

# VISIONING WORKSHOP #1 CHAT AND POLL SUMMARY COUNTYWIDE & NORTH COUNTY



The purpose of this workshop was to solicit input from the community on topics related to the comprehensive plan as it relates to North County residents, as well as any Countywide residents that wished to call in. Below is a summary of the chat conversations and poll responses received during this meeting, held on Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:30pm.



## Chat Conversation Transcript:

1. 6:03 PM Great price for housing
2. 6:03 PM Challenges not enough access to utilities and services
3. 6:03 PM Opportunity: natural beauty. Challenges: good jobs and lack of hi-speed internet.
4. 6:04 PM Chester River bridge replacement.
5. 6:04 PM Increase traffic on 301
6. 6:05 PM With more and more traffic on Rt 301 because of changes in the Delaware road system, pressure will be on development all along the route. Support for farms is needed to prevent this from happening
7. 6:06 PM Positive is good schools
8. 6:06 PM How is the QAC Plan being coordinated with adjacent counties on the Eastern Shore?
9. 6:07 PM Opportunity for innovative agribusiness to address challenges of job availability & land preservation (if pressure for development increases).
10. 6:07 PM Challenge= how to we preserve what we have in terms of quality of life, environment in the face of development pressure
11. 6:09 PM In addition, the 60 day review of our draft document will be shared with all incorporated towns and neighboring counties.
12. 6:11 PM <https://www.qac.org/DocumentCenter/View/11506/North-County-Economic-Dev-Study>
13. 6:11 PM look at Price
14. 6:11 PM With so much water access throughout the county, how do we continue to improve water quality which can be so negatively impacted by development and growth?
15. 6:11 PM Key Opportunities - control development. we do not need nor do many want to be an extension of the western shore nor Kent Island. Let the natural beauty of the eastern shore stand for what it is. Greatest challenges: development and pollution.
16. 6:12 PM I second [Comment No. 10] and [Comment No. 14] comments above!
17. 6:12 PM look at Price
18. 6:20 PM I don't want to be a one-note but I've never seen a good "smart Development" around here. Turning 301 into a Rte 50 will be pushed by some powerful parties. This we do not want.
19. 6:21 PM Re; the comment re water access. I agree. However, there are some important lessons to learn from our current problems with waterfront facilities in the South County which get overrun in the warm months when County residents would most want to take advantage of them. Program Open Space has strict access requirements.
20. 6:25 PM More bike paths

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21. 6:26 PM I've been really excited to see the bike lanes popping up in Centreville and Queenstown (short though they may be) and I'd love to see more connectivity
  22. 6:26 PM More business opportunities, both in technology and agribusiness initiatives.
  23. 6:26 PM development clustered around towns
  24. 6:27 PM More support for small independent businesses, when i say "economic development" i don't mean amazon warehouses
  25. 6:27 PM Any new development requiring the use of native plants
  26. 6:27 PM Services/businesses in towns
  27. 6:27 PM Preserve our scenic by ways
  28. 6:27 PM A range of housing opportunities
  29. 6:27 PM Better utilization of the Conquest facilities and can we plan for a similar large open space park in the Millington area? I second [Verbal Commenter] desire for better water access.
  30. 6:28 PM North County High School in Church Hill
  31. 6:28 PM tourism, lifestyle experiences
  32. 6:28 PM Healthy lifestyle. National obesity rate is too high. We have an opportunity to encourage healthy, outdoor activities.
  33. 6:28 PM Greatest challenge is traffic in summer time.
  34. 6:28 PM Endless natural resources promoting a sense of place with focus on these resources and connecting them to our towns and communities
  35. 6:29 PM Ditto [Verbal Commenter] comment on bike optys, and Kathryn S comment on clustering around existing infrastructure.
  36. 6:30 PM Handling population growth driven by north of QAC and western shore. Quality housing and services
  37. 6:30 PM greatest challenges connectivity maintaining quality of life and sense of place!
  38. 6:30 PM We need to mesh new small tech clean industries with our education system so we can attract the industries we want with our students' desire to stay in the County.
  39. 6:31 PM yes!!! as a student I'd like to consider staying here a real option but it's just not
  40. 6:32 PM QAC has an opportunity to fully embrace the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy's Delmarva Oasis Strategy and use as a guideline for future development
  41. 6:32 PM What [Verbal Commenter] says is very true. Traffic @ 213 and Rt. 50 is to the point of being dangerous.
  42. 6:33 PM Speaking of third bridge span!!! we need to build in good endpoint facilities like a real bus station and not a park n ride!!!
  43. 6:33 PM If they build a third bridge span and there's no dedicated express bus lane i will lose my mind
  44. 6:35 PM Development here and much more further east does impair the quality of life
  45. 6:35 PM "a county in which development does not impair the quality of life" the goal should be for development to improve the quality of life!!!
  46. 6:35 PM Does anyone know what percentage of residents travel OUT of the county to work?
  47. 6:36 PM 60% close to

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48. 6:36 PM It is a great Vision. How does it actually link to the County's planning and zoning regulations? How can we ensure that the vision translate to action.
  49. 6:39 PM would like to see 'outdoor sports' expand to include recreation as there are so many opportunities given our natural resources
  50. 6:39 PM I'd like to see the arts added to items the county encourages.
  51. 6:39 PM The vision informing zoning densities, permitted uses (prohibited uses), environmental regulations, and other department plans and policies.
  52. 6:40 PM need to be mindful of rising sea levels in planning land use – housing, infrastructure etc.
  53. 6:40 PM climate change should be addressed for the future
  54. 6:40 PM Transportation/ multi modal connectivity
  55. 6:41 PM Coastal Resiliency measures
  56. 6:41 PM also we should build a train to dc but i know that's not a popular opinion or ever likely to happen
  57. 6:41 PM yes to multimodal activity!!!!
  58. 6:43 PM Job opportunities, keep people working where they live, more diverse housing opportunities
  59. 6:43 PM I'll second both of [Comment No. 58] sentiments!
  60. 6:45 PM Broadband
  61. 6:52 PM project website address: [www.qacplan2021.com](http://www.qacplan2021.com)
  62. 7:01 PM Thanks Lauren

### Poll Results:

In ONE word, describe what Queen Anne's County will be known for in the future:

- Development
- Nature
- Waterways
- Sprawl
- Paradise (2)
- Turf Fields
- Rural (3)
- Green
- Agriculture
- Gateway
- Great Restaurants and Parks
- Forward Looking
- Tourism (2)
- Quality of Life
- Traffic (2)
- Protect

What should PlanQAC's most important priority be for North County?

- Encourage growth and housing availability
- Broadband
- Healthy lifestyle
- Supporting North County towns

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- Maintaining and improving quality of life
  - More small businesses/amenities while maintaining rural quality
  - Keeping to the Vision
  - To maintain open space and quality of life living standard
  - Infrastructure including fiber as well as strong community planning
  - Have a Masterplan strong enough to stand up to undesirable development pushed by powerful interest groups
  - High speed internet
  - More land preservation. What we have here in QAC is unique along the Whole Atlantic Coast, and the County's agricultural infrastructure can help support nearby major markets.
  - Providing services/housing/jobs

### What should PlanQAC's most important priority be for Queen Anne's County as a whole?

- Livability over preservation
- Preserve/Improve environmental protections
- Broadband
- Preserve the quality of life
- The environment
- Don't become an extension of Annapolis! Keep our character
- Keeping to the Vision
- Traffic
- Vision for the future that marries both rural nature and opportunities for thoughtful growth
- Thoughtful upgraded traffic patterns
- Dealing with the possibility of a third bridge span
- Hearing from/addressing the underserved population and areas of the county and entertaining smart growth initiatives that welcome growth but also maintain quality of life for residents
- Mostly North County
- Balancing services/housing/jobs with natural resources