



Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Introductions

- Click [here](#) to view the attendee list!

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Walkable Neighborhoods
3. Transportation
4. Food Security
5. 2024 HSMP Advocacy Agenda
6. Partner Updates

Walkable Neighborhoods

- Our walking group met last Thursday, December 14 from 5:30 - 6:30pm at Planet Fitness located in the Wildewood Shopping Center in California.
 - Participants downloaded a free, one-time day pass on the Planet Fitness app!
 - Stay tuned for the next walking group plans in January!
- Please continue sharing the [HSMP Walking Maps & Resource page](#), corresponding [flyer](#) and [postcard](#) with your networks!
 - We are revamping our old walking maps to create a user-friendly, interactive Google map that highlights neighborhoods, walkable streets, and more!
- Frank discussed creating a list of pedestrian walkways in the county that are in need of improvement.

Transportation

- Tri-County Council held a BIAC meeting on December 14.
 - MDOT is proposing roughly \$3.3 billion in wide-ranging budget cuts, potentially affecting previous projects planned in St. Mary's County
- The team discussed forming a work group focused on tracking and applying for active transportation grants. It will be combined with the former Bike Share Interest Subcommittee.
 - "Active Transportation Subcommittee"
 - The next meeting will take place January 10 at 10:00 AM.
 - Jessica has started working on a BIAC Grants Shortlist and has been reaching out for more information.

Food Security

- SoMD Fridges Program Update:
 - We are continuing to access locations to start a SoMD Fridge.
 - Three Oaks Center and Lexington Park Library can be options
 - Ashlyn suggested issuing out a “Call For Locations” for the next SoMD Fridge - St. Mary’s County Chapter
- Promoting healthy food drives:
 - Please help contribute language for repurposing food waste on our [Healthy Food Drive Toolkit](#) by editing [this draft!](#)
- HSMP’s Food Pantry Platform is in development! We are continuing to reach out local food pantries to create their profiles in the platform. A training session for the food pantries will take place at the end of this month.
- EHAT’s [Food Connection Map](#) continues to receive updates! It will be complete by January.
- The next Food Security Subcommittee Meeting will be January 25 at 2:30 p.m.



2024 HSMP Advocacy Agenda

- The Steering Committee voted to support signing the resolution to support the RENEW Act on behalf of HSMP.
- The resolution was signed December 19, 2023.
- This item has been added to the 2024 HSMP Advocacy Agenda.

Partner Updates

- Southern Maryland Active Recreation and Transport Alliance (SMARTA) submitted a proposal to get a Chesapeake Climate Corps member to look at ped/bike road connections. They also applied to be the SoMD Representative for the state's Bicycle Advisory Group.
- Frank Allen expressed interest in discussing the improvement of indoor air ventilation in county government buildings, as well as reducing vehicle emissions and outdoor air quality improvement.
- Please complete HSMP's Annual Monitoring Survey to help better understand the work of its action team members and partner organizations. Please take a moment to complete HSMP's Annual Monitoring Survey by clicking [here](#)!
- Maryland Department of Health is asking residents to take its "Building a Healthier Maryland" Survey to assist in identifying health issues that hit close to home. [View](#) the flyer!

Communications

- Submit event and news updates/information at:
healthystmarys.com/newsletter or email stmaryspartnership@gmail.com
- Follow HSMP on [Facebook!](#)

Upcoming Meetings

- **Wednesday, January 17, 2024 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**
- Interested in being in our Partner Spotlight? [Sign up here!](#)