



Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Radon Project
3. Food Insecurity
4. Transportation - Bike Share Program
5. Partner Updates

Introductions

- Shan Chen - St. Mary's County Health Department
- Michael Blackwell - St. Mary's County Library
- Brenda Wolcott - Medstar St. Mary's Hospital
- Yolanda Hipski - Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
- Ben Cohen - Land Use & Growth Management
- Courtney Jenkins - Land Use & Growth Management
- Sue Veith - Department of Economic Growth
- Karly Maltby - Land Use & Growth Management Intern
- Bill Roberts - St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Marcia Greenberg - Community member
- Jacqueline Wells - St. Mary's County Health Department
- Laura Carrington - Transportation Advisory Committee
- Janice Walthour - St. Mary's County NAACP

Radon

- Advertising and promoting radon information on HSMP website
 - The radon webpage is now LIVE on the HSMP website!
 - Includes links to:
 - State radon map
 - Where to order a radon test
 - “Getting the Facts on Radon” video
 - Other useful resources!
 - We will be creating a postcard to promote the webpage
 - Other methods to share:
 - Will touch base with the Commission on the Environment to inform them the website is up and offer to share at their next meeting.
 - Ask Dr. Brewster to mention at her next meeting with commissioners

Food Insecurity

- Please continue to share the Food Connection Map with other partners and community members!
- St. Mary's County Food Security Report
 - IRB application submitted for survey
 - Farmers Feeding St. Mary's events (this week & beginning of August) would be good for distributing surveys if approved in time
 - Transportation Advisory Committee
 - Libraries - Lexington Park, National Night Out (Aug 2)
 - Boots on the ground efforts in target neighborhoods
 - Use the hospital to get survey responses
 - Flyers with QR codes on the buses
 - Stakeholder forum(s)
 - EMS - can give insight on geographical areas
 - See if we can include a Pin map at pantries?
 - SMADC
 - GIS Map
 - Info from pantries on the amount of food going out
- Scheduling subcommittee meeting for in the coming weeks
 - Let us know if you are interested in joining our food insecurity subcommittee

Food Insecurity (continued)

- Tulagi Place Royal Farms Presentation by Marcia Greenberg
 - August 25 appeal hearing
 - Polling results
 - Should HSMP advocate for codifying controls in designated food desert areas and setting zoning standards?
 - 5 Yes
 - 1 No
 - Should HSMP compose a letter declaring the opening of Royal Farms at Tulagi Place a public health concern at the 8/25 appeal hearing?
 - 5 Yes
 - 1 Abstain
 - Per the HSMP bylaws these will now need to be sent to the HSMP Steering Committee for approval

Transportation - Bike Share Program

- Jacquie met with George Kandathil at the Tri-County Council
 - Brief presentation at bicycle committee meeting September 8
 - This could open up opportunities for this program through TCC
 - George researched possible funding opportunities for bikesharing
 - **Action item:**
 - Reach out to bike share companies to see if any would cover the startup cost since they will get a return on investment
 - Lime, Lyft, and Bird all deployed dockless e-scooters at no cost to Montgomery County in 2019
 - Howard County uses the company Spin for scooters & used Bewegen Technologies for their bikeshare previously
- There is an effort to start up a bicycle/pedestrian advocacy group in Southern Maryland
 - If you are interested please contact [George Kandathil](#)

Partner Updates

- St. Mary's County applied for a grant to support kayak locker system at public landings (rent a kayak using a credit card) in Charles and St. Mary's Counties. They are awaiting the final decision.
- St. Mary's County also applied for a community legacies grant for streetscape and facade improvements, such as bike racks, benches and sidewalk improvements.
- The Community Development Corporation of SMC applied for a project to support a public plaza in the center of St. Mary's Square parking lot which would be combined with moving the bus stop. It would provide a safe place for community events and potentially a farmers market. The plan also proposes a bicycle corral with security cameras.
- The governor is coming to rural counties to discuss projects - St. Mary's will discuss a comprehensive implementation plan for the Lexington Park Plan.
- SMC is also working on a resiliency plan for events such as flooding.
- The 1st Annual Farmers Feeding St. Mary's County Program event begins tomorrow and will offer free, farm-fresh produce at the Bay District Fire Department.
 - Click [here](#) to view the flyer!
- HSMP's Violence, Injury & Trauma Action Team, the St. Mary's County Libraries, and the Early Childhood Advisory Council are hosting viewings of the film [Paper Tigers](#) at the Lexington Park Library on July 20th & 30th. Please share within your network!

Partner Updates (continued)

- The Healthy St. Mary's Partnership, St. Mary's County Health Dept & St. Mary's County Library are pleased to announce that their telehealth booths have been installed in the Lexington Park & Charlotte Hall libraries! Clients can book a time slot by calling the libraries once they are officially open. Inside each booth will feature a wifi-enabled laptop with telehealth platforms installed and information to local behavioral health resources.
- Tri-County Council has been developing a survey that would be widely distributed throughout the state. Its purpose is to give baseline data about current perceptions of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT), perceived assessments of community needs and community knowledge about existing programs. The survey also asks for general demographics and geography details, and growth patterns and types. There will also be a series of Statewide Roundtable discussion on NEMT to develop strategies. The meetings will be at the Transportation TAM conference, at the RMHA and in Annapolis on National Rural Health Day.

Communications

- Submit event and news updates/information at:
<http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email
stmaryspartnership@gmail.com
- Follow HSMP on Social Media
 - Facebook: [Healthy St. Mary's Partnership](#)
 - Twitter: [@HealthyStMarys](#)

Upcoming Meetings

- Wednesday, August 17, 2022 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.