PALS
PARTNERSHIP for ACTION LEARNING in SUSTAINABILITY
NATIONAL CENTER FOR SMART GROWTH - THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
Year-long, Campus-wide focus on one community
Innovative, low-cost assistance, focused on a local government’s specific needs.
Full access to depth of knowledge and experience of UMD’s faculty
Students putting classroom concepts, critical and creative thinking to work in ways that matter
All of UMD’s resources aimed at advancing environmental, economic and social sustainability in Maryland communities.
PALS and Frederick Highlights

350 students
25 courses
50,000 hours
focused on supporting Frederick’s sustainability efforts
Project Spotlight

Assessing the needs of and improving communication with the immigrant community along the Golden Mile
Design proposals for 6 neighborhoods to create “Greater Carroll Creek”
Project Spotlight

C-2 property assessment and redevelopment design plans
“Now that we’ve seen some of the work products from the classes, I think it is some of the best bang for the buck.”

– Kelly Russell, Alderman, Frederick, MD
“We are working with a University of Maryland program - the Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability - to collaborate with Howard Community College and the existing staff within the Office to work on sustainability initiatives. There are resources right here in our community that we can use to benefit our county. That’s sustainability.” – Allan Kittleman, Howard County Executive (Feb. 5th, 2015)
Howard County/CA – 2015/2016

- County/CA selected by UMD in January
- PALS seen as a cost-effective initiative by the Executive
- 66 candidate projects
  - PALS matched 38 through 33 courses
  - Most of the High and Medium priorities
- County paying $75K and CA $25K @ $5K/course for 20 courses
- UMD paying for the other 13
- HCCC participating in two projects
HoCo PALS - Economic Dvpt Projects

- Rte. 1 Revitalization and Employment
- Business model for profitable farming
- Economics of Local Agriculture: Successful Food Hubs
- Oakland Mills Village Center redevelopment feasibility/design
- Fostering Economic Vibrancy in Historic Ellicott City
- Returning Offenders as Employees
- The Arts as a Development Tool
- Innovation Networks in Howard County
- Video-journalism and feature articles on County/CA themes
- Developing and marketing an App for historic sites and tourism
HoCo PALS – Environmental Projects

- Green Infrastructure Network Analysis and Enhancement
- Climate change and hazard mitigation/Ellicott City
- Private Sector Energy Conservation
- South Fulton Park Master Plan
- Regional Patapsco Greenway Economic Impact
- Rails to trails Conversion
- Get Benched: ID need and placement of benches
- Lake Kittamaqundi Plaza Master Plan
- Management of Urban Forest Edges in Columbia
HoCo PALS – Social/Community Projects

- Aging within the Community and Aging in Place
- Neighborhood Stabilization Index
- Bridging the Benefits Cliff
- Regional Impact on HoCo’s Homeless Plan
- First responders challenges county wide
- Public emergency notification system and effectiveness
- Online Public Engagement Methods
- Model of evidence based practices for Corrections programs
- Changing pop demographics and vulnerable communities
- Predictive models/responses for emergencies for 5-50 years
- Coordinated Revitalization Program for 4 older neighborhoods
- Fostering civic and public Engagement online and offline
- Columbia Stories - Oral History Project
Questions?

For more information contact
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