

# VISIONING WORKSHOP #1 SUMMARY

## COUNTYWIDE & NORTH COUNTY



PlanQAC's first Visioning Workshop was held virtually on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 5:30pm via WebEx and telephone call-in. Its purpose was to solicit community input on topics related to the Comprehensive Plan and its vision for North County and Queen Anne's County as a whole. North County residents and stakeholders, as well as those living/working in other parts or outside of the County, were welcomed to attend and participate. Below is a summary of the Workshop's discussions and participant questions.



### Discussion Topic: North County Opportunities & Challenges

**Opportunities:** good housing prices, good schools, good job opportunities; opportunities for innovative agribusiness; access to rural waterfront areas

**Challenges:** broadband; increasing traffic; threat to farmlands/agriculture; water quality; avoiding sprawl; healthy lifestyle – need more walkable places

### Discussion Topic: Vision for North County

More bike paths; require new development to use native plants; support for small businesses; tourism; development clustered around towns; preserve scenic byways; quality housing and services; maintaining quality of life and sense of place; need for new small tech/clean industries partnering with education system to attract desired industries and provide opportunities for students to remain local; carefully handle population growth; encourage the arts; sea level rise impacts to land use, housing, infrastructure, etc.

### Discussion Topic: Big Ideas

Ideas will require developers as well as Commissioner support; climate change; consider transportation options to larger cities (DC); job opportunities to keep people working where they live; more diverse housing opportunities

### Discussion Topic: Priorities

Broadband; encourage growth and housing; healthy lifestyle; more small business and amenities while maintaining rural quality; maintain open space; infrastructure; strong community planning; land preservation; thoughtful traffic patterns; addressing the needs of the underserved areas of the County; livability over preservation

**Participant Question:** How do we preserve what we have in terms of quality of life and environment in the face of development pressure?

**Participant Question:** With so much water access throughout the County, how do we continue to improve water quality, which can be so negatively impacted by development and growth?

**Participant Question:** How does the Vision Statement link to the County's planning and zoning regulations? How can we ensure that the visions translate into action?

**Participant Question:** What percentage of residents travel outside the County for work?

*A detailed summary of the five PlanQAC Visioning Workshops will be available in advance of the March 2021 Planning Commission meeting. All comments and questions will be considered during the development of PlanQAC. Additional comments or questions can be submitted through the project website: <https://www.qacplan2021.com/>*