

**STATE OF MARYLAND**



MARTIN O'MALLEY  
GOVERNOR

ANTHONY BROWN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 22, 2014

Mr. Jon Laria, Chairman  
Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission  
301 West Preston Street , Suite 1101  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Chairman Laria:

We want to express our appreciation for the good work of the Sustainable Growth Commission. In a relatively short period of time, you have successfully addressed a significant number of smart growth and resource protection issues, advanced our smart and sustainable growth goals, and raised awareness of these important issues among Maryland citizens. Building on this success, we are requesting that the Commission make recommendations specifically to accelerate Maryland's infill, redevelopment, and revitalization efforts.

As you know, smart and sustainable growth seeks to limit development on farm and forest land while encouraging it in growth areas. We need to protect the Chesapeake Bay, its rivers and streams, preserve farm and forest land, and at the same time accommodate 1 million new Marylanders and 600,000 jobs over the next 25 years. Common sense tells us that much of this growth should be infill and redevelopment in areas where there is already significant public investment in infrastructure.

Accordingly, please address the following in your recommendations:

- Making the best use of existing redevelopment and revitalization programs;
- Implementing Transit Oriented Development in ways that maximize community and economic development benefits;
- Funding and financing recommendations, making use of the recent Smart Growth Investment Task Force recommendations;
- Streamlining and other regulatory relief;
- Adequacy of existing plans such as PlanMaryland to address these issues;
- Educational and training tools;
- Tools for quality community design elements in redevelopment and infill projects; and
- The role of the Smart Growth Subcabinet and its member agencies in implementing these recommendations.

Please work with the Maryland Department of Planning and other smart growth agencies within the Administration to accomplish this task, and submit your recommendations to us no later than August 31, 2014.

Thank you again for your service to the citizens of Maryland. We look forward to receiving your report and recommendations.

Handwritten signature of Martin O'Malley in black ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Anthony Brown in black ink.

Lt. Governor

