

Citizen Survey Response Report:

Kent County Comprehensive Plan Update

January 24, 2016

Introduction

The Kent County Citizen Survey was administered online and via paper copies beginning in July of 2016 and continued to receive responses until October 21, 2016, its closing date. The survey received 631 total responses. The purpose of the survey was to gain direct citizen input on important identified issues and to have citizens provide other issues they believe important to the update of the Kent County Comprehensive Plan. This survey was not designed with a random sample nor was it intended to statistically represent the County. It was designed as an additional method for interested citizens to provide their input on important County issues. Below are the results of the survey.

Response: Total 631 with 433 complete responses and 197 partial responses.

Note: Each question is followed by the number of responses by category and the percent of response for each category.

Overall Community Quality Questions:

1. How do you rate the following:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Don't know
Overall Quality of life in Kent County	84 13.8%	258 42.4%	179 29.4%	85 14.0%	2 0.3%
Your neighborhood as a place to live	174 28.7%	259 42.7%	113 18.7%	55 9.1%	5 0.8%
Value of services available for taxes paid	34 5.6%	130 21.6%	196 32.5%	227 37.7%	16 2.7%
Overall direction of Kent County	22 3.6%	123 20.4%	162 26.8%	279 46.2%	18 3.0%
Overall image or reputation of Kent County	42 7.0%	173 28.7%	186 30.9%	192 31.8%	10 1.7%

2. Would you recommend Kent County as:

	Highly Recommend	Recommend	Don't Recommend	Don't Know
A place to live?	101 16.7%	257 42.4%	220 36.3%	28 4.6%
A place to retire?	181 30.0%	260 43.1%	121 20.1%	41 6.8%
A place to vacation?	109 18.0%	263 43.5%	200 33.1%	33 5.5%

Housing Question:

3. How do you rate the housing characteristics below in Kent County?

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Don't know
Availability of affordable quality housing	19 3.5%	105 19.6%	188 35.0%	204 38.0%	21 3.9%
Variety of housing options (single family, apartments, duplexes, town homes, etc.)	19 3.5%	120 22.4%	212 39.6%	159 29.7%	26 4.9%

Built Environment Questions:

4. How do you rate new developments' characteristics in Kent County:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Don't know
Quality of new development	15 2.8%	111 20.7%	156 29.2%	194 36.3%	59 11.0%
Overall appearance of development	15 2.8%	135 25.3%	213 39.9%	130 24.3%	41 7.7%
Effectiveness of historic preservation	109 20.5%	254 47.7%	101 18.9%	36 6.8%	33 6.2%
Location of new developments	13 2.4%	117 22.0%	195 36.6%	141 26.5%	67 12.6%

5. From time to time, Kent County must judge development proposals which may expand temporary and longer term economic opportunities. Such developments often also result in observable changes to the landscape or a particular community with aesthetic, traffic and other effects. For the future, when weighing such development proposals, do you believe that Kent County should:

Value	Percent		Count
Give economic growth the highest priority	39.6%		211
Give economic growth somewhat more emphasis than in the past	28.3%		151
Continue to weigh economic and community impacts as the County has in the past	16.5%		88
Give preserving existing community character more emphasis than in the past	7.1%		38
Give preserving existing community character the highest priority	8.4%		45
		Total	533

6. Recently the County has received several proposals for large scale (utility) renewable resource (solar and wind) power generation projects that would be located on large areas of land now used for agriculture. When reviewing proposals for these developments, how do you feel the county should proceed?

Value	Percent		Count
Permit the conversion of agricultural land	25.7%		136
Guide their location to less productive agricultural soils or other lands	51.6%		273
Not permit the conversion of agricultural land for such development	22.7%		120
		Total	529

7. Agriculture, and the variety of industries that support it, are important components of the local economy and are a cultural resource for Kent County. The County has historically viewed agriculture as a permanent and preferred use of land. For the future, do you feel Kent County should:

Value	Percent		Count
Renew and expand its efforts to grow the business sectors that support agriculture and maximize the preservation of agricultural land	22.6%		120
Continue its agricultural economic development and land preservation efforts at their current level	12.1%		64
Redirect resources to other types of economic development that provide diversified employment opportunities and retail services.	27.2%		144
Continue its agricultural economic development and land preservation efforts while also finding resources to promote and encourage new non-agricultural economic development opportunities.	38.1%		202
		Totals	530

8. Kent County's historic population growth rate has been slow and steady, averaging about 120 new residents per year for the past few decades. For the future, when considering actions and developments which may affect the rate of population growth, do you believe the County should seek to:

Value	Percent		Count
Rapidly accelerate the rate of population growth	15.1%		80
Somewhat accelerate the rate of population growth	46.7%		248
Continue the historic rate of population growth	31.5%		167
Somewhat slow the rate of population growth	4.7%		25
Significantly slow the rate of population growth	2.1%		11
		Total	531

Employment and Economy Questions:

9. Please indicate your experience and expectations with regard to the following statements:

	Easy	About as expected	Harder than expected	Much harder than expected	Don't know
For myself and people I know, finding well-paying employment in Kent County has been	7 1.4%	77 14.9%	146 28.2%	254 49.1%	33 6.4%
I expect that in the next 5 years, finding well-paying employment in Kent County will be	4 0.8%	103 19.7%	175 33.5%	210 40.2%	30 5.7%

10. Please rate your experience with the following in Kent County:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Don't Know
Shopping opportunities	9 1.7%	56 10.7%	117 22.4%	340 65.1%	0 0.0%
As a place to work	26 5.0%	77 14.8%	120 23.0%	261 50.1%	37 7.1%
Quality of business and service establishments	29 5.6%	121 23.2%	203 39.0%	168 32.2%	0 0.0%

Community Environment Question:

11. Please rate the following environmental characteristics of Kent County:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Don't Know
Overall cleanliness	126 24.0%	239 45.6%	138 26.3%	21 4.0%	0 0.0%
Quality of natural environment	204 39.0%	226 43.2%	74 14.1%	18 3.4%	1 0.2%
Air quality	191 36.5%	229 43.7%	84 16.0%	13 2.5%	7 1.3%
Water quality	70 13.4%	185 35.3%	179 34.2%	79 15.1%	11 2.1%
Natural resources and recreational opportunities	144 27.5%	183 35.0%	124 23.9%	69 13.2%	2 0.4%

Demographic Questions:

12. What is the highest level of education you completed?

Value	Percent		Count
Less than or part of high school	0.8%		4
High school graduate	8.5%		42
Some college, no degree	18.9%		94
Associate degree or technical certificate	12.3%		61
Bachelor degree	33.0%		164
Graduate degree	23.1%		115
Doctorate/post-doc	3.4%		17
		Total	497

13. Are you currently employed for pay?

Value	Percent		Count
No (skip to question 16)	17.6%		87
Yes, full time	74.6%		368
Yes, part-time	7.7%		38
		Total	493

14. Where do you work?

Value	Percent		Count
In Kent County	61.8%		260
Outside Kent County	38.2%		161
		Total	421

13. During a typical week, how many days do you commute to work in each of the ways listed below (please enter total number of days). For each mode of transport the number of response per day is listed above the percentage of those using this mode of transport. Note there were nine responses that where not possible to characterize. These responses added additional qualifications to the answer which could not be located within the categories and number of days available. Also, if there were zero responses for the number of days for a category, a row is not shown in the table for that number of days.

Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc.) by myself:

# of Days	Response
0	35 8.3%
1	8 1.9%
2	10 2.4%
3	34 8.1%
4	21 5.0%
5	247 58.8%
6	35 8.3%
7	30 7.1%
Total responses	420

Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc.) with other children or adults:

# of Days	Response
0	197 52.8%
1	15 4.0%
2	12 3.2%
3	19 5.1%
4	10 2.7%
5	93 24.9%
6	16 4.3%
7	11 2.9%
Total responses	373

Bus:

# of Days	Response
0	362 98.1%
1	1 0.3%
4	1 0.3%
5	4 1.1%
7	1 0.3%
Total Response	369

Walk:

# of Days	Response
0	334 90.3%
1	7 1.9%
2	7 1.9%
4	4 1.1%
5	9 2.4%
6	3 0.8%
7	6 1.6%
Total Responses	370

Bicycle:

# of Days	Response
0	355 97.0%
1	7 1.9%
2	1 0.3%
3	2 0.5%
5	1 0.3%
Total Responses	366

Work at home:

# of Days	Response
0	279 73.8%
1	35 9.3%
2	18 4.8%
3	9 2.4%
4	3 0.8%
5	13 3.4%
7	21 5.6%
Total Responses	378

Other:

# of Days	Response
0	315 91.6%
1	4 1.2%
2	2 0.6%
3	3 0.9%
5	14 4.1%
6	5 1.5%
7	1 0.3%
Total Responses	344

16. Do you reside in Kent County all year?

Value	Percent		Count
Yes	92.4%		459
No	7.6%		38
		Total	497

17. Which best describes the building you live in:

Value	Percent		Count
One family house detached from any other houses	90.6%		451
House attached to one or more houses (for example, a duplex or town home)	4.0%		20
Building with two or more apartments or condos	3.0%		15
Mobile home	0.4%		2
Other	2.0%		10
		Total	497

18. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?

Value	Percent		Count
Yes	43.5%		216
No	56.5%		280
		Total	495

19. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?

Value	Percent		Count
Yes	20.0%		99
No	80.0%		397
		Total	496

20. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

Range	Percent		Count
Less than \$24,999	5.4%		26
\$25,000 to \$49,999	14.0%		67
\$50,000 to \$99,999	34.2%		164
\$100,000 to \$149,999	24.0%		115
\$150,000 or more	14.4%		69
Prefer not to say	7.9%		38
		Total	479

21. Which age bracket do you fall under?

Range	Percent		Count
18-24 years	0.6%		3
25-34 years	21.7%		108
35-44 years	27.3%		136
45-54 years	16.9%		84
55-64 years	19.7%		98
65-74 years	11.0%		55
75 years or older	2.8%		14
		Total	498

22. What is your sex?

Sex	Percent		Count
Female	62.1%		305
Male	37.7%		185
Other	0.2%		1
		Total	491

23. Please provide the name of the street (optional), town and zip code where you live (only towns and zip code locations are included in this report):

Count	Percent	Response
103	49.8	Chestertown 21620
24	11.6	Worton 21678
28	13.5	Rock Hall 21661
24	11.6	Galena 21635
14	6.8	Millington 21651
10	4.8	Kennedyville 21645
4	1.9	Betterton 21610
206	100.0	Total

24. Please enter any additional thoughts, concerns, or issues you would like to see addressed by the update to the Kent County Comprehensive Plan below [Comments unedited]:

1. Kent County has very little opportunity for young families. It is sad that we have to go out of state to do all of our shopping because the county has next to no commercial options available besides grocery stores. If this trend continues, I see myself moving out of the county within five years. And I have been a resident my entire life.
2. ## Trump
3. - A move away from agriculture -A growth in the economy encouraging a younger & growing population -more use of natural resources. The rivers and Bay are beautiful, but underutilized. Public funded & managed schemes to enable more access to the water and encourage tourism -flexibility in planning applications review/approvals to take advantage of opportunities
4. Lack of availability of jobs for middle class families; limited opportunity for advancement, low salaries. 2. declining population/quality of public schools, limited enrichment opportunities in schools; should have merged (2016-2017) 3. over emphasis on tourism/arts vs. quality of life for current residents 4. There is a dire need for public transportation--why isn't it addressed?
5. Need emphasis on growing in home businesses with 1G/ to attract entrepreneurs of all ages. 2. Need to elevate our education system to be an economic asset in our plans. 3. Need to energize our home sales. 4. Need to use vehicles such as TripAdvisor for tourism exposure.

6. A decent department store Walmart, Kmart
7. A lot of money from Kent county travels to merchants in Delaware, Queen Anne's County, Easton, and even to Annapolis because there is no shopping selection here. We would rather pay the gas money to go for variety than support the high priced Artisan work that seems to be the only available merchants in Kent County. You can only buy so many children's' gifts at Walgreens before you are giving the same thing repeatedly...
8. Access to effective and affordable internet service is an important target for continued attention and should be addressed in the Plan. Alternative energy sources should be promoted. Yes, it was important to curtail imminent inappropriate land use by Millsbranch/Apex. But the county should be receptive to solar projects (that benefit more than the individual property owner with resources to install their own solar), and correct the image that Kent County is not open to any alternative source projects.
9. Agritourism
10. As a young family with young children it is frustrating for us to have to deal with the uncertainty of the school situation. It is also extremely frustrating to have to drive to Middletown to buy items that the stores in town do not carry and quite honestly we don't shop at the stores in town and waste our time, we either go to Delaware or Annapolis and spend our money there. We quite honestly would have moved from Kent county if it weren't for our homes value depreciating and unless things turn around for Kent county we are planning a move in the next few years, which is a shame but because of the uncertainty of the school systems and the lack of shopping and restaurants we are considering moving from a small town which overall we love the beauty and community of people but it's just not serving our needs as a young family.
11. As to confusing commute question, I drive no more than 3 days/wk & walk or bike otherwise. Basic cost of living (rent, utilities, groceries) greatly exceed income opportunities in the area. Affordable housing is only available in areas requiring private transportation, which may not be available to the residents, thereby increasing poverty & crime. Expanding sidewalks, bike paths & looking into some form of public transportation or business credits for private transportation initiatives that meet the transportation need would be beneficial. More must be done to attract & keep young adults, which can only be done with expanding well-paying income opportunities, responsive schools & adequate local health care - especially for OB & pediatrics.
12. Balance hospitality industry growth with historic charm preservation. Ferry to Western Shore would help.
13. Because of the proximity of lots to one another and the failing septic systems, we would like to see public water and sewer brought into Still Pond.
14. Become more business friendly
15. Bring in low cost affordable internet service. We are so close to Annapolis, DC, and Baltimore...Philly. Very good to live here and raise children while working from home with a check in to one of our great East Coast cities. Kent county doesn't need to be a bedroom community, rather we need to have medium distance options for working at home.
16. Bringing new business to the county and , therefore, folks who need new homes.
17. Building of any commercial sites in stonewalled in Kent County and that needs to change
18. Business owners are terribly rude. The locals are pushing out anyone not born and raised in this town and it is very frustrating. My wife and I got married here and lived here for years but it is time to move

on because of the lack of respect from locals thinking they don't need to promote this town. The economy and school systems of this town are some of the worst in Maryland and I refuse to buy a house here and raise a child with such poor town management.

19. Change the zoning to commercial for parcel 161 (Chapiquaquic Road) near Worton, to industrial in order to make it more marketable for providing acceptable jobs in Kent county.
20. Chickens and any other type of livestock DO NOT belong in residential neighborhoods whether in Kent County or any other county in Maryland -- or any other state for that matter!! Livestock belong on FARMS!!! The Zoning Board needs to abolish the "backyard chickens" law. They stink and they are bringing both vermin and predators into our neighborhood.
21. Concerning the Chester River bridge in Chestertown. Purchase the properties adjacent to the current bridge just downstream and build a new bridge right next to the current one. It has been done over the Choptank River on Dover Rd. On the road between Easton and Denton.
22. Consideration for families, playgrounds in Chestertown inadequate. Safer roads with vehicles actually following speed limits. I think Chestertown is unsafe for pedestrians especially walkways to shopping centers and the walkways at the shopping centers themselves. Even new stores have apparatus blocking pedestrian traffic. Sidewalks in town dump people into busy streets. I really like the new stoplights, much safer, but let's slow down traffic in town.
23. Continue rails to trails to community center in Worton. The facility is not used as much as it should be. Need to get people out of their houses and out into fresh air. This would be a wonderful addition to the county. Money well spent. Taxes are too high because spending is too high. Commissioners need to be financially responsible. We can't have it all. They cater to special interest because they yell the most. A better government that can deal with the reality of a finite budget. Tax relief for the home owner. Look to an economic development that can put all classes to work in the county. With work comes pride. Look for a future that lifts the spirits and inspires our next generation. Term limits on all elected positions will help end the endless cycle of hopelessness. 2-terms for the Mayor, town council representatives and county commissioners. There are so many qualified leaders that live here. Be it retired or young...it is very tough to fight an incumbent poli
24. County market is poor - as is marketing of the town to employees who may have a virtual work arrangement. I am very concerned that this survey appears to be testing the water for box development and 100 percent misses the mark on education, child care options, public transportation needs, adult education, vocational training, and the types of industries (specifically) people want to see come here that generate a living wage. Big box retailers pay full time employees an average of 12.50 an hour (check out recent press releases from Walmart, benchmark it with Target) - my hope is that we are not viewing them as the beacon of economic development light.
25. County should consider ways to retain and attract a more diverse population, especially with regard to age. Given that the majority of the population is retired and little emphasis is placed on a younger population we continue to lose families and children.

26. County/State needs to address the traffic speeding within town limits of Galena. My residence is right next to Rte 213, my wife and I have noticed that the traffic coming into town from the direction of the draw bridge has increased and the speed of each vehicle, especially the commercial ones. There needs to be some type of a permanent deterrence to slow them down prior to entering town limits. If not...I foresee a nasty accident happening, hopefully one that does not include a school bus. Which almost occur roughly three ago, I personally watch and held my breath hoping that 18-wheeler was going to be able to stop and not hit the school bus which was unloading students.
27. Descent jobs for young to have and do something.
28. Develop long term goals, not limited to 10 years. Strategy to promote visitor population to Kent County. Effect of climate change on the County.
29. Develop only within current town or village limits. DO NOT allow residential development or large scale commercial development outside of municipal services.
30. Development in Kent County has destroyed the fragile environmental infrastructure, especially in the Critical Areas. It appears that many violations are allowed to occur to create "revenue".
31. Directional signage, a regional multi state marketing strategy led by agency professionals, and school consolidation
32. Don't really want windmills at all would like to see more industrial parks with warehouses and what not. Outside of Chestertown easy access to 301 so more business will move into town bring more families, more tax dollars and opportunities to the county
33. Ecotourism can help meet environmental goals while supporting healthy economic development. Kent County could experience a surge in ecotourism if it: 1) committed to municipal composting of all organic waste, 2) installed public water bottle filling stations at key recreational and civic gathering areas, 3) incentivized Bayscapes and Bay-wise landscaping for businesses and homeowners, 4) mandated new construction to U.S. Green Building Council or Passive House standards.
34. Education is a huge component in my mind and this was not even a part of the survey.... Does this mean it is not part of the comprehensive plan? I sure hope not. Our children are our future and providing them with insufficient experiences will limit us all.
35. Education is a huge factor in what happens to this county. Currently, the residents are distrustful of county commissioners, the Board of Ed, the Superintendent of Schools, and many others. Poverty continues to be a huge issue. The have and have nots are not being brought together. The racial divide continues to be large.
36. Efforts to expand sidewalks for walking/commuters. More places to lock bikes for commuting to work. Stronger efforts to bring low cost/high speed internet to grow tech & telecommuting job opportunities. Expand efforts to reduce costs of other utilities. Tax incentives to keep & grow business opportunities for high paying jobs.
37. Enforce crosswalk pedestrian vehicle rules have police walk around town and resurface bad streets in Chestertown
38. Ensure Comp Plan is 100% compatible with Zoning Code and has same weight as Zoning Code when decisions are made.
39. Five commissioners instead of three. Make schools a priority; support superintendent in bringing schools

up in rankings and perception.

40. Focus alternative energy projects on industrial land set aside for these projects and maintain agricultural land for agricultural purposes. Make sure all citizens have access to the new Internet services, do not exclude citizens due to their location outside of Chestertown
41. Focus needs to be on bringing more people here for the long haul of their life. Most people come here to retire. There is no consistency with growth. You fail to mention the many who leave the county on a regular basis to find better employment and ease of life. The county could benefit from looking at Middletown as an example of how to economically grow a communal agricultural area.
42. Focus on getting drugs off the streets and out of the hands of our young adults
43. GET BIG BUSINESSES TO COME TO KENT COUNTY!!! Encourage growth and development! We need to grow to provide opportunities for our youth! Too many people are moving out of the county because of lack of positive growth. Kent county is stale and stagnant! Let's grow!
44. Growth focusing on bringing in younger families to support schools
45. Growth should be top priority!
46. Having read through the KC Comprehensive Plan, I feel like there are a lot of really great suggestions that work really well and are quite compatible with my own personal vision for KC. It seems to me, however, having lived here since 2008, that very few of those visioning goals have been achieved - or even considered, in some cases. The plan lists education as the second subgroup after economy, duly recognizing the importance of excellent schools and the impact on good trade training availability on the economy. The "Strategy" is described as follows: "Commit to excellence in the school system. Kent County should strive to have the best school system in the state and cater to the needs of all students. This will require innovative practices and outreach to business and community leaders." I have seen ZERO innovative practices by the county and ZERO outreach to businesses and community leaders that has been promoted or initiated by the county. Unless "innovative practices" means cutting
47. Healthcare for children, improvement of schools, employment opportunities. .
48. Historic Commission has too much influence. Some "old" places have no real significance and should be replaced. Only the college gets to do what it wants
49. How about a trade school for plumbers etc. for a better pool and for better availability of skilled workers?
50. I am very concerned about economic growth in this county. Without well-paying jobs and/or jobs requiring higher education available, people are not moving to this area or they are moving away leaving the population in the county to dwindle. Therefore, our schools are suffering because of a small population and a limited mix of families with varying degrees of education and wealth. I feel in order to reverse this trend our county needs to offer more jobs and opportunities for individuals with higher education degrees. Even if a large business were to come to Kent county I am sure there would be job opportunities at all levels from executive to management to entry level positions.
51. I am very concerned about the school system. I do not want to send my children to school here.
52. I believe that Kent country needs to stop allowing more auto stores and gas stations to come into town and think more of what the people of this town really needs. Like a reasonable store where we can go get all the home goods that are need without having to spend a small fortune. And I think having a reasonable family restaurant or two would be super beneficial as well.

53. I believe the Kent County area is a beautiful place to live. My family has learned to adapt to remain here relatively comfortably and with a positive outlook for the future. Supporting local business is important. Thank you for asking for the community's input.
54. I do not wish to see a new bridge from the western shore in Kent city. I am very concerned about the lack of urban planning that the City Commissioners have. I am very concerned that they will make the eastern shore look like Middletown, DE! They should be looking at alternative ways of transportation--not building additional infrastructure that will require more maintenance!
55. I don't want Millington Elementary school to be closed. It is an asset to the community. I can't imagine what will happen to our small town without the school. It is a great school that the town supports well. Close Worton. The high school is already there and it is not really in a neighborhood.
56. I feel that the schools need to become more of a priority as well as growth in the county. If we don't bring in more businesses this area will not be desirable to young families, which in turn has a negative effect on our school system! I personally don't want my children to settle in Kent County because I feel there is nothing here for them!
57. I feel there are no opportunities for the younger population. There is nothing for them to do other than hang on the local corner and become thugs. They need places that are supervised and available for them to socialize in a healthy manner. There is no housing available for the average person. I am lucky and own my home, but there are many others who cannot afford to buy and are subject to the very limited choices in renting. There are no jobs, the ones available either don't pay any decent amount or have short staff that doesn't want to work, leaving the other people to work harder for less pay. Our young people are moving away because there are no opportunities. There is nothing for them to do here unless they are into drinking and partying. There isn't anything except bars for the middle age people like myself either.
58. I had no idea what it was like to have trouble finding work before I moved here.
59. I have worked all of my life in Kent County. I was educated here and have been a productive citizen. Yet, I have a very difficult time making ends meet. There is no place for the normal person to shop and very little to do. The schools are not what they should be and we worry very much about health care. We feel pretty safe and we are grateful for police protection but there is so much to be done.
60. I moved here from Carroll County a little over 2 years ago, because I wanted to live in a less populated area, and it was important for me to be near the water. There are very few jobs here for college grads, and those that are available seem to go to friends of the people hiring. So, my husband and I each commute over an hour to work. This town just seems like it does not like outsiders, and we don't for see ourselves feeling comfortable here or investing in real estate. We plan to buy a home in DE next year, where we can both be closer to work and still live in a low populated area near water, with less taxes
61. I moved to Kent County to get away from the AWFUL overblown, out of scale development in Montgomery County Maryland. I appreciate the way that Kent County is honoring the farmland and the beautiful natural resources. Big box stores are nice to have close by for shopping and jobs but I would prefer to see more local small scale development. Art / music education centers, community based shops, hydroponic farms, local breweries, etc. I do not like the idea of Kent County going the way of Middletown, DE.
62. I strongly oppose the use of farmland for utility scale wind or solar projects. I also believe that substantial restrictions should be put in place to preserve historic structures.

63. I think the comprehensive plan needs to look at the high cost of transportation in Kent county (really only car transportation) and the impact of the industries and school systems on development.
64. I think the county needs to provide more opportunity for children. People commute just to provide a better day care for their children. We have to drive hours that most people may not have to go to a general store such as Walmart or target. 4 business just closed down one of which the bowling Alley. You need more places like that glow in the dark bowling or laser tag, roller-skating, so that families are not forced to leave the area and take their money elsewhere. The schooling situation although might have improved from years ago, still needs a lot of renovation. Getting to and out of Chestertown through 213 is a problem. This highway ? Will not sustain the future generation. I am glad you are activist the residents of this county their opinion because change is needed if people want to see Chestertown in the future. I am all about keeping the history but also parallel providing the economic development that is needed to prosper working in this town. Thank you
65. I will be fighting the school system since it seems the Kent County Govt, refuses to do anything about the leadership at the middle school. Children are being bullied and nothing is being done. Children have been assaulted by the VP and she is still employed. Staff who are not tenured Are bullied, which explains the turnover rate at KCMS.
66. I wish this county would let more business in...it would help bring more young families to the area. I also really hope they don't close our school Millington is a large community and having the elementary school was one of the things that brought me to Millington.
67. I would like the parents and community to have a larger voice in all things related to education. It would be great to have a public forum for discussion, particularly where any procedures, recommendations via the school board, and or through the county government officials have a broader idea within the community overall of what is working, and what improvements should be made and how.
68. I would like to make sure that the farming community is supported and that the tradition of protection of agricultural land stay strong. It is what separates Kent County from Middletown, Delaware
69. I would like to see Kent, more so Chestertown, offer pay and benefits, equal to other law enforcement agencies on the Western shore. I'd like more family geared recreation areas, even if they are a fee for use area, like the Worton community center. A YMCA would be fantastic.
70. I would like to see a department store of some kind come to Chestertown or at least in the county. It's a shame you can't purchase quality housewares, music, or basic clothing. Target would fine or even a scaled down Boscovs. But would those companies risk coming here?
71. I would like to see more employment opportunities for younger people in the area so that it doesn't become a retirement community but rather a more vibrant, forward-looking place to live. Hopefully the promised high speed internet will go some way to assisting in this. I also feel there should be a lot more collaboration between the college and Chestertown.
72. I would like to see more employment opportunity to attract younger families but on a controlled level. Quality employment opportunity such as offered by Dixon, KRM, WAC, LAMOTTE, AND Chester River.
73. I would like to see more recreational activities for kids, such as opening the skating rink, more opportunities for young adults, and more conveniences for families, such as stores with household items.
74. I would like to see speed bumps on Scheeler Road. Everyone thinks it's a drag strip.
75. I would really appreciate more natural parks and land be incorporated into Kent county. I miss living

near miles and miles of woods with unpaved trails to hike through. A lot of the wooded areas were taken down to make way for agriculture, and I understand that was a necessity. However, if there are some areas that are able to be reclaimed or replanted, I feel like it would make KC more scenic and environmentally friendly.

76. I'd like to see more tax incentives for businesses, existing and proposed. There are too many unoccupied store fronts in this county.
77. I'm concerned that there aren't enough entry-level jobs for our young people who are right out of high school.
78. I'm concerned that there aren't enough entry-level jobs for our young people who are right out of high school.
79. I'm very concerned about our school system and the quality of the education my children will receive, I drive over an hour each way to work due to there not being comparable employment opportunities within the county. I can't productively work from home due to the lack of Internet in my area which is on the outskirts of Galena in what used to be considered Golts. As a result, I am unable to volunteer or actively participate in my children's schools or events. Even though I would like to do so and have actively done so in the past. Our roads in the winter are not acceptably maintained often times there is a huge sheet of ice layering them or only plowed to one lane. We own a family farm and my husband actively farms. Sadly, that is the only thing that is truly keeping us in the county. However, with all this being said I believe in this county and the people who reside in it. Given growth opportunity for business many of these issues could be addressed.
80. I've lived in Rock Hall since I was 7. I left for college in NYC, and lived in Pittsburgh for several years. As soon as I'm able to afford it, I plan to move back to the city (Baltimore) because frankly Kent County has absolutely NOTHING for anyone in my age range. The only recreational opportunities for locals (as in, the lower class folks who can't afford to move up in life because of the awful job market in the area) are partying, there's no decent work to be found, and our school system is abysmal (and I say that as a KCHS grad less than ten years out; we are NOT adequately preparing our kids for anything outside the bubble that is Kent County) - why on earth would anyone in our age range want to stay here? Our population may be rising by 120 people a year, but that's all retirees or tourists - the county has done nothing for the folks that are actually trying to raise families and have a better life. Population might be going up, but our youth are moving away - school enrollment
81. If I don't start to see growth more business and job opportunity I will set a 5-year plan to leave the county sell my house and retire elsewhere I will be 64. Mentally the oppressed way of living in the county is financial hard my husband commutes 200 miles to work because both of us could afford to give up good salaries once we found we could not find decent paying jobs here and financially couldn't both travel in 12 years he was went thru 4 new cars totally 800,000 miles. We have little time together we both had to work 2 jobs for 11 years to make ends meet. Property taxes are way too high for this area
82. If the quality of public education does not improve, I will not reside in Kent County for long. While the beauty is valuable, this town needs to jump start 'real' commerce and not worry about the boutiques down town that no one shops at.
83. If we could move, we would. There is nothing bringing young families to the area for any reason. Schools are OK now but getting worse every year
84. If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got.
85. If you don't figure out how to grow our economy, then our county will continue to die out.

86. If you look downtown at the historic shops, they are all closing up because locals can't afford to shop in their stores and they can't afford to charge less with all the overhead
87. If you're going to put money into landscaping, please take care of it. The area that was bricked and trees that were put in by the cemetery a couple of years ago, haven't been mulched since they were put in. The town is in a great need of an overhaul and is looking horrible. If you want people to come the town needs to be kept groomed.
88. If you're not moving forward you are slipping backwards. How about support for incubator business startups in partnership with Washington College utilizing high-speed internet and any other high-tech? And move wind power out over the water in the bay!
89. Improve boat ramps by additional parking at some ramps. such as Green Point. Restrict development of river and bay shores. Allow cheaper powers sources such as wind or sun.
90. Improve public education and job opportunities for the county's young people
91. Improve school systems, improved retail options, stop allowing Washington College to dictate Chestertown, we have so many other concerns in Chestertown and yet they are only concerned about the ARTS & Sultana. Jobs, better schools, health concerns, safety should be top priority. Not everyone is wealthy - far from it. It's a shame that we may leave this town for better options for my family.
92. Improve the public schools if we can, and find ways to offer better employment opportunities for adults without college degrees.
93. In Coventry Farms, we have a drain where water drains into, it is not taken care of and abused in illegal ways by neighbors. All blocks should be checked.
94. In the field, I work in, I see a lot of impoverished people and some that just want to work. The local businesses say they are hiring but they take the applicant through so much formalities just to get in the door. whatever happened to going to the job filling out the app /getting a drug screen then you are told whether or not you got the job. I have a 26 yr old at home now who has been fervently putting in applications all over Chestertown and by online and nothing, however one person called him for an interview, thank God. We pray he gets the job. Its awful. And don't get me started about the Revenue and Resources in this County. We have to travel all the way to Easton, Middletown or Elkton to even get Yarn and some other basic things. Somebody needs to wake up this town and bring in some real revenue instead of these little five and dime stores. Its 2016 not 1972. History is great, but really, this is not Williamsburg PA. where people take trips to see what we have, if they do take
95. Is the hospital staying open? Better places to shop Better places to eat Better opportunities for our children
96. It is imperative to focus on economic development. The more businesses hiring with competitive wages, the more people, the more taxes, the more funds towards environmental, medical, social, etc. opportunities. There is a way to plan intelligently for growth and I'm confident Kent County can accomplish this while maintaining its small-town charm. (I find it important to note, that I have these feelings as a born and raised Kent County resident.)
97. It would be wonderful to see more job opportunities and younger families move back to Kent County. But realistically there is nothing here for them anymore. They can't afford to buy a home on the types of jobs that are available.
98. Keep new development from sprawling all over the county. Create mixed use patterns with tight

boundaries in which the environmental features are considered and promoted.

99. Keeping our hospital
100. Kent County Middle School is in complete dysfunction right now and is driving families and potential families out of the county. If the current administration is not changed, it doesn't matter how good the elementary schools, high school, or overall community is..... Get the names of former KCMS employees and have honest conversations with them. Don't take the word of KCPS Human Resources, District level employees, etc...
101. Kent County Schools must be improved in order to draw new residents and retain property values
102. Kent County Zoning Dept., is very critical of development in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas, but seem to let anything go in the village zoning district with very little if any review comments. I think that based on the county review it is important that the County Commissioners appoint the Village Advisory Board.
103. Kent County has a college and tourists that visit. I think there should be more restaurants available that these people would support. There is not even a store to buy a set of sheets. Please allow a small store like a Big Lots to come into Kent County, People should not have to drive out of the county for essentials of daily living.
104. Kent County has a long and strong agricultural tradition which is worth saving. However, and at the same time, the County needs to increase job opportunities to draw in young, professional families. Attracting young professional families will help the school system. Keeping the hospital is important to this. So is the Internet upgrade which may allow some people to telecommute. Improving tourism through upgraded marina facilities in Chestertown and a nice hotel/conference center is critical. Dinner served in restaurants after 9 p.m., please!! Please!!!! One of the strengths of KC is the environment and rural setting. Although shopping options are limited I would not like to see a whole lot of major chains in the county. I know that the northern part of the county is feeling pressure from the Middletown area. But I would be very sad to see the Galena area become a Middletown exurb, or Chestertown to become like St Michael's, or the county become like Kent Island. I suppose I am for in
105. Kent County has nothing to offer young families.
106. Kent County in my opinion is not a place for African American citizens especially young African American males. The law enforcement is only steps away from things happening like in other states and cities, our sons should fear for their lives. This will only be changed when a human being is not looked at by color only by character. Can that happen here....IDTS!
107. Kent County is a beautiful place to live and raise a family but sadly the schools are so terrible that I cannot recommend the county as a place to live to anyone who has kids. The problem with the schools is bigger than just funding. We have a big group of retired folks who only care about "historic preservation" at the cost of growing the economy of the county. Because of this the county has a big group of poverty line folks who can't get quality jobs and struggle to survive. Meanwhile over time middle class folks move away or send their kids to private schools. It's ridiculous and it's time to let some growth into the county. It's time to stop letting the hysterical society make decisions about the future of the county. Let's look at why people are leaving and where they are going. What does QA county and Middletown have that is drawing folks who could live in Kent county? Certainly, a Target would be an amazing addition--higher quality than Walmart and Middletown doesn't have one (ye
108. Kent County is a dying County just look at school enrollment

109. Kent County is an amazing place unless your hobby is shopping or you are a young person looking for work. I would encourage the county commissioners to fund education at as high a level as they can and encourage entrepreneurship and creative business ventures on a small scale. I have hopes that the fiber network coming to the county will encourage creative small business opportunities. Kent County's biggest virtue is that it is not a high traffic, big business, strip mall kind of place but that its location makes those places easily visited if you need to. It is small enough that neighborliness is a true feature of our way of life. It is a very special place.
110. Kent County is focused on tourism + retirees + vacation. Local people are worse off now than in the 1970's as far as jobs and shopping. People without transportation to Delaware, Easton, Kent Island, etc. Have few options to purchase affordable clothing and household products other than the dollar stores or overpriced stores. I feel sorry for our country's poor.
111. Kent County is known for its historical aspect and agricultural aspects, but if Kent County is not growing we are dying and going backwards. Everyone understands we want to preserve the county but if we do not let it evolve somewhat no one will want to start a business run a business or be employed by business in the county they will seek other opportunities probably much better than they are in Kent County. Thus, not paying taxes in the county. And as more people move out of the county to seek better opportunities better housing and better jobs other places the few businesses that we do have in the county will struggle to stay afloat because no one is left in the county to spend money at their businesses.
112. Kent County needs to address the needs of the citizens that live here year-round. The median income of those that live and work here doesn't afford them the ability to live, shop and survive within the county. Kent loses a lot of customer base to areas outside the county and state because of the availability and price of basic goods needed for everyday living. And, since people have to travel outside the county to get those goods, they end up buying the things they would have likely bought in the county because it becomes more convenient and because their money buys 6% more because of Maryland's over taxation! As for the amount of services the citizens get verses taxes paid, the citizens pay taxes and yet they STILL need to pay fees to use services that tax money collected is SUPPOSED to pay for. Go to the dump, not every day and you still pay fees. Need snow removed from your county road, you'll need to plow it yourself if it's on a weekend or wait till Monday. But, the county had
113. Kent County needs to bring more jobs and stores in order to keep growth alive. The older residents cannot continue to support our county. We need a Target/Walmart. People should not have to drive 30 minutes to run basic errands. If you want our county to grow at a pace that will allow our local businesses to continue to thrive, you need to bring in fresh faces and entice our youth to stay here. That means bringing stores/restaurants that interest them. The pool and parks are wonderful for the little kids but we need more for our teens/young adults.
114. Kent County needs to focus on becoming a place that offers new families the resources they need to stay here. There just aren't enough job opportunities for young professionals. We should aim to really become more of a tourist destination and that just can't happen if we are continuously blocking businesses from entering the county. There are a lot of people more concerned about protecting their way of life and current business than doing what is actually good for the community.
115. Kent County needs to have more economic growth, jobs, shopping. The town of Chestertown is failing. Businesses are closing left and right. The average income citizen has no place to shop so we take our money to Delaware. The area while retaining some of its charm needs to grow and provide jobs, shopping and recreation for the younger population. We have become such an old folks' area that we are slowly killing our area. The town of Chestertown is missing a unique opportunity to become a good and productive college town. Smart and sustainable growth needs to happen or this county will continue to

die off and disappear. It's a shame.

116. Kent County needs to positively champion its hospital and work closely with it and its residents to ensure the hospital's success. Negative community commentary on the hospital creates a self-fulfilling destiny of lesser and lessor services. The hospital is a key component to this community's success. I am not sure how to foster this through land planning other than Kent county to take every opportunity to promote and facilitate the success of the hospital Kent County should seriously consider ways to promote transportation services - for entertainment purposes (i.e. reliable services to take people to events and restaurants in local towns) Kent County needs to plan for a 2nd Chester River Crossing
117. Kent County needs to stop moving backwards and get a solid plan together for future economic development. If you keep catering to the retirees and not providing affordable housing and opportunities to young adults, vacant homes, crime, and drug usage especially will increase. The county is already on a downhill curve. Engage with the younger residents before the baby boomers leave us all in the dust.
118. Kent County/Chestertown is a complicated place to live. I love and choose to live in Chestertown for all of the quaint, quiet and slow qualities it has to offer. But in a sense, that is a selfish reason since I am employed and able to commute to a well-paying job. We do need more employment opportunities for lower class residents and for higher paying careers in order to support the local economy. I am ok with not having too many shopping options but wish the county could support and build more local establishments. And those establishments could offer jobs for the locals. I believe we should preserve our agriculture/farmers as much as possible while also creating jobs for others. Focus on more natural resources and recreational activities. And help build the tourism market which will bring in more money but help keep us small and quiet for 8 months out of the year. Have a plan for the youth and young adults. More recreational and job opportunities to keep them on the right path.
119. Kent county doesn't offer much opportunity for students like other counties do. For example...there are languages such as mandarin and Arabic being offered in Anne Arundel county at the high school level and all Kent County has is Spanish. Mass merchants need to be allowed in the county. Citizens of Kent county are going to QA or Middletown to spend their money rather than spending it at the overpriced merchants in Kent County.
120. Kent county has very little draw for younger people. Schools are becoming over crowded do to consolidation. It's easier to travel to Delaware for consumers then to spend money in Kent County. There is little land outside of developments and town housing for people who want more than an acre of land to build on.
121. Meter septic usage and apply fee based on usage only. If you don't use it for three months, then no fee applied. Don't apply a fee if you cut down a dead tree on your property.
122. More Job opportunities. Affordable shopping. Family recreation
123. More activities for our children more jobs home buying program
124. More balanced economic growth, school system is failing, good restaurants never stick around. I leave the county for all my needs including shopping (Middletown), work, and activities for my kids. Need to encourage business growth and social opportunities
125. More growth, make people want to move here and not just to retire, more activities for our youth
126. More jobs better business we are a college town let's see Wal Mart come in a Starbucks and a Krispy cream and other businesses that attract people my age to shop at and work at.

127. More open minds...more compromise
128. More opportunities for well-paying jobs, affordable housing, and retail establishments to meet the need of the average resident (not the tourist trade) so that residents don't have to drive 25-35 miles for basic needs.
129. More places for families to buy clothes and other family needs
130. Need business and population growth!!
131. Need more affordable housing - currently a fulltime paid \$15/hr position for a single person can sustain a \$700/mo tiny apt and make ends meet, but with no TV, minimal internet, frugal heat/AC and little ability to put any money away, certainly not be able to sustain even a \$400 emergency. Nor is it possible to have affordable healthcare - the insurance someone at this level can get has such high deductibles that it is not usable. It would be a huge help if housing was more affordable. But lack of jobs creates loss of homeowners which drives the tax rate up which drives the rental rates up, etc. JMHO
132. Need more bicycle/walking trails that are free of cars. Need transportation to Community Center for those without cars. Need public transportation all around County for work + school + shopping. Need more trees + protection for existing trees. Work to get a new Chester River Bridge. Work against a new Bay Bridge. Encourage less lawn. Move Humane Society away from flood prone area + expand emergency services for pets so residents can evacuate when necessary. Work to improve rural healthcare delivery.
133. Need more development. Need more businesses and jobs to bring more people here. With the location and beauty of Kent County, there should be no reason that our population is decreasing. KC can be a place to retire, as well as a place for young families to remain or move to.
134. Need more employment options, and businesses that remain open even during the winter months.
135. Need more good paying jobs that allow young people to stay work and live in Kent County. So the school can get better
136. Need more growth to bring young family's back. This place should not just be a retirement place. More opportunity for kids. This will also bring more young doctors to our hospital.
137. Need more jobs
138. Need more retail in Kent county instead of dollar stores. We need to keep the young people here in this county not moving away to find good jobs or find somewhere else to live that has more options of dining, entertainment, shopping etc.
139. Need to raise economic growth. Bring more businesses in town and also ogee tax incentives for new employers.
140. Need to rejuvenate downtown. Bring in more options for shopping in Kent County.
141. Need to seek input from young people who live here so they will stay.
142. Needs a walking or running path or shoulder on Pomona road and Airy Hill
143. No bay bridge!
144. No isolated subdivisions using alternative septic systems where the ground will not perc. Apartment vacancy rates are high in the County. County could not attract industry during good economic times-

only several major employers in the County. Keep development near established infrastructure. Tax incentives for new clean industry. Economy goals are basically the same ones that been tried since the early 80's. Wash College alumni are a "great marketing" tool.

145. No large-scale windmills or solar fields. Prevent a third bay bridge span from coming to Kent
146. No new bridge!
147. None
148. Not enough child care Not enough employment for college grads Need public transportation- huge barrier Transitional housing for families with children- lots of families living in our horrible, run down motels More support for existing services like the Kent Family Center Support for mothers/father's re-entering society from jail More focus on early childhood Year-round shelter Support minority business more Focus on affordable housing
149. Not enough quality, affordable, accessible child care or children's and young family recreation opportunities in Kent county. It is clearly a nice place to retire, but retirees die. We need to create an environment that will attract and retain young people and families. While agriculture is important, it does not bring and keep young people who might have/want a future here. We must find ways to be more professional and family friendly including supporting good schools and other children's programming and events.
150. Our area is slowly declining due to the refusal to have smart and sustained growth. Also, more consideration should be given to Chestertown becoming more of a college town
151. Our government services like planning and zoning, department of environmental health, etc. should have their performance ratings linked to customer satisfaction. This would motivate them to help customers find a viable solution in an orderly fashion. We should be more proactive in supporting new businesses, helping them to become established and successful. In many cases, I think that this could be in the form of helping businesses quickly get permits, approvals and/or exceptions needed from the county/state. I live in Galena and know 3 young couples that would like to live in the area. All three couples work in DE. The biggest issue keeping them from moving into Kent County is the fact that the public middle school has a bad reputation and is 25 minutes away (and usually twice as far from their workplace). I am certain that bringing a middle school back to Galena would have a huge positive impact on the community within a year or two. I also know of a young family leaving Galen
152. Our hospital could be a large regional draw given its location and current (and recently past) facilities. Making the hospital a teaching or experimental location would draw young, educated staff
153. Our school system! Lack of enrollment, lack of quality of education, lack of students continuing their education after high school, and the deficit in the budget
154. People will start to move out of town if there is not more industry brought in. Town fathers seem to discourage anything new with stalling and ancient laws.
155. Permit and build opportunity for future commercial and employment opportunities. The fiber project is a good start, but we should incentivize commercial enterprise that will utilize new and emerging technologies. These types of businesses will employ young people at a much higher rate of pay than most traditional opportunities. Young people mean more students for schools, tax money for infrastructure, and patients at the hospital.
156. Personally, I think Kent County is one of those not in my backyard county's. That why no Doctor's what

to come to Kent county to work nothing for their families to do.

157. Places for younger people to work
158. Plan must be highly coordinated & commensurate w/ State & Local(municipal) authorities, plans & zoning. Plan must greatly discourage urban/suburban sprawl. Plan must encourage high value, low environmental impact development.
159. Plans for all levels of income
160. Please allow Sunday hunting for deer on PRIVATE property for archery season. Much like many other counties including QA.
161. Please ban all industrial wind generating facilities and do not allow industrial size solar on farmland. Keep Ag Ag!!!!!! Thank you.
162. Please focus more on bringing varied industry and more residential development to the County rather than simply trying to preserve agriculture. We need a growing tax base and more residents to support the County and its continued success.
163. Please get better internet.
164. Please stop and think about your current citizens. There is nothing here for us. Shopping, restaurants, recreation, etc. Stop fighting growth. This county is declining fast. The only reason so many stay is because of family. That's a shame.
165. Poor shopping for families with children. No family restaurants, Worton park sucks, nothing for people with children everything is for old people
166. Prevent the installation of industrial wind turbines. Continue to support the 150' restriction.
167. Promote small businesses. Say no to the big box such as dollar stores in every town and royal farms on every corner. It takes away from local money staying local.
168. Public transportation, Health Care
169. Public transportation. Hospital which includes pediatric and maternity facilities
170. Q6 assumes that windmills/solar cannot revert back to agr. or are not compatible with agriculture and that is not the case in Europe or.....IOWA! Need transportation gateway hubs with transit links to wilm/phl and dc/balto. Hebron station could be one.... Tolchester/Betterton could be ferry hubs again with HIGH DENSITY HOUSING.....sue the EPA to make it happen w/respect to waste treatment plants we cannot afford...pay for them with DENSE affordable housing connected to Harford/Baltimore jobs. Think Washington State Ferry system or...Lake Champlain system connecting NY to VT jobs/housing either side. Reserve pad sites for future windmills with better technology that feeds to a county wide microgrid.... certify renewable companies and make them do STEM ed. here in Kent County. Quit denying global warming from CO2....don't associate with those Koch Brothers AND.....really really THINK GLOBALLY /ACT LOCALLY and quit being a really boring place to live, because there ARE no ve
171. Quality of growth is more important than growth for growth's sake. We must be smart about how we develop this special county, I am reminded of the Joni Mitchell song Pave paradise to put up a parking lot. And you don't know what you've got till it's gone.
172. Raising two young children is difficult in Kent County. Kent County Public Schools are not in a positive

state financially or socially and both of those reasons are turn-offs from to raising children in the county: To move from one house to another in Kent County is also very difficult. Our home has been for sale for more than 6 years and we are in a wonderful location. With that, more than 6 homes are sitting for sale in our neighborhood and 2 are rentals. We started taking our children to Middletown De and Queen Anne's County for sports because they welcome children as young as 3 to participate in physical activities. The sports in those two locations are also more reasonable priced and have more to offer (times and variety of days) to suit schedules. Being Kent County residents our entire lives, my husband and I would prefer to stay but we are considering moving to a neighboring county or Middletown to give our children more opportunities and for us to earn a greater income.

173. Renewable energy is very important - wind and solar and Kent County should allow these very important projects. We should not continue to say NO to everything proposed. Walmart was blocked because it would put local retail shops out of business- they went out of business anyway- most local residents cannot support high end shops. If we had Walmart we would keep residents shopping locally and maybe they could have supported smaller businesses!
174. Save the hospital Bridge from Baltimore to Tolchester considered Need population growth for the county to survive
175. School System needs to be addressed
176. Schools need improvement. We moved to QA county because of the schools.
177. Slow Growth. Do not tear down historical buildings. Promote African American History. Thanks.
178. Spending \$10,000 out of pocket for private education due to the public-school system in Kent County. My daughter attended public school for one year and the difference in the quality of education was dramatically different. Schools are closing due to lack of attendance, lack of attendance is occurring due to the many younger generations of adults with school age children moving away from Kent county, in my opinion this is mostly due to the lack of jobs, commerce, and economic growth. Kent county is too wrapped up in preservation of historical sites the entire county is becoming history. It is a great place for retirees because everything here is catered to an elder generation and for that the younger generation (my generation) is moving elsewhere. I am very supportive of preservation of agricultural and historical entities; however, the lack of big business is making the county less and less attractive and making the local economy suffer.
179. Start LISTENING to the residents that live and work here! It seems that the needs of college students, part time residents, people that can afford high costs of living and those that live in secluded retirement facilities are FAR more important than anyone else!
180. Stop making the county into a retirement community and pushing us locals out and too expensive to live in. My kids have nothing to look forward to here because you don't focus on keeping him here and if they want to make it in the world and have what they deserve they have to move to get it.
181. Stop new buildings from going up, please convert old buildings already there!
182. Support and future planning for public schools.
183. Support our public schools. They are making a positive difference in the lives of our children, our future. Please fully fund our schools.
184. Survey submitted in hard copy with the following comments penciled in the margins for the indicated questions: Question #1. Services are "almost nonexistent" and the overall image of Kent County is "well hidden from perspective of buyers of property" Question #4 Quality of overall development, "wealthy

community more often is said to depends on area if it's a", historic preservation, "I am not sure County understands the value of historic preservation in relation to the County growth" Question #8 Somewhat accelerate rate of growth, "This will only happen if the County offers opportunities for jobs to prevent the youth from leaving. Question #9 well-paying jobs, " almost non-existent" Question #10 "The services we have are ok but they are very limited" Question #11 Water quality, "too chlorinated & expensive" Question #24 response, "We have a beautiful historic town as well as countryside. But we certainly do not try to attract tourists. The ads we place in magazines are very gen

185. Taxes keep me from living in Kent County
186. The Chestertown marina development and heavily promoting tourism would bring more permanent jobs to Kent County!
187. The County has a tremendous opportunity for growth along 301 on its Eastern end. An already convenient location is now getting more convenient with the 301 project and the development on the southwest end of Middletown. It is imperative that we do not lose schools on the eastern end because of this potential. There is a vision of the future in which Chestertown can be a thriving charming county seat and the eastern end of the county can be an outlying suburban/rural mix with its convenience to the MOT area and 301, but the County needs to plan for it NOW.
188. The biggest problems in the county are poor quality schools, and a lack of options for employment for those with college or higher degrees. That said, it is a beautiful place to live
189. The county is dying and something has to be done. The school system is atrocious and there is nothing for the younger kids to do. When I came to Kent County, it was because I thought it was a good place to raise a family. It is not. It is only a good place to retire. It is near to impossible to find a job that isn't in fast food or at the grocery store. The entertainment options are limited and lacking. But I must say again, the school system is awful. I love my home, I love my job, I love how beautiful it is here. I regret buying a house in Kent county because my children are suffering for it.
190. The county needs to embrace growth and stop fighting it. History is great, and should be kept. But this community is on its way to becoming history. People are leaving, businesses are closing, schools are closing. This county is slowly fading away. The college cannot keep this county afloat forever.
191. The county needs to promote internet services to better the entire community.
192. The county needs to reevaluate the way they treat the Sheriff's Office in terms of pay. Pay is laughable and eventually, good cops won't apply nor stay, then we will be stuck with sub-par law enforcement. The only reason many of the veterans stay is because they have too much time invested in the KCSO and can't just pick up and leave like some have.
193. The education is suffering because of a lack of economic growth. We have the worst sports facilities of all eastern shore schools and except those of us who have kids that go to public schools no one cares. We can't keep any of the "good" family's kids here to attend school. They'd rather pay \$26,000/year or send them away all together then attend our high school. It's disgusting that all these people want to retire here, enforce their beliefs that nothing should grow, change or develop. These retirees are prohibiting economic growth and in the long run hurting our children. If we had better schools with better facilities and more involvement from the county and town of Chestertown people would stay and raise families. Not just come back to retire.
194. The historic commission is my main concern. They are holding back downtown from being able to grow. They have such a bad reputation that many businesses and home owners from considering moving downtown. They need to loosen up!!!

195. The issues with the school system are directly related to the lack of growth. There are no new jobs coming into the county therefore no new people. No hospital for parents to use as they start a family. An environment that is at times hostile towards new business. Faster internet isn't going to change any if that either. I'm not optimistic about the future as the retirees get older and no one is around to take their place.
196. The need for additional industry and improved school system is needed to encourage more folks to move to Kent County
197. The number and percentage of Kent County residents over age 60 has increased significantly during the past two decades. Unfortunately, affordable housing options for those wishing to "downsize" are very limited. There is also a need for assisted living facilities for older persons who need assistance with the activities of daily living. It is my hope that the appropriate zoning for housing facilities to address these needs be included in the Comprehensive Plan and that developers be encouraged to provide them.
198. The planning office needs to exhibit a more cooperative spirit with citizens, particularly business.
199. The school district has multiple issues that absolutely need to be addressed. The lack of special education resources and high class sizes are a serious problem. Without good schools, there will never be good growth. People move because of school districts and you better believe it's people moving out of Kent county because of its schools versus into the county because of them.
200. The school system and hospital are the two main reasons younger families don't move here. For Chestertown being a tourist attraction there really should be more than 1 waterfront restaurant. We should take notes from QAs county schools on how to improve since many young families jump over to QAs for the better schools. We should take notes from St Michaels in Talbot Co on how to keep a community historic but also make it a great destination. I appreciate whoever took the time to make the survey. I hope changes are made to improve the community we all love.
201. The school system is a joke, activities for children are almost nonexistent, shopping opportunities are ridiculous
202. The use of the term, quality of life, without definition is not a useful tool it is far too subjective, and largely is defined by those of comfortable lifestyle.
203. The water quality is disgraceful in the villages at Kennedyville. We pay \$280 a quarter for water quality that is comparable to well water. We have had appliances destroyed by the grit in the water. We are communicating with an attorney about a class action suit against the county due to neglect and damage to our homes.
204. The young working families with children don't seem to be on the forefront of the minds of some of the decision makers in this community. That is somewhat disappointing because they are the future for sustaining a vibrant community. In order to build for the future a certain attitude of progressiveness needs to be adopted.
205. There are not enough restaurants around that stay open past 8 or 9. When you live here and commute elsewhere, getting home late is a part of life. You cannot do anything in Kent County after you get home because everything is closing.
206. There have been great growth in kcps. There are not many shopping options in kc, unless you go to Chestertown. More businesses are needed to attract Kent county graduates. Also Kent county graduated need to be hired by the school system in areas of their degree. Example teacher instead of instructional assistant.

207. There is nothing fun to do in the county for children or young adults. There are not really any spectacular options for dining.
208. There is nothing left for young people to do so wonder they don't stick around. We have done nothing but make this place and cater to the retirement community. The kids that grow up here go to college and never return. Honestly that's the best thing for them. There are no skate parks, no clubs or dance halls for 18 and under, there are no video game arcades, no fun craft things, and kids are too far out for parents to drive them. How would a 13-year-old get from rock hall or Millington or Galena to Chestertown to even do stuff like that? We don't have busses or bus stops to shuttle them to different towns. On top of what's there for the college kids to do? Or even my age at 42 to do here??? We can't go to the bars because the moment we pull out of the parking lot we are being pulled over because the cops sit across from the bars and watch you go in and out this place feels like a prison at times. Everyone has to travel to go shopping to Walmart in middle town or Lowe's or home depot.
209. There needs to be greater consideration for schools and younger families. Otherwise, Kent County will die
210. There needs to be more businesses in Kent County!! There's no shopping! Only for tourists. We have to go out of the county to shop!
211. There's allot of diversity in the county as we have seen without a huge growth. We moved from Salisbury where growth and diversity exploded and now the crime rates are way up and more of the older neighborhoods have been run down and just not pleasant to live in. Kent County has not reached that level as we have seen which is one of the main reasons we moved here and plan to retire within the next 10 years. You can limit the growth in ways to maximize economic development and in ways to better the population and make the area popular for tourists. I do see the historic area as a great place to have tourism a big plus. Focus on what you already have here and not what other areas have, be creative.
212. There's not enough growth in my town or Kent County for that matter. I live in Chestertown and it's basically a retirement community. You're not going to attract young families when the average age is rising, schools are dwindling, no commercial property growth, and too much emphasis on agriculture preservation.
213. This county will die without more young families. Our schools have been absolutely gutted by budget cuts. The commissioners need to work to preserve schools to attract more young people. Closing schools will devastate communities and cripple property values. It will also scare off potential businesses that might want to come here.
214. Too many 7-11 type convenience stores. Small businesses downtown should have tax breaks to encourage them to open. College and town should partner more. Police should be on the street more walking and bikes. School should serve local produce and provide home cooked meals for kids not junk food. Soda should not be available at school. Roads in town need attention. Electric lines should be buried. Trucks should be banned from bridge.
215. Too many to list here....
216. Too much back-door politics and subtle racism to have any comprehensive plan
217. Traffic circles are dumb and most of the people that live here are too dumb to navigate them. The one at 20/291 is a debacle. Please stop.
218. We are losing schools..... Hospital services. People won't want to come to Kent to leave, which will not help in any way.

219. We carefully researched where wanted to retire. We are sailors and the Chesapeake Bay is a sailors' delight! Also like the lifelong learning at Washington College. Totally pissed off that Shore Health is maneuvering to close the hospital. Will NEVER go to Easton if CRH closed. Will go to Anne Arundel or Christiana if need services. Tell that to Ken Kozel who will smile but do what the miscreants at Shore Health tell him to do!
220. We have something special here--let's be smart about how we continue to diversify our economic engine without becoming too big.
221. We need an airport.
222. We need better shopping in town. The grocery stores are terrible, and do not provide options for healthy lifestyles. We need less dollar stores and more stores to keep us in town rather than having to go to Middletown or Dover, when we need simple items. There is a significant lack of activities for people at night. If you drink or do drugs you are set otherwise... You stay home. Do something to attract wealthy people to contribute to the community rather than running them off by offering them only dollar stores. There needs to be a better middle class and better support for the poor. Balance is missing.
223. We need economic development badly!!! For our children, families, education, and community entirely!!!! We lose too many young families due to.....well there is nothing here...to keep us here. Good doctors don't want to even be here. let us build and connect!
224. We need fewer convenience stores, would like to have data on quality of water and air, would like to see restrictions on pesticide use for homes and farms, would like to see more downtown focus on supporting local business
225. We need more Retail business for grown in jobs for young people and for economy growth. Also we need more recreational activities more specific as it relates to cycling. Many people visit Kent county to perform sport activities as cycling. We should maximize the opportunities this sport offer to our economy thru the year.
226. We need more jobs, and more for young people to do. Chestertown is wonderful except for the fact that you have to leave town for activities. Our only entertainment is an out dated movie theater, and a community center with not much in the way of programs. Kids in Kent County hang at the McDonald's because that is basically all there is.
227. We need more stores and restaurants and something for families to do
228. We need some stores and restaurants here....Target, Kmart....something. And a place to get a burger without fast food or sit down expensive restaurant.
229. We need stores like Middletown and don't put this town an old folks' town! All the officials have ran our children out of this town! We need business restaurants and better officials to make this town thrive!!!! There is nothing done here except for the Marina Historic or old people! Get with the program people you need growth to survive!!!! Every weekend Rock Hall has something going on! Our town all u care about is yourselves and very lazy group in this town! Bring decent Restaurants, malls, Walmart new Bowling Alley etc. you call that a park the end of Flatland road all it is a few bushes black top and two nets that is not a place for kids
230. We need to have more jobs. Sadly, people don't know about the support places like the library, Recovery In Motion Community Center, DLLR-....and what they offer. Transportation is also a higher issue.
231. We need to keep the plan strong to preserve the rural characters of the county that we love.

232. We need to look at the BOE. The children and families of our county stay until they need to enroll in the middle school they look for other options. That is a large problem. I would like to see us add some options built into the curriculum, e.g.- K12.
233. We need to more family valued entertainment. Everything is closing. There is nothing here for families to do and that is why people are moving out and we are only becoming a retirement community.
234. We need young people here. We need jobs, good schools and housing for the young people.
235. What I would like to see the upcoming event would be addressing the issue of shopping and jobs as well as Transportation possibly maybe up a bus route my concern is we have no valuable businesses we have no valuable jobs
236. Widen back roads for runners and bikes on airy hill and Pomona and Langford road there's not enough room for bikes and runner plus cars and when you enter the bends it gets scary and many of almost accident happened the one biker died down that way a while ago. Needs to have a wide path on one side for it.. or band them off the roads ...
237. Wind and solar should be our priority! Make Kent county an example of alternative energy and tech supremacy in small town America! Box stores are not a terrible thing when they're strategically placed and their growth is guided. Provide something other than heroin for kids to do.
238. With declining services at a local hospital, population and economic growth with be impossible.
239. Work with people who want to bring business into the county instead of fighting them over petty issues such as the amount of parking spaces "they" need, other than what folk sitting on boards or committees want.
240. Would like to see more jobs come to Kent County. We are losing our young families because there are no good paying jobs here. This why our school enrollment is down, plus we need to improve our quality of education as well. There are many students attending private schools.
241. Would like to see the quality of the public schools improve. It is one of the detriments to our communities.
242. Would love increased public transportation or commuter incentives
243. Would love to see future economic prospects to be carried forward with families in mind. We need attract more young families to our community. However, it would be helpful if Kent county could maintain its "low-key" atmosphere and emphasize and conserve natural landmarks and recreation opportunities. While I believe that we need to attract business, that will in turn attract employees and families, I would like to be very clear on the thought that big box stores are not necessarily appealing. I think we should continue to walk a fine line in balancing our economy with our current atmosphere. While it might be wise to allow some larger businesses, like sit down restaurants such as Applebee's or a clothing store such as Kohls, a Wal-Mart or the like would NOT be desirable. Also, I believe it would be beneficial to focus on economic growth in the recreation sector. Places such as bowling alleys, recreation centers (including nature centers), updated movie houses and ice skating rink
244. Wouldn't recommend this place to anyone because I would prefer they don't come...because this is an excellent place to live, grow up and raise a family and I like it the way it is
245. You need to carefully consider the tradeoff between continuing the emphasis on agriculture and agricultural land, and the need (in my estimation) to provide well-paying jobs to promote younger in-migration and retention of county graduates.

- 246. allow food trucks.
- 247. find ways to bring better jobs to Kent County and multifamily housing
- 248. i think more thought does to be given to younger families and children stop making Chestertown historic and retirement. kids and families need thing to do and places to go. affordably places to shop and eat, not just fast food.
- 249. keep Chestertown small town waterfront living by keeping it quaint and special.
- 250. Kent Co. is not to live in for pay,,,, owning your business is all right
- 251. stop the wind turbines and reduce the size of the solar farms.
- 252. taking advantage of:
 - 1) the Rt 301 expansion by showcasing our goods along the 301 corridor through Kent County. (i.e. produce stands, arts/crafts created here in the county as rest stops)
- 253. 2) make better use of our water front property that encourages both vacationing boaters and external folks to choose Kent county as a destination, which come into the towns, spend money, learn about the historical significance of the county, and experience the natural beauty/wonders that exist here.
- 254. utilize existing buildings in the downtown and offer incentives for merchants to occupy those spaces for commerce.
- 255. Widen back roads for runners and bikes on airy hill and Pomona and langford road there's not enough room for bikes and runner plus cars and when you enter the bends it gets scary and many of almost accident happened the one biker died down that way a while ago. Needs to have a wide path on one side for it.. or band them off the roads
- 256. This County wants nothing new in changes. Taxes are the highest on the Shore. What do we get for that? They control land usage too much. Go to any county office and see the waste. Staff wise, ask a question and you will get 2 to 3 different answers from staff.