Hunt Valley / Timonium Master Plan

As Adopted by the Baltimore County Council
October 19, 1998
COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 1998, Legislative Day No. 18

Resolution No. 75-98

Mr. Douglas B. Riley, Councilman

By the County Council, October 19, 1998

A RESOLUTION of the Baltimore County Council to adopt the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan as part of the Baltimore County Master Plan 1989-2000.

WHEREAS, the Baltimore County Council adopted the Baltimore County Master Plan 1989-2000 on February 5, 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan recognized the Hunt Valley/Timonium area as a unique economic development opportunity and called for the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the area; and

WHEREAS, the Hunt Valley/Timonium Plan was prepared in close cooperation with area residents, major property and business owners and community associations; and

WHEREAS, the draft plan was the subject of a public hearing by the Planning Board on June 18, 1998, and was adopted by the Board on July 9, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the County Council held a public hearing on the recommended Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan on September 8, 1998.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, be and it is hereby adopted and incorporated into the Baltimore County Master Plan 1989-2000 to be a guide for the development of the Hunt
READ AND PASSED this 19th day of October, 1998.

BY ORDER

[Signature]

Thomas J. Peddicord, Jr.
Secretary

ITEM: Resolution 75-98
RESOLUTION
Adopting and Recommending the
HUNT VALLEY/TIMONIUM
MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS the Baltimore County Master Plan 1989-2000 recognized the Hunt Valley/Timonium area "as a unique economic development opportunity," and called for the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the area, which is a logical unit for planning within Baltimore County; and

WHEREAS County Council Resolution No. 22-98 requested that the community plan then being prepared by the Office of Planning, working closely with an advisory group consisting of area residents, major property and business owners, and the area's community associations, should also include recommended comprehensive revisions to the zoning map in the West Aylesbury Road area; and

WHEREAS a general community input meeting on the draft of the plan was held on April 23, 1997; and

WHEREAS the draft plan, as presented to the Planning Board on May 7, 1998, and including the comprehensive zoning recommendations, was the subject of a public hearing by the Board on June 18, 1998, and was discussed and amended by the Board on June 18 and July 9, 1998;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 26-81 of the Baltimore County Code, 1988, that the Baltimore County Planning Board hereby adopts the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan, as amended, to constitute a part of and an amendment to the Baltimore County Master Plan 1989-2000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan shall be transmitted to the Baltimore County Council for adoption in accordance with Section 523(a) of the Baltimore County Charter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 26-123(b) of the Baltimore County Code, 1988, as amended, that the comprehensive zoning map review in Section VI of The Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan be adopted to constitute the Planning Board's recommendations in response to the Council's Resolution, and be transmitted to the County Council for action pursuant to County Code Section 26-124.

DULY ADOPTED by vote of the
Planning Board this 9th day of July, 1998

[Signature]
Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III
Secretary to the Planning Board
HUNT VALLEY / TIMONIUM MASTER PLAN

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Section I: Introduction

The Hunt Valley/Timonium (HV/T) area is one of the key employment and commercial centers in Baltimore County. The completion of major transportation improvements, including the Warren Road interchange (1993), the Central Light Rail Line (1997), and Beaver Dam Road extension (1998), further enhance the economic development potential of this 4,000-acre area.

The Baltimore County Master Plan 1989-2000 identified Hunt Valley/Timonium as an area in need of a community action plan. The plan would guide future growth in a way that would maximize, but not overburden, the use of the area’s transportation system. Additionally, the plan would propose strategies to protect the integrity of adjacent residential neighborhoods and to achieve and maintain a high level of design quality and overall amenity.

The Hunt Valley/Timonium Redevelopment Study was initially undertaken in 1990 beginning with an independent economic analysis by Legg Mason Realty Group. In 1992, the Planning Office worked with an advisory group made up of representatives of the business and neighboring residential communities to identify issues, develop goals and objectives, and propose actions. The resulting plan was adopted on April 15, 1993 by the Planning Board. The County Council held a public hearing on the plan on June 21, 1993. The plan, however, was not formally adopted.

Recent development activity and rezonings have increased the need for a plan that will guide growth so that the public’s investment in infrastructure can be optimized. The Planning Office, as directed by the County Executive and the Planning Board, began the process for updating the 1993 plan. An advisory group was formed consisting of representatives from the business and residential community. The resultant plan has been prepared to reflect the changing economic environment, and the County’s broadened interest in economic development and community conservation.

This plan details specific actions and recommendations for the Hunt Valley/Timonium area. The original 1993 plan contains detailed analysis of existing conditions, including land use, transportation, and the natural environment. For this revised plan, information that was pertinent to the plan’s recommendations has been updated. For additional detailed information about the existing conditions, please refer to the 1993 plan.

In addition to the plan’s recommendations, this document contains a section on design guidelines, and on a comprehensive zoning map process for the West Aylesbury Road area. Adoption of the plan by the Planning Board and by the County Council will constitute the adoption of the design guidelines (with any amendments) into the Baltimore County Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies.
Section II: The Hunt Valley / Timonium Area

BACKGROUND

The HV/T area includes the Hunt Valley/Timonium Employment Center, as designated on the County’s Land Management Map, plus the adjacent York Road corridor. These areas combined represent a major employment and commercial center. The HV/T Plan Area map (Map 1) shows the combined employment and commercial areas as the “focus area.” It is also recognized that impacts on the surrounding business and residential communities must be understood and reflect the County’s broadened commitment to conserving its existing communities. This area is labeled “impact area” on the map.

Adjacent to the employment area of HV/T is the York Road corridor, which is a major retail corridor. Because of its length (five miles within the HV/T area alone), its diversity of “specialty” retail uses, and its central location within the County, the York Road corridor serves not only the adjacent residential neighborhoods, but also a broader area, extending in all directions to encompass Towson to the south, portions of east and west Baltimore County, and the rural areas to the north. It is one of the most desirable locations for retail development in the County. Like the employment area, it is nearly fully developed, with limited vacant land available for expansion. Additionally, the number of existing businesses, along with numerous access/egress points along York Road, is creating traffic congestion and safety problems. The transportation improvements which are nearly complete will alleviate some of these traffic concerns. The County should maximize its investment in these improvements by promoting redevelopment in a manner which will optimize, but not overburden their use, enhancing the economic development potential of this 4,000-acre area. Further, through redevelopment,
the area’s natural environment and visual quality can be improved, and measures which will protect the adjacent residential communities can be implemented.

**Events Since 1993**

Over the five years since the Planning Board adopted the original Hunt Valley/Timonium plan, there have been a number of events that have bearing on this plan.

1. **Rezoning Requests**

The 1992 Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) considered 15 rezoning issues in the Hunt Valley/Timonium corridor, most of them involving conversion of manufacturing zoning to business zoning. Only two of these requests were granted.

Through the 1992-1996 Cycle Zoning Process, five rezoning petitions were filed. All of these involved conversion of manufacturing zoning to business zoning. None of these petitions was fully adjudicated.

The 1996 CZMP considered 32 zoning issues in the Hunt Valley/Timonium corridor. Twenty-two of these issues involved converting manufacturing zoning to business zoning. The County Council granted seven of these requests. In addition, six other requests for converting residential or office zoning to retail zoning were granted. In all, these rezonings resulted in an increase of approximately 75 acres of retail-zoned land.

(See the Appendix for maps of zoning issues from 1984 through 1996.)

2. **PUD-C Adopted**

On May 2, 1994, the Council adopted Bill 47-94, Commercial Planned Unit Development (PUD-C), which permits the development of mixed uses -- retail, office, industrial and/or residential -- within designated opportunity areas, when it can be demonstrated that the proposal will provide a substantial public benefit, and any negative impacts are mitigated. All of the manufacturing and business zoned land of the Hunt Valley/Timonium area is designated as a PUD-C Opportunity area. There have been two PUD-C proposals in HVT: 1830 York Road, a MIE-owned building formerly leased by Comcast Cablevision and now, through the PUD-C process, a retail shopping center; and the former Saco Supply property, for which a Price Club was proposed, but denied by the Planning Board. Retail zoning for the second property was granted in 1996; construction of a shopping center is currently underway. In 1997, amendments to the PUD-C legislation were adopted which include:

- Refinement of the review process.
- Designation of “Prime Employment Centers” and “Growth Area Corporate Centers” within the PUD-C Opportunity Area.
- Guidelines for determining appropriate land uses and public benefits.

3. **Changes to Zoning Regulations**

A number of new uses are now permitted in manufacturing zones. Child care legislation was modified by Bill 200-90 and Bill 51-91 to allow child care as a permitted use in most of the manufacturing and business zones. Commercial recreational facilities are now permitted in certain manufacturing zones (Bill 21-96). Churches, synagogues and other houses of worship are also permitted in manufacturing zones (Bill 117-92).

A revision of the zoning districts by Bill 172-93 included the deletion of language that prohibited auxiliary retail and service uses in ML zones from having access onto an arterial road. As a result, retail uses such as fast food restaurants, banks and beauty shops can now be developed in ML-IM (Manufacturing Light-Industrial Major) zones with direct access to streets with an arterial designation, such as Padonia Road. Further, this action eliminates the County’s ability to apply this restriction to the
4. Growth Management Plan

The 1996 Growth Management Report designated HV/T as an "Employment Center" rather than an "Urban Center" to emphasize its primary function within the County as an area which provides significant employment opportunities.

5. Transportation Improvements

Several major transportation improvements have been completed:

- The Warren Road interchange which connects to I-83 and York Road was completed in October 1993. This has resulted in improved intersection rating at York and Padonia Roads (now a level of service "D").

- The light rail extension to Hunt Valley Mall was completed in September 1997.

- The Beaver Dam Road extension was completed in January 1998.

Transportation projects for the area which are still programmed include:

- Relocation of Paper Mill Road from Hunter Run Drive to York Road at Shawan Road.

- Widening of Warren Road from York Road to Bosley Road.

- Widening of Padonia Road from York Road to Decreeco Road.

Nonprogrammed transportation projects include interchange improvements at Padonia Road and I-83.

In addition, Baltimore County will be receiving a $850,000 grant from the state to provide pedestrian improvements in Hunt Valley Business Park. Working with the local business community, several locations have been identified and prioritized to receive these improvements, scheduled to begin in 1999.

6. Bikeway Feasibility Study

In the spring of 1994, Planning staff met with representatives of DEPRM and the state Mass...
Transit Administration to determine if a bike route following the light rail extension right-of-way would be feasible, as recommended by the Master Plan, and the 1993 HV/T Plan. The study team found, that while there were opportunities to combine the two uses in several locations, there were instances where providing an adjacent bike path would be extremely cost prohibitive, if not physically impossible.

7. Economic Climate

The original HV/T Plan was drafted during the recession of the early 1990s. At that time, cuts in defense spending and nationwide corporate restructuring did much to change the overall character and tenant base of the Hunt Valley/Timonium area. Westinghouse in particular vacated a large amount of office and single-story industrial space in Hunt Valley. Distribution users such as Sherwin-Williams opted for new warehouse space offering higher ceilings and larger floor-plates in less expensive, more rural markets. At one point, the office and industrial real estate market vacancy rate in the HV/T area was over 20%.

Today, the vacancy rate is a healthy 9%, due to the expansion of existing HV/T-based companies, the attraction of new corporate tenants, and the growth of small manufacturers and technology-oriented companies. These users have established or expanded headquarters and back-office operations, as well as manufacturing and research and development facilities, and accounted for the purchase or lease of more than 2 million square feet of space and the creation or retention of more than 4,000 new jobs. To accommodate these users, older generation office and industrial space was improved to suit the more employment intensive uses. The Rouse Company, for example, has renovated space once occupied by Westinghouse and made it available for lease to single- and multi-tenant users.

Overall, the increased demand for space has bolstered real estate values, attracted private and institutional investors, and fueled new development in HV/T. Since 1996, MBNA America Bank, Integrated Health Services, Dunbar Armored and Millennium Chemicals have established new head-quarters operation in the Hunt Valley area, joining the ranks of McCormick, Becton Dickinson, Procter and Gamble, and Fila USA. Together, MBNA and Integrated Health plan to spend more than $120 million in new construction. The new Hunt Valley Mall manager, Faison, Incorporated, will spend $45 million over the next two years to redevelop the mall—adding restaurants, large space “value” retailers, and a 12-screen movie theater. Loyola College will spend more than $12 million in redeveloping a former BGE maintenance facility in Timonium. The site will become Loyola’s new graduate studies campus, offering its Executive MBA program and professional education programs to employers and residents throughout the region. Ultimately, such projects will increase the level and quality of amenities and services available to employees and residents.

As of March 1998, the status of the HV/T commercial real estate market was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space Type</th>
<th>Square Feet</th>
<th>Occupancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office space</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flex space</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial space</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Realty Information Group CoStar '98)

8. Retail Development Activity

As indicated by the number of rezoning requests that were made during the 1996 CZMP and preceding Cycle Zoning Process, demand for retail development has been constant. The desire of “big box” retailers to locate within the area is a new phenomenon. In general, big box retailers seek to sell a high volume of merchandise with low profit margins. To keep costs down, they locate on less expensive sites. Because they are “destination land uses,” they don’t always depend on convenient access or high visibility. The building is generally a large one-story structure (hence the term “big box”) with a large parking lot. Big box retailers which offer a wide selection of merchandise to the public include the “membership warehouse” retailers, and the “value-retailers,” such as Wal-Mart. Big box retailers who, on the other hand, offer a wide selection of a single type of merchandise, such as sporting goods (Dick’s), office products

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(Staples), or home improvement products (Home Depot) are known as "category killers." A newer phenomenon is the grouping of several big box retailers in one location, known as a "power center."

In HV/T, there are several opportunities to locate these larger uses within existing business-zoned land. There is still a need, however, to enact measures that will preserve industrial sites from redevelopment as big box retail.

Another retail trend occurring in the HV/T area is an increase in the number of restaurants being developed, reflecting the changing lifestyles of two-income households. While all of these new restaurants are being located on major commercial roads (York, Shawan and Padonia), some are occurring on land zoned ML-IM (Manufacturing Light-Industrial Major) as auxiliary uses permitted by right. These kinds of developments are further diminishing the supply of land available for employment uses, and contributing to traffic congestion.

**THE MISSION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The mission of this plan for the HV/T area is "to protect and enhance the HV/T area as an important employment and retail area of Baltimore County, without producing adverse impacts on neighboring residential communities, and improving the area’s quality of life and environment."

The following goals are provided in order to achieve this broad mission:

- Encourage development and redevelopment consistent with the goals and objectives.
- Balance infrastructure improvements, such as transportation and stormwater management, with controlled growth.
- Balance employment with retail and residential uses.
- Minimize the impact of redevelopment on existing manufacturing uses.
- Encourage land uses that utilize light rail.
- Provide form and structure to the York Road corridor to improve its visual quality.
- Establish design and amenity guidelines for development.
- Establish community conservation strategies.

*Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan*
• Restore and protect environmental quality.

• Utilize the existing roadway system to enhance the land use structure, i.e., York Road is the primary transportation route serving retail/commercial needs, and the McCormick Road/Beaver Dam Road/Deereco Road/Greenspring Drive corridor is the primary vehicular transportation route serving the employment area.

• Strengthen access to the light rail from the surrounding employment, commercial and residential areas.

• Provide and improve opportunities for pedestrian and bicycle access throughout the HV/T area.

• Provide and improve opportunities for, and access to, parks and recreational facilities.

These goals provide the framework for identifying specific issues and recommending actions related to the topics of Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Environment, Recreation and Parks, Development/Redevelopment Opportunities, Design Quality and Community Conservation. Guidelines to be used in zoning and development design review processes are also provided to support the goals for the HV/T area.
Section III: Recommendations

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The major focus of this plan is to guide land use and development in the Hunt Valley/Timonium corridor to preserve and enhance its long-term stability as a major, diverse employment center. Concomitant with this objective is the maintenance of basic services, especially transportation services, which will allow for employees, goods and services to access and move through the area efficiently and economically.

The issues in the area of economic development revolve around maintaining the existing employment base, supporting new development which provides additional growth in employment and employee support uses, and continuing investments in infrastructure.

Issue: Enhancement of the Hunt Valley/Timonium Employment Area as an Important Economic Development Area in the County

Action 1: Support development/redevelopment in the employment area which will foster growth in employment, business and employee services and amenities and/or light rail usage, providing there will be minimal negative impacts on transportation systems and on the surrounding residential areas. Among the major activities of the Department of Economic Development in the HV/T area:

- Economic Development will continue to work with new and existing businesses in HV/T to encourage employment retention and growth, provide a wide array of services including site selection and development facilitation, financial assistance, coordination of work force development, and job recruitment and training assistance.

- Economic Development will continue to work with real estate brokerages and developers to market and help facilitate the sale, lease, development and/or redevelopment of property in the HV/T area.

- Economic Development will continue to work as a member of the Hunt Valley Business Forum to address evolving issues and concerns affecting businesses in HV/T.

- Economic Development will conduct a comprehensive outreach program, surveying HV/T companies to identify and address immediate and ongoing business needs.

- Economic Development will take an active role in the review and implementation processes related to PUD-C proposals, rezoning requests, planning efforts, transportation and public service matters, and development or redevelopment projects impacting the HV/T business community.
Action 2: Preserve and/or increase the inventory of available land for office, technology and manufacturing related uses.

These uses are key for sustaining the present and future economic base of HV/T and Baltimore County in general. Of the 2,560 acres zoned to accommodate such uses in the HV/T corridor, approximately 250 acres (less than 10%) remains available for new development. The loss of such land to retail or other low-income related use severely limits long term opportunities for the retention and expansion of higher income employment. In cases where ML (Manufacturing, Light), OT (Office Technology) or other office-related zoning is rezoned for other use, Baltimore County should identify alternative locations to replace this zoning.

Action 3: Support double tracking of light rail to reduce service times and increase overall system efficiency.

In early 1998, the Mass Transit Administration (MTA) reported ridership of light rail at greater than 23,000 trips per day. Seventy percent of these trips were attributed to local employees. Ridership increased by 3,000 trips per day after the Hunt Valley extension opened in the fall of 1997. As ridership grows in response to the growth of HV/T employers, light rail must be equipped to handle more riders and deliver them to their destinations in a safe, efficient and timely manner.

Action 4: In conjunction with support for double tracking of the light rail, support construction of additional light rail stops to better serve and accommodate existing employers, new or relocating companies and proposed office/industrial parks.

In addition to the 18-acre property rezoned for retail development, AAI Corporation has another 65 acres zoned ML that will be made available for development. A number of developers and investors have expressed interest in the property for development of a new office/flex business park. This, coupled with the retail site and conversion of their headquarters building into a multi-tenant office facility, suggests this site will become a new, intensely developed employment center in the near future.

New employment projections for the area of Industry Lane are from 900 to over 2,000 new jobs at buildout. These figures could be even greater should the eventual developer opt for multilevel office buildings.

Such employment density might be best served with immediate access to light rail and therefore warrant the construction of a stop on-site. Additional stops should be considered as new development and redevelopment projects materialize.

Action 5: Encourage consolidation of parcels for redevelopment in the West Aylesbury Road Area as part of the proposed rezoning from ML to BLR, or for PUD-C proposals for retail or mixed use, to facilitate higher values and best and land utilization. (For further discussion of the West Aylesbury Road Area and location map, see pages 24, 39, and 51-63).

While it is the position of the Department of Economic Development to retain the existing inventory of ML-zoned land, it is recognized that characteristics of some of the parcels in the West Aylesbury Road area do not lend themselves to office/industrial use. Those parcels with York Road frontage may be suitable for retail use. It is recommended that consolidation of parcels be strongly encouraged. To the extent possible, Baltimore County should consider rezoning existing retail land that does not offer York Road frontage to ML in order to fortify the County’s ML land inventory. Further redevelopment projects proposed for the accommodation of a retail use should be limited to sites which currently possess B (Business) zoning, or, as a PUD-C, be part of a mixed use project in association with a transit stop.

TRANSPORTATION

The types of issues concerning transportation can be classified into three general categories: (1) transportation systems management; (2) public/private partnership; and (3) rail and bus transit.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

The overall goal of transportation systems management (TSM) is to develop strategies that maximize
the efficiency, safety, and capacity of the existing transportation system. When compared to the cost of providing major new infrastructure improvements, these strategies tend to be low-capital in nature. The following issues were identified that could be ameliorated by various TSM actions: safety; traffic congestion; and pedestrian circulation.

**Issue: Safety**

The State Highway Administration has divided the state into seven districts. Baltimore County, along with Harford County, comprise District Four. SHA's 1988 "Intersection Accident Experience" report identifies 19 intersections within District Four that are considered high accident locations. None of these intersections is located within Baltimore County. Overall, of the seven districts, District Four has the second lowest number of problem intersections in the state.

In addition to district-level data on state highways, "Intersection Accident Experience" also identifies each County's highest accident locations. The report identifies six high accident locations within Baltimore County. None of Baltimore County's highest accident locations is within the HV/T area. The three intersections in the HV/T area with the highest number of accidents are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY RANK</th>
<th>INTERSECTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>York and Padonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>York and Timonium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>York and Cranbrook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* There are a total of 109 intersections

**Action 1:** The Bureau of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning (TETP) will continue to monitor accident data to ensure an expedited solution if any accident location in the HV/T area becomes problematic.

**Action 2:** A Hunt Valley/Timonium accident trend report will be produced periodically to document existing or potential highway safety issues.

**Action 3:** A detailed transportation study of the Hunt Valley/Timonium area should be performed. In addition to other transportation issues, the study should include an in-depth analysis of traffic safety issues. (See Congestion below.)

**Issue: Congestion**

A number of factors are responsible for the amount of traffic congestion that exists in the HV/T area. Not only is the automobile the dominant method of travel, but also its usage is increasing and the number of people per vehicle is decreasing. It is estimated that more than 90 percent of the people who live and work in the HV/T area elect to use their private vehicles as their method of travel. Further, more than 90 percent of these auto users elect to travel alone. It is also estimated that approximately one in every five trips made in the County on a daily basis occurs within the HV/T area, a direct result of the area's importance as an employment center.

All of this travel occurs over a road system designed to accommodate only a certain number of vehicles. As the number of vehicles approaches the capacity of the system, congestion occurs on roadways and at signalized intersections. This congestion manifests itself in the form of longer travel times resulting from frequent queuing of vehicles and low speeds.

These conditions typically exist during the morning and evening peak periods of travel as the highway system is overwhelmed with additional trips as commuters seek to arrive at and leave work. About one-third of all travel during the course of a day occurs within the morning and evening peak periods.

The data and empirical evidence clearly indicate that the key areas of congestion are the east-west routes (Shawan Road, Padonia Road, and Timonium Road) that provide access to the regional highway system; I-93, itself a regional facility; and the intersection of York and Padonia Roads. A significant amount of congestion also occurs on McCormick Road as commuters enter and exit the business park.

A preliminary analysis of travel forecasts by TETP indicates that all the planned and recently completed road improvements provide just enough capacity to
offset the projected growth in vehicular travel. Therefore, if the amount of congestion in the HV/T area is to be lessened in the future, there will be a need to either provide additional supply (more highway and intersection capacity) or reduce demand (reduce the overall level of vehicular trip-making). Any recommendations for enlarging the area’s highway capacity must be done in the context of a more detailed transportation study. However, it is possible and prudent to immediately begin implementing travel demand strategies that ultimately may lessen vehicular travel demand on the transportation system. Employers and employees in the HV/T area, as well as people who live in the adjacent residential communities, need to better understand how their individual travel-making behaviors add to the congestion problem. In an era of dwindling governmental resources, better informed individual travel decisions are immensely important.

**Action 1:** A detailed transportation study should be performed which would include an in-depth analysis of future vehicular travel based upon different socio-economic scenarios, truck access, safety and pedestrian circulation. Recommendations should be made for future transportation improvements, and for financial mechanisms to provide them.

**Action 2:** A transportation impact study will be requested for any large-scale development/redevelopment proposals as part of the development approval process. The development process should be amended to require a transportation study when peak hour traffic exceeds 1,000 trips daily. In HV/T, the transportation study must also address potential conflicts with truck traffic.

**Issue: Maintaining an Industrial Service Road**

With the Beaver Dam Road extension completed, there exists a north-south vehicular route running from the tip of Greenspring Drive near Lutherville to International Circle in Hunt Valley, paralleling the York Road corridor, and consisting of Greenspring Drive, and Decero, Beaver Dam, and McCormick Roads. Even before the extension was completed, there were development pressures for retail uses along this corridor, and this is expected to intensify in the future. In order to preserve the HV/T area as an employment area, it is important to maintain the McCormick Road to Greenspring Drive corridor as an employment service road, permitting the movement of goods and employees unhampered by the congestion of retail development.

**Action 1:** Limit land use changes which are not employment uses, or which are not mixed use projects associated with a light rail stop, along the McCormick Road to Greenspring Drive corridor.

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*Providing truck and employee access to the employment area should be the primary function of the McCormick Road to Greenspring Drive corridor.*
Action 2: Restrictions of retail use on industrial service roads should be incorporated into the zoning or development regulations, either through amendments to the ML zone, or through the adoption of a Roadway Classification Map which would designate the corridor as an industrial service road and limit retail access. (See Development/Redevelopment Opportunities.)

Action 3: Provide convenient access to York Road retail uses to reduce the need for them within the employment area. Consider sidewalks, on-road or off-road bicycle facilities, or shuttle buses.

Issue: Renaming McCormick Road to Greenspring Drive Corridor

Now that Beaver Dam Road is extended, there is a continuous stretch of roadway from Shawan Road in the north to the Aylesbury/Greenspring Connector Road in the south that has four different names.

Action 1: The County street renaming policy requires that a proposed street name be approved by the Department of Public Works and that 70 percent of the affected property owners agree to the change. The Hunt Valley Business Forum will initiate the circulation of a petition for the name change.

Issue: Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation

On a daily basis, few pedestrian or bicycle trips are made within the HV/T area. This lack of pedestrian and bicycle circulation befits the HV/T area’s character as an auto-dominated, suburban employment center. High traffic volumes, few sidewalks, no bikeways and spatial and design features oriented to automobiles make the HV/T area a daunting place for pedestrian and bicycle circulation. With the advent of light rail service, there is a need to develop a better pedestrian and bicycle network and environment.

Action 1: Design a pedestrian/bikeway system to connect with the Hunt Valley Mall, Oregon Ridge Park, and potentially the popular North Central Hike and Bike Trail at Ashland, and utilizing greenways where possible, provide access to the light rail stops, recreation sites and business areas throughout the length of the HV/T area, with connections to adjacent residential communities.

Action 2: Convene a task force to formulate ways of providing pedestrian/bicycle facilities within the Hunt Valley Business Park, including pedestrian/bicycle access across Shawan Road from the business park to the mall.

Action 3: Ensure that appropriate pedestrian and bicycle facilities are provided in new construction projects through the development process. These facilities should link the project to adjacent properties, and where appropriate, to the open space system, the light rail, and employee support uses.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

The establishment of a transportation planning process that includes a public/private collaborative effort is a key element within the planning framework.

This effort is especially important in an era when the resources and ability of local government to provide necessary infrastructure support has been compromised by declining revenues.

Issue: Support the Hunt Valley Business Forum

After several years of developmental efforts, a public/private collaborative transportation planning effort was established in the Hunt Valley area, in the form of the Hunt Valley Transportation Association, now known as the Hunt Valley Business Forum (HVBF). The County should continue to support the ongoing efforts of the HVBF to identify transportation problems, solutions, and priorities.

Action 1: Assist efforts of the HVBF to secure funding for various transportation studies; and continue to provide technical assistance to the HVBF.
RAIL AND BUS TRANSIT

The advent of light rail service in 1992 and the extension of service to Hunt Valley in 1997 presents an unparalleled opportunity to alter travel behaviors within the HV/T area. To maximize this opportunity, however, requires the implementation of a number of innovative land use and transportation strategies.

The land use issues and recommendations are contained in the section on Development/Redevelopment Opportunities and will not be detailed further here. The transportation strategies below will be most successful when useful passenger amenities are provided; when the service is made more competitive with the private auto (e.g., increased speeds or reduced costs); or when the public is made more aware of the services.

Issue: Enhanced Distributor System

Transit services can be identified and classified by the type of access that it provides, similar to the manner in which roadways are classified by the types of access that they provide.

The Central Light Rail Line (CLR) provides limited-stop, long-distance access between activity centers in neighboring jurisdictions, e.g. Metrocenter in Baltimore City, BWI Airport in Anne Arundel County and Hunt Valley in Baltimore County. The CLR represents the highest level of transit service in the HV/T area. Trunk bus lines such as the existing #9 line also provide long-distance service and access between major activity centers such as the University of Maryland at Baltimore and Loveton Center. Where fixed guideway services do not exist, trunk bus lines represent the highest level of transit service.

Since the beginning of the CLR service, the MTA has implemented its feeder bus service which provides collector/distributor service in the HV/T area. As important as it is to have a good feeder system to collect and distribute riders for the CLR, it is equally important to have a system that collects and distributes riders for the feeder system.

Typically, this mini-scale feeder system is likely to be some sort of shuttle service that provides more frequent service over a smaller area than the feeder bus routes. A properly designed shuttle system will be key to maximizing transit ridership in the HV/T area.

Action 1: The Planning Office will assist the HVBF and the MTA in assessing the feasibility of establishing a shuttle system in the HV/T area. Include consideration of shuttle service to retail uses on York Road.

Strategies for facilitating ridership are needed, including providing convenient parking and pedestrian access.

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Issue: Promoting Transit Usage

Similar to any other product or service, transit usage can be expanded through appropriate marketing techniques and the application of various incentives. The MTA’s effort to expand transit ridership through its operational and marketing expertise could be enhanced if the County and the private sector work jointly with the MTA. Examining the MTA’s marketing effort in the northwest Metro corridor provides some insight into how the County and the private sector might assist the MTA’s promotional efforts. In the corridor serviced by the METRO, the MTA uses a direct mail campaign once or twice a year to encourage more people to use transit. The direct mail campaign is also supported by an infrequent print campaign in local newspapers. Although the CLR campaign is likely to be different due to the mix of employment versus households, its infrequency is likely to be the same unless the County or the private sector can provide the MTA with additional resources.

The following are several of the more promising transit incentives:

- Establishing an employer-sponsored transit pass program.
- Increasing the amount of allowable transit subsidy provided by the employer.
- Providing pedestrian and transit-user amenities such as shelters, telephones, lighting.
- Establish a reduced-fare or free-transit zone for CLR patrons making midday trips.

Action 1: The HVBF is encouraged to investigate the feasibility of providing resources to the MTA to expand its traditional marketing program. These resources could be in the form of cash contributions or they could be assistance from various public and private marketing staffs.

Action 2: The County, HVBF, and MTA will work jointly together to develop a package of incentives that can be used to encourage greater transit usage in the HV/T area, including ways of making transit more attractive than the private auto.

Action 3: The County will support double tracking of light rail to reduce service times and increase overall system efficiency. As ridership grows in response to the growth of HV/T employers, light rail must be equipped to handle more riders and deliver them to their destinations in a safe, efficient and timely manner.

Action 4: The County and MTA will consider additional light rail stops, which may be feasible after the construction of the double track. The stops should be planned to effectively serve and accommodate existing employers, and new or relocating companies.

Natural Environment

Much of the development in the Hunt Valley/Timonium area occurred prior to implementation of regulations to protect the County’s natural resources. Because the value of environmental protection had not yet been fully appreciated, little effort was made to preserve woodland, wetlands or stream environments. Future redevelopment, however, offers opportunities to improve the area’s environmental quality through sensitive site planning and design.

Issue: Surface Water Quality and Quantity Control

Aerial photographs are especially effective in illustrating the extent to which the HV/T area’s landscape is overlain with areas of paving and building. The acres of impervious surface greatly reduce the opportunity for stormwater to naturally percolate through the soil. Instead, water collects impurities, such as gas and oil from parking lots, and deposits them into adjacent storm drains and streams, which ultimately empty into Loch Raven Reservoir. Many of the area’s streams have been piped or channelized, also reducing the ability of the natural system to absorb and cleanse stormwater.
The majority of the HV/T area lies within the Loch Raven Reservoir’s watershed. The importance of protecting the quality of the drinking water has been recognized and has resulted in the County’s commitment via the 1984 Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement and the 1990 Reaffirmation Agreement.

Stormwater management techniques have not been extensively employed in the HV/T area, for either quantity or quality improvements. Present regulations provide little incentive for a redeveloping property to provide stormwater management. Developments which increase stormwater runoff by less than 10% can qualify for a waiver of stormwater management, although quality management for new impervious surfaces is required. If redevelopment results in a greater than 10% increase, only the difference above 10% is required to be managed. For sites that are now virtually covered with impervious surface, redevelopment is not likely to include stormwater management.

Current regulations will require forest buffers along streams and wetlands as projects redevelop, which will aid in stream restoration. In the HV/T area, many of the streams have been designated by the state as Use III-p trout streams. The required stream buffers are likely to be the greater of 100’, or 25’ beyond the edge of the 100-year floodplain limit or nontidal wetlands. Buffers will be greater where erodable and unstable slopes are adjacent to the stream. On sites where forest vegetation does not exist, natural succession of vegetation for reforestation is acceptable. However, if channel erosion, stream pollution or habitat degradation exists at the site or downstream from the site, planting or other water quality protection measures may be required. Baltimore County Department of Resource Management and Environmental Protection (DEPRM) has begun a restoration project study for the Goodwin Run watershed, which is a tributary to the Beaver Dam Run. The project would include stream restoration and stormwater management retrofit facilities. The department is committed to continuing the implementation of its Capital Improvement Program for stream restoration, with a priority on reservoir watersheds. DEPRM is also programmed to complete watershed management plans to enable the County to comprehensively manage its water resources.

In addition, amendments to the Federal Clean Water Act in 1987 require local jurisdictions to receive a County-wide permit for the discharge of stormwater under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The ultimate goal of the NPDES permit is to assure that stormwater discharge is brought into compliance with water quality standards. The County’s initial permit under this program was issued in March 1995.

An aerial view of the Hunt Valley Business Community demonstrates the expanse of impervious surfaces.
Action 1: DEPRM will continue to coordinate the County's participation in the Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement activities.

Action 2: DEPRM will continue to implement its Capital Improvement Program for stream restoration, stormwater retrofitting, and watershed water quality management, which would include a comprehensive study of the Loch Raven Reservoir Watershed.

Action 3: DEPRM will continue to coordinate the County's responsibility for stormwater management under the NPDES Storm Water Discharge Permit.

Action 4: Where possible, encourage an increase in open space/pervious area through use of:

- Open concrete paver blocks for overflow parking or infrequently used paved areas.

- Where adjacent parking lots are in use at different times of the day, encourage sharing of facilities to reduce the total amount of paving needed.


- For new developments and redevelopments, use "Low Impact Development" (LID) techniques, where feasible, to infiltrate or detain stormwater runoff. These techniques include bioretention: open, vegetated drainage swales; curbless roadways and other paved areas; and redirected or lengthened routing pathways for stormwater flows to maximize pollutant removal and flood peak attenuation.

- Perform periodic "street cleaning" operations on privately owned paved roadways and parking areas to minimize the buildup of surface pollutants.

Issue: Ground Water Protection

The presence of the Cockeysville Marble presents another concern—potential ground water contamination. According to the DEPRM, significant portions of the HV/T area are underlain by the Cockeysville Marble. That formation represents the County's most vulnerable Piedmont aquifer with respect to pollution potential. Numerous ground water contamination problems already exist in the area. The majority of these cases are clustered within the Hunt Valley Metropolitan Industrial Park and along the York Road corridor, and are areas which are served by public water and sewerage. Environmental assessments and associated potential liabilities may be significant issues with respect to property transfers and development in the HV/T vicinity.
Some of the active ground water contamination cases in the area are difficult to clean up, and even though a case has been closed, contamination may still persist. Product release from leaking underground storage tanks represents the primary source of the problem. Ground water quality within the HV/T area may already be degraded, and with the proximity of Loch Raven Reservoir, the ground water degradation may evolve into drinking water concerns. DEPRM is undertaking a ground water quality study for the Piedmont Region, and will develop protective measures as part of its County-wide ground water protection strategy adopted in 1993 as an amendment to the master plan.

Action 1: Continue implementation of the Ground Water Management and Protection Strategy.

Issue: Air Quality

According to the DEPRM, there are two air quality issues that may affect future growth and development in this area. The primary issue is the current designation of the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area as nonattainment for ozone. The federal EPA established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for six pollutants and mandated the states to achieve the standards. Baltimore County is part of the geographic area determined by the EPA to be in violation of the NAAQS for ozone. As a result, there are very stringent emission limitations and regulations governing industrial and commercial facilities that emit ozone precursor pollutants, volatile organic compounds or nitrogen oxides to the atmosphere. These requirements apply to new major sources (25 tons per year) and also to modifications of existing sources that would result in emissions of 25 tons per year. Facilities that cannot demonstrate the ability to comply with the emission limitations cannot be constructed in the nonattainment area.

The major source of ozone pollution is not from industry, but rather from vehicle exhaust (mobile sources). While the Baltimore region is rated as Severe in ozone pollution by the EPA, other ozone nonattainment areas stretch from the Washington/Northern Virginia area to Maine. Thus the ozone pollution problem is a regional one.

The second air quality issue with the potential to affect this area is the attainment status for the NAAQS for particulate matter (PM-10). The County is currently designated as an attainment area. However, data from the monitoring station in Cockeysville have shown some ambient levels in excess of the standards. If the area is determined to be in violation of the NAAQS, there may be restrictions on the construction of new sources of particulate matter. If this nonattainment scenario should come to pass, it is not likely that it would have a dramatic effect on growth, but may effect individual sources and facilities.

Action 1: Continue to implement County’s responsibilities with respect to state and federal air quality management programs.

Recreation and Parks

The availability of adequate parkland, open space and leisure opportunities within a community is an integral factor that directly affects the quality of life. Parks and open natural areas not only provide settings for recreational activities, but establish important visual breaks from the built environment. Recreative programs and leisure-time activities contribute to both the physical and mental well-being of the individual. The challenge of offering a sufficient amount and diversity of these lands and opportunities must be met to ensure that the Hunt Valley/Timonium area will continue to be attractive to residents and businesses.

Issue: Providing Adequate Parks and Recreational Facilities

A wide range and diversity of recreational opportunities must be afforded to the residents, visitors and workers of the HV/T area. In addition to the traditional recreational facilities such as ball fields and courts typically associated with parks and school recreation centers, other active and passive leisure opportunities should be afforded. While the focus area, with its highly developed employment and com-
merical center, in itself contains little existing parkland, its “impact area” houses a variety of recreational resources. Heavily utilized lighted athletic facilities in the area include Seminary Park, County Home Park and the Carver Center for Arts and Technology. The Baltimore County Revenue Authority operates Longview Golf Course located off Padonia Road. The southern terminus of the State of Maryland-operated North Central Hike and Bike Trail is located in Ashland. Additional trails and fishing opportunities are provided at Loch Raven Reservoir. Many of these facilities are so popular that the effects of overuse have become a concern. The County must continue to explore ways in which to meet the ever-expanding scope of recreational demand exhibited by its citizens.

**Action 1:** Continue to evaluate the supply and demand of traditional recreational facilities such as ball diamonds, athletic fields, and tennis courts. When the supply of these is insufficient, seek to develop facilities on existing available parklands. Utilize the development process, where possible, to secure local open space parcels that are sizable, flat and open enough to support active recreational facilities.

**Action 2:** Investigate opportunities for the development of large scale or specialized recreational facilities. A few existing sites within the HV/T area, including portions of the Hunt Valley Mall property and the Timonium Fairgrounds, could, if redeveloped, support recreational facilities such as indoor sports complexes or ice skating rinks.

**Action 3:** The Department of Recreation and Parks should continue to expand recreational opportunities at existing and proposed school recreation center sites. The recent athletic field construction at the proposed Dulaney Springs Elementary School Recreation Center site is an excellent example of utilizing currently vacant land to provide additional community recreational facilities.

**Action 4:** Continued attention to the status and physical condition of existing recreational facilities must be given. The Department of Recreation and Parks should proceed with comprehensive facility evaluation surveys, such as their recently completed playground tot lot inspection program. Park master plans and use plans should be evaluated, and, if appropriate, revised to maximize suitable recreational uses.
MAP 2
PROPOSED GREENWAYS

[Map showing proposed greenways with annotations]

Note: The greenway width shown is schematic. Actual widths will vary depending on site conditions.

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Issue: Greenways and Pocket Parks

Open space corridors and greenways can be utilized to enhance a number of facets that improve the living and environmental conditions of an area. Paths, trails, and bikeways provide both recreational opportunity and an alternative to motorized transportation. Careful planning and establishment of these facilities will promote a safe and effective linear network that can complement the automobile and transit network. The presence of open space, especially in a linear pattern, is likewise important in providing wildlife habitat corridors. Open spaces and natural areas can also help to provide visual breaks from built environment and may serve as gateways into areas, as well as natural transition landforms that can help to delineate or define specific areas and neighborhoods. Urban open space amenities such as pocket parks and seating areas also help to make developed areas more “user-friendly.”

Action 1: Plan and establish a network of walkways, trails and bikeways, where appropriate. Seek to connect areas that support or would benefit from a high level of pedestrian traffic (e.g., transit centers, commercial areas, parks, school-recreation centers, etc.). Where possible, attempt to incorporate these facilities into infrastructure improvement projects such as road construction and streetscapes. Utilize parks as destination points within this network, increasing their visibility and publicizing their availability.

Action 2: Utilize natural features such as woodlands and stream valleys to provide visual breaks from the built environment. Use existing mechanisms such as environmental regulations and mandatory open space dedication (within the development process) to secure such areas without incurring the cost of fee-simple acquisition.

In the HV/T area, the 1989-2000 Master Plan denotes Western Run, Beaver Dam Run and the stream adjacent to the light rail route from Beaver Dam Run south as greenways. While not all of these will be suitable for bicycle/pedestrian trails, these greenways should be preserved. Additional study to create a comprehensive pedestrian/bikeway system should be undertaken. The greenway system should connect the light rail stops, Hunt Valley Mall, business and parks such as the Loch Raven Reservoir and potentially the popular North Central Hike and Bike Trail at Ashland, County Home Park, and Oregon Ridge Park. Appropriate connections should be made, where possible, to adjacent residential areas.

Action 3: Incorporate facilities such as pocket parks and sitting areas into streetscape projects to promote the human element in built or urbanized environments. These areas can be extremely useful within areas such as employment centers.

Development/Redevelopment Opportunities

The completion of the road improvements and the introduction of light rail into the HV/T area will increase demand for the development of the few existing vacant parcels, the intensification of existing uses, and the redevelopment of the more marginal, older and less valuable properties. The introduction of light rail in particular provides an opportunity to plan land uses which can optimize its use, and thereby support a rational solution to the traffic and environmental problems of the HV/T area and the County.

Development adjacent to the light rail stop is the most effective way to capitalize on the benefit potential of light rail transit. Mixed use types of development — which would provide residences, shopping, and employment — in the same project — allows the greatest opportunity for people to maximize their transit use in the course of a day.

While the HV/T area itself does not include a great deal of residential development potential, the surrounding area contains significant residential land uses. High quality feeder buses, and walkway and road links between the adjacent residential areas and the light rail line are also important for promoting ridership on the line (see Transportation). In the areas where new residential development may be proposed, such as along York Road, consideration should be given to providing elderly or assisted living housing.
Issue: Promoting Land Use to Optimize Light Rail Ridership

The light rail represents a significant financial investment. The use of the system to support economic development and commuter needs is critical.

Action 1: Develop strategies to encourage the provision of higher density, mixed use development along the light rail line. The major potential redevelopment areas, as well as potential land uses, are listed as follows:

Hunt Valley Mall: As the northern terminus of the light rail line, the mall property is undergoing comprehensive redevelopment to become a focal point of the HV/T area. This redevelopment project will broaden the mix of retail, service and entertainment uses available to residents and businesses. It also includes expansion via “out-parcel” development in close proximity of Shawan Road and the light rail stop.

The County is working with the new managers and owner (Equitable Life) to ensure compliance with County standards, realization of the mall’s economic potential and the provision of quality service/amenity to local residents and employees.

Cockeysville: Through a revitalization program, the retail uses located along York Road could be intensified, with uses focusing on antique and arts/craft sales, and maintaining the historic theme. While not having direct access to the light rail, the redevelopment of Cockeysville will add to the vibrancy of the HV/T community.

Texas/Old Padonia Road Area: This area contains 40± acres of vacant property owned by Genstar, 85± acres of available property owned by AAI, and a mixture of smaller uses which are suitable for redevelopment; some are transitional, and some are historic. The area presents an excellent opportunity for the development of higher density employment/retail mixed use in association with a transit stop. The 1996 CZMP addressed the needs of providing retail zoning in this area. A development project is currently planned which will produce a regional retail node at this location.

Timonium Fairgrounds: The 100-acre fairgrounds site offers a unique opportunity for development assoc-
ated with light rail. In conjunction with the Maryland Stadium Authority, the Baltimore Convention bureau and the Maryland State Fair, the Baltimore County Department of Economic Development has analyzed the market demand and timing for expanded exhibition space at the Timonium Fairgrounds site. Recognizing the need to support the primary effort of marketing the Baltimore City Convention Center, expansion has been deferred until 2001-2002. At that time, however, a new 100,000 square foot exhibition space to accommodate an expanded schedule of local and regional events is expected to be constructed.

Because of its existence as a residential enclave surrounded by nonresidential uses, and its direct access to the light rail, this area seems to present redevelopment opportunities for higher density mixed use/residential uses.

A number of development projects have been proposed. A shopping center is being planned along Padonia Road to the north. The Timonium Fairgrounds is planning an expansion on some of the vacant land to the south. Also, Baltimore County has plans to construct a regional stormwater management facility in this area.

Residents of the West Timonium Heights community have recently formed a community association, and are in the process of developing a plan for their community. The County will work with the community to determine appropriate land uses and zoning, and to implement the recommendations of their plan.

As a community conservation measure, strong buffers should be developed along the perimeter of the residential community, including fencing and dense landscaping, particularly along the edges bordering the fairgrounds property and all commercial property.

*West Timonium Heights:* This is a residential community of about 100 single family residences. The community is platted as a 50-acre subdivision, of which about 20 acres have never been developed.

*The Timonium State Fairgrounds could expand to become a major exhibition and convention center.*
Nonresidential traffic should not be permitted to access the community.

**West Aylesbury Road Area**: This area contains a mixture of retail and employment uses, some of which are presently undergoing redevelopment, and others which are likely to follow suit. This area should be redeveloped in a manner which meets the goals of optimizing light rail use, and of protecting neighboring residential areas. Rezoning portions of the area to BLR (Business Light Restricted), accompanied by its designation as a Design Review Panel Area with design guidelines (see Section V), may be appropriate if the redevelopment is consistent with the goals established for this area, promotes mixed use, consolidates parcels and provides a pedestrian environment of high design quality. If redevelopment is proposed under the PUD-C process, it should also meet the design guidelines established for this area, and promote mixed use and pedestrian access.

**Issue**: Use of the PUD-C to Provide Appropriate Land Use at Light Rail Stops.

Most of the HV/T area is within the PUD-C Opportunity Area. The PUD-C legislation allows mixed uses; however, it does not per se provide any economic incentives for providing mixed uses at higher densities in association with transit stops. Experience in the HV/T area has shown that the PUD-C legislation is more likely to be used to foster retail development in manufacturing zones, without particular benefit for transit use.

**Action 1**: All PUD-C land use recommendations should be based upon the Proposed Land Use Map provided in this plan, and the HV/T Design Guidelines, as adopted in the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies.

**Action 2**: For those PUD-C projects located within 1/4 mile of a light rail stop, consideration for higher density, mixed use development will be supported. The goal of such development will be to sustain the area as an employment area, optimizing public investments in transportation infrastructure.

**Action 3**: The County should reevaluate the PUD-C process and requirements in order to facilitate its use in HV/T and elsewhere in the County. Of concern is the length of time it takes for a project to complete the process, and the uncertainty of gaining approval.

**Action 4**: Among the potential public benefits which the County should support for PUD-C projects in HV/T are:

- High density mixed use in association with a transit stop, with a large employment component offering family-supporting wages
- Consolidation of parcels to provide a mixed use project
MAP 3
PROPOSED LAND USE MAP

- Residential
- Commercial
- Employment
- Office/Residential
- Public Institutional
- Open Space
- Light Rail Line and Stop with 1/4 Mile Walking Distance

Special Areas
1 - Commercial/Mixed Use Focal Point
2 - Rural/Urban Gateway Zone: High Visual Quality
3 - Cockeysville Revitalization Area
4 - Timonium Heights West: As Recommended by West Timonium Heights Community Association
5 - Timonium State Fairgrounds: Exhibition/Convention/Hotels/Mixed Use
6 - W. Aylesbury Road: Mixed Use Center
• Shared access and/or parking among adjacent uses
• Renovation of an existing structure
• Provision of offsite pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities
• Substantial landscaping (exceeding current regulations)
• Increased stormwater management (exceeding current regulations)
• Inclusion of recreational/park amenities
• Traffic and/or public safety improvements

**Action 5:** Investigate incentives to promote higher density mixed use development at transit stops. One such incentive is the use of the MTA transit-oriented development grant program. The County should take a proactive role in promoting and fostering such developments, particularly at Hunt Valley Mall and at the Timonium Fairgrounds, with adequate controls to limit negative impacts on neighboring residential zones.

**Issue: Auxiliary Retail Uses in ML-IM**

In the past few years, there have been several proposals to build restaurants (both standard and fast food) and bank branch offices on ML-IM land. These are, by themselves, low density uses generating few employment opportunities (with family supporting wages) and are inappropriate, both for preserving the employment climate of the ML-IM zoned land, and for optimizing light rail use, which is best accomplished through higher densities, many employees, and a mixture of uses that can support each other. The intent of the ML-IM zoning is to allow auxiliary retail uses that would serve employees of the immediate area.

**Action 1:** Evaluate amendments to the ML-IM zone concerning auxiliary retail uses.

**Issue: Rezoning of ML-IM Land**

There has been significant pressure to convert manufacturing-zoned land to business (retail) zoning. This was evident during the 1996 CZMP which considered 22 such issues out of a total of 32 issues for the area.

**Action 1:** The supply of manufacturing-zoned land within the HV/T area is limited. In order to preserve this important resource for future employment growth, there should be no further rezoning of manufacturing-zoned land for other uses unless an area is specifically designated for change. Rather, the PUD-C process should be used so that: 1) the property will retain its manufacturing zoning as an underlying zone for future use, and 2) specific development proposals can be evaluated for their potential impact on the transportation systems and surrounding land uses, particularly in regard to preserving the employment viability of the HV/T area.

**Issue: Providing Opportunities for Retail Development**

Demand for new retail development should be accommodated at appropriate locations within the HV/T retail market area.

**Action 1:** Retail developments which do not particularly promote transit use should be directed to existing retail areas which are in need of revitalization, or are underutilized, or to commercial nodes, as discussed below. Other retail centers within the larger market area may also be more appropriate locations to accommodate new retail development, such as the former Hutzlers building, and Towson Marketplace.

**Action 2:** Retail development should be directed to established or proposed commercial nodes. This would allow traffic-generating commercial activities to be consolidated into specific locations along York Road, minimize the number of curb cuts and left turn maneuvers and thereby improve traffic flow. In addition to the existing shopping centers, designated major commercial nodes within the HV/T area are: 1) the Hunt Valley Mall, 2) Texas Station, a retail development proposed for a portion of the Genstar property,
3) the West Aylesbury Road area, as a mixed use, neighborhood- and pedestrian-oriented commercial center, with retail development capability under the PUD-C process or through appropriate rezoning.

**Action 3:** Commercial zoning should not be extended between the commercial nodes, and efforts should be supported to improve the appearance and maintain the viability of existing shopping areas, including limiting curb cuts, sharing of parking, sidewalks, street trees, and other design elements which would create a sense of identity. In between the commercial centers, land uses consisting of less intensive residential office or assisted living/elderly housing should be supported.

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**Design Quality**

Design quality in land use development relates to the architectural design of buildings and the site planning of parking, open space and site amenities. Design quality involves aesthetics as well as function. Design quality controls can help assure that the HV/T area continues to provide an attractive, desirable environment in which to work, live, and shop, and to help maintain its important status in the County as a major economic development area.

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**Issue: Improving the Visual Quality and Providing Important Support Amenities in the Employment Area**

The Hunt Valley Business Park was developed under design covenants to which all development in the park complied. The covenants included, among other things, wide setbacks, high quality architectural design and finish materials and extensive tree planting. The covenants are responsible for the attractiveness of the community, and for promoting the image that has continued to attract businesses to Hunt Valley.

A few straightforward design guidelines will help direct new development throughout the HV/T area toward consistent design quality. The guidelines should enumerate the things that are most important in creating and maintaining a high quality visual and functional environment.

As the nature of employment is shifting from manufacturing to office uses and development is becoming more urban, the lifestyles of employees are also changing. Greater values have been placed on health and recreation issues, time management and the provision of child care. The provision of employee support facilities and amenities at or near the workplace can greatly increase the efficiency, effectiveness and

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*Design guidelines can help assure consistent design quality throughout the HV/T area.*
well-being of the workers. Such things as health clubs, child care centers, recreation facilities, jogging and bike paths, and simple outdoor sitting areas should be incorporated into the employment community.

Site design also needs to address the needs of transit users. Employees using transit frequently find no walks to their buildings, or must walk through expansive parking lots to reach the entrance. An important part of promoting transit use is in increasing ease of access through supportive site planning.

**Action 1:** Adopt the design guidelines for the HV/T area into the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies (CMDP). (See Section V.)

**Action 2:** Insure that the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations allow health clubs, recreational facilities and day care centers in manufacturing and other employment zones.

**Issue: Visual Quality of the HV/T Area as Seen from the Light Rail**

The light rail system is utilizing the Conrail track through the HV/T area. In many cases, the line passes through some very unsightly areas — unkempt rear of buildings, storage yards and parking lots. The rail right-of-way and adjacent stream are littered with trash and debris. Providing an attractive environment for the transit user to travel through is another effective means of promoting light rail usage.

**Action 1:** Through development and redevelopment, require a 15 foot minimum landscaped and/or fenced buffer between the light rail line and parking, service or storage areas.

**Action 2:** Amend the Baltimore County sign ordinance to limit commercial signage visible from the light rail, except as provided in Action 3.

**Action 3:** Initiate a program to provide an incentive for adjacent property owners to install buffer planting and fencing to screen their existing development from the light rail. Property owners who "clean-up their backyards" in conformance with the design guidelines would be permitted to install a small, standardized and tastefully designed sign showing the company name visible to the light rail line.

**Action 4:** Initiate a SWAT program for communities and businesses who clean up and remove debris within the rail right-of-way.

**Issue: Improving the Visual Quality of the York Road Corridor**

The growth of commercial and office uses along York Road has resulted in signage clutter, numerous curb cuts, traffic flow and safety problems, discordant architecture, and lack of landscaping. It has become a harsh environment, where the overhead utility lines are the only unifying design element. A beautification program for the corridor would establish pride for the area businesses and make the area more appealing to shoppers. Functionally, business development should be directed to established or proposed commercial nodes. This would allow traffic-generating commercial activities to be consolidated into specific locations along York Road, minimize the number of curb cuts and left turn maneuvers and thereby improve traffic flow.

**Action 1:** Business associations should be formed to address York Road issues such as: 1) aesthetic appearance; 2) access; and 3) increased marketability.

**Action 2:** A detailed streetscape study coordinated by the Office of Planning should include recommendations for:

- Limiting curb cuts
- Burying overhead wires
- Improving landscaping
- Controlling signage
- Creating themes to promote neighborhood identity
- Design standards to be adopted into the CMDP
**Action 3:** Discourage sign variances along York Road and encourage stricter enforcement of the signage regulations along York Road.

**Action 4:** The Office of Planning will support local businesses and community groups who institute an annual contest for the business property with the best or most improved appearance.

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

Community conservation has been an important element of the Baltimore County Master Plan since 1989. In 1995, the Office of Community Conservation was established to support comprehensive, intensified initiatives dedicated to preserving, stabilizing and enhancing the human, physical and economic condition of the County's urban communities. Within the HV/T area, the nature and size of this regional employment and commercial center can create conflicts with the needs of the residents.

**Issue: Protecting and Enhancing the Existing Residential Communities**

The general goal of protecting and enhancing existing residential communities within the impact area will involve the implementation of a number of actions:

**Action 1:** Insure that the future redevelopment of sites in the HV/T area does not create negative impacts on existing communities.

**Action 2:** Restrict nonresidential land uses from encroaching into residential areas. In general, limit further rezoning of residential parcels to nonresidential use. Employ RO or ROA residential office zones in areas requiring a greater buffer between disparate uses. The CB (Community Business) zone may be appropriate at some locations. Identify parcels between the commercial nodes which may be suitable for assisted living/elderly housing.

**Action 3:** Permit only small day care facilities with improved standards within residential areas. Larger facilities should be located within the employment area.

**Action 4:** Monitor home based business occupations within DR zones to insure that negative impacts are minimal.

**Action 5:** Discourage traffic in the neighborhood which is unrelated to the residences.

**Action 6:** Reduce the amount of traffic congestion on York Road to make it easier for residents to access their neighborhood by encouraging shared access/parking arrangements.
Action 7: Improve the visual quality of the York Road corridor. As part of a York Road Streetscape Study:

- Formulate commercial corridor design guidelines for inclusion in the CMDP. Include larger setbacks and buffers between residential and nonresidential uses. Incorporate themes to promote neighborhood identity, and consider making the corridor a Design Panel Review Area.

- Existing commercial properties should be brought into conformance with the County's Landscape Manual.

Action 8: Attempt to match existing uses with the appropriate zoning along the York Road corridor where the zoning permits more intensive uses than those uses that presently occupy the property.

Action 9: Protect the historic Cockeysville school grounds between Bosley and Matthews Avenues as one of the few common open space areas along the corridor. Current plans for the site include senior housing and a senior center, and retention of most of the open space for continued recreational uses.

Action 10: Continue support for the Cockeysville commercial area as a small, historic shopping locality. Designation of these few blocks as a revitalization area would provide a funding program for development of an attractive streetscape and other amenities to assure that the character of Cockeysville remains. Business owners should be encouraged to participate in the County's facade improvement program.

Action 11: Create community action plans in order to document issues and provide a mechanism for implementation.

Action 12: Encourage the formation of a roundtable consisting of business representatives and community associations to address issues and assure implementation of plan actions.
Section IV:
Plan Implementation

The implementation of the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan can be classified into actions and detailed planning studies. While many of the actions and studies will not require additional funding to be completed, some of them will. Budget implications will have to be considered as the community and County work to implement these portions of the plan. Funding for projects will have to be evaluated and prioritized.

ACTIONS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. The County will support development/redevelopment in the employment area which will foster growth in employment, business and employee services and amenities and/or light rail usage, providing there will be minimal negative impacts on transportation systems and on the surrounding residential areas.

Among the major activities of the Department of Economic Development to promote employment growth and appropriate development/redevelopment in HV/T are:

- Economic Development will continue to work with new and existing businesses in HV/T to encourage employment retention and growth, provide a wide array of services including site selection and development facilitation, financial assistance, coordination of work force development, and job recruitment and training assistance.

- Economic Development will continue to work with real estate brokerages and developers to market and help facilitate the sale, lease, development and/or redevelopment of property in the HV/T area.

- Economic Development will continue to work as a member of the Hunt Valley Business Forum to address evolving issues and concerns affecting businesses in HV/T.

- Economic Development will conduct a comprehensive outreach program, surveying HV/T companies to identify and address immediate and ongoing business needs.

- Economic Development will take an active role in the review and implementation processes related to PUD-C proposals, rezoning requests, planning efforts, transportation and public service matters, and development or redevelopment projects impacting the HV/T business community.
TRANSPORTATION

1. The Bureau of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning (TETP) will continue to monitor traffic accident data, and will periodically publish an accident trend report periodically to document existing and potential highway safety issues.

2. The Office of Planning will request a transportation impact study for any large-scale development/redevelopment proposals and recommend a change to the development process to require a transportation study when the increase in peak hour traffic exceeds 1,000 trips. In Hunt Valley/Timonium, the transportation study must address potential conflicts with truck traffic.

3. The Hunt Valley Business Forum (HVBF), will initiate a petition for renaming of Greenspring Drive and McCormick, Beaver Dam, and Deerco Roads.

4. The Office of Planning and the Department of Recreation and Parks will ensure that appropriate pedestrian and bicycle facilities are provided in new construction projects through the development process. These facilities should link the project to adjacent properties, and where appropriate, to the open space system, the light rail, and employee support uses.

5. The Office of Planning and TETP will continue to provide technical assistance to the HVBF and assist their efforts to secure funding for needed transportation studies, including a pedestrian/bicycle study.

6. The Office of Planning will assist the HVBF and the Mass Transit Administration (MTA) in assessing the feasibility of establishing a shuttle system in the HV/T area. Include consideration of shuttle service to retail uses on York Road.

7. HVBF is encouraged to investigate the feasibility of providing resources to the MTA to expand its marketing program for the Central Light Rail Line.

8. The Office of Planning, TETP, HVBF, and MTA will develop a package of incentives to encourage transit use, including ways of making transit more attractive to use than the private auto.

9. The County will support double tracking of the light rail to reduce service times and increase overall system efficiency.

10. The County and the MTA will consider additional light rail stops, which may be feasible after the construction of the double track, to effectively serve and accommodate existing employers, and new or relocating companies.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

1. DEPRM will continue to coordinate the County’s participation in the Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement activities.

2. DEPRM will continue implementation of its Capital Improvements Program for stream restoration, stormwater retrofitting, and watershed water quality management, which would include a comprehensive study of the Loch Raven Reservoir Watershed.

3. DEPRM will continue to coordinate the County’s responsibility for stormwater management under the NPDES Storm Water Discharge Permit.

4. The Office of Planning and DEPRM will encourage an increase in open space/pervious area through the use of open concrete paver blocks in selected areas or sharing of parking facilities.


6. DEPRM will implement the Ground Water Management and Protection Strategy.

7. DEPRM will continue to implement the County’s responsibilities with respect to State and Federal air quality management programs.
RECREATION AND PARKS

1. The Department of Recreation and Parks will continue to evaluate the supply and demand of traditional recreational facilities such as ball diamonds, athletic fields, and tennis courts. When the supply of these is insufficient, the County will seek to develop facilities on existing available parklands. The development process should be used, where possible, to secure local open space parcels that are sizable, flat and open enough to support athletic facilities.

2. The Department of Recreation and Parks will investigate opportunities for the development of large scale or specialized recreational facilities. A few existing sites within the HV/T area, including portions of the Hunt Valley Mall property and the Timonium Fairgrounds, could, if redeveloped, support recreational facilities such as indoor sports complexes or ice skating rinks.

3. The Department of Recreation and Parks should continue to expand recreational opportunities at existing and proposed school recreation center sites. The recent athletic field construction at the proposed Dulaney Springs Elementary School Recreation Center site is an excellent example of utilizing currently vacant land to provide additional community recreational facilities.

4. Continued attention to the status and physical condition of existing recreational facilities must be given. The Department of Recreation and Parks should proceed with comprehensive facility evaluation surveys, such as their recently completed playground tot lot inspection program. Park master plans and use plans should be evaluated and, if appropriate, revised to maximize suitable recreational uses.

5. The County will work to establish a network of walkways, trails and bikeways, where appropriate. The County will seek to connect areas that support or would benefit from a high level of pedestrian traffic (e.g., transit centers, commercial areas, parks, and school-recreation centers), and use parks as destination points within this network to increase their visibility and publicizing their availability. Where possible, the County will attempt to incorporate these facilities into infrastructure improvement projects such as road construction and streetscapes.

6. The Department of Recreation and Parks, the Office of Planning and DEPRM will encourage the use of natural features such as woodlands and stream valleys to provide visual breaks from the built environment and employ existing mechanisms such as environmental regulations and mandatory open space dedication (within the development process) to secure such areas without incurring the cost of fee-simple acquisition.

7. The Department of Recreation and Parks and the Office of Planning will encourage the incorporation of facilities such as pocket parks and sitting areas into streetscape projects to promote the human element in built or urbanized environments. These areas can be extremely useful within areas such as employment centers.

DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. The Office of Planning will support intensification of appropriate uses at locations which are oriented toward light rail stops, with mechanisms for public review and adequate controls to limit negative impacts on surrounding residential areas.

2. All PUD-C land use recommendations will be based upon the Proposed Land Use Map provided in the HV/T Plan and the HV/T Design Guidelines as adopted in the CMDP.

3. For those PUD-C projects located within 1/4 mile of the light rail line, consideration for higher density, mixed use development will be supported. The goal of such development will be to sustain the area as an employment area, optimizing public investments in transportation infrastructure.

4. The Office of Planning should reevaluate the PUD-C process and requirements in order to facilitate its use in HV/T and elsewhere in the County.
Of concern is the length of time it takes for a project to complete the process, and the uncertainty of gaining approval.

5. The County should support the following benefits for PUD-C projects in HV/T:
   - High density mixed use in association with a transit stop, with a large employment component offering family supporting wages
   - Consolidation of parcels to provide a mixed use project
   - Shared access and/or parking among adjacent uses
   - Renovation of an existing structure
   - Provision of offsite pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities
   - Substantial landscaping (exceeding current regulations)
   - Increased stormwater management (exceeding current regulations)
   - Traffic and/or public safety improvements

6. The County should take a proactive role in promoting and fostering higher density mixed use development at transit stops, particularly at Hunt Valley Mall and at the Timonium Fairgrounds, with adequate controls to limit negative impacts on neighboring residential zones.

7. The Department of Economic Development should consider designating Cockeysville's commercial center as a Revitalization Area.

8. Baltimore County will work with the Timonium Heights West Community Association to implement their recommendations for their neighborhood.

**DESIGN QUALITY**

1. The Hunt Valley/Timonium Design Guidelines will be incorporated into the Baltimore County Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies concurrent with the adoption of the HV/T plan.

2. The Office of Planning will recommend that a requirement for a 15 foot wide (min.) landscaped and fenced buffer between the light rail line and parking, service, and storage areas be included in the Landscape Manual.

3. The Office of Planning, in conjunction with other County agencies, will encourage "clean-up" programs for the light rail right-of-way and for existing development adjacent to the light rail line.

4. The Office of Planning will recommend an amendment to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to limit commercial signage visible from the light rail, except for "clean-up" incentive signs.

5. The Office of Planning will discourage sign variances along York Road, and encourage Zoning Enforcement to provide stricter enforcement of sign regulations along York Road.

6. The Office of Planning will support the creation of local business organizations to address York Road issues such as aesthetic appearance, access and increased marketability.

7. The Office of Planning will support local business and community groups who institute an annual contest for improving the visual quality of York Road.

**COMMUNITY CONSERVATION**

1. The County will insure that the future redevelopment of sites in the HV/T area does not create negative impacts on existing communities.

2. The County will support only small day care facilities with improved standards within residential areas. Larger facilities should be located within the employment area.
3. The County will monitor home-based business occupations within DR zones to insure that negative impacts are minimal.

4. The County should encourage shared access/parking arrangements to reduce the amount of traffic congestion on York Road in order to make it easier for residents to access their neighborhoods.

5. The County will protect the historic Cockeysville school grounds between Bosley and Matthews Avenues as one of the few common open space areas along the corridor. Current plans for the site include senior housing and a senior center, and retention of most of the open space for continued recreational uses.

6. The County will continue support of the Cockeysville commercial area as a small, historic shopping locality. Designation of these few blocks as a revitalization area would provide a funding program for development of an attractive streetscape and other amenities to assure that the character of Cockeysville remains. Business owners should be encouraged to participate in the County’s facade improvement program.

7. The County will encourage the formation of a roundtable consisting of business representatives and community associations to address issues and assure implementation of plan actions.

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

♦ York Road Streetscape Study addressing issues such as: 1) aesthetic appearance; 2) access; and 3) increased marketability. As part of the study:

- Formulate commercial corridor design guidelines for inclusion in the CMDP. Include larger setbacks and buffers between residential and nonresidential uses. Incorporate themes to promote neighborhood identity.

- Propose means for requiring existing commercial properties to conform with the County’s Landscape Manual.

- Community action plans should be created in order to document issues and provide a mechanism for implementation.

THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND TETP

♦ The Office of Planning and TETP will evaluate retail access restrictions incorporated into the zoning or development regulations, either through amendments to the ML zone, or through the adoption of a Roadway Classification Map which would designate the corridor as an industrial service road and limit retail access.

THE OFFICE OF PLANNING, TETP, HVBF, AND CONSULTANT

♦ Transportation study to include:
  • Safety issues
  • Traffic forecasts
  • Recommendations for transportation policies and improvements
  • Financing of future improvements
  • Pedestrian/bicycle access, including both on- and off-road bicycle facilities, and pedestrian and bicycle access to retail uses on York Road.
A task force should be established to recommend alternative methods of financing transportation improvements in the HV/T area.

A task force should be convened to develop recommendations for providing pedestrian/bicycle amenities such as sidewalks, bikeways, lighting, newspaper boxes, telephones, transit shelters, bicycle storage and appropriate design considerations through a public/private partnership.

THE OFFICE OF PLANNING/DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS/DEPRM STUDY

Design a pedestrian/bikeway system for the HV/T area. Using greenways where possible, system should connect the light rail stops, Hunt Valley Mall, business areas and public parks such as the Loch Raven Reservoir and potentially the popular North Central Hike and Bike Trail at Ashland, County Home Park, and Oregon Ridge Park. Appropriate connections should be made, where possible, to adjacent residential areas.

DEPRM STUDY

Hunt Valley/Timonium Area Watershed Study

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Investigate incentives to promote higher density mixed use development at transit stops. Examine the feasibility of the Baltimore County Development Corporation to act as a redevelopment authority in the HV/T corridor.

ZONING GUIDELINES

The following list of guidelines is provided to assist in making recommendations for zoning requests. The guidelines are formulated to promote future development that is consistent with the plan. The guidelines are intended to be general and advisory. Specific situations may warrant zoning decisions that are not consistent with these guidelines.

York Road Corridor

- Do not change residential zoning to nonresidential zoning. Employ RO or ROA residential office zones in areas requiring a greater buffer between disparate uses. The CB zone may be appropriate in some locations.

- Support zoning for higher density residential, particularly assisted living facilities, at appropriate locations with compatibility standards.

- Rezoning of properties to a more intensive business zone may be supported when it will result in the consolidation of parcels and fewer curb cuts, thereby reducing traffic congestion, with minimal impact on adjacent residential uses.

- Support rezoning of properties to less intensive zones which match the existing use.

- Encourage higher density mixed use development related to transit stops or designated commercial nodes through the PUD-C process, and with controls to limit impacts on adjacent residential areas.

West Timonium Heights

- Work with the West Timonium Heights community association to determine appropriate zoning and implement an action plan for their area.
West Aylesbury Road Area

- This area should be redeveloped in a manner which meets the goals of optimizing light rail use, and of protecting neighboring residential areas. Rezoning portions of the area to BLR (Business Light Restricted), accompanied by its designation as a Design Review Panel Area with design guidelines (see Section V), may be appropriate if the redevelopment is consistent with the goals established for this area, promotes mixed use, consolidates parcels, and provides a pedestrian environment of high design quality.

Employment Area

- Do not change manufacturing zoning to business zoning unless specifically designated, particularly adjacent to the McCormick Road to Greenspring Drive corridor. To the extent possible, Baltimore County should consider rezoning existing retail land that does not offer York Road frontage to ML in order to fortify the County’s ML land inventory. Further redevelopment projects proposed for the accommodation of a retail use should be limited to sites which currently possess business zoning.

- Encourage higher density mixed use development related to transit stops or designated commercial nodes through the PUD-C process, and with controls to limit impacts on adjacent residential areas.

- In cases where employment zoning (ML or OT) is rezoned for another use, alternative locations should be identified to replace this zoning.
### Implementation Guide

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<tr>
<th>ACTION TOPICS</th>
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<td>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>Department of Economic Development</td>
<td>Continue to work with new and existing businesses in HVT to encourage employment retention and growth.</td>
<td>Hunt Valley Business Forum (HVBF)</td>
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<td>Department of Economic Development</td>
<td>Continue to work with real estate brokerages and developers to market and help facilitate the sale, lease, development and/or redevelopment.</td>
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<td>Department of Economic Development</td>
<td>Take an active role in the review and implementation processes including PUD-C proposals, rezoning requests, planning efforts, transportation and public service matters, and development or redevelopment projects.</td>
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<td>TRANSPORTATION</td>
<td>Bureau of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning (TETP)</td>
<td>Continue to monitor traffic accident data, and periodically publish an accident trend report.</td>
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<td>Office of Planning, TETP</td>
<td>Request a transportation impact</td>
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<td>HVBF</td>
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<td>Office of Planning, Department of</td>
<td>Review development proposals to</td>
<td>Review development proposals to ensure that appropriate pedestrian and bicycle facilities are provided.</td>
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<td>Recreation and Parks</td>
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<td>Office of Planning, TETP</td>
<td>Continue to provide technical</td>
<td>Continue to provide technical assistance to the HVBF and assist their efforts to secure funding for needed transportation studies.</td>
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<td>Mass Transit Administration (MTA)</td>
<td>Assess the feasibility of</td>
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<td>HVBF, Office of Planning</td>
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<td>HVBF</td>
<td>Investigate the feasibility of</td>
<td>Investigate the feasibility of providing resources to the MTA to expand its marketing program for the rail.</td>
<td>TETP</td>
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<td>Encourage the use of open concrete paver blocks in selected areas or sharing of parking to reduce impervious area.</td>
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<td>DEPRM</td>
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<td>Adopt water quality management guidelines into the Comprehensive Manual of Development Polices.</td>
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NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
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<td>Department of Recreation and Parks</td>
<td>Continue to evaluate the need for recreational facilities and develop needed facilities on available parklands. Use the development process to secure appropriate local open space.</td>
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<td>Department of Recreation and Parks</td>
<td>Investigate opportunities for the development of large scale or specialized recreational facilities.</td>
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<td>Continue to expand recreational opportunities at existing and proposed school recreation center sites.</td>
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<td>Give continued attention to the status and physical condition of existing recreational facilities.</td>
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<td>Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Public Works, Office of Planning, Office of Community Conservation</td>
<td>Where appropriate, incorporate pedestrian and bicycle facilities into infrastructure improvement projects such as road construction and streetscapes.</td>
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<td>DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES</td>
<td>The Department of Recreation and Parks, Office of Planning, Office of Community Conservation</td>
<td>Encourage the incorporation of pocket parks and sitting areas into streetscape projects.</td>
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<td>Promote and support intensification of appropriate uses oriented toward light rail stops, with mechanisms for public review and adequate controls to limit negative impacts on surrounding residential areas.</td>
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<td>County agencies</td>
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<td>Base PUD-C land use recommendations on the Proposed Land Use Map provided in the HV/T Plan and the HV/T Design Guidelines.</td>
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<td>County agencies</td>
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<td>Support PUD-C projects in HV/T which provide one or more of the benefits listed in the plan.</td>
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<td>Office of Planning</td>
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<td>Reevaluate the PUD-C process and requirements in order to facilitate its use.</td>
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<td>Department of Economic Development</td>
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<td>Consider designating Cockeysville’s commercial center as a Revitalization Area.</td>
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<td>Work with the Timonium Heights West Community Association to implement their recommendations for their neighborhood.</td>
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<td>Office of Planning</td>
<td>Recommend that a landscaped and fenced buffer between the light rail line and parking, service, and storage areas be included in the Landscape Manual.</td>
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<td>Office of Planning</td>
<td>Encourage &quot;clean-up&quot; programs for the light rail right-of-way and for existing development adjacent to the light rail line.</td>
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<td>Recommend an amendment to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to limit commercial signage visible from the light rail.</td>
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<td>County agencies</td>
<td>Do not support sign variances along York Road, and encourage Zoning Enforcement to provide stricter enforcement of the sign regulations.</td>
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<td>The Office of Planning, Department of Economic Development, Office of Community Conservation</td>
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<td>Department of Economic Development and Office of Planning</td>
<td>Continue support of the Cockeysville commercial area as a small, historic shopping locality.</td>
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<td>Department of Economic Development, Office of Planning</td>
<td>Office of Planning, Office of Community Conservation</td>
<td>Encourage business owners to participate in the County's facade improvement program.</td>
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<td>Encourage the formation of a roundtable consisting of business representatives and community associations to address issues and assure implementation of plan actions.</td>
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# PLANNING STUDIES

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<td>Evaluate amendments to the ML-IM zone concerning auxiliary retail uses.</td>
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<td>Office of Planning and Community Conservation</td>
<td>Undertake a York Road streetscape study addressing aesthetic appearance, access, and increased marketability.</td>
<td>Local business and community groups</td>
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<td>Office of Planning and TETP</td>
<td>Evaluate retail access restrictions incorporated into the zoning or development regulations for the McCormick to Greenspring Drive Corridor.</td>
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<td>HVBF and Consultant</td>
<td>Prepare a detailed transportation study.</td>
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<td>HVBF</td>
<td>Convene a task force to recommend alternative methods of financing transportation improvements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HVBF</td>
<td>Convene a task force to develop recommendations for providing pedestrian/bicycle facilities and amenities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Planning</td>
<td>Design a pedestrian/bikeway system for the HV/T area.</td>
<td>Department of Recreation and Parks, DEPRM, HVBF</td>
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<td>DEPRM</td>
<td>Prepare a Hunt Valley/Timonium Area Watershed Study.</td>
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<td>Department of Economic Development</td>
<td>Investigate incentives to promote higher density mixed use development at transit stops.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community associations</td>
<td>Create community action plans in order to document issues and provide a mechanism for implementation.</td>
<td>Office of Planning, Office of Community Conservation and other county agencies</td>
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Section V:
Design Guidelines

Within the Hunt Valley / Timonium area, there are many examples of good design quality. The quality of these developments, particularly at the Hunt Valley Business community, has promoted an image that has become important in attracting businesses to the area. Design quality controls can help assure that the entire HVT area will continue to provide an attractive, desirable environment in which to work, live, and shop, and to help maintain its status in the County as a major corporate economic development area. The Hunt Valley Business Community was developed with deed covenants to assure a high quality of design. The guidelines proposed here reflect those major design elements which will help direct the retail, office and industrial development in the entire HVT area toward consistent design quality.

The guidelines also address the needs of pedestrian and transit users. Employees using transit frequently find no walks to their buildings, or must walk through expansive parking lots to reach the entrance. Pedestrian facilities which connect adjacent uses, or link businesses to restaurants and other employee services, will reduce the need for auto travel and provide an important amenity.

Additional guidelines that pertain to the Urban/Rural Gateway Area, the Cockeysville Historic Area and the West Aylesbury Road Mixed Use Area are also included to reflect their special natures. Other sections of the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies may also apply to development in HVT, particularly the sections entitled Office Guidelines, Commercial Corridors, and Mixed Use Development.

Adoption of the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan by the Planning Board and by the County Council will constitute the adoption of the guidelines contained in this section (with any amendments) into the Baltimore County Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies.
MAP 5

AREAS FOR HUNT VALLEY/TIMONIUM DESIGN GUIDELINES

Urban-Rural Gateway Area

Cockeysville Historic Area

Hunt Valley/Timonium Area

West Aylesbury Road Mixed Use Commercial Area

NORTH

0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000

42 * Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan
BUILDINGS

- Vary and articulate building elements to visually and dimensionally interrupt the bulk of the building. Highlighting entranceways and establishing focal points are among the ways to achieve this guideline.

- Use a consistent architectural design and finish on all facades which are visible from public rights-of-way.

- Finish the sides of buildings which are visible from public rights-of-way with a high quality material such as brick or decorative concrete block.

- Treat above-ground parking structures with a quality architectural finish such as decorative concrete block or brick, visually compatible with the buildings they support.

- The height and scale of buildings should be compatible with the surrounding area.

Consistent architectural detailing and finishes create more attractive buildings.

Use of compatible materials and detailing on parking structures creates a unified visual image.
OPEN SPACE

Design an open space network as an integral part of the overall site plan. Incorporate existing streams and required forest buffers into the open space network.

- Include amenities in the open space network for active or passive use by employees such as picnic tables, benches and other facilities for sitting, eating, meeting or recreational activities. Where feasible, take advantage of the space between buildings to include a courtyard or site feature.

- Provide access to, and views of, the open space network. Where possible, locate appropriate building functions towards the view (e.g., the cafeteria instead of the loading area).

WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- For new developments and redevelopments, use "Low Impact Development" (LID) techniques, where feasible, to infiltrate or detain stormwater runoff. These techniques include bioretention: open, vegetated drainage swales; curbless roadways and other paved areas; and redirected or lengthened routing pathways for stormwater flows to maximize pollutant removal and flood peak attenuation.

- Perform periodic "street cleaning" operations on privately owned paved roadways and parking areas to minimize the build-up of surface pollutants.
SCREENING AND BUFFERING

- For developments adjacent to I-83, screen parking lots, parking structures and service areas from the freeway with a 50 foot minimum landscaped buffer, as measured from the I-83 paving edge. Existing vegetation within the right-of-way may be incorporated as part of the landscape design as long as at least 25 feet of the landscaped buffer occurs on the building site.

- Enclose or screen mechanical equipment, both roof- and ground-mounted, in a manner which appears as an integral part of the architectural or site design.

- Where possible, orient buildings so that loading and service areas do not face public streets.

- Screen outdoor storage areas from view of public rights-of-way.

- Provide a 15-foot wide landscaped and/or fenced buffer between the light rail line right-of-way and parking, service and storage areas.

- Where a fence is used as a screen, landscape any side in the public view, and landscape areas adjacent to residential uses or zones.

A landscaped/fenced buffer between the light rail line and parking, service and storage areas will help provide a pleasant environment for transit passengers.
PEDESTRIAN- AND TRANSIT-ORIENTED DESIGN

- Provide sidewalks to connect buildings to each other, the street, and transit stops. Sidewalks are to be paved, lit and landscaped without hindering visibility.

- Provide street trees adjacent to public rights-of-way to help separate pedestrian and motorized traffic.

- Provide direct pedestrian access from the street to the building entrance with minimal crossings through parking lots and drives. Limit parking to one bay width (maximum) between the entrance and the street.

- Orient the building towards the public transportation facility rather than the parking lot. Arrange the building on the site to reduce the walking distance to the transit stop.

- When adjacent to a transit stop, incorporate benches, trash receptacles with lids, lighting, shelters, and where appropriate, bus pull-outs, into the overall development.

- Provide preferential parking close to the building for rideshare vehicles.
This site layout favors access by private auto. Transit users must walk through the parking lot to reach the building entrance.

This site design is "transit friendly." Transit users have direct access to the building. Clustering buildings around a central pedestrian space also encourages pedestrian access and shortens walking distances.
URBAN-RURAL GATEWAY

The northern end of York Road within the Hunt Valley/Timonium area coincides with the Baltimore County Urban-Rural Demarcation Line. It is an area which functions as a gateway, and presents an opportunity for fostering development which reflects a consistent theme, and presents a unified and attractive appearance. The existing development pattern of older "quaint" office uses, in combination with the newer brick office and retail uses, presents a sense of transition between urban and rural centers. It is this attractive, transitional character that should be emphasized.

- Within the gateway area, use compatible and consistent architectural styles and materials to provide a high quality visual appearance. Structures utilizing red brick with green metal standing seam roofing are compatible, as well as those which, through their scale, materials and detailing, complement the existing residential office development.

- The design and materials used for signage and lighting should improve the visual continuity of the area; they should not serve as a distraction.

- The design and materials used for signage and lighting should complement and be similar to those used for the building.

- Lighting and signage should be in scale with the building, and where possible, integrated into the building design rather than freestanding.
Cockeysville Historic Area

Redevelopment of the Cockeysville Historic Area provides an opportunity to preserve and enhance a unique element within the Hunt Valley/Timonium Area. Uses which focus on antique and arts/crafts sales, and development/redevelopment which maintains the historic theme, will add to the vibrancy of the community.

- Within the Cockeysville Historic Area, use compatible and consistent architectural styles and materials which reflect its historic appearance and provide high visual quality. Structures utilizing red brick, and green metal standing seam roofing are compatible, as well as those which, through their scale, materials and detailing, complement the existing historic development.

- The design and materials used for signage and lighting should improve the visual continuity of the area; they should not serve as a distraction.

- The design and materials used for signage and lighting should complement and be similar to those used for the building.

- Lighting and signage should be in scale with the building, and where possible, integrated into the building design rather than freestanding.
WEST AYLESBURY ROAD
MIXED USE AREA

INTENT: To encourage the use of the PUD-C process in the West Aylesbury Road area for redevelopment as a mixed use retail/office/light industrial center. Requests for retail use which meet the following guidelines should be considered an appropriate land use.

All sites developed in this area under any development process should comply with these, and other guidelines where applicable, to ensure design consistency and unity, and be reviewed for conformance by the Design Review Panel.

GUIDELINES:

- No single retail use shall exceed 80,000 s.f., and all the retail uses on the site shall not exceed a floor area ratio of 0.33.
- A 15-foot wide space shall be provided between the roadway curb and parking to accommodate a 6-foot wide sidewalk, meandering where appropriate, and street trees.
- Six-foot wide sidewalks shall be provided along all public roads.
- Street trees shall be provided along all public roads at a minimum of 60' on center.
- Coordinated pedestrian lighting shall be provided along all public roads.
- Attractive, coordinated crosswalks shall be provided at intersections and wherever a walkway crosses a vehicular drive.
- Provisions shall be made for internal pedestrian circulation.
- Buildings and their entrances shall be located in close proximity to West Aylesbury Road, or to Business Park Drive where applicable, and provide direct pedestrian access from the street.

The West Aylesbury Road area is in a state of transition, with many properties ripe for redevelopment. Design guidelines will help produce an attractive, pedestrian-oriented environment.

- Finish the sides of the buildings with a high quality material such as brick or decorative concrete block.
- Articulate the building facades to visually interrupt the bulk of the building.
- Use a consistent architectural design and finish on all facades of the building which are visible to the public, compatible with the West Aylesbury Road Center "theme."
- Enclose or screen dumpsters and mechanical equipment, both roof- and ground-mounted, in a manner which appears as an integral part of the architectural or site design.
- Signage shall be building- or ground-mounted.
Section VI:
West Aylesbury Road Area:
Comprehensive Zoning Map Review

Through this comprehensive zoning review of the West Aylesbury Road area, it is the intention of the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan to satisfy the need for rezoning for additional retail land for the entire HV/T area.

County Council Resolution No. 22-98 (which is reproduced on the following four pages), requests that, in conjunction with making recommendations on amendments to the Baltimore County Master Plan covering the whole Hunt Valley/Timonium area, the Planning Board should also consider possible zoning map changes in the West Aylesbury Road area. The subsequent pages of this section comprise a Log of Issues for a comprehensive zoning map review in response to the Council’s request.

As shown on the Issue Map (page 56), the area has been divided into 26 separate issues, each consisting of either a single property or a set of adjoining parcels in common ownership. The Log of Issues identifies the existing zoning, and the recommendations by the County for zoning map changes to implement the land use policies proposed of the HV/T plan.
A RESOLUTION of the Baltimore County Council authorizing the Planning Board to propose amendments to the Baltimore County Zoning Map in conjunction with the Hunt Valley/Timonium Plan.

WHEREAS, the Baltimore County Master Plan 1989-2000 calls for the preparation of a comprehensive Urban Center Plan for the Hunt Valley - Timonium corridor with full participation by economic interests, County agencies and neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS, the initial response to this directive was the Hunt Valley/Timonium Redevlopment Study which was prepared with the assistance of an Advisory Committee composed of business, development and residential representatives from the area, and other County and State departments and agencies, and was duly adopted by the Planning Board on April 15, 1993; and

WHEREAS, work is now underway, with a similarly broad range of participants, on a new plan to update and replace the 1993 study; and

WHEREAS, during the 1996 comprehensive zoning process, decisions on certain reclassification issues in the southern part of the Timonium area were deferred pending completion of further planning studies; and
WHEREAS, the forthcoming Hunt Valley/Timonium Plan could, with prior authorization by the County Council, make recommendations regarding zoning, thereby avoiding unnecessary delay until the next comprehensive zoning cycle; and

WHEREAS, it is the County Council's intent to assure that the full range of opportunities will be available to the Council for timely implementation after receiving the new Hunt Valley/Timonium Plan from the Planning Board.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND, that pursuant to County Code Section 26-123(b), the Baltimore County Planning Board be and it is hereby authorized, in conjunction with the preparation and adoption of revisions and updates to the Master Plan pertaining to the Hunt Valley/Timonium area, to review the zoning maps in effect in the area delineated on the map attached hereto as Exhibit A and made a part of this Resolution and to recommend such comprehensive revisions to the area on the map as the Board may deem advisable.

R02298.
READ AND PASSED this 16th day of March, 1998.

BY ORDER

Thomas J. Peddicord, Jr.
Secretary

S. G. Samuel Moxley
Chairman, County Council

ITEM: Resolution 22-98
## Hunt Valley-Timonium Plan

### Comprehensive Zoning Issues

#### Planning Board Recommendations

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* Recommendation is contingent upon the completion of agreements between property owners and the relevant community organization relating to design standards, uses and scale of future development of these properties.
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Grand Total: 80.03
APPENDIX

MAP A
1984 CZMP Rezoning Requests

MAP B
1988 CZMP Rezoning Requests

MAP C
1992 CZMP Rezoning Requests

MAP D
1996 CZMP Rezoning Requests

MAP E
1996 CZMP Adopted Requests

MAP F
MAP C

1992 CZMP REZONING REQUESTS

- From Manufacturing to Business Zones
- From Zones other than Manufacturing to Business Zones
- All Others
- Light Rail Line and Stop

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MAP E

1996 CZMP ADOPTED REQUESTS

- From Manufacturing to Business Zones
- From Zones other than Manufacturing to Business Zones
- All Others
- Light Rail Line and Stop

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