



## CEDS Development Review Process Questionnaire

### Background

The Upper Shore Regional Council (USRC) is a regional planning and development agency for Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne's counties. We exist to foster the physical, economic and social development of the region. For the development of the area's human and economic resources, the Council initiates and coordinates plans and projects.

On Thursday, March 26, 2015, the USRC Board Chairman, Dr. Alan McCarthy, Councilman of Cecil County and Doris S. Mason, MSW, Executive Director, USRC met with Alma Plummer, USDOC, Economic Development Administrator at the Philadelphia Regional Office to discuss specific concerns and special needs for the Upper Shore Region and the feasibility of seeking federal investment/federal funding to drive economic growth and innovation in the region.

### Upcoming Planning Groundwork

As a result of the meeting, the USRC is moving forward to do the groundwork to create a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (ceds). We would like to put together a strategy so that we may begin to qualify for federal funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration's vast myriad of grants related to economic development, which includes funding for capital campaigns, infrastructure, and programming which support economic development in our region. In order to do so, we would like for you to answer the next set of questions to assist us in the process. The information will be used for constructing our strategic planning retreat scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2015, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, *The Donaldson Brown Center*, 200 Mt. Ararat Farm Road, Port Deposit, and Maryland 21904. This survey can be completed on-line via Survey Monkey (attached link)

### Questionnaire

The following set of questions is intended as an opportunity for you to provide us with information to gauge economic development activity within the Upper Shore Region for the past 12 months. Project specific information that is provided will be placed directly in the CEDs-like document. ***Extensive details on funded/planned or unplanned projects should be described in the attached priority project submission form.***

1. Please note the sector you are representing in your answers (mark only one box):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Commission                | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Elected Official |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City/County Staff Person         | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Organization      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Business            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town Board                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                |

1. Organization/affiliation that you will be referencing in your answers:

- Business Owner, List Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (please list)
- Chamber of Commerce
- Citizen
- Community Action Agency
- Economic Development
- Education
- Farmer
- High Speed Internet Provider
- Information Technology
- Planning and Zoning
- Power Company
- Rural Development at a College
- TEDCO
- Winery/Vineyard
- Workforce Alliance
- Other : \_\_\_\_\_ ( please list)

2. Name of County/Community you will be referencing in your answers:

- Cecil
- Queen Anne's
- Kent
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Please list any/all projects completed within your region/county/municipality or service area within the past 12 months, examples include: business attraction, retentions, transportation/road improvements, recreation or community development, etc.

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5. Please identify local projects or activities for which you may need outside support (PROJECTS FOR WHICH YOU DO NOT HAVE FUNDING.) over the next 12-18 months (funding or technical assistance). Please be specific (*If you would like this project considered for the Priority Projects list –please submit a separate priority project information sheet*).

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6. Please list any new developments that are PLANNED for your area within the next year. We are primarily interested in new or expanding businesses, agri-businesses, industries or any other infrastructure type projects. (TO BE CONSIDERED AS A PRIORITY PROJECT PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE PRIORITY PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET FOR EACH PROJECT)

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7. Is your community planning to undertake any new Community Development projects within the next year, for which they HAVE FUNDING SOURCES? Please describe the project(s). Examples include projects related to economic or community development, such as loans or other assistance to business or industry, downtown development, recreation historical or cultural projects, new or renovated housing, etc., (TO BE CONSIDERED AS A PRIORITY PROJECT PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE PRIORITY PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET FOR EACH PROJECT.)

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8. Which types of special projects appear most desirable as it pertains to the identified economic "special needs" of the region: 1) Workforce; 2) High Speed Internet; 3) Youth Engagement; and 4) Small Business Growth/Agriculture:

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9. Which of the following **Designated** Planning Economic Growth Areas, Employment Areas, or Enterprise and Priority Funding Areas is most desirable for the project (list in question #9) as it pertains to the identified economic “special needs” of the region:

Cecil County

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Kent County

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Queen Anne’s County

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10. Please share any regulatory and policy barriers with regards to the proposed project referenced in questions 8-9?

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Thank you for answering our questionnaire. Please feel free to contact Doris S. Mason, MSW, Executive Director, by mail: Upper Shore Regional Council, 122 North Cross Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Chestertown, Maryland 21620, by email: [dmason@gmail.com](mailto:dmason@gmail.com), or by telephone: 410-810-2124.