

Comments on the Proposed Calvert County Comprehensive Plan (May 2018 Draft)
Agency Comments Received through September 10, 2018

NAME	GROUP/AGENCY	DATE RECEIVED	# OF PAGES
Keith Ulrich, Project Coordinator-Engineering	Southern Maryland Cooperative	8/9/2018	3
R. Wayne Raither, Division Chief	Calvert County Department of Public Works, Water & Sewerage Division	8/16/2018	3
Ron Klauda, Chair	Calvert County Environmental Commission	8/19/2018, 9/3/2018	4, 6

Harrod, Felicia R.

From: Ulrich,Keith <Keith.Ulrich@SMECO.coop>
Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 3:25 PM
To: Planning and Zoning
Cc: Plummer-Welker, Jenny L.; Sunderland, Carolyn V.; Cook, Mary Beth; Slater, Joe; Capps, Ken; Fuller, Ronald; Watkins, Karen; Dennison, Thomas; Russell, Thomas
Subject: Comprehensive Plan Comments - Due 10.01.18 - SMECO Memo
Attachments: SMECO Comp & ZO rewrite 09.28.16.doc
Importance: High

Dear Mr. Kernan,

Please find attached a memo previously submitted to the Calvert County Planning and Zoning Office on September 28, 2016, and also to the Calvert County Department of Public Works on October 14, 2016. The memo outlines concerns and recommendations for enacting prohibitions on encroachments such as Stormwater Management and County infrastructure into Public Utility Easements (PUE).

If you have any questions or need additional information please respond to this email.

Jenny or Carolyn, since Mr. Kernan's email address was not provided in the notice, could you respond to receipt of this email.

Sincerely,

Keith E. Ulrich
Project Coordinator- Engineering

14950 Cooperative Place
Hughesville, MD 20637
Office: 301-274-8225
Cell: 240-298-2448
Email: Keith.Ulrich@SMECO.coop

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Memorandum

Date: September 28, 2016

To: Jenny Plummer-Welker AICP
Calvert County Community Planning & Building, Long Range Planner

From: Keith E. Ulrich
Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Project Coordinator- Engineering

Subject: Calvert County Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance Re-Write

By this memorandum, Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) is formally submitting the following Public Utility Easement (PUE) concerns to be considered during the rewrite of the Calvert County Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. SMECO would also request, that these concerns be a consideration for the current, and future Town Center Master Plans and Zoning Ordinances.

Changes in the Calvert County Zoning Ordinance allowing lot minimization, the implementation of the Maryland State mandated storm water management Environmental Site Design (ESD), and added Calvert County desired infrastructure, have led to resulting impacts to the required PUE's.

The zoning changes, that have occurred, reduced lots sizes and thus front building setbacks. This has allowed buildings to be placed closer to road right of ways, narrowing front yards where most PUE's occur. Also, lot side setbacks have narrowed, limiting space between buildings. These changes have been enacted to allow projects to obtain allowable densities in a much smaller footprint, but have required utilities serving the developments to occur in a much more contracted space.

The new storm water ESD guidelines require developers to minimize impervious areas to provide less of an environmental impact. When storm water management devices are implemented, like trapezoidal bio retention swales and trapezoidal wet swales, both having flat bottom widths ranging from 2 to 8 feet, additional width is added to the typical roadway sections. This routinely extends the overall section beyond the road right of way, and this then overlaps with the PUE.

In addition to these regulation changes, sidewalks and street trees are being required by County agencies to be placed along roadways. Due to limited road right of way widths, the street trees and sidewalks are having to be placed outside of road right of ways. As a result the allowable space in the PUE's is becoming increasingly constricted

SMECO is requesting, during the re-write of the Calvert County Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance, Calvert County place an emphasis on maintaining the sovereignty of the PUE's for the public utility companies installation, of the public utilities.

The following SMECO recommendations are proposed to aid Calvert County in implementing guidelines in the Comprehensive Plan, and placing zoning restrictions in the Calvert County Zoning Ordinance and Town Center Ordinances to allow only the use of the PUE's for the public utility infrastructure. The recommendations are as follows:

1. Enact a prohibition to the placement of storm water management devices, storm water easements, and county infrastructure within the 10 foot wide PUE (excluding crossing water and sewer house connections).
2. Enact a requirement that if storm water management devices and/or easements are required adjacent to road right of ways, or property lines, an additional 10 wide PUE adjacent to the storm water easement will be required.
3. Enact a requirement that all County required infrastructure (street trees, sidewalks, etc...) be placed within the County road right of way, or a separate easement be required, as in the case of storm water management, and an additional 10 foot wide PUE be provided adjacent to the county infrastructure easement.

Southern Maryland Electric would like to thank Calvert County for the opportunity to provide comments for consideration in respect to the encroachments that are being seen, into the PUE's. Your consideration in implementing the above recommendations to maintain the integrity of the PUE's now and in the future is appreciated.

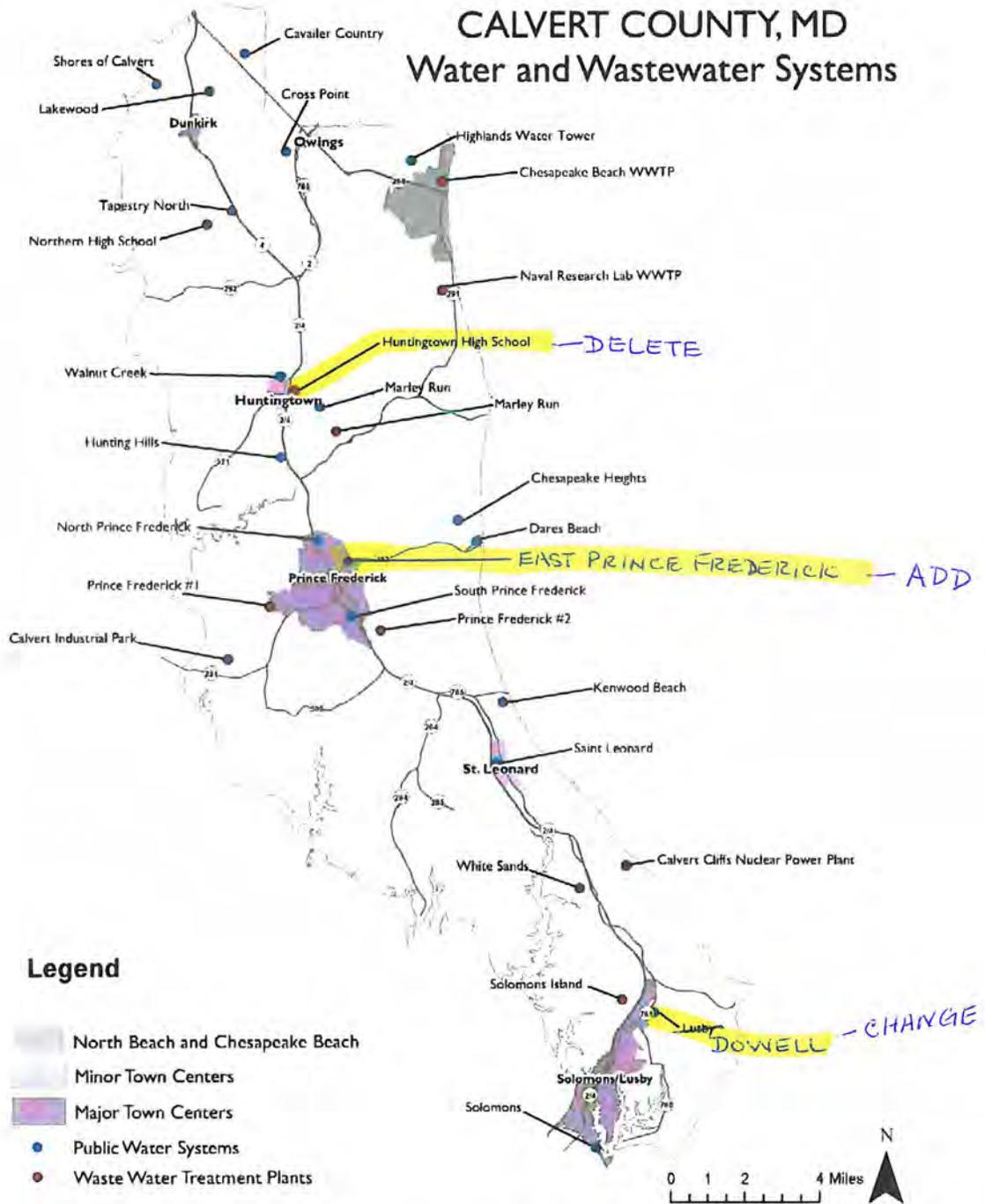
Comments on
Comprehensive Plan, May 2018 (July 28, 2018 version)

Received from R. Wayne Raither, Division Chief

Calvert County Water & Sewerage Division

Received August 16, 2018

Figure 9-1 Calvert County Public Water Systems



Source: Calvert County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan, 2014

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Sewerage Division, the Maryland Geological Survey, and the U.S. Geological Survey.² This network consists of 42 wells throughout the county that are monitored on a real-time, monthly, or twice-yearly basis. The network monitors the Piney Point, Nanjemoy, Aquia, and Magothy aquifers most frequently because they are deeper, confined aquifers that experience the highest local and regional withdrawals.

The Maryland Geological Survey also conducted a study in 2008 for the tri-county area of Southern Maryland (Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties) to study the availability of water in the upper Patapsco and lower Patapsco aquifers and monitor local groundwater recharge and drought conditions³.

Drinking Water Capacity

15 — There are 19 privately owned residential community water systems⁴, 19 municipally (public) owned water systems, and 24 water systems owned by corporations or institutions (e.g. Board of Education) in Calvert County. The major municipal systems, shown in Table 9-2 are operated by the Calvert County Department of Public Works, Water and Sewerage Division, in the Prince Frederick and Solomons Sanitary districts. The water system in Chesapeake Beach is owned and operated by the Town of Chesapeake Beach, and there is a community water system in the municipality of North Beach. Supplemental maps, including maps of existing water and sewerage systems and maps of water and sewerage planning categories for Calvert County, are available for review in the County Water and Sewerage Division.⁵

Table 9-2 Present and Projected County Water Supply Demands and Planned Capacity

Municipal Well Systems in Town Centers	2014 Average Daily Demand Million Gallons per Day (MGD)	2014 Planned Capacity Million Gallons per Day (MGD)	2040 Average Daily Demand Million Gallons per Day (MGD)
Chesapeake Beach	0.413 ✓	0.650 ✓	0.529 ✓
North Beach	0.185 ✓	0.288 ✓	0.198 ✓
Prince Frederick	0.468 ✓	0.717 ✓	0.672 ✓
Solomons	0.364 0.459	0.550 ✓	0.700 0.510
Total	1.43 1.525	2.205	2.009 1.909

Source: 2014 Calvert County Comprehensive Water & Sewerage Plan

The larger municipally-owned water systems provide fire protection. They include the Beaches area, Prince Frederick and Solomons. Of the 15 privately owned community water systems, five provide fire protection. They include: Beaches Water Company, Chesapeake Ranch Estates, the Naval Research

² Maryland Geological Survey. (January 18, 2017). *Groundwater Wells in Calvert County, Maryland*. Retrieved May 10, 2018 from <https://md.water.usgs.gov/groundwater/calvert/>

³ Calis, N.; Drummond, D.D.; Maryland Geological Survey. (2008). *Hydrogeologic data from six test wells in the Upper Patapsco and Lower Patapsco Aquifers in Southern Maryland*. Retrieved May 10, 2018 from http://www.mgs.md.gov/publications/report_pages/BDR_22.html

⁴ "Community water supply system" means a source of water and a distribution system, including treatment facilities and storage facilities, whether publicly or privately owned, serving two or more individual lots." *Calvert County Comprehensive Water & Sewerage Plan, 2014 Update*.

⁵ Calvert County Water and Sewerage Plan, 2014 Update, p 53

Harrod, Felicia R.

From: Ronald Klauda <rjklauda@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 19, 2018 12:46 PM
To: Planning and Zoning
Subject: Comments from the Calvert County Environmental Commission on Draft Comprehensive Plan Update
Attachments: EC Comments from Environmental Commission on 2nd draft Comp Plan 19aug2018.docx

Dear Mr. Kernan and the rest of the Planning Commission:

Comments from the Calvert County Environmental Commission on Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8 of the 2nd Draft Comprehensive Plan Update are attached.

The Environmental Commission appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on this draft document. If you have any questions about our comments, please contact me.

I will be sending you comments from the Environmental Commission on the rest of the 2nd Draft Comp. Plan between now and October 1.

Sincerely,

Ron Klauda (Chair, Calvert County Environmental Commission)

Ronald J. Klauda, PhD
Aquatic Ecologist (retired)
1401 Foxtail Lane
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

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**Comments from the Calvert County Environmental Commission
on the 2nd Draft (May 2018, edited 27 July 2018) Comprehensive Plan Update
(19 August 2018)**

Chapter 1 – Purpose, Mission, and Visions

Pg. 1-2: The Environmental Commission applauds the inclusion of sustainability in the Comp. Plan Update. Because there are several definitions of sustainability, the concept might be fuzzy to some county residents. We suggest that the text be revised to include a sentence along these lines early in the Sustainability section: *“In a general sense, achieving sustainability requires that development and other societal actions meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.”* Achieving sustainability involves a commitment to sound operating practices through the responsible management of building design, construction/renovation methods/materials, landscape practices, energy use, water and waste management, emission controls, transportation, and procurement—all done within a framework of regulatory compliance and fiscal prudence. Integration of environmental, social, and economic goals in policies and activities is essential to achieving sustainability. But so is conservation of biodiversity and ecological integrity.

Pg. 1-3: Is there a time table for achieving the county’s 40,000-acre land preservation goal? If so, please state it here. If not, why not? The Environmental Commission suggests that the first sentence of the last paragraph on this page be rewritten as follows: *“The county remains committed to the 40,000-acre land preservation goal and will continue to protect rural lands through both the direct actions of these programs and also to expand agricultural opportunities to assist farmers in growing their businesses.”*

Pg. 1-5: For consistency with the emphasis that appears in the rest of the Comp. Plan, we suggest that the mission statement *“Preserving the natural, cultural, and historic assets of Calvert County”* be moved to the top of the list.

Pg. 1-5: Why is there no direct mention of “sustainability” in any of the 10 visions, especially since this topic was mentioned prominently on Pg. 1-2? As a related aside, the Environmental Commission recommends that P&Z staff consider calculating the per capita carbon footprint for Calvert County residents and including this information in the next version of the Comp. Plan Update. This calculation would be expressed as the average annual CO₂ emissions per person per year in metric tons. There are several carbon footprint calculation tools available on the internet (e.g., <https://www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/>). One source stated that the carbon footprint in the U.S. overall is around 20 metric tons of CO₂ emissions per person per year. Because of the high percentage of county residents that commute many miles to jobs, our per capital carbon footprint is likely to be higher than 20 metric tons of CO₂ emissions per year. The worldwide average is 4 to 5 metric tons. Having an estimate

of the county's per capita carbon footprint now could help direct management actions aimed at reducing our carbon footprints and increase the chances of achieving the county's sustainability goals.

Chapter 2 – Key Issues

Pgs. 2-3 and 2-4: Public outreach is clearly an area where there is still much room for improvement in Calvert County. Even though the Comp. Plan states that “Over 430 people provided responses” in the first round of participatory public meetings held in the summer of 2016, that's only 0.7% of the county's 2015 population of people between the ages of 20 and 65+. The 210 people who attended the four Issue Identification Workshops held in the fall of 2016 represent only 0.3% of the county's population ages 20 to 65+. And, as you know, the age composition of those attending most public meetings is skewed toward the older segment of the county's population. If the Environmental Commission comes up with any useful recommendations on how to find out what a broader spectrum of people who live in Calvert County think about any given issue (a hefty challenge), you'll hear from us.

Table 2-2: These data show that population growth rate projection for the county will likely increase rather than decrease from 2015-2020 to 2020-2030. The text drawn from this table should be changed to reflect this projected growth rate increase. While it may be accurate to state that population growth rate projection will likely decrease from 2020-2030 to 2030-2040, we should all keep in mind that the further into the future projections are attempted, the more uncertain these projections are likely to be.

Chapter 5 – Heritage

Pg.5-5: Can you please clarify what's meant in item 5.1.1.4?

Chapter 6 – Housing

Pg. 6-3: What types of sustainable building practices are currently being required (or encouraged) by the county and will be promoted by the proposed policies? Are “green” building practices (e.g., use of solar power, energy-efficient designs and materials) being encouraged now? If yes, where? If not, why not?

Chapter 8 – Economic Vitality

Pg. 8-5, last paragraph: Is the percentage of county residents who commute to work in their private vehicles and who also carpool known? If so, the Environmental Commission thinks this statistic is important/relevant and should be included here.

Table 8-5: The 2011 report this table draws from is outdated, includes some shaky assumptions about current and future shopping patterns, and should therefore be deleted from the Comp. Plan Update. The Environmental Commission is not convinced that the information in Table 8-5 is helpful in developing sound guidance for controlling development in Calvert County during the next 20 to 25 or more years.

Pg. 8-11, Solar Energy section: Conversion of X acres of tillable and productive farmland to solar panel arrays is controversial and may not be helpful in reducing CO2 emissions to the atmosphere, when compared with the amount of CO2 that would be removed from the atmosphere and sequestered by plants growing on these same X acres of prime farmland. The Environmental Commission encourages the increased use of solar-derived energy, but we want stress the important role for the county to control and manage the places where solar panels arrays are built. Siting solar panel arrays on fallow and unproductive farmland is one desirable way to go. In addition, the Environmental Commission recommends that solar panels be installed on all public building roof tops and also on roofs built over current and future parking lots. These approaches constitute a much wiser use of land for solar-power development in Calvert County, practices that will reduce CO2 emissions and thereby help to mitigate global warming and associated climate change.

Pg. 8-13: The Environmental Commission likes the idea of assigning a county staff person to each Town Center. How about also establishing a citizen-based Advisory Commission in each Town Center, if such advisory groups don't already exist? A group of 7-11 volunteers living in each Town Center could gather ideas from residents and businesses and work with the county staff person toward achieving the goals of all entities in each Town Center?

From: Ronald Klauda <rjklauda@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2018 3:44 PM
To: Planning and Zoning
Subject: Comments from Calvert County Environmental Commission on 2nd Draft Comp. Plan Update
Attachments: EC Comments from Environmental Commission on 2nd draft Comp Plan 30aug2018.docx

Dear Mr. Kernan and the rest of the Planning Commission:

Comments from the Calvert County Environmental Commission on Chapters 4 and 9 of the 2nd Draft Comprehensive Plan Update are attached.

For record completeness, our comments on Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8 that were sent to you on Aug. 19 are also attached.

Sincerely,

Ron Klauda (Chair, Calvert County Environmental Commission)

Ronald J. Klauda, PhD
Aquatic Ecologist (retired)
1401 Foxtail Lane
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

410-535-0570 (office)
410-570-1522 (cell)
rjklauda@gmail.com

**Comments from the Calvert County Environmental Commission
on the 2nd Draft (May 2018, edited 27 July 2018) Comprehensive Plan Update
(30 August 2018)**

Chapter 4 – Environment and Natural Resources

Pg. 4-1: We recommend deleting “Encourage” as the first words in Goals 1 and 3, and changing “preservation” to “Preserve”, “protection” to “protect”, and “conservation” to “conserve”. We also recommend deleting “of” before “natural” in Goal 1 and “of” before “land-based” in Goal 3. The word “Encourage” weakens these four strong goals.

Pg. 4-1: Is 1993 the most recent watershed management plan for Hunting Creek?

Pg. 4-3: In the 1st line, we recommend adding “and sediment” before “loads”.

Pg. 4-4: In the 1st paragraph in “Areas of Critical State Concern”, should the word “area” in the first line after “geographic” be “areas”? If so, then singular words in this paragraph need to be changed to plural words. Also, who is the “secretary” mentioned in line 3 of this paragraph?

Pg. 4-6: Please add a link to the written report referred to in the last paragraph on this page.

Pg. 4-7: We recommend inserting the word “high” before “diversity” in the last line of paragraph 4.

Pg. 4-8: Please add this sentence to the end of paragraph 3: “In early 2018, a new Interactive Watershed Map titled “What’s My Watershed and What’s In It?” was posted on the county’s website. This map shows citizens in which of the county’s 23 watersheds they live and also provides information about their watershed (<http://www.co.cal.md.us/index.aspx?NID=264>).”

Pg. 4-9, Figure 4-2: This map showing the county’s watersheds would be more informative if each of the 23 watersheds was named with a label on the map.

Pg. 4-10: We recommend rewriting the 1st sentence to read as follows: “Forest cover is the most natural and least polluting land cover in Calvert County.”

Pg. 4-11: Is this the most recent “Forested Areas” map available for Calvert County?

Pg. 4-12, Air Quality section: This discussion is thin on information about current air quality conditions in Calvert County. Also, projections on air quality into the future based on predicted increases in traffic volume would be informative.

Pg. 4-13: Are there any “Prospect Mineral Resources” in Calvert County? We couldn’t find a green dot on this map.

Pg. 4-15: In line 20, we recommend changing the word “discourage” to “prevent”. In line 25, we also recommend deleting the word “Consider” in subobjective 4.1.2.3 and changing “raising” to “Raise”. In the last line on this page, delete “discourage” and replace it with “prevent”.

Pg. 4-16: In Objective 2, do the initials “EC” refer to the Environmental Commission? We did not see “EC” defined in the Acronym list on pg. i-6.

Chapter 9 – Water Resources

Pg. 9-1: In Goal 4, we recommend inserting “county streams,” before “the Chesapeake Bay”.

Pg. 9-2: In line 2 of the “Sustainability Approach” section, we recommend inserting “/other aquatic resources” after “fisheries”. In line 4 of this section, we recommend inserting “and ecological” after “human”. In the “Water Quality Regulations” section, please clarify that the county’s wastewater plants met the 2017 target loads levels for both nitrogen and phosphorus, if that’s true? Where does Calvert County stand now with regards to meeting target loading reductions for other nitrogen and phosphorus sources?

Pg. 9-3: In line 3 of the “Water Supply” section, we recommend deleting “prevent surface contaminants from entering the aquifers” and replacing these words with “greatly reduces the chance that surface contaminants will reach the aquifers.”

Pg. 9-7: In line 3, please include a definition for “MCLs”. In line 5 of the “Wastewater Assessment” section, please insert “county streams” after “health of”.

Pg. 9-11: Is there a plan for what happens in a developer-funded extension of a public sewer system fails? Will the developer be bonded to pay for all required repairs and updates?

Pg. 9-14: Under Objective 3, why not include ‘capture/use of rainwater’ and ‘reuse of gray water’ as two more strategies to decrease water consumption?

Pg. 9-15: Under Objective 2, item 9.3.2.5, we suggest you also include “EC” to reflect our “Pump for the Bay” contest.

Pg. 9-16: We applaud everything stated under Objective 2 to deal with unmanaged impervious surfaces. We also hope that progress toward achieving the objectives stated here will be reported annually to county residents.

Previous Comments from the Environmental Commission on Other Chapters

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