

**From:** [Scheffel, Mike](#)  
**To:** [Criss, Jeremy](#); [Bob Cissel](#); [Fisher, Kristin](#)  
**Subject:** RE: CONFIRMED - Thrive Meeting with Office of Agriculture  
**Date:** Monday, June 8, 2020 8:36:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [Final-staff-report-vision-goals-policies-and-actions-for-6-11-20-PB-.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)

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Good Morning,

I have read over the staff memo that Jessica provided and took some notes on the Diverse and Adaptable Growth Section.

The Thrive 2050 staff memo covers many topics that will be in conflict with some of the goals of the Agricultural Community. In the document, the staff lay out what the trends in the County will be heading towards 2050 these include:

- Sluggish economic growth and a decrease in the median wage since 2007
- Diverse population but not diverse neighborhoods
- Aging population without an increase in younger workers this leads to a lower average household income
- Housing and living costs increasing without an increase in wages, making affordable housing important
- Development in the past was car oriented
- The County is built out, new building will be redevelopment with a focus on mixed used housing

These factors will make it a challenge to find new ways to utilize TDR's and BLT's if a new focus is not placed on them.

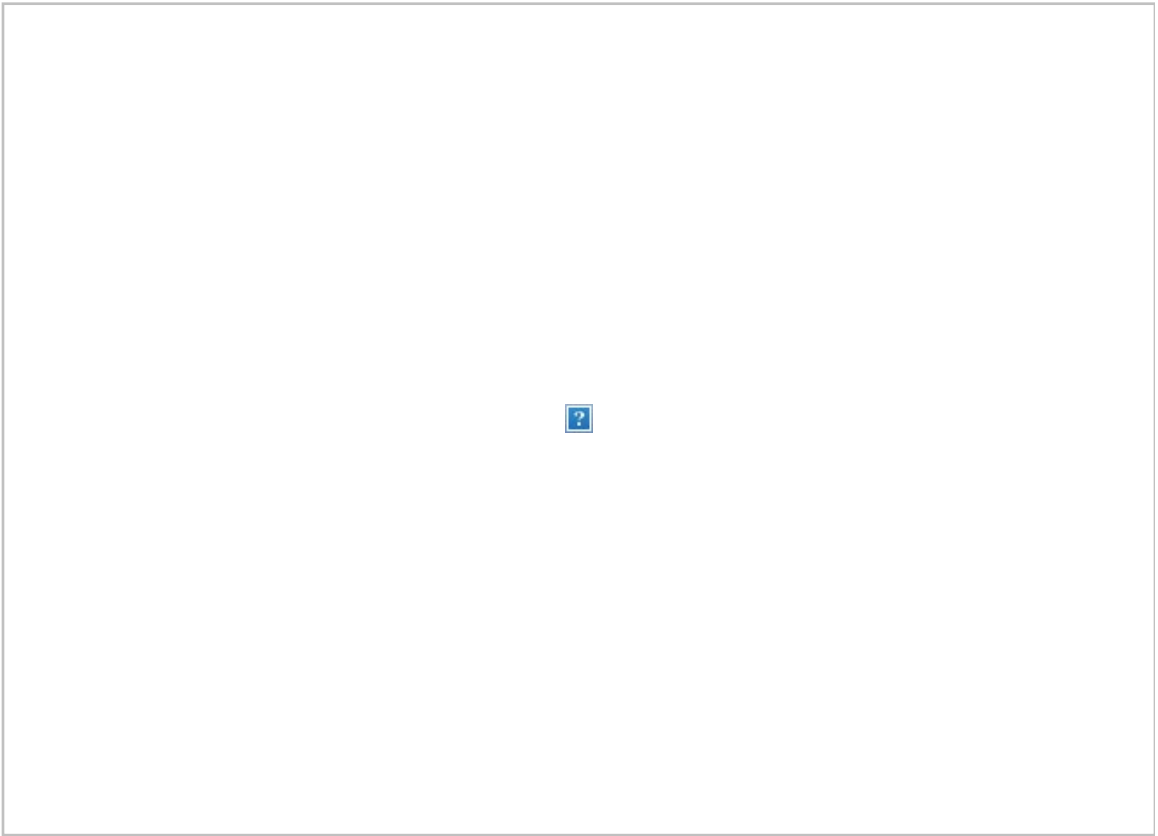
On page 47 begins the section on Healthy Sustainable Environment

- This section is big on urbanism and walkable living – being able to walk/ride a bike/ easier commuter services nearby – and how the County at larger can be designed to live this way.
- On page 51, policy 6.2.7 and action 6.2.7:

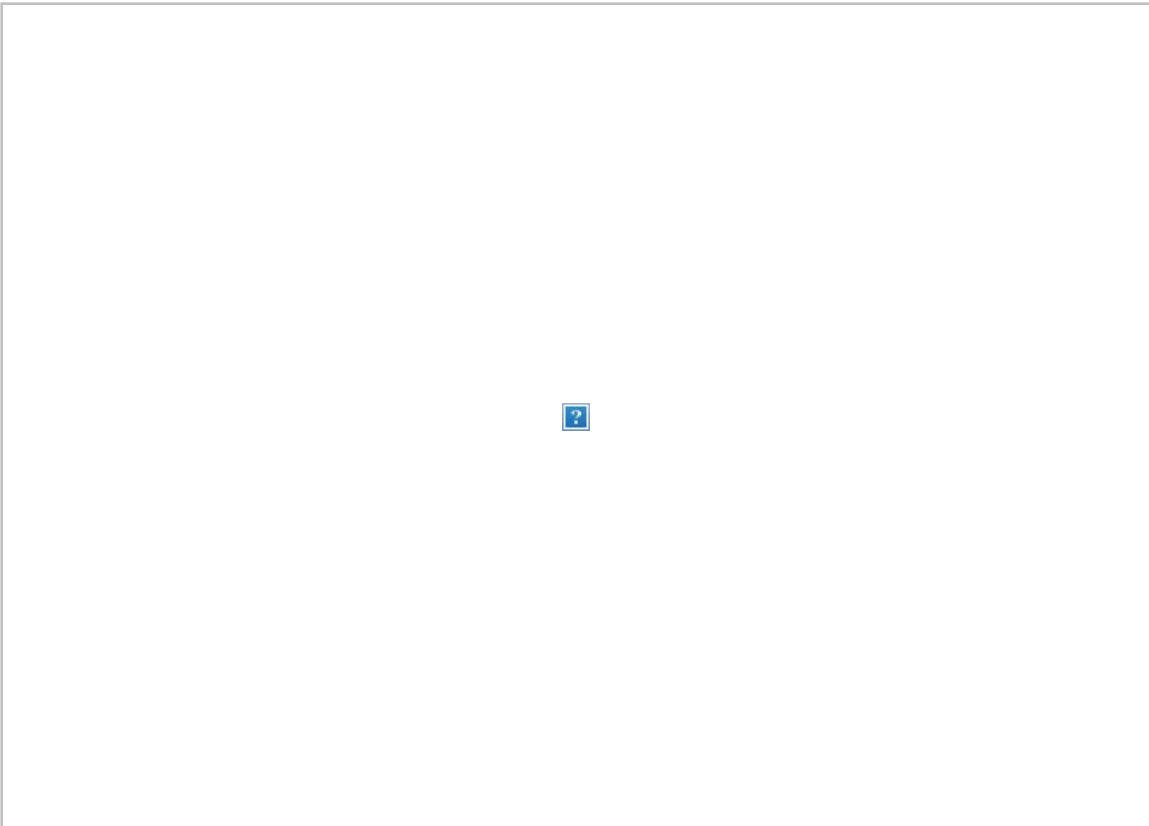


This seems P&P's way of saying regenerative farming without saying regenerative farming. We need to be clear the farmers in the County are operating in a manner that helps the environment. I do not know what healthier farming communities means.

- Page 52 goal 6.4.1/policy 6.4.1/action 6.4.1

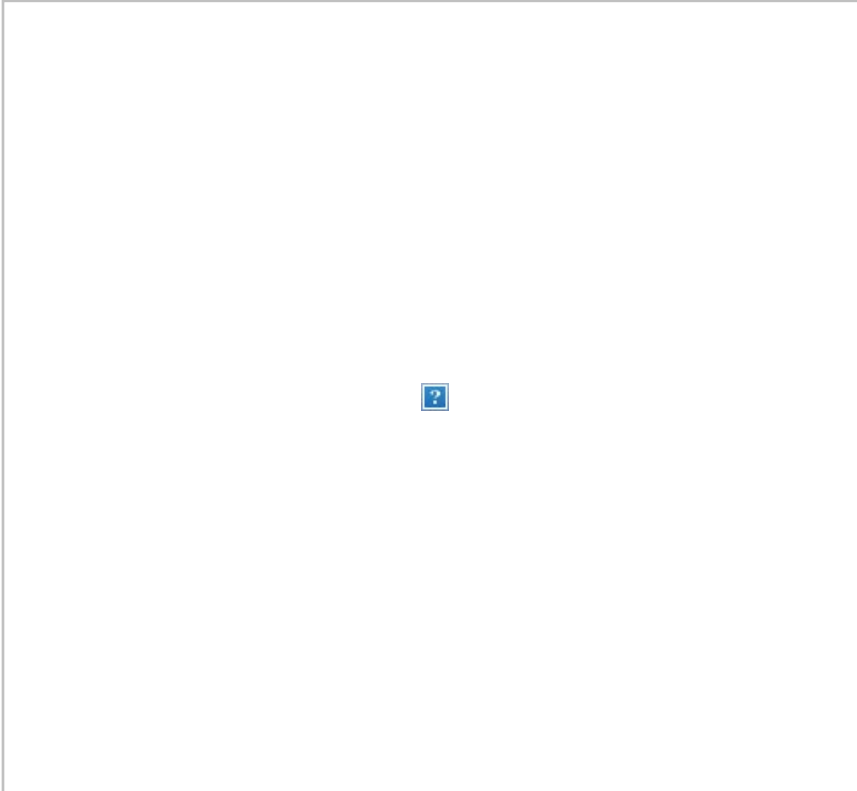


- Page 53 goal 6.5 – continued work to connect natural habitats:



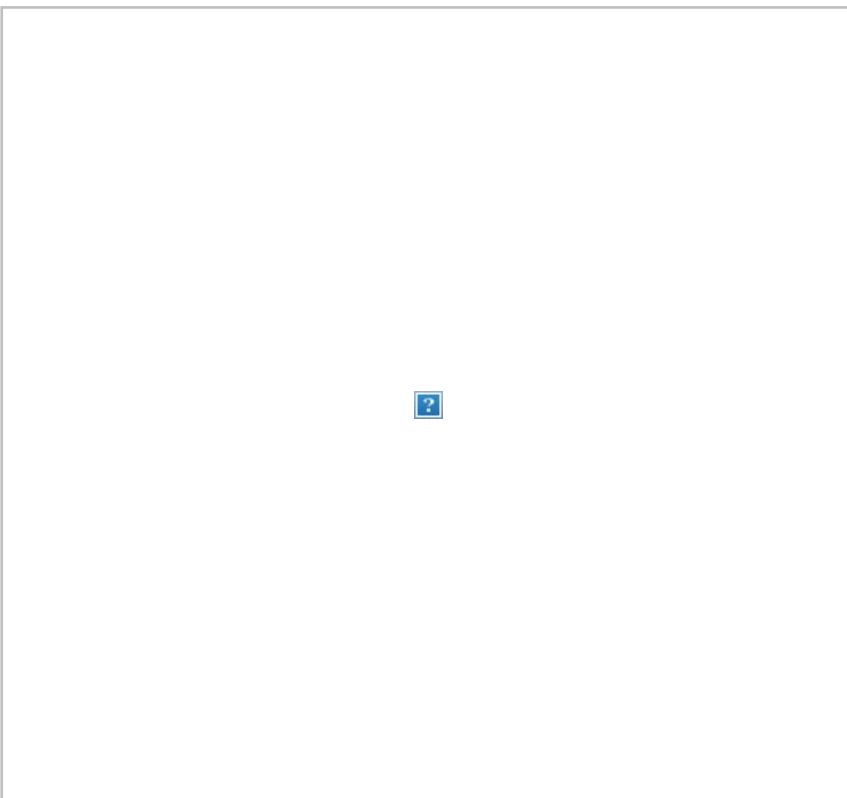
- Page 54 begins the Diverse and Adaptable Growth Sections which contains the most ag specific items.

- Page 57 goal 7.4:



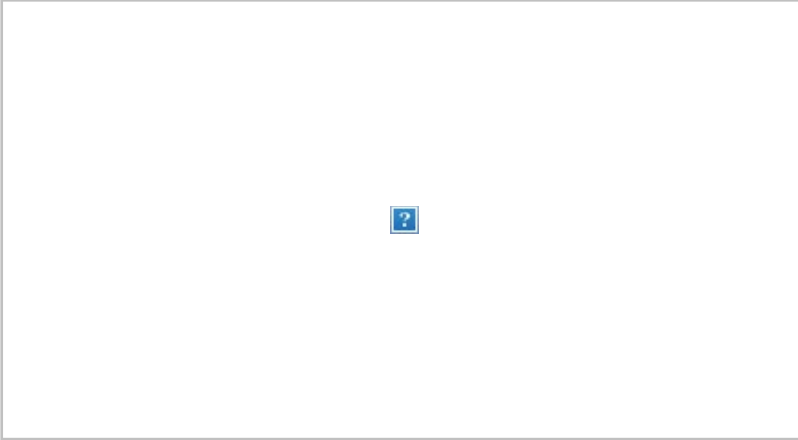
None of these are bad in and of themselves, but this looks like making stuff easier for the benefit of down county residents, not farmers in the ag reserve.

- Page 58 and assoicated poilcies and actions:



None of these are bad, but again the focus is on table food production not on all sectors of ag.

- Page 59:



Again, not bad language, we just need to help explain how these actions could be used to help the farmers.

Mike Scheffel  
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<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agservices>  
**CONNECT WITH The Office of Agriculture**  
Montgomery County Ag Reserve  
93,000 acres

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**From:** McVary, Jessica [mailto:Jessica.McVary@montgomeryplanning.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 4, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** Afzal, Khalid <khalid.afzal@montgomeryplanning.org>; McCarthy, Caroline <caroline.mccarthy@montgomeryplanning.org>; Kraft, Benjamin <benjamin.kraft@montgomeryplanning.org>; Findley, Steve <steve.findley@montgomeryplanning.org>; atul.sharma <atul.sharma@montgomeryplanning.org>; Criss, Jeremy <Jeremy.Criss@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Bob Cissel <bobcissel50@gmail.com>; Scheffel, Mike <Mike.Scheffel@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Fisher, Kristin <Kristin.Fisher@montgomerycountymd.gov>  
**Cc:** Stern, Tanya <tanya.stern@montgomeryplanning.org>; Stamm, Lauren <Lauren.Stamm@montgomeryplanning.org>; pamela.zorich <pamela.zorich@montgomeryplanning.org>; David Anspacher <david.anspacher@montgomeryplanning.org>; Van Alstyne, Chris <chris.vanalstyne@montgomeryplanning.org>; Lisa Govoni <Lisa.Govoni@montgomeryplanning.org>; Lindsey, Amy <amy.lindsey@montgomeryplanning.org>  
**Subject:** CONFIRMED - Thrive Meeting with Office of Agriculture

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Hi, everyone.

I hope that this email finds you all well.

I am writing to share the staff [memo](#) that was published today with the Thrive 2050 draft vision, goals, policies and actions. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this in greater detail during our meeting next Wednesday afternoon. The “Diverse and Adaptable Growth” chapter includes goals, policies and actions specific to agriculture, although many of the other chapters will also likely be of interest.

The Thrive 2050 team is scheduled to present this draft to the Planning Board during their meeting next Thursday, June 11.

Thank you,  
Jessica

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** McVary, Jessica

**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 9:54 AM

**To:** McVary, Jessica; Afzal, Khalid; McCarthy, Caroline; Kraft, Benjamin; Findley, Steve; Sharma, Atul; Criss, Jeremy; Bob Cissel; Scheffel, Mike; Fisher, Kristin

**Cc:** Stern, Tanya; Stamm, Lauren; Zorich, Pamela; Anspacher, David; Van Alstyne, Chris; Govoni, Lisa; Lindsey, Amy

**Subject:** CONFIRMED - Thrive Meeting with Office of Agriculture

**When:** Wednesday, June 10, 2020 3:00 PM-4:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

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