

Updated Vision for Taneytown

Taneytown will continue to embrace its **small-town charm and strong sense of community** while fostering **sustainable growth, economic vitality, and enhanced quality of life** for all residents, businesses, and visitors. The City will be a **vibrant, well-connected community** that balances **historic preservation, modern development, and environmental stewardship**.

A revitalized **downtown will serve as the economic and cultural heart** of the community, offering a mix of **thriving local businesses, diverse housing options, and public spaces** that encourage gathering and engagement. Thoughtfully planned **residential and commercial growth** will ensure **affordability, accessibility, and walkability**, while preserving the City's unique character.

Taneytown will strengthen its **multi-modal transportation network**, prioritizing **safe pedestrian and bicycle access** while improving **vehicular traffic flow**. **Green infrastructure, renewable energy, and sustainable water resource management** will play a vital role in protecting the environment.

Through **collaboration with local, county, and state partners**, Taneytown will **expand economic opportunities**, attract **new industries and businesses**, and create a **resilient and diverse economy**. The City will **champion community engagement**, ensuring that residents have a voice in shaping its future.

Updated Goals for Taneytown

1. Land Use & Smart Growth

- Maintain a **balanced mix of residential, commercial, and industrial development** that aligns with community needs.
- Preserve **Taneytown's small-town character** while encouraging **strategic growth and redevelopment**.
- Enhance **walkability and connectivity** between neighborhoods, downtown, and employment centers.
- Support **infill development and adaptive reuse** of historic and underutilized properties.

2. Transportation & Mobility

- Improve **pedestrian, bicycle, and ADA accessibility** throughout the City.
- Promote **multi-modal connectivity** between neighborhoods, parks, schools, and commercial areas.
- Implement traffic management strategies to enhance **road safety and efficiency**.
- Advocate for the completion of the **Taneytown Greenway** to improve local and regional transportation options.

3. Community Facilities & Infrastructure

- Expand and modernize **public facilities, utilities, and services** to meet future needs.

- Ensure **adequate water, sewer, and stormwater management** capacity to support sustainable growth.
- Develop and maintain **parks, trails, and recreational programs** for all age groups.

4. Environmental Sustainability & Natural Resources

- Protect **groundwater resources** to ensure a reliable municipal water supply.
- Strengthen **stormwater management policies** to mitigate flooding and erosion.
- Preserve **open space, agricultural land, and critical environmental areas**.
- Encourage **energy-efficient development and the use of renewable energy sources**.

5. Economic Development & Downtown Revitalization

- Support and expand **local businesses, tourism, and entrepreneurship**.
- Promote downtown as a **vibrant hub** with a mix of retail, dining, office, and residential uses.
- Develop **infrastructure and incentives** to attract new industries and job opportunities.
- Strengthen partnerships with **regional economic development organizations**.

6. Historic & Cultural Preservation

- Preserve and promote **Taneytown's historic districts and architectural character**.
- Expand **heritage tourism** and cultural programming to celebrate local history.
- Encourage the **adaptive reuse** of historic structures for modern purposes.

7. Housing & Community Design

- Provide **diverse housing options** to meet the needs of all income levels and age groups.
- Encourage **high-quality residential design** that aligns with Taneytown's character.
- Address **affordable housing needs** while maintaining neighborhood stability.

8. Public Safety & Community Well-Being

- Ensure **police, fire, and emergency services** keep pace with population growth.
- Promote **safe, inclusive, and connected neighborhoods**.
- Strengthen community engagement through **partnerships with schools, churches, and civic groups**.

9. Intergovernmental Coordination

- Enhance collaboration with **Carroll County, Maryland State agencies, and regional planning entities**.
- Seek **grant funding and public-private partnerships** to implement infrastructure and economic initiatives.

10. Implementation & Fiscal Responsibility

- Align **Comprehensive Plan** goals with the **City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)**.
- Utilize **data-driven decision-making** to ensure responsible growth management.
- Encourage **community participation** in the ongoing planning and development process.

AS A SEPARATE but complimentary element, the plan can include a vision and strategies for identifying and maintaining Taneytown's character as follows:

Vision for Maintaining Taneytown's Small-Town Charm

Taneytown will preserve and celebrate its **small-town charm** by fostering a **strong sense of community, thoughtful growth, and a high quality of life** for residents. The City will achieve this by maintaining its **historic character, walkable neighborhoods, vibrant downtown, and welcoming atmosphere**, ensuring that future development enhances rather than diminishes its unique identity.

Key Strategies to Maintain Small-Town Charm:

1. Strengthening Community Connections

- ✓ **Encourage Local Events & Traditions** – Support annual festivals, parades, and farmers' markets to bring people together and reinforce a shared community identity.
- ✓ **Expand Public Gathering Spaces** – Develop **pocket parks, town greens, and plazas** to serve as informal meeting places for residents.
- ✓ **Enhance Partnerships with Local Organizations** – Work with schools, churches, civic groups, and historical societies to keep **community traditions and volunteerism alive**.

2. Preserving Historic Character

- ✓ **Protect Historic Architecture** – Adopt and enforce design guidelines to **preserve and repurpose historic buildings** rather than replace them.
- ✓ **Promote Heritage Tourism** – Highlight **Taneytown's rich history** through walking tours, interpretive signage, and restoration projects.
- ✓ **Support Local Businesses in Historic Buildings** – Offer **grants, tax incentives, and façade improvement programs** to keep historic structures active and well-maintained.

3. Thoughtful Growth & Development

- ✓ **Encourage Small-Scale, Mixed-Use Development** – Maintain the town's character by promoting locally owned businesses, **traditional neighborhood layouts, and context-sensitive design**.
- ✓ **Design Streets for Walkability & Connectivity** – **Sidewalks, tree-lined streets, and pedestrian-friendly public spaces** will keep Taneytown inviting and accessible.

✓ **Limit Big-Box & Strip Mall Development** – Encourage **small-scale retail and unique, locally owned shops** instead of generic commercial sprawl.

4. Enhancing Green Spaces & Rural Character

✓ **Preserve Open Space & Agricultural Land** – Maintain the surrounding **rural landscape, farms, and scenic views** through conservation efforts and zoning controls.

✓ **Expand Parks & Trails** – Create **linear parks, nature trails, and greenways** that provide access to open spaces without overdeveloping them.

✓ **Encourage Sustainable Landscaping & Tree Preservation** – Protect **mature trees, native vegetation, and community gardens** to enhance aesthetics and environmental quality.

5. Supporting a Vibrant & Walkable Downtown

✓ **Encourage a Mix of Uses** – Ensure downtown remains a **hub for dining, shopping, entertainment, and civic activity**.

✓ **Enhance Public Art & Cultural Programming** – Support **murals, sculptures, live performances, and local artisans** to enrich downtown's identity.

✓ **Make Downtown a Destination** – Foster a welcoming, small-town atmosphere by prioritizing **pedestrian-friendly streetscapes, outdoor seating, and community events**.

The Goal:

By integrating these strategies, **Taneytown will retain its small-town charm while embracing growth in a way that strengthens its community fabric, preserves its history, and enhances its livability for generations to come.**