

Crisfield Revitalization Plan

Crisfield, Maryland



Client

City of Crisfield
Peter Johnston & Associates, *Lead Planner*

Dates

June 2007- January 2008

Program

Waterfront and Marina Design
Mixed-Use Uptown & Downtown
Main Street Commercial Revitalization
1,900 Units
150,000 SF Retail

Relevance

Economic Growth
Town Planning
New Urbanism
Sustainable Design & Development

Services

Urban Design
Town Planning
Project Graphics
Community Outreach

Team

PLANNER
Peter Johnston & Associates
MASTER PLANNER
John Moynahan UDP
ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
Thomas Point Associates, Inc.

Project Challenge

Many maritime communities of Maryland's Eastern Shore similar to the City of Crisfield have long struggled with the question of how to stabilize the community and enhance the quality of life for its residents. The City has sought to fortify the local economy in the face of declines in the agricultural and seafood industries, mainstays of the local economy. National demographic trends and regional market conditions underlie new private investment in the community that has spurred a mini building boom in the late 90's. The outward manifestations of change, most apparent in misfit 7-storey condominium buildings rising up along the waterfront, while signalling new hope for the local economy, create concern for the potential loss of identity and urban character.

The challenge is achieving consensus among residents, stakeholders and community leaders on specific courses of action such as effective public-private partnerships that will encourage investment in the community and identify realistic strategic initiatives the City can undertake relative to key properties and growth management issues.

Project Description

The revitalization of a City requires, among other things, the identification of existing neighborhoods and their characteristics. In this case, an Uptown and Downtown, a marina, and distinct residential neighborhoods all framed by dominant wetland and salt marsh. As many missing buildings have made streets appear discontinuous, an effort was made to repair these "gap teeth" in a manner befitting the neighborhood's use and character that also acknowledges historic development patterns. New and updated marina facilities that capture new users and interstate tour



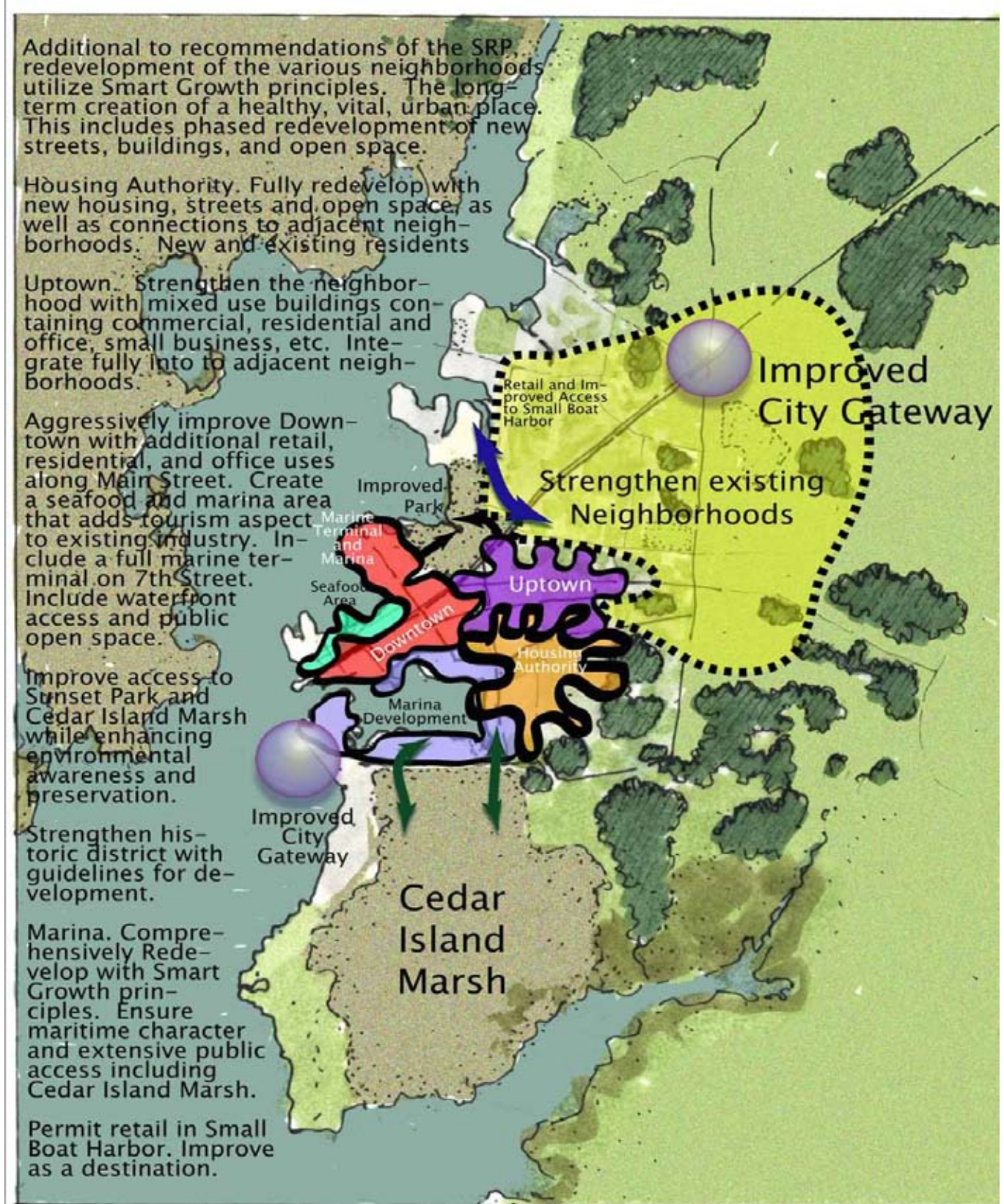
boats have been recommended. Finally, sustainable development practices and alternative energy sources such as tidal and wind energy are recommended.

Existing Circulation

John Moynahan Urban Design & Planning

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The preferred development concept strengthens links between the various key components: waterfront, forest, wetland, and town.

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Downtown developed compactly and efficiently with reinforced blocks, formative open space, and streetscaping. Green architecture, wind and tidal energy are extensively recommended.

Illustrations by John Moynahan Urban Design & Planning

John Moynahan Urban Design & Planning