Re: Smart Growth America Walkability Workshop – 1 Month Report

The City of Salisbury is actively working to incorporate the recommendations from the Walkability/Bikeability Workshop to enhance the livability of the community. Previous to the workshop the City was on the pathway to revitalizing the Downtown area with all modes of transportation in mind. With the recommendations from the workshop in mind the City has continued down the path to revitalizing the City with the following actions:

- **Embrace Complete Streets:** The Salisbury City Council passed Resolution No. 2431 providing for a Complete Streets Policy to increase the usability of streets for all modes of travel for citizens of all ages and abilities in the City of Salisbury. The Department of Public Works will now begin forming guidelines suitable for the community in regards to complete streets policies and implementation.

- **Map Downtown’s Pros and Cons as a Place to Live, Work, and Play:** Informal charrettes have been conducted during the 3rd Friday Arts Festival Downtown to allow citizens an opportunity to voice opinions regarding the revitalization of Downtown.

  An Urban Tree Canopy Assessment was completed for the entirety of Wicomico County. The Assessment may be utilized moving forward in enhancing the urban tree canopy of Downtown.

- **Create Wayfinding Signage; Create More Bike Lanes and Repaint Existing Lanes; Enhance Bicycle Parking:** The City has designated funding from a prior Maryland Bikeways Program grant to purchase and install five additional bike racks in the Downtown area. The bike racks will continue the theme and logo, associated with the City’s rebranding effort, presently featured on existing bike racks.

  The City was notified recently of its success in receiving another Maryland Bikeways Program grant in the amount of $50,000 to perform a wayfinding study. The funds will be utilized to obtain a professional consulting service to prepare and implement design and marking plans for wayfinding and safety purposes. In addition, funding will be provided for infrastructure to support existing bike routes, purchase bike racks, and construct four centrally-located kiosks. The strategically located kiosks will provide cyclist with information in regards to nearby amenities, including connectivity to local and State trails, bike shops, major activity centers, bike racks, and institutional and recreational sites.

  Through a collaboration with the Wicomico County Health Department a one mile walking route has been created around the Downtown area and wayfinding signage will be purchased in September 2014 and installed in the coming months to mark the path.
• **Maximize Sidewalk Width and Access Downtown; Improve Pedestrian Safety at Intersections; Reduce Lane Width; Eliminate the Center Line on Roads with Low Traffic Volumes; Improve Bicycle Access Downtown with More “Sharrows”; Install Bike-Friendly Storm Drainage Grates:**

The City Administration and staff have committed to meeting periodically to assess the progress on incorporating recommendations into the City’s work program. As the Department of Public Works mills and repaves streets they will determine applicable recommendations to incorporate in the work program.

In addition, as the Main Street Masterplan is finalized the recommendations will be incorporated into the plan in regards to maximizing sidewalk widths, reducing lane widths, improving pedestrian and cyclist safety, etc. Smart Growth America and consultants worked closely with the Project Manager for the City’s Main Street redesign in an effort to ensure the recommendations could be feasibly incorporated into the Masterplan.

In addition, the Salisbury City Council passed Resolution No. 2401 establishing a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to advise City officials and staff on the sound development and management and safe use of the City of Salisbury’s pedestrian and bicycle systems in relation to infrastructure, accessibility, and promoting the benefits of these systems.

• **Convert Alleys into Places for People:** The City Administration and staff are actively brainstorming to determine the best location to convert an alley in the Downtown area.

• **Transform Sidewalk Area into Compelling Destinations:** The City’s Code of Ordinances permits “sidewalk cafes” and lists design standards for such outdoor seating. Currently, two downtown establishments have “sidewalk cafes”.