitted plan;
- (4) Requires the legislative body to approve, modify, remand, or disapprove a submitted plan within 90 days after receipt, otherwise the recommendation of the planning commission shall be considered approved; and
- (5) Provides that the legislative body may extend the 90-day public hearing deadline up to an additional 60 days if there are exigent circumstances preventing the body from acting on the plan within 90 days.

### Where can I find the legislative changes?

- (1) Visit the [Planning 10-Year Review Cycle](#) website for links;
- (2) Search the Maryland General Assembly [Home](#) or [Statute Look Up](#) website;
- (3) Search the Code of Maryland on the [LexisNexis.com](#) website; or
- (4) Search the [MACo Legislative Tracker Database](#) website.

Print copies of the annotated version of the [Land Use Article](#) are available at local libraries or are available for purchase from the publisher. Visit the [Planning 10-Year Review Cycle](#) website for information on how to purchase the annotated version from the publisher.

### Where can I get help?

The Maryland Department of Planning is available to provide technical assistance. Please contact your [Regional Planner](#) to request assistance or visit the [Planning 10-Year Review Cycle](#) website.

## A. Frequently Asked Questions

### When does the 2020 U.S. decennial census data become available?

The first release of [decennial census](#) 2020 data is anticipated around February 2021. This will have total population (and ages 18+) by race as well as housing unit counts and occupancy status. This data will be available down to the census block level. Demographic profiles (down to the census place level), with more detailed demographic data (such as age groups) is anticipated for release around May of 2021. The most detailed demographic data (by age, race, gender, household type, type of vacancy, etc.) is anticipated for release in the summer of 2021. The geography for this release is down to the census block level.

### What if my plan review cycle is due before the census data becomes available?

If your next 10-year plan review cycle is scheduled between 2017 and 2021, you may choose to defer the next plan update until the census data becomes available. This publication can assist with your decision to defer your scheduled update. For example, jurisdictions with little, no, or even negative growth may find that their current comprehensive plan, despite containing some outdated data, still contains policies and objectives that are appropriate and still reflects the needs of the jurisdiction.

In some cases, a jurisdiction may decide that only portions of individual elements of the plan need updating. At a minimum, jurisdictions should complete their local jurisdiction annual report every year, as required under [Land Use Article](#) Section [1-207\(b\)](#) and the new 5-year implementation status review required under [Land Use Article](#) Section [1-207\(c\)\(6\)](#). Combined, these reviews should help to identify whether there is a need to update portions of your plan, zoning code, or subdivision ordinances.

Jurisdictions that have approved, administratively approved, or adopted a growth tier map, pursuant to [Chapter 149](#) (Senate Bill [236](#)) and codified under [Environment](#) Article Section [9-206](#), must adopt this growth tier map into the comprehensive plan or an element of the plan within the current 6-year review cycle. If the growth tier map is not incorporated into the local comprehensive plan, the local health officer may not be authorized to approve any new major subdivisions on septic systems. See *Table 1: Growth Tiers – Six -Year Review Cycle Schedule* for a list of jurisdictions that have submitted growth tier maps to the Department and their corresponding 6-year cycle review and target growth tier incorporation date.

### When is it necessary to update the comprehensive plan?

A comprehensive plan review is an inspection and evaluation of the comprehensive plan elements. Based on this review, the planning commission or board may determine that portions of the plan are in need of update. Each local jurisdiction may decide the frequency of plan reviews, but at a minimum, all jurisdictions with “planning and zoning authority” are required to review their comprehensive plans at least once in a ten year period. Please review *Table 2: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – Counties*, or *Table 3: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – Municipalities* for suggested timetables. Based on local actions, these target dates may be changed. Each planning commission

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and board should work with Planning to mutually establish and update the target plan review dates to be reported on Planning's website for general public reference.

All jurisdictions with "planning and zoning authority" are given the power to recommend updates and amendments to the comprehensive plan, zoning laws, or any other land use ordinance or regulation at any time. Planning commissions and boards are also given the responsibility to review the comprehensive plan and, if necessary, revise or amend the comprehensive plan, at least once in a 10-year period.

The following questions in Sections B and C of this guidance document should help jurisdictions evaluate what actions your jurisdiction should consider when determining if it is necessary to review and potentially update your plan. The update may be in the form of a plan amendment, or development of a new comprehensive plan. Your review will determine what actions are appropriate for your jurisdiction.

### What if the last review occurred more than 10 years ago?

If your comprehensive plan is more than 10 years old the planning commission or board should consider the recommendations included in this document to determine if the plan continues to meet the needs of the jurisdiction or if selective updates might be advisable. In any circumstance every jurisdiction should complete the local jurisdiction annual report, every year, complete a 5-year implementation review (5-Year Report) no later than July 1, 2019, and plan to begin a review cycle after the decennial census data becomes available in late 2021. The review of the comprehensive plan does not necessarily mean any changes to the plan are required. This is a local issue determined based on findings of the comprehensive plan review.

### Do I need a new comprehensive plan every 10 years?

The 10-year review cycle does not mandate that a new comprehensive plan be prepared. Pursuant to [Land Use Article](#) Sections [1-416](#), [1-417](#), [3-301](#) and [3-303](#) a planning commission or board shall review its comprehensive plan, and if necessary update it. The local jurisdiction is charged with determining whether the comprehensive plan still meets the needs of the jurisdiction.

### Does my jurisdiction need to complete a review of the implementation status of the comprehensive plan? (5-Year Report)

[Land Use Article](#) Section [1-207\(c\)\(6\)](#) requires all planning commissions and boards to file a local jurisdiction annual report with the legislative body and to include in the annual report, at least once within the 5-year period after the adoption or review of the local jurisdiction's comprehensive plan, a narrative on the plan's implementation status. This 5-year mid cycle review is also referred to as the 5-Year Report.



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This is a new requirement as of 2013; therefore, all jurisdictions with comprehensive plans that were adopted before January 1, 2010 should complete this 5-year mid cycle review no later than July 1, 2018. The 5-Year Report may be submitted along with the local jurisdiction annual report. The review requirements for the 5-Year Report are incorporated into *Section IV: Plan Implementation and Development Process* of the Annual Report Long Form and the Annual Report Short Form for calendar year 2015. See *Table 2: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – Counties*, or *Table 3: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – Municipalities* for a list of comprehensive plan adoption dates, 5-year mid cycle 10-year and review cycles.

Additional guidance on completing the 5-Year Report narrative can be found in the *Models & Guidelines #32: The Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Review Cycle*

### When should I start my comprehensive plan review process? How long should it take?

The initial review of the comprehensive plan itself should not take long depending on the size of the jurisdiction and complexity of the issues addressed in the plan. For some jurisdictions, the questions posed in this document will help in determining the level of effort required to review and if necessary update the plan. Comprehensive plan reviews and updates can be time consuming and there are many factors that can extend this process. Most jurisdictions allow at least one to two years to complete a comprehensive plan update, although several jurisdictions have experienced longer timeframes. With the anticipation that decennial census data will begin to be available by early 2021, it is advisable to begin the local comprehensive plan review process in 2020, to be completed with any updates by 2024.

Local jurisdictions that make any incremental amendments to the comprehensive plan should determine if the changes are substantive and comprehensive enough to be considered as a comprehensive plan update. Changes that are considered by the planning commission or board to function as a comprehensive plan update would reset the 10-year review cycle. The planning commission or board should state in the comprehensive plan amendment at the time of transmitting it to Planning for review/comment or as part of the adoption resolution that the amendment will reset the 10-year review cycle.

### When does the next Census of Agriculture become available?

The [Census of Agriculture](#) is released every five years. The 2012 release came out in April 2014. The 2017 Census of Agriculture should be available in the first quarter of 2019.

### When does the Economic Census become available?

The [Economic Census](#) taken every five years is released on a flow basis for states and topic. The first set of sub-state data for 2012 was released for Maryland in 2015. If the 2017 Economic Census is released on the same schedule, then Maryland data should be available by the end of 2020.

### How can Planning help?

Planning is a resource to local jurisdictions. Planning supports local jurisdiction efforts to ensure their comprehensive plans and zoning regulations are up-to-date and relevant to the jurisdiction. Planning provides technical assistance, including water and sewer planning, dissemination and analysis of census, [American Community Survey](#), and other demographic and socioeconomic data, GIS and mapping assistance, state agency coordination, and review and comment on the draft plan. Planning, or other state agency assistance, is best utilized by inviting state agencies to a pre-plan meeting to address methods and guidance before your jurisdiction starts its review and update process. Submitting a draft comprehensive plan or amendment to Planning for 60-day review does not constitute Planning assistance.

Local jurisdictions should contact their [Regional Planner](#) as soon as a decision has been made to review, update or amend the comprehensive plan and visit the [Planning 10-Year Review Cycle](#) website for guidelines and resources. The *Planning Models & Guidelines: The Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Review Cycle* provides additional detail and guidance for plan reviews and updates. After completing these guidelines, Planning will work with each jurisdiction to develop a target date for its next 10-year review cycle so we can document that for the general public and allocate resources to assist you as needed.

## B. Preliminary Checklist Questions

There are a couple of preliminary questions that you should answer before you begin the *Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Review Cycle Evaluation Checklist* in Section C.

- (1) What is the adoption date (year) of your jurisdiction's current comprehensive plan? (This includes any comprehensive plan amendments, community plans, sector plans, or geographic section or division plans, list each). .....

*The adoption date is necessary to determine how many years may have passed since the last comprehensive plan update. The adoption date will also help to determine when, if applicable, a growth tier map may need to be incorporated into the comprehensive plan. The adoption date will also be used to determine when the 5-Year Report. The adoption date may be different than the date that appears on the comprehensive plan cover. Adoption dates are included in Table 2: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – Counties, or Table 3: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – Municipalities. Each jurisdiction should ensure that these dates are accurately reflected.*

- (2) When was the last planning commission or board review of the comprehensive plan? .....

*The review date is necessary to determine how many years have passed since the last review and to determine how many years until the next review must be completed. The scope and detail of the comprehensive plan is determined by each jurisdiction.*

- (3) Did the review include the entire comprehensive plan, or individual elements? .....

*If the review only included portions of the comprehensive plan, the planning commission or board is responsible for reviewing all elements of the comprehensive plan within the 10-year review cycle.*

- (4) Is all land within the boundaries of the jurisdiction in the Priority Funding Area (PFA)? ..... Y  N

*If the answer to this question is yes, then the local land use percentage goal does not need to be established in the comprehensive plan.*

*If the answer to this question is no, and the area does not qualify for PFA, then the jurisdiction must establish a local percentage goal to achieve the statewide land use goal, under [Land Use Article Section 1-208\(2\)](#) to increase the current percentage of growth located inside the PFAs and decrease the percentage of growth (new lots and new residential units) located outside the PFAs. It is recommended this percentage goal be included in the comprehensive plan with associated strategies and policies to achieve it.*

- (5) Does your comprehensive plan include the required elements?..... Y  N

For non-charter counties and municipalities, the comprehensive plan must include the following elements, pursuant to [Land Use Article Sections 3-102, 3-103, 3-104, 3-105, and 3-106](#):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Facilities element            | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation element  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area of Critical State Concern element* | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources element |

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goals and Objectives element    | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources element* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use element                | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Growth element*  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development Regulations element | <input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries element*         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive Areas element         | *If applicable                                      |

*Many jurisdictions choose to combine the requirements of the Development Regulations or the Goals and Objectives element into the other elements of the plan. This is a common and acceptable practice. The Area of Critical State Concern element is only required for areas that have been designated as an Area of Critical State Concern. This is a remnant of past planning legislation and no Areas of Critical State Concern have been designated. Municipal Growth elements are only applicable to municipalities.*

For charter and code counties the comprehensive plan must include the following elements, pursuant to [Land Use Article](#) Sections [1-406](#), [1-407](#), [1-408](#), [1-409](#), and [1-410](#):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development Regulations element | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources element    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive Areas element         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources element* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation element          | *If applicable                                      |

*If your answer to question 5 is no, then consider updating your comprehensive plan to include all required elements. A complete list of the required elements, including citations, can be found in Table 4: Maryland Code Requirements for Local Comprehensive Plans – Municipalities and Non-Charter Counties, and Table 5: Maryland Code Requirements for Local Comprehensive Plans - Charter and Code Counties. Visit Planning's [Models & Guidelines](#) and [Archives](#) for available publications.*

- (6) Does your comprehensive plan include the 12 visions required by Land Use Article Section 1-201? ..... Y  N

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (1) Quality of life and sustainability | <input type="checkbox"/> (7) Housing                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Public Participation               | <input type="checkbox"/> (8) Economic Development   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (3) Growth Areas                       | <input type="checkbox"/> (9) Environment Protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (4) Community Design                   | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Resource Conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5) Infrastructure                     | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Stewardship           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (6) Transportation                     | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Implementation        |

*If your answer to this question is no, then consider updating your comprehensive plan to address, in a meaningful way, all required visions.*

- (7) Does your jurisdiction have an established procedure for when or how reviews and updates to the comprehensive plan are to occur? ..... Y  N

*If your answer to this question is yes, then review your established procedures against the new legislation to ensure they are consistent. (Procedures are not required and do not need to be adopted). Do the procedures still reference a 6-year cycle instead of a 10-year cycle? Do they include the preparation and submittal of the local jurisdiction annual report and/or Adequate Public Facility Bi-Annual reports to the legislative body and the Secretary of*

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*Planning? Do the procedures address the changes pursuant to [Land Use Article](#) Sections [3-204](#) and [3-205](#)?*

*If your answer to this question is no, then it is recommended that your jurisdiction prepare a local process for when or how reviews and updates of the comprehensive plan take place.*

- (8) Was the last planning commission or board review of the comprehensive plan before January 1, 2010? ..... Y  N

*If your answer to this question is yes, then the planning commission or board should conduct a review of the implementation status of the comprehensive plan (5-Year Report), pursuant to [Land Use Article](#) Section [1-207\(c\)\(6\)\(I\)-\(VI\)](#). This report should be incorporated into the local jurisdiction's annual report, pursuant to [Land Use Article](#) Section [1-207\(b\)](#), and submitted to the Secretary of Planning by July 1, 2018. For additional information on annual report requirements, please visit the [Annual Report Tools](#) website.*

Having answered the questions in this preliminary checklist of basic requirements, you should have some indication if your comprehensive plan needs an update.



## C. Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Review Cycle Evaluation Checklist

Now that you have answered the questions in the preliminary checklist, the following questions included in the *Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Review Cycle Checklist* should help jurisdictions evaluate in greater detail what actions should be considered when determining if it is necessary to review and update your plan. These questions are intended for general guidance.

Following your last comprehensive plan review or update, a “yes” answer to any of the following questions suggests that you may want to consider updating the plan or element:

- (1) Has your jurisdiction adopted a Growth Tier Map? (e.g. septic tiers).....Y  N

*If the answer to this question is yes, then be sure to incorporate the growth tier map into the comprehensive plan. Pursuant to the annotated version of the [Land Use Article](#), Section 1-509, this must occur within the current 6-year review cycle. If the growth tier map is not incorporated into the local comprehensive plan, the local health officer may not be authorized to approve any new major subdivisions on septic systems. See Table 1: Growth Tiers - Six Year Comprehensive Plan Review Cycle Schedule for a list of jurisdictions that have submitted growth tier maps to the Department and their corresponding 6-year cycle review date.*

*If the answer to this question is no, then this question is not applicable.*

- (2) Do any of your local jurisdiction annual reports, pursuant to [Land Use Article](#) Section [1-207](#), identify issues of concern that may warrant updating the plan? ..... Y  N

*If the answer to this question is yes, then consider these issues in the work program for updating the comprehensive plan.*

*If the answer to this question is no, then consider other potential issues that may have arisen after filing the annual reports and may warrant an update to the comprehensive plan.*

- (3) If your jurisdiction has an adopted Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO), pursuant to [Land Use Article](#) Section [7-104](#), has your jurisdiction issued any restrictions or identified issues of concern that may warrant updating the plan? ..... Y  N

*If the answer to this question is yes, then consider these issues in the work program for updating the comprehensive plan.*

*If the answer to this question is no, then review your APFO Bi-Annual Reports for other potential issues that may have arisen after filing the Bi-Annual Reports and may warrant an update to the comprehensive plan.*

- (4) Have there been changes in an adjacent jurisdiction's (municipal or county) comprehensive plan that may affect your jurisdiction, such as, land use or transportation?..... Y  N

- (5) Has your jurisdiction had a change in population of more than 2% (suggested rate) since the last census? [Census Bureau's](#) annual population estimates for municipalities may be useful to determine population growth. .... Y  N

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- (6) Has your jurisdiction incorporated the latest version of the Critical Area program and criteria? (Review of the Critical Area program is required every 6 years, pursuant to Section [8-1809\(g\)](#) of the [Natural Resources Article](#).) Do those changes come in conflict with your adopted comprehensive plan? ..... Y  N
- (7) Have significant areas been designated for preservation or acquired for parks? ..Y  N
- (8) Have you designated a Historic District, Enterprise Zone, Sustainable Community, Main Street, Art & Entertainment District or other similar district? ..... Y  N
- (9) Has there been a significant reduction in lands available for development? (e.g. not enough land available to accommodate projected populations?) ..... Y  N
- (10) If your jurisdiction is included in a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) region, have there been updates to the MPO Plans that affect your jurisdiction's plan? ..... Y  N
- (11) Have there been changes in transportation modes, corridors or infrastructure? ..Y  N
- (12) Have there been changes in the Water and Sewerage Master Plan? Has your jurisdiction identified a problem with available water and sewer capacity that may not accommodate your growth needs for the planning horizon? ..... Y  N
- (13) Does the information on your capital improvement program within the comprehensive plan need updating?..... Y  N
- (14) Have any schools been built or closed? ..... Y  N
- (15) Have there been annexations? If the answer to this question is yes, do your maps/data in the plan reflect them; otherwise an update may be needed? ..... Y  N
- (16) Are changes needed to the current comprehensive plan goals, objectives and policies to reflect the priorities of your jurisdiction? ..... Y  N
- (17) Have you implemented most of the current comprehensive plan recommendations? ..... Y  N
- (18) Does your comprehensive plan reference Article 66B instead of the Land Use Article? Or does your plan reference a 6-year review cycle instead of a 10-year cycle? ..... Y  N
- (19) *Does your comprehensive plan reference [census data](#) from the 2000 census, or earlier?*..... Y  N
- (20) Have there been in changes in major adjacent land uses that could affect your jurisdiction such as Military Base Realignment (BRAC) or the closure or construction of a major employer? ..... Y  N

## D. Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Each jurisdiction must follow its own hearing and notification protocols, including certain procedural requirements under the [Land Use Article](#), Section [3-203](#).

In order to better assist local governments, Planning will circulate the comprehensive plan amendment or comprehensive plan update to state agencies for 60 day review. Local jurisdictions must provide one hard copy and one digital copy of the plan. Visit the [Planning Comprehensive Plan](#) website for additional guidance and instruction.

## E. Establishing a Target Plan Review Date

After reviewing this publication and Table 2: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – (Counties), or Table 3: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 – (Municipalities), each planning commission or board should work with Planning to mutually establish a target plan review date to be reported on Planning's website for general public reference. Planning would like to establish these target plan review dates by March 31, 2016, that documents the anticipated review and updated schedule for your jurisdiction. See *Models & Guidelines #32: The Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Review Cycle* for more information.

**Table 1: Growth Tiers–Six Year Review Cycle Schedule**  
(This table only applies to jurisdictions that adopted a Growth Tier Map)

Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Growth Tier Map Adoption Date	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation
<b>Counties</b>			
Allegany	2014	February 20, 2012	2016
Anne Arundel	2009	June 17, 2013	2016
Baltimore County	2010	September 9, 2013	2016
Caroline	2010	July 29, 2014	Completed
Cecil	2010	December 14, 2012	2016
Charles (updating)	(2016)	April 29, 2014	2017
Frederick	2010	February 26, 2013	2016
Garrett	2008	December 4, 2012	2016
Harford (updating)	(2012)	December 20, 2012	2018
Howard	2012	February, 4, 2013	Completed
Kent (updating )	(2010)	December 4, 2012	2016
Montgomery <sup>1</sup>	Regularly Amended	September 18, 2012	Completed
Prince George's (2035)	2014	November 20, 2012	Completed
Somerset	2010	December 18, 2012	2016
Talbot (updating )	(2010)	December 11, 2012	2016
<b>Municipalities</b>			
Aberdeen	2011	December 20, 2012	2017
Annapolis	2009	November 19, 2012	2016
Baltimore City	2009	November 13, 2012	2016

<sup>1</sup> Montgomery County's General Plan is amended with each functional, master, sector, or neighborhood plan that is approved and adopted by the County Council and M-NCPPC. Since three to six such plans are typically adopted every year, over a 10-15 year timeframe the entire county is re-evaluated.

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Growth Tier Map Adoption Date	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation
Barnesville	2010	December 6, 2012	2016
Bel Air (updating)	(2009)	December 20, 2012	2016
Berlin	2010	January 14, 2013	2016
Betterton	2009	October 9, 2012	2016
Boonesboro	2009	November 5, 2012	2016
Cambridge	2011	December 10, 2012	2017
Chestertown	2015	December 3, 2012	Completed
Church Creek	2005	October 15, 2012	2016
Crisfield	2010	October 10, 2012	2016
Cumberland	2013	December 18, 2012	Completed
Delmar	2005	March 15, 2013	2016
Denton	2010	September 9, 2012	2016
East New Market	2012	November 15, 2012	2018
Easton	2010	December 28, 2012	2016
Elkton	2010	December 20, 2012	2016
Emmitsburg	2009	January 23, 2013	2016
Federalsburg	2009	December 3, 2012	2016
Frederick	2009	May 1, 2013	2016
Friendsville	2009	December 10, 2012	2016
Frostburg	2011	September 21, 2012	2017
Fruitland	2009	October 9, 2012	2016
Gaithersburg	2015	November 19, 2012	Completed
Galena	2009	January 7, 2013	2016
Grantsville	2005	December 10, 2012	2016
Hagerstown	2010	October 23, 2012	2016
Hampstead	2010	December 4, 2012	2016
Havre de Grace	2010	December 20, 2012	2016
Hebron	2010	October 17, 2012	2016
Hurlock	2009	October 9, 2012	2016
Keedysville	2010	December 3, 2012	2016
La Plata	2009	December 18, 2012	2016
Laytonsville	1989	March 5, 2013	2016
Loch Lynn Heights	2009	December 4, 2012	2016
Lonaconing	2010	December 20, 2012	2016
Manchester	2009	December 11, 2012	2016
Mardela Springs	2011	October 4, 2012	2017
Middletown	2010	May 13, 2013	2016
Millington	2009	December 11, 2012	2016
Myersville	2010	December 20, 2012	2016
New Windsor	2010	November 7, 2012	2016
North Beach	2012	November 9, 2012	2018
North East	2010	January 11, 2013	2016
Ocean City	2009	October 9, 2012	2016
Oxford	2010	November 13, 2012	2016
Pittsville	1997	October 15, 2012	2016

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Growth Tier Map Adoption Date	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation
Pocomoke City	2014	December 3, 2012	Not in update
Poolesville	2011	February 20, 2013	2017
Princess Anne	2009	November 5, 2012	2016
Queen Anne	2010	February 4, 2013	2016
Queenstown	2010	December 11, 2012	2016
Rockville (updating)	(2010)	December 27, 2012	2016
Salisbury	2010	December 28, 2012	2016
Secretary	2010	October 2, 2012	2016
Sharptown	2008	November 5, 2012	2016
Smithsburg	2012	December 4, 2012	2018
Snow Hill	2010	November 13, 2012	2016
St. Michaels (updating)	(2008)	October 24, 2012	2016
Sudlersville	2010	February 6, 2013	2016
Sykesville	2011	December 10, 2012	2017
Taneytown	2010	December 27, 2012	2016
Trappe	2010	December 5, 2012	2016
Union Bridge	2010	December 20, 2012	Completed
Vienna	2009	October 8, 2012	2016
Walkersville	2011	May 1, 2013	2017
Westernport	2010	December 20, 2012	2016
Westminster	2009	December 7, 2012	2016
Willards	2009	December 10, 2012	2016
Williamsport	2004	January 14, 2013	2016



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**Table 2: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2033 — Counties**  
*(Planning Commissions or Boards may update their Comprehensive Plan at any time)*

Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Counties</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Allegany	2014	Annually	—	2016	2020	2025	2030	2035
Anne Arundel	2009	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Baltimore County	2010	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Calvert (updating)	(2016-2017)	Annually	Every even year	—	2021-2022	2026-2027	2031-2032	2036-2037
Caroline	2010	Annually	Every even year	Completed	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Carroll	2015	Annually	Every even year	—	2020	2025	2030	2035
Cecil	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Charles (updating)	(2016)	Annually	Every even year	—	2020	2025-2026	2030	2035
Dorchester	2009	Annually	—	—	2016	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Frederick	2010	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Garrett	2008	Annually	—	2016	2016	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Harford (updating)	(2012)	Annually	Every even year	2018	2020	2025	2030	2035
Howard	2012	Annually	Every even year	Completed	2017	2022-2023	2027-2028	2032-2033

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Counties</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Kent (updating)	(2010)	Annually	—	2016	2020	2025	2030	2035
Montgomery <sup>2</sup>	Regularly Amended	Annually	Every even year	Completed	2017	Regularly Amended	2022	Regularly Amended
Prince George's (2035)	2014	Annually	Every even year	Completed	2020	2025	2030	2035
Queen Anne's	2010	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Somerset	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
St. Mary's	2010	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Talbot (updating)	(2010)	Annually	—	2016	2020	2025	2030	2035
Washington	2011	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Wicomico	2009	Annually	—	—	2016	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033
Worcester	2011	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2021-2023	2026-2028	2031-2033

<sup>2</sup> Montgomery County's General Plan is amended with each functional, master, sector, or neighborhood plan that is approved and adopted by the County Council and M-NCPPC. Since three to six such plans are typically adopted every year, over a 10-15 year timeframe the entire county is re-evaluated.

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**Table 3: Target Comprehensive Plan Report and Review Schedule 2015-2035 – Municipalities**  
*(Planning Commissions or Boards may update their Comprehensive Plan at any time)*

Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Aberdeen	2011	Annually	Every even year	2017	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Accident	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Annapolis	2009	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Baltimore City	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Barclay	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Barnesville	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Bel Air (updating)	(2009)	Annually	Every even year	2016	2020	2025	2030	2035
Berlin	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Betterton	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Boonesboro	2009	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Brookeville	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Brunswick	2011	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Burkittsville	1996	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Cambridge	2011	Annually	—	2017	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Cecilton	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Centreville	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Charlestown	2008	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Chesapeake Beach	2011	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Chesapeake City	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Chestertown	2014	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Church Creek	2005	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Church Hill	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Clear Spring	1995	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Crisfield	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Cumberland	2013	Annually	—	Completed	2019	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Deer Park	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Delmar	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Denton	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
East New Market	2010	Annually	—	2018	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Easton	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Elkton	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Emmitsburg	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Federalsburg	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Frederick	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Friendsville	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Frostburg	2011	Annually	—	2017	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Fruitland	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Funkstown	2005	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Gaithersburg	2011	Annually	—	Complete	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Galena	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Goldsboro	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Grantsville	2005	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034



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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Greensboro	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Hagerstown	2010	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Hampstead	2010	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Hancock	—	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Havre de Grace	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Hebron	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Henderson	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Hillsboro	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Hurlock	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Indian Head	2009	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Keedysville	—	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Kitzmiller	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
La Plata	2009	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Laurel	2007	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Laytonsville	1989	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Leonardtwn	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Loch Lynn Heights	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Lonaconing	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Manchester	2009	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Mardela Springs	2011	Annually	—	2017	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Marydel	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Middletown	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Millington	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Mount Airy	2014	Annually	Every even year	—	2019	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Mount Lake Park	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Myersville	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
New Market	2012	Annually	—	—	2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
New Windsor	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
North Beach	2012	Annually	—	2018	2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
North East	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Oakland	2002	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Ocean City	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Oxford	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Perryville	2010	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Pittsville	1997	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Pocomoke City	2014	Annually	—	Not in update	2020	2025	2030	2035
Poolesville	2011	Annually	Every even year	2017	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Port Deposit	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Preston	2012	Annually	—	—	2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Princess Anne	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Queen Anne	2006	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Queenstown	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Ridgely	2009	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Rising Sun	1996	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Rock Hall	2011	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Rockville	2010	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Salisbury	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Secretary	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Sharpsburg	1996	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Sharptown	2008	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Smithsburg	2012	Annually	Every even year	2018	2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Snow Hill	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
St. Michaels	2008	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Sudlersville	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Sykesville	2011	Annually	Every even year	2017	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Taneytown	2010	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034

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Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan Adoption Date	Local Jurisdiction Annual Report	APFO Bi-Annual Report	6-Year Growth Tier Incorporation	1 <sup>st</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	1 <sup>st</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-Year Mid Cycle Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10-Year Cycle Review
<b>Municipalities</b>		July 1	July 1		July 1		July 1	
Templeville	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Thurmont	2010	Annually	Every even year	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Trappe	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Union Bridge	2010	Annually	Every even year	Completed	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Vienna	2009	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Walkersville	2011	Annually	Every even year	2017	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Washington Grove	2009	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Westernport	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Westminster	2009	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Willards	2010	Annually	—	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2025-2027	2032-2034
Williamsport	2004	Annually	Every even year	2016	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034
Woodsboro	2008	Annually	—	—	2016-2017	2022-2024	2027-2028	2032-2034



**Table 4: Maryland Code Requirements for Local Comprehensive Plans  
— Municipalities and Non-Charter Counties**

	MD Code Reference	Additional MD Code Reference	
<b>Charter Counties*</b>	(1) A comprehensive plan for a charter county <b>MUST</b> include:	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-406(a)</a>	
	(a) a development regulations element	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-406(a)(1)(i)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-407-- Development regulations element</a>
	(b) a sensitive areas element	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-406(a)(1)(ii)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-408 -- Sensitive areas element</a>
	(c) a transportation element	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-406(a)(1)(iii)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-409 -- Transportation element</a>
	(d) a water resources element	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-406(a)(1)(iv)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-410 -- Water resources element</a>
	(e) a mineral resources element, <b>IF</b> current geological information is available	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-406(a)(2)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-411 -- Mineral resources element</a>
	(2) A comprehensive plan for a charter county <b>MAY</b> include a priority preservation area (PPA) element	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-406(b)</a>	<a href="#">For PPA requirements, see § 2-518 of the Agriculture Article</a>
	(3) A designation of areas for fisheries use, but <b>ONLY IF</b> the charter county was required prior to adoption of home rule to include a fisheries element in accordance with L.U. § 3-113	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-412</a>	
	(4) Visions -- A county <b>SHALL</b> through the comprehensive plan implement the 12 planning visions established in L.U. § 1-201	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-414</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-201 -- The 12 Planning Visions</a>
(5) Growth Tiers -- If a county has adopted growth tiers in accordance with L.U. § 1-502, the growth tiers must be incorporated into the county's comprehensive plan	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-509</a>		

L.U. = Land Use Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. Hyperlink access available below:  
<http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/mdcode/>

\* For purposes of comprehensive plan requirements, charter counties include:

- (1) counties that have adopted **Charter** government, which include Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Cecil, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Talbot, and Wicomico;
- (2) **Code Home Rule** counties, which include Allegany, Caroline, Charles, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Worcester (L.U. § 1-402(b)); and
- (3) **Baltimore City** (L.U. § 10-108(b)(9)).

\* The required district plan elements for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties are set forth in L.U. § 21-104.

Table 5: Maryland Code Requirements for Local Comprehensive Plans — Charter and Code Counties

	MD Code Reference	Additional MD Code Reference	
<b>Non-Charter Counties* &amp; Municipalities</b>	(1) A comprehensive plan for a non-charter county or municipality <b>MUST</b> include:	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)</a>	
	(a) a community facilities element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(i)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-108 -- Community facilities element.</a>
	(b) an area of critical state concern element <sup>3</sup>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(ii)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-109 -- Areas of critical state concern element</a>
	(c) a goals and objectives element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(iii)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-110 -- Goals and objectives element</a>
	(d) a land use element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(iv)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-111 -- Land use element</a>
	(e) a development regulations element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(v)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-103 -- Development regulations element</a>
	(f) a sensitive areas element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(vi)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-104 -- Sensitive areas element</a>
	(g) a transportation element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(vii)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-105 -- Transportation element</a>
	(h) a water resources element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(1)(viii)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-106 -- Water resources element</a>
	(i) a mineral resources element, IF current geological information is available	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(2)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-107 -- Mineral resources element</a>
	(j) for municipalities only, a municipal growth element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(3)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-112 -- Municipal growth element</a>
	(h) for counties only if located on tidal waters, a fisheries element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(a)(4)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-113 -- Fisheries element</a>
	(2) A comprehensive plan for a non-charter county or municipality <b>MAY</b> include:	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)</a>	
	(a) a community renewal element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(i)</a>	
	(b) a conservation element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(ii)</a>	
	(c) a flood control element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(iii)</a>	
	(d) a housing element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(iv)</a>	
	(e) a natural resources element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(v)</a>	
	(f) a pollution control element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(vi)</a>	
	(g) information concerning the general location and extent of public utilities	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(vii)</a>	
(h) a priority preservation area (PPA) element	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-102(b)(2)(viii)</a>	<a href="#">For PPA requirements, see § 2-518 of the Agriculture Article</a>	
(3) Visions -- A local jurisdiction <b>SHALL</b> through the comprehensive plan implement the 12 planning visions established in L.U. § 1-201	<a href="#">L.U. § 3-201(c)</a>	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-201 -- The 12 Planning Visions</a>	
(4) Growth Tiers -- If the local jurisdiction has adopted growth tiers in accordance with L.U. § 1-502, the growth tiers must be incorporated into the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan	<a href="#">L.U. § 1-509</a>		

<sup>3</sup> The Area of Critical State Concern element is only required for areas that have been designated as an Area of Critical State Concern.  
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