SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY

Driving and Walking Tours in Harford County
INFM736 Fall & Spring (Dr. Kathy Weaver)
Using the data obtained from the URSP688L GIS course (see overleaf), students built an interactive tool which allows Harford County visitors to build individualized driving and walking tours.

Optimizing the VisitHarford Website
INST710 (Dr. Bill Kules)
Tasked to enhance the VisitHarford website to promote county tourism to visitors and increase its penetration for locals, iSchool students researched target audiences, devised a new organizational structure, and expanded the website and the county's tourism application's core user group.

Planning a Harford County Bicycle Network
LARC 471 (Dr. Kelly Fleming)
Collaborating with Harford County stakeholders, students developed a comprehensive bicycle plan which includes an overall strategy and suite of best practices to guide the development, implementation, and expansion of Bel Air and Harford County's bicycle network.

Therapeutic Recreation Services
KNES785 (Dr. Shannon Jette)
This study collected primary data evaluating behaviors, attitudes, perceptions, and other factors that influence therapeutic recreation patterns among people with disabilities. Students communicated data to the county for use in improving therapeutic recreation programming.

Third Places in Joppatowne
PLCY688T (Dr. Christopher Foreman)
This team-based policy lab course in the School of Public Policy explored the topic of "third spaces," places for social interaction outside of work settings. Proposing four different uses for a site in Joppatowne, the team included accessibility, estimated cost, and community interest in their recommendations.

State of Maryland

New Windsor Storm Water Project
LARC641 (Dennis Nola)
Incorporating best design practices for recreational areas, landscape architecture students proposed a site design for a recreation center. Designs were tailored for the specific site and community needs while considering storm water management.

Economic Impacts: New Windsor Rec. Center
BUSM 798Q: (Dr. Nicole Coomber)
Focusing on an indoor track facility within the New Windsor community, this business school team developed an economic impact study. Students recommended public infrastructure investments, identified sports-related revenue streams, and targeted private sector businesses that may support a potential indoor athletics center.

New Market Vineyard Project
LARC 340 (Dennis Nola)
Teams of students worked with a winery in New Market, Maryland to create plans for the property. Site plans incorporated historic elements of the farm, suggested sites for new wine making and storage facilities, and introduced additional opportunities for commercial endeavors.

Essex Commercial Corridor Study
RDEV620 (Melina Duggal)
Real estate students conducted a market study for the Essex area, determining the marketability of different land uses along a struggling corridor.

PARTNERSHIP for ACTION LEARNING in SUSTAINABILITY

PALS is harnessing the experience of University of Maryland faculty along with the energy and ingenuity of the University's students to advance environmental, economic and social sustainability in Maryland communities. For the 2018-2019 academic year, UMD joined forces with Harford County, MD. Nearly 300 students in 22 courses across 11 disciplines helped build a more sustainable Harford County. PALS also initiated a program with the State of Maryland to assist 3 small communities.

For more information please contact

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Visit the PALS website:
www.umdsmartgrowth.org/programs/pals/

Harford County

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Infrastructure Planning
URSP688B (Dr. Marccus Hendricks)
In support of the Creswell Scenario Project (below), the case studies in this course analyzed current and projected needs for schools, fire, police and EMS, recreation and parks, and sewer and water to support various future scenarios for this large area.

Creswell Scenario Planning
URSP688D (Uri Avin, Matt Noonkester)
Building on four related PALS courses, planning students assessed challenges associated with future growth in this 13,000-acre semi-rural area adjacent to the growth boundary. A nuanced TDR concept provided a sustainable framework plan. *The project received state and national APA awards for Outstanding Student Project.*

Economic Development Recommendations
BUSM798Q (Dr. Nicole Coomber, Albert Krall)
Analyzing economic data, students in the School of Business provided recommendations on resource and staff management. These included next steps to build an economic development model, benchmarked against other communities, and targeted companies for relocation.

Streamlining Inspection Mgmt. (Fall & Spring)
INFM736 (Dr. Kathy Weaver)
iSchool students analyzed existing processes at Harford County's Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits, and devised a new process flow. The new tool provides a rating system that considers relevant data sets and renders a score for project prioritization and selection

ENVIRONMENT

Turf Mgmt Planning for Harford County Parks
INAG214 (Geoffrey Rinehart)
Students in the Institute of Applied Agriculture produced an agronomic plan for the County Department of Parks and Recreation. Recommendations include turf grass maintenance standards and other cost-saving measures.

Legal Implications of Creswell Development
Environmental Law Clinic (Seema Kakade)
The Environmental Law Clinic at UMD's School of Law researched various methods of value capture at the municipal level and their legal fit. The Creswell Scenario Planning course incorporated the clinic's findings into its comprehensive report.

Sewer System Feasibility for Creswell
ENCE422 (Dr. Qingbin Cui)
Accounting for potential development in rural Harford County, environmental engineering students examined alternative in-ground versus public sewer systems and their ability to cope with growth. Teams assessed multiple types of systems and recommended cost-effective options.

Environment and/or Development in Creswell
LARC642 (Dr. David Myers)
Landscape architecture students identified abiotic, biotic, and cultural characteristics that influence development patterns in the Creswell area. This assessment identified development potential and patterns of land use within the Creswell area for use in future scenario development.

Analysis of Streambank & Roadway Erosion
URSP688L (Bin Bin Peng, Frank Zhou)
Using GIS, planning students in this technology course identified and ranked roadways vulnerable to stream-bank erosion within Harford County and provided these vulnerable roadway data for integration into the County's maintenance systems. *This project received a 2019 Maryland Sustainable Growth Challenge award.*

Centrally Managed SWM Maintenance
ENST481 (Dr. Stephanie Lansing)
Students in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources developed a program that outlined maintenance requirements for storm water management; this program could be used by contractors and others unfamiliar with maintenance requirements for SWM systems.

Integrating Better SWM w/Capital Projects
ENST481 (Dr. Stephanie Lansing)
Recommending best management practices for storm water management, this Environmental Science and Technology team provided the county with professional marketing and briefing materials for distribution to departments involved with project planning and scoping.

Public Outreach: "Plant with a Purpose"
INAG132 (Larisa Cioaca)
Working to promote the use of native plants in residential gardens and landscapes throughout Harford County, Applied Ag students developed a public outreach campaign for the Harford County Department of Public Works.

Edgewood Park and GeoDesign Workshop
LARC748 (Dr. Victoria Chanse)
Applying GeodesignHub, a collaborative, consensus-building design tool, students addressed a longstanding park and lake design challenge in Edgewood to re-imagine a 20-acre site and produced final design options.

PALS is part of the National Center for Smart Growth. It is funded by a modest charge per course from the participating jurisdiction, a grant from the Office of the Provost and the Dean of MAPP. PALS covers all course related travel expenses for students and faculty, and provides other incentives for participating faculty.