

Thank you, Mr. President and Commissioners, for allowing the Planning Department to hold this public forum tonight during your meeting.

The focus of the forum is to hear how people would like to give and receive communication during the Comprehensive Rezoning process.

Tonight, there are no plans to review or documents to edit. That part hasn't started yet. Tonight is the opportunity for members of the public to express how they would prefer to give and receive communication, before we begin a conversation on the County's Land Use Ordinance.

And, the conversation doesn't end tonight. The planning team is available to talk with you by phone at 410-778-7475, or you can email us at [compzone@kentgov.org](mailto:compzone@kentgov.org). If you google *Kent – County - Maryland Comprehensive - Rezoning - Portal*, you can access information and more ways to submit your ideas, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Before we begin, some people have asked, "Where are we are in the rezoning process?" So, I'd like to give a brief overview to start out.

This July, every property owner in the County received a form in their tax bill that they can use to request a change to the text in the Land Use Ordinance and/or a change to the zoning of their property. This year, 2020, will focus on changes to the text, and next year, 2021, will focus on requests for the rezoning of individual properties.

The idea of the text changes is for anyone who has ever said, "I wish our Zoning Code said this or that." Or, "I wish our Zoning Code *didn't* say this or that." You can also use the form posted online to make any suggestions that you'd like to see. Your suggestions are requested by September 30, before the review of the text begins by the task force.

That being said, I thank you for your time, and I thank everyone who is waiting on the line to share their ideas. Thank you for being a part of our opening forum and thank you for your participation in the process.