

Dorchester County is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan that will guide land use, economic development, infrastructure, and preservation decisions in the County for the next 10 to 20 years. Obtaining feedback from the community is vital to the planning process. Please share your concerns, priorities and ideas with us by completing this 10 minute survey. Your comments are confidential.

We are requesting that this survey be returned by September 30, 2018. It may be completed online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Dorco-compplan> or delivered to the Dorchester County Department of Planning and Zoning between the hours of 8:00AM – 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, at the address above. Completed surveys may also be faxed to 410-228-1563 or emailed to [bsoper@docogonet.com](mailto:bsoper@docogonet.com).

**1. Are you a: (Check all that apply)**

- Dorchester County Resident
- Dorchester County Property Owner
- Dorchester County Business Owner
- Person Employed in Dorchester County
- Visitor

**2. What is your primary residence zip code:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Are you optimistic about the future of Dorchester County's social and economic well-being?**

- Very optimistic
- Somewhat optimistic
- Not optimistic
- Very not optimistic
- No opinion

**4. Dorchester County has experienced slow and steady housing and population growth over the past 50 years. For the future, when considering actions and policies which may affect housing and population growth, do you believe the County should seek to:**

- Maintain the same slow and steady growth
- Moderately increase housing and population growth, and balance with the open space protection
- Substantially increase housing and population growth
- Allow for growth, but focus it in towns
- No opinion

**5. Recently the County has received several proposals for large-scale (utility) renewable resource (solar fields) power generation projects that would be located on large areas of land now used for agriculture. When reviewing proposals for these developments, how do you feel the County should proceed?**

- Permit the conversion of agricultural land
- Guide their location to less productive agricultural soils or other lands
- Not permit the conversion of agricultural land for such development
- Minimize potential visual and noise impacts to surrounding uses

**6. Would you recommend Dorchester County as:**

	Highly Recommend	Recommend	Do Not Recommend	Do Not Know
A place to live	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A place to work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A place to raise a family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A place to retire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A place to visit and vacation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A place for seasonal living	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**7. What are Dorchester County's three greatest strengths and assets?**

- Affordable cost of living and housing
- Agricultural heritage, culture, and character
- Central location in the Delmarva Peninsula
- Public services and facilities
- Has not experienced urban sprawl like other Counties
- Historic heritage
- Heritage and water related tourism
- Hundreds of miles of coastline
- Local produce / Farmer's markets
- Low crime
- Low taxes
- Maritime heritage, culture, and character
- Natural resources / Scenic beauty
- Our communities / Our people
- Proximity to recreation, outdoor activities, and leisure
- Public spaces (Ex. Sailwinds)
- Quaint towns
- Employment opportunities
- Route 50
- Seafood industry / Aquaculture
- Slower way of life
- Cambridge-Dorchester Regional Airport
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**8. What are the three most critical issues facing Dorchester County today?**

- Flood hazards
- Lack of access to healthcare
- Lack of access to quality education
- Lack of population growth
- Lack of public transportation
- Lack of quality affordable housing
- Lack of quality jobs
- Lack of recreation opportunities
- Lack of trained workforce
- Limited broadband and cellular coverage
- Loss of farmland / open space
- Loss of historic structures and resources
- Loss of industries and manufacturing
- Need for a positive approach to renewable energy (ex. solar panel fields)
- Need for expanded sanitary sewer and water services
- Need for expanded solid waste services (ex. recycling program)
- Need for more road and bridge maintenance
- Need to improve access to water and navigable waterways
- Need for zoning enforcement
- Not enough commercial retail and businesses
- Pollution in the Chesapeake Bay
- Shoreline erosion / Coastal changes / Sea level changes
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

