

# TOWN OF NORTH EAST

## 2012

# ANNUAL PLANNING REPORT



*May 2014*

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*Prepared By:  
Town of North East  
Office of Planning and Zoning  
for the North East Planning Commission*



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#### TOWN OF NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMISSION

#### CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

In accordance with the provisions of Section 3.09 of Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Town of North East Planning Commission hereby adopts the following Annual Report of the North East Planning Commission, filing same with the Mayor and Commissioners and the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning.

North East Planning Commission

*Brian Morgan*

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Brian Morgan, Chairman

June 4, 2014

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Date



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### **MAYOR**

Robert F. McKnight

### **VICE-MAYOR**

Kena L. Koch - February 2012 – December 2012

### **COMMISSIONERS**

Eric B. Braley

Hilary A. Crothers-Moore

Kena L. Koch

Paul A. Stark

### **EX-OFFICIO TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

Eric B. Braley

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Melissa B. Cook-MacKenzie

### **CLERK-TREASURER**

Anne F. Fazio



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### **Planning Commission Members**

Brian Morgan, Chairman

Michael Kline, Vice-Chairman

Commissioner Eric B. Braley, Ex-Officio

Mark Dobbins

Ranald Langille

### **NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMISSION**

The North East Planning Commission, acting under authority granted by the State of Maryland, Article 66B, regulates the development of land in the Town of North East. The Planning Commission consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and Commissioners. The Planning Commission's duties are outlined in the North East North East Zoning Ordinance and the North East Subdivision Regulations.

When the Planning Commission has business to conduct, they meet on the first Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the North East Town Hall Meeting Room, 106 South Main Street. In addition, special meetings or workshops may be held throughout the year. The Planning Commission meetings are open to the public.



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### **PLANNING STAFF**

#### **Zoning Administrator**

Melissa B. Cook-MacKenzie

#### **Director of Planning**

Betsy Vennell

#### **Planning and Zoning Assistant**

Bethany Hollars (Resigned October 2012)

#### **Secretary to the Planning Commission**

Bethany Hollars (Resigned October 2012)

#### **Town Attorney**

Dennis S. Clower, Esquire

#### **Town Engineers**

CNA, Inc.

Entech Engineering, Inc.

#### **Contracted Services**

Mark Gradecak, Gradecak and Associates

Patricia Lemmerman, ASLA Registered Landscape Architect

Severn Trent Environmental Services, Inc.

EastStar Environmental Group, Inc.



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### POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

The powers and duties of the North East Planning Commission are found in the North East Zoning Ordinance, Section 9-5. Powers and Duties of the Planning Commission.

1. The Planning Commission may:
  - (a) Make studies and recommendations to the Mayor and Commissioners plans, goals, and objectives relating to the growth, including annexations, development and redevelopment of the Town and develop a comprehensive plan in accordance with the provisions of Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland.
  - (b) Develop and recommend to the Mayor and Commissioners policies, ordinances, administrative procedures and other means for carrying out plans in a coordinated and efficient manner.
  - (c) Make recommendations to the Mayor and Commissioners concerning proposed zoning classifications and reclassifications.
  - (d) Hear and decide applications for land development and approve subdivision plats and site development plans.
  - (e) Make recommendations to the Board of Appeals on special exceptions.
  - (f) Prepare and forward to the Mayor and Commissioners an annual report in accordance with Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland.
  - (g) Exercise any other powers as set forth in Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland.
2. The Planning Commission may adopt rules and regulations regarding its governing procedures and operations not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance.
3. The Planning Commission may delegate authority for review and approval action to the Town Administrator as deemed appropriate.



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### NORTH EAST COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comprehensive Plan is the official statement of the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of North East setting forth policies concerning desirable future growth, which serves as a general guide to public and private development decisions. Once adopted, it becomes the basis for the preparation of specific policies, programs and legislation, such as zoning and subdivision regulations, and other actions, which implement the growth policies set forth in the Plan.

The Comprehensive Plan is comprised of several major elements that are prepared in such a manner that they form an integrated, unified document for guiding future growth and development. As a policy document, it is general, comprehensive, and long range in nature. It is comprehensive in that it encompasses the entire geographic area of the Town and includes all functional elements that bear upon its physical development, such as transportation, land use, and community facilities. It is general in that it summarizes policies and proposals but does not establish detailed regulations. It is long range in that it looks beyond current issues to problems and opportunities related to future growth over the next twenty years.

Pursuant to Article 66B, Section 3.05. The Plan. Section (b) (2), The Planning Commission is required to review and if necessary, revise or amend the local Comprehensive Plan every six years. In 2011, the North East Planning Commission and the Mayor and Commissioners defined the Comprehensive Plan updates. In 2012, the Planning Commission worked throughout the year to finalize text and map amendments to the Transportation Element, and minor amendments to the Land Use Plan map and Growth Area Map. The revisions were sent to the Clearinghouse for review and comments, and after comments were received, Public Hearings were scheduled in accordance with Article 66B.

Following the North East Planning Commission's Public Hearing on November 7, 2012, Resolution 2012-11-01 was signed, which recommended approval of the North East Comprehensive Plan-2012 to the Mayor and Commissioners. The Mayor and Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on November 14, 2012 and signed Resolution 2012-11-02, which officially adopted the 'North East Comprehensive Plan-2012'.



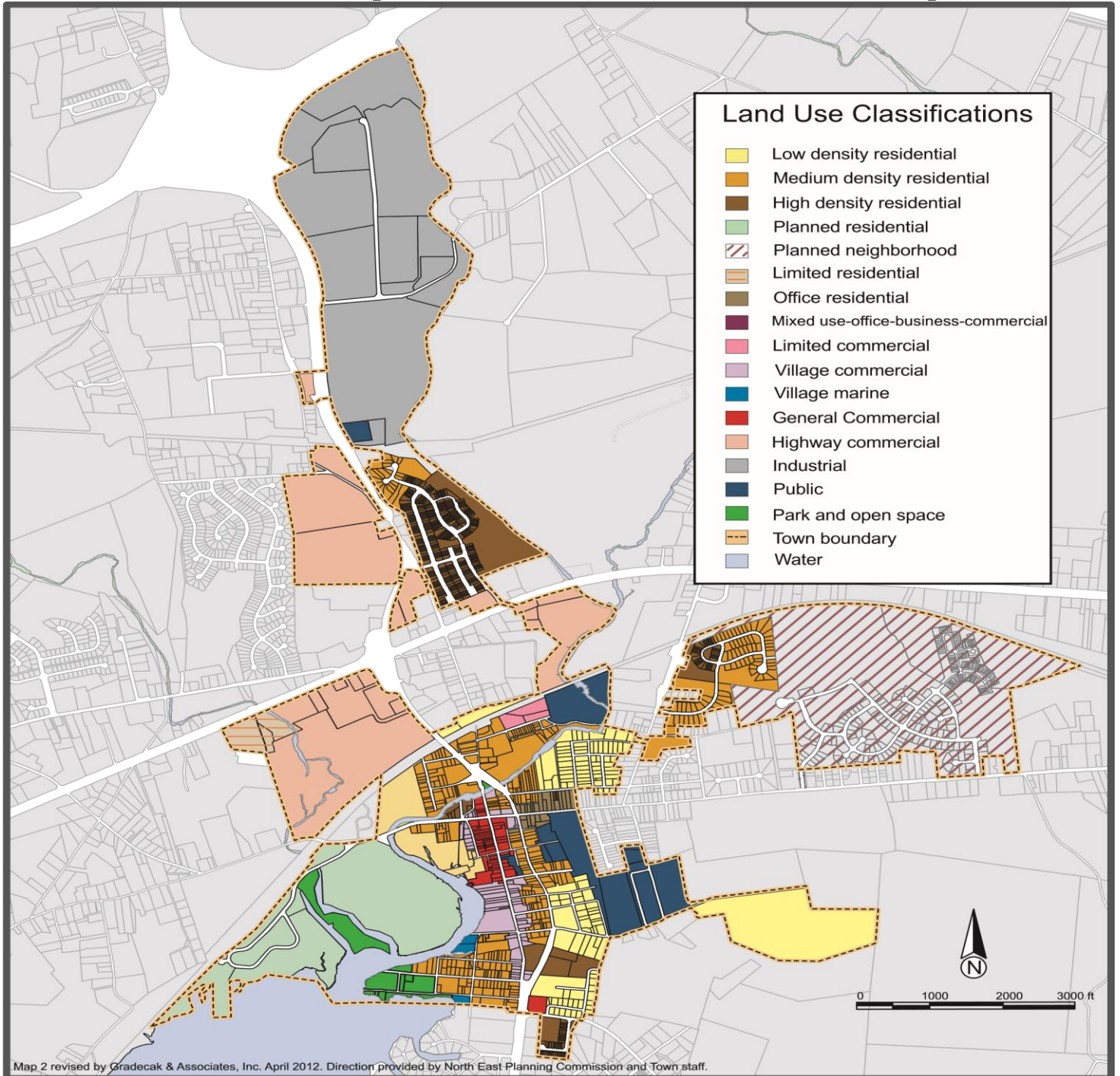


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## DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

There were no changes in development patterns in 2012.

### North East Comprehensive Plan – 2012 Land Use Plan Map





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### PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

#### Ordinance Amendments

There were 4 amendments to North East Zoning Ordinance in 2012.

Ordinance 2012-03-01: Which amended Article 3. Definitions. Adding definition of “Drug Treatment Clinic; Amending Article 5. District Regulations Part II. Special Districts; Section 5-16. “HCOD” Highway Commercial Overlay District Regulations, Paragraph 2, adding provision for a drug treatment clinic with an approved special exception. Amending the table of contents and index pages to reflect amendments to the text.

Ordinance 2012-09-01: Which repealed Section 5-15. “IDOD” Infill Development Overlay District Regulations” from the North East Zoning Ordinance in its entirety.

Ordinance 2012-09-02: Which repealed Ordinance 2012-03-01 in its entirety and amend the North East Zoning Ordinance Article 3. Definitions. to provide for a State Licensed Medical Clinic and Clinic Services; amending the definition for Clinic and amending the definition of Office, General to add State Licensed Medical Clinic, Clinic or Clinic services. Amending Article 5. District Regulations Part I – Zoning Districts; Section 5-9. “HC” Highway Commercial District Regulations, adding paragraph 2f and Section 5-10. “LI” Limited Industrial District Regulations adding paragraph 2c and Section 5-11, “HI” Heavy Industrial District Regulations; adding paragraph 6e. to add the provision for a State Licensed Medical Clinic, Clinic or Clinic services with an approved special exception in accordance with Article 6-34. Clinics. Amending Article 6. Supplementary Uses to add Section 6-34 Clinics, to require a special exception and to provide for setback and parking requirements, licensure and permits, waiting area and hours of operation. Amending the Table of Contents and index pages to reflect the above amendments to the text.

Ordinance 2012-11-01: Which amended Article 3. Definitions: Amended the definition of ‘Accessory Building’ as a subordinate building 200 square feet or greater and is subject to setback regulations; and to amend the definition of ‘Family’ to provide for one or more persons living together in a single household unit Article 5. District Regulations Part I. Zoning Districts. Section 5-6. “VC” Village Commercial District Regulations, amending paragraph 3 to add the provision for a public or private parking lot with an approved special exception; Section 5-9. “HC” Highway Commercial District Regulations, amending by right uses in paragraph 1, to provide for Churches, Parish Halls, Temples, Convents, Monasteries, Colleges, Schools, Public Or Private, Housing



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### **Continued: Ordinance 2012-11-01:**

For Elderly And Handicapped, Non-Profit Libraries, Museums Or Art Galleries; Delete paragraph 1.c. Police Stations, Fire Stations, Rescue Squads, Ambulance Service And Emergency Services; amending Paragraph 1.p, Health Services, to clarify that health services does not include State Licensed Medical Clinics, Clinics or Clinic Services.; adding to paragraph 2: uses permitted as a special exception after approval by The Board of Appeals: Hospitals, Nursing Homes And Similar Institutional Uses, Emergency, Fire, Rescue and Ambulance; amending the Table Of Contents, Paragraph re-numbering and lettering, Page Numbers and Index Pages to reflect amendments to the text;

Map amendments to the Official Zoning Maps of the Town of North East-Tax Map 400: Parcels 163, 136, 137, 496 Changed From “GC” General Commercial District To “VC” Village Commercial District; and amending Tax Map 400, Parcels 461 Lot 1-A, 402, 492, 279, 278, 277, 276 changed from “R-1” Single Family Residential District to “VC” Village Commercial District. Tax Map 401: Parcel 147 changed from “VC” Village Commercial District to “GC” General Commercial District.

Map amendments to the Official Zoning Maps of the Town of North East-Tax Maps 25 And 31 to reflect prior annexations: Tax Map 25: Parcels 272, 591, 453: Highway Commercial District with “HCOD” Highway Corridor Overlay District and Tax Map 31: Parcel 856 and part of Parcel 626: “RM-C” Multifamily Residential District with “HCOD” Highway Corridor Overlay District; Tax Map 31: Parcels 235, 971, 1259 and 675 – Designated “R-4” Mixed-Use Residential Zoning District with “MPC” Master Planned Community Floating Zone Overlay District.

### **Public Roads Dedicated to the Town in 2012**

There were no public roads dedicated to the Town in 2012

### **PROJECT STATISTICS**

Modified Site Plans	2 (See below)
Concept Site Plans	1 (See below)
Preliminary Site Plans	1 (See below)
Final Site Plans	1 (See below)



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### SITE PLANS AND MODIFIED SITE PLANS

1. Chuckhouse Restaurant: Modified Site Plan: A modified site plan was been filed by Samuel Romero, 5 Alicia Court, North East, MD 21901. Applicant requested expansion of the existing restaurant, North East Chuckhouse, 2240 West Pulaski Highway, North East, Maryland, to include the addition of a 512 square foot patio with additional seating. Also found on Tax Map 25, Parcel 299. Zoning Designation: Highway Commercial. The North East Planning Commission approved the modified site plan.
2. Delmarva Power, 2 Center Drive, North East: An amendment to a previously approved site plan was reviewed. Applicant proposed an 8,736 square foot pole barn for utility storage purposes. Also found on parcel 768 of Tax Map 25, Lot 1A. Zoning Designation: Highway Industrial. The North East Planning Commission approved the amendment to the site plan.
3. Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) Fueling Station – A concept site plan was reviewed for a proposed LNG Fueling Station at 1 Center Drive, North East, MD 21901. Applicant is Pilot Travel Center, LLC, 5508 Lonas Road, Knoxville, TN 37909. Also found on Tax Map 25, Parcel 769. The Planning Commission approved the concept site plan.
4. Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) Fueling Station – A Preliminary/Final site plan was reviewed during the same meeting for a proposed LNG Fueling Station at 1 Center Drive, North East, MD 21901. Applicant is Pilot Travel Center, LLC, 5508 Lonas Road, Knoxville, TN 37909. Also found on Tax Map 25, Parcel 769. The Planning Commission approved the Preliminary and Final Site plan.

### SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

1. Case A-2012-01-SE: A special exception application was filed by Bella Pizza, LLC, 4 W. Cecil Avenue, North East, MD 21901. Applicant requested an alcoholic beverage license for on-premise sales of beer and wine at the existing pizzeria. Also found on Tax Map 400, Parcel 288. Zoning Designation: General Commercial. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the Special Exception to the North East Board of Appeals.
2. Case A-2012-02-SE: A special exception application was filed by Maxim Holdings, LLC, 88 Green Meadow Drive, Elkton, MD 21921. Applicant requested an alcoholic beverage license for on-premise sales of beer and wine at a restaurant proposed at 15 North Main Street, North East, Maryland. Also found



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on Tax Map 25, Parcel 299. Zoning Designation: Highway Commercial. The Planning Commission recommended approval, with conditions, of the Special Exception to the North East Board of Appeals.

### MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

The Planning Commission conducted 10 meetings and 3 Transit Oriented Development Plan workshops in 2012.

### CONSTRUCTION STATISTICS

CONSTRUCTION	NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATIONS, PERMITS/LICENSES – ISSUED/APPROVED
Single Family dwelling – new	2
Townhouse dwelling – new	6
Commercial building – new	0
Demolition	3
Addition/renovation to residential home	9
Addition/renovation to commercial building	10
Utility Building	4
Accessory Building	2
Deck	11
Fence	1
Sign	19
Change of Use Authorization	4
Liquor License	1
Commercial Occupation License	5
Home Occupancy Permit	1
Commercial Site Plans	2
Residential Site Plans	0
Pool	3



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### CODE ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Code Enforcement Letters Sent by Staff	176
Citations Issued	10
Court Appearances	6

### BUDGET

The Town operates on a fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012. The operating budget for the Planning Office for the fiscal year 2012 was \$202,775.00

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### GRANTS

Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Grant	\$ 5,000.00
WILMAPCO Transit Oriented Development Plan	\$35,000.00
WILMAPCO Transportation Element Maps	\$ 7,000.00
WILMAPCO Subdivision Regulations	\$ 5,008.00

**TOTAL GRANTS: \$52,008.00**



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### ANNEXATION

The North East Planning Commission may make studies and recommend to the Mayor and Commissioners, plans, goals and objectives relating to annexations. In 2012 the Town did not receive any petitions for annexation.

### HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

The Planning Office is a member of the Town of North East Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee, which was adopted November 7, 2005. The Plan identifies potential hazard, both natural and manmade, which could cause human, social or economic loss to the citizens and business of the Town of North East. The Plan identifies steps that could be taken to minimize the impact of these hazards to the community.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

The Planning Office is a member of the North East Emergency Response Plan Committee, adopted November 7, 2005 and revised August 24, 2011. The Plan directs departments, agencies, offices and employees of the Town of North East, affected by the Plan, to review the document and identify their responsibilities during times of emergencies or disasters.

### NORTH EAST COMMUNITY PARK PLAN

The Planning Office maintains a Master Park Plan for the North East Community Park. The Plan provides opportunities for potential donations from the public or from civic organizations to actively participate with landscape, trails, benches, and picnic tables. In 2012 the following donations were made to the North East Community Park:

1. Park Bench: Provided an "In Memory" by the North East Lions Club
2. Red Maple Tree: Purchased by North East Lions Club
3. 2 Park Benches: Provided by The DeMaris Family
4. 20 Trees: Purchased by The Rotary Club

### WATER UTILITY

Effective July 1, 2012, the Planning Office administers all inquiries for water allocation.



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### **BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBERS**

Gabrielle Oldham, Chairman

Sue Fye, Vice-Chairman

Maurice Tenney

Peg Hardin

Marian Martino

Valerie Combs, Alternate Member

### **BOARD OF APPEALS POWERS AND DUTIES**

The Board of Appeals, acting under authority granted by the State of Maryland, Article 66B, consists of five members and one alternate member, appointed by the Mayor and Commissioners. The Board of Appeals duties are outlined in the North East Zoning Ordinance.

The powers and duties of the Board of Appeals are found in the North East Zoning Ordinance, Section 9-11. Duties of the Board of Appeals:

1. The Board of Appeals shall hear and decide:
  - a. Appeals from any order, decision, requirement or interpretation made by the Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission, or Town Administrator.
  - b. Applications for Special Exception Uses.
  - c. Applications for Variances.
  - d. Any other matter the Board is required to act upon by Town Ordinance.





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When required, the Board of Appeals meets on the fourth Thursday of the month beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the North East Town Hall Meeting Room, 106 South Main Street. The Board of Appeals meetings are open to the public.

### **North East Board of Appeals Cases Heard in 2012:**

Cases: 4 (See below)

#### **Special Exceptions**

1. Case A-2012-01-SE: A special exception application was filed by Bella Pizza, LLC, 4 W. Cecil Avenue, North East, MD 21901. Applicant requested an alcoholic beverage license for on-premise sales of beer and wine at the existing pizzeria. Also found on Tax Map 400, Parcel 288. Zoning Designation: General Commercial. The Board of Appeals approved the Special Exception request.
2. Case A-2012-02-SE: A special exception application was filed by Maxim Holdings, LLC, 88 Green Meadow Drive, Elkton, MD 21921. Applicant requested an alcoholic beverage license for on-premise sales of beer and wine at a restaurant proposed at 15 North Main Street, North East, Maryland. Also found on Tax Map 25, Parcel 299. Zoning Designation: Highway Commercial. The Board of Appeals approved the Special Exception request, with conditions.

#### **VariANCES**

3. Case A-2012-03-V: Applicants and Owners, Daniel E. and Brenda L. Crawford, 705 South 2nd Street, North East, Maryland, requested a twenty-one (21) foot rear yard setback variance and a three (3) foot north side yard setback variance for the purpose of installing a 288 square foot accessory building on their property. Also found on tax map 401, parcel 194. The Board of Appeals granted the request.
4. Case A-2012-04-V: Applicants and Owners, Don and Mistie Coe, 107 E. Cecil Avenue, North East, Maryland, requested a 4-foot height variance for the purpose of installing an 8-foot high fence forward of the rear building line. Also found on tax map 400, parcel 322. The Board of Appeals approved the request.



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### **CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT – AGENCY SUPPORT**

#### **Stormwater Management**

The Cecil County Department of Public Works administers and enforces the Cecil County Stormwater Management Ordinance within the Town of North East. Authority is provided in the Code of Ordinances of the Town of North East. Article 7. Stormwater Management Ordinance.

#### **Erosion and Sediment Control**

The Cecil County Department of Public Works administers and enforces erosion and sediment control within the Town of North East in accordance with the State Stormwater Management Regulations. The Town assigned the authority to Cecil County Public Works pursuant to the Code of Ordinances of the Town of North East, Article 6. Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance.

#### **Cecil Soil Conservation District**

The mission of the Cecil Soil Conservation District is to provide information, technical assistance, and education in conserving the County's natural resources. The District is responsible for all of Cecil County and coordinates with the Cecil County Department of Public Works and with the Maryland Department of the Environment in conjunction with erosion and sediment control and grading plans.

#### **Forest Conservation Act**

In 1991, the State of Maryland required all municipalities with planning and zoning authority to establish their own local forest conservation program or to participate in such a program jointly with another entity with such jurisdiction.

Section 5-1063 (a) (4) of Title 5 of the Natural Resources Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland authorizes a municipality to assign to the County its forest conservation program obligations, provided the County concurs. The Town of North East exercised its rights pursuant to Title 5 and in January of 2000, the Board of Commissioners of Cecil County accepted its obligations. The Cecil County Office of Planning and Zoning shall have the right and authority to enforce fully the forest conservation program of the Town of North East within the corporate limits of the Town. All applications must be submitted to the Cecil County Office of Planning and Zoning and any and all applicable County fees must be paid by the applicant.



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The Town of North East will coordinate its development approval activities for building permits, site plan approvals, subdivision plat approvals, and any grading and sediment control permits with the requirements of Cecil County's forest conservation program.

No building permit, final site plan, final subdivision plat, grading or sediment control permit shall be initiated or approved until the applicant has demonstrated compliance with the provisions of Cecil County's Forest Conservation Program and received approval from the Cecil County Office of Planning and Zoning.

### **Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP)**

Town staff attended numerous meetings conducted by Maryland Department of Planning and the Cecil County Department of Public Works Watershed Implementation Advisory Committee in 2012. The Advisory Committee was charged with implementing a plan to achieve sediment and nutrient reductions in Cecil County.

### **Cecil County Health Department**

The Cecil County Health Department coordinates with the Town of North East with permitting with regard to public water installations and/or well permits in addition to other miscellaneous environmental matters.

### **Department of Permits and Inspections**

In 1986, the Town of North East signed an agreement which authorizes the Cecil County Department of Permits and Inspections to:

- review all construction plans
- condemnation of property
- posting of unsafe structures
- enforcement of the Cecil County Rental Housing/Livability Code
- enforcement of International Building Code
- inspection
- licensing
- issuance of Hawkers and Peddlers licenses
- enforcement of the codes related to plumbing, electrical and mechanical installations.

In addition, inspections for compliance with the International Building Codes are conducted by the Department of Permits and Inspections.



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### **Technical Advisory Committee**

The Cecil County Planning Office conducts Technical Advisory Committee meetings each month, bringing together County and State agencies to review new development projects. As a courtesy, the Committee reviews projects within the Town of North East Corporate limit as a courtesy to the Town of North East.

### **STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES**

#### **Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program**

In 1984 the Maryland General Assembly passed the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program. The Town of North East adopted its Critical Area Program June 26, 1988. The intent of the Critical Area Program is to provide special regulatory protection for the resources located within the Town of North East Critical Area and to foster more sensitive development activity for shoreline areas. The Town has adopted Critical Area Regulations and Critical Area maps.

Development activity, including but not limited to grading, clearing, sediment and erosion control shall not be permitted until the Town of North East makes specific findings that the proposed development or activity is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Critical Area Program.

The Town of North East submits quarterly reports to the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area regarding all development activities in the Critical Area.

#### **Maryland Department of the Environment**

The Maryland Department of the Environment assists the Town of with inspections, projects and permitting of applicable projects in the Town of North East.

#### **Floodplain Management**

In conjunction with the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Town of North East has adopted Floodplain Management Regulations, located in the Town of North East Zoning Ordinance. The purpose of the Ordinance is to protect human life and



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health, minimize property damage, encourage appropriate construction practices to minimize future damage, protect individuals from unwittingly buying land subject to flood hazards, and to protect water supply, sanitary sewage disposal, and natural drainage. The prevention of unwise development in areas subject to flooding will reduce financial burdens to the community and the State, and will prevent future displacement and suffering of its residents.

Floodplain protection is achieved through the review of all activities proposed within identified floodplains and by the issuance of permits for those activities that comply with the objectives of the Ordinance.

### **Maryland Department of Planning**

The Maryland Department of Planning provides land use planning and implementation guidance to support and assist local governments, communities, businesses, and organizations.

PlanMaryland: is an executive policy plan which strives to better coordinate the smart growth efforts and programs of state government. In December 2011, the Governor filed PlanMaryland with the Secretary of State. Town Planning Staff attended workshops and meetings throughout 2012 conducted by the Maryland Department of Planning with regard to PlanMaryland.

### **WILMAPCO**

The Town of North East has been partnering with the Wilmington Area Planning Council, also known as WILMAPCO, with several transportation planning projects through the years. WILMAPCO provides the Town with technical assistance with the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Regulations, Subdivision Regulations and the Road Code including monetary assistance for consultants, mapping, and transportation planning opportunities.

WILMAPCO provided two grants to the Town in 2012. One grant enabled the Town to hire a consultant to create several Transportation graphic maps which will be included in the North East Comprehensive Plan amendments, proposed for adoption in 2012. The second grant was provided to assist the Town with amendments to the North East Subdivision Regulations.



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### U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers assists the Town with inspections, projects and permitting of applicable projects within the Town of North East. The Town coordinates all Corp of Engineer projects with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area and Maryland Department of the Environment.

### TRANSPORTATION

#### State Highway Administration Maryland Transportation Authority

#### Purpose

The Town of North East has major routes serving the Town: US Route 40, MD 272 and MD 7, with Interstate 95 located adjacent to the Town's northern boundary.

The State Highway Administration coordinates with the Town regarding proposed projects in the Town's Corporate Limit and proposed projects outside of the Corporate Limit which will have an impact to transportation system. In addition, the Town is provided the opportunity to outline to the Maryland Transportation Authority and the State Highway Administration, a "capital projects" list, both short term and long term, to identify improvements within North East and the North East growth area.

#### Transportation Requests

In 2012;

State Highway Administration – Pedestrian Improvements: State Highway Administration's consultant, Kittelson and Associates, conducted a pedestrian improvement study in the vicinity of US Route 40 and MD 272.

Cecil County Bicycle Master Plan: The Town attended workshops coordinated by WILMAPCO, for the purpose of creating a Cecil County Master Bicycle Plan. The Plan includes both short term and long term goals to provide for the encouragement of bicycle use in the County. The Town included the North East Bicycle Plan in their amendment to the Transportation element of the North East Comprehensive Plan-2012.



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Transit Oriented Development Plan: In conjunction with WILMAPCO, the Town of North East conducted workshops throughout 2012 to develop a Transit Oriented Development Plan for North East. The Plan is the first step towards a Transit Oriented area, and includes general requirements and a location for the proposed Transit Oriented Hub.

Maryland Department of Transportation - Annual Tour Meeting: A transportation priority request letter including the purpose and need criteria was sent to the Secretary for the Maryland Department of Transportation in on March 28, 2012. The request included:

1. Pedestrian access across Route 40
2. Pedestrian Link on Route 272 from Irishtown Road to Church Street
3. Re-construction of Route 7 (East Cecil Ave.)
4. Review impacts of rail service to State Highway systems
5. Installation of pedestrian lighting on Amtrak Bridge
6. Widen Route 7, Elevate and widen bridge over North East Creek and install pedestrian sidewalk, bicycle lane and pedestrian lighting.

The Town attended the Maryland Department of Transportation Consolidated Transportation Program Pre-Tour Meeting and Annual Tour Meeting in October 2012.

CSSC Regional Rail: A study was conducted, “Chesapeake Connector: Freight and Passenger Rail Benefits Study”. The Town attended Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CCSC) Regional Rail meetings in 2012.

Cecil Transit: The Town continues to coordinate with Cecil Transit regarding the bus stops and signs in North East.

State Highway Administration Guardrail Enhancement Program: This State Highway Administration program installed guardrails within the center of Route 40 throughout Cecil County.

Route 40 Gateway Enhancement Program: Pursuant to the State Highway Administration Guardrail Installation Program on Route 40 in Cecil County, a Gateway Enhancement Program was formed. Along with other Municipalities, The Town requested gateway signs and landscape from this program.