

SMITH ISLAND UNITED

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

July 27, 2024

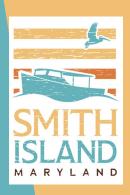


SMITH ISLAND UNITED

MEMBERSHIP MEETING JULY 27,2024

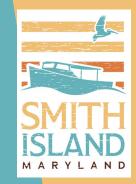


- ▶ Vision Plan Review
- ▶ Verizon
- ► Q&A/Open Discussion





SMITH ISLAND UNITED





Smith Island Vision Plan

A Vision for how Smith Island will look, feel, and thrive in the coming decades.



The nine-month process for creating a vision for Smith Island had five key elements:

- Community Survey
- Steering Committee
- Community Meetings
- Information from Experts
- Vision Plan Development
- Grant: \$90,000



Achieving the Vision

Goal#1: Sustain and grow the watermen's livelihood as the oundation of the economy, tourism, and a traditional way of life

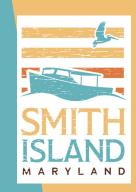


soft-shell crab industry for nearly 100 years. In the past several decades, however, the number. The watermen's history and way of life is one of shellfish, and crab stocks. Authors of Turning the a sustainable future for Smith Island. Tide: Saving the Chesapeoke Bay, Tom Horton watermen in the Boy fell from 14,000 in 1993 to 10,000 by 2003

scation has historically provided watermen with hours. Soft shell crab operations are decreasing

watermen living and warking on the Island the things that sets Smith Island apart. Finding been declining because of better paying ways to strengthen and build on the watermen abe on the mainland, and fluctuating fish, economy and culture will be critical to building

Sustain and grow the watermen's livelihood as the foundation of the economy, tourism, and a traditional way of life.



Dredging Study: \$25,000

Thoroughfare Dredging Project Grant: \$3,800,000.

Tylerton Boat Ramp: \$125,000

Ewell Dock Repairs: \$130,000

RP Dock Replacement: \$562,000



Achieving the Vision

Goal#2: Build a more diverse local economy for Smith Island that leverages the Island's tourism potential.

Since transitioning from a largely agricultural that make Smith Island unique - a quiet, safe opportunities and creating businesses that can villages generate revenue that stays on the island.

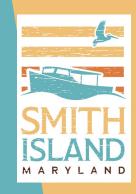
economy based on raising cattle in the 1800s, church-centered community. Smith Islanders the watermen industry has been Smith Island's want to attract tourists and provide the services economic mainstay. In recent decades the and amenities that will encourage them to spend number of people who are making a full-time money on the Island, while maintaining Smith living on the water is declining in the Chesapeake Island's current "working watermen" culture. Bay region. As part of this regional trend, more It is also important to create year-round job people have been leaving Smith Island to pursue opportunities that are not dependent on tourism other employment opportunities. Strengthening and provide families with more steady income. the Island's overall local economy will require This idea is explored under Goal #5 - Grow diversifying seasonal and year-round job the year-round population of the Smith Island

Increasing visitors to the Island and providing more services and attractions to increase the length of their stays seems like an obvious answer. Many natural, historical and cultural aspects of the island draw visitors during the warmer months, for the day or the week, for getting away or for hunting and fishing. Various businesses have emerged over time as part of the tourism economy such as restaurants, short-term house rentals, and the Smith Island Bakery, However, Smith Islanders have made it clear that they are concerned about becoming a tourism-centered island where outsiders have a negative impact on the values and culture

The Challenge of an Island



Build a more diverse local economy for Smith Island that leverages the Island's tourism potential.



Cultural Center Remodel: \$150,000

Branding Smith Island: \$15,000

Forever Maryland Clean Up Grants \$ 7000

Smith Island Park Improvements: \$5000

Community Park and Overlook: \$170,000



Achieving the Vision

Goal#3: Develop and maintain infrastructure that is resilient, supports the local economy, and increases the quality of life.

The term "infrastructure" here refers to the. The condition of each of these infrastructure basic services to a community. Traditionally, these include roads, storm drainage, water supply systems, and wastewater systems, which are typically developed and maintained with public funds (see sidebar). In addition to these traditional systems, communications infrastructure like towers, dishes and cables, and energy infrastructure are part of this discussion. Another infrastructure element addressed under this Goal, one that is unique to waterfront communities, is shoreline and

engineered systems used to provide the most elements on Smith Island is described briefly

The Challenge of Infrastructu

- Water is supplied from wells maintained by local cooperatives in each village.
- . Electricity is provided by ASN Electric Cooperative based in Virginia through underwater and above-water transmission lines, with emergency diesel generators on the island serving as backup.
- . The County maintains two sewage treatment plants one in Tylerton and one or the road between Ewell and Rhades Point.
- . Version provides Internet and cell service. Internet is limited to a certain number of households because of limited broadband capacity with the existing equipment

1. Shoreline Protection

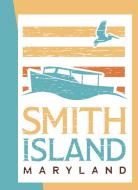
The configuration of smaller islands that make up Smith Island creates a network of channels and currents that have shaped how residents connect with the water. Crab shartles, piers, docks, moorings and other marine features were all established based on where watermen part of a larger system of shorelines, points,

habitat, and increased flooding of roads and inundation of other public and private property In discussions with the Steering Committee and members of the community, shoreline protection consistently rose to the highest priority level for infocutructure investment

To date, Tylerton has taken the most aggr could find shelter, safely dock, and handle their steps toward shoreline protection through catch. These channels and work areas are a combination of bulkhead installation and shareline hardening with riprop. Evell and and barriers that experience erasion either. Rhodes Point also have similar installations, but slowly over time or quickly during large storms. not nearly at the same scale. Moving forward. Even small changes to this network can after the next major shoreline protection project conditions in traditional watermen work areas. Involves the Martin National Wildlife Refuge to the point where they would no longer be located northeast of the inhabited portion of the Viable. Increased erasion also leads to loss of Island. The Hurricane Sandy Resiliency project valuable and protective manhland, loss of crab will use a combination of headland control

Smith Island Vision Plan. 14

Develop and maintain infrastructure that is resilient, supports the local economy, and increases the quality of life ...



RP Shoreline Stabilization: \$4,472,000

Drainage Study/Improvements: \$400,000

RP Jetty: \$10,690,000

Martin Wildlife Shoreline: \$8,400,000

Elevate Roadways 12 inches: \$1,871,000

Sewer Plant Improvements: \$12,200,000



Achieving the Vision

Goal#4: Develop and maintain a reliable and sustainable transportation system that meets the needs of residents and

eveloping and maintaining robust the mainland is also critical for tourists. Most residents and for the Island's economic health, island. in terms of supporting the tourism industry.

life and the success of local businesses. For Smith Island, but it can be challenging for them the mainland to purchase them. Reliable and their fish and shellfish to markets beword Smith affordable transportation back and forth from Island

transportation to and from Smith Island, and tourists that visit the island do not use their own between the Island's three communities, is boats and rely on terry or charter transport to critical for the wellbeing of Smith Island's provide access to all that there is to see on the

Once on the Island, transportation is generally Going back and forth between Smith Island and adequate for residents. Visitors to the island the mainland is critical for residents' quality of can easily navigate within each community on the residents, access to graceries, household to move from one village to another. Business supplies, healthcare, and other services owners rely on frequent boat transportation to depend on water transport, whether goods and bring needed supplies to support their outtomers services come to the island or they travel to and watermen require boat transportation to get

www.visitemithialand.com as leaving Cristield at 12:30 and 5:00 pm, returning from Tylerton the weatern shore for daily or overnight trips at 7:00 am and 3:30 pm and witiming from Ewell at 4:00 and 5:00 pm. The evening schedule tends to vary depending on the number of passengers seeking transport. During the Fall, Winter and early Spring months, the schedule is more limited. A roundtrip boat trip costs approximately \$60 in fuel. With other passengers (at \$20/one-way trip) to make the trip profitable. It was noted that the boat crews also earn additional revenue by charging for baggage, kayaks, bikes and other equipment

boat providing regular service to the mainland. This service is provided exclusively for school age Three passenger ferries provide shuffle children and the service does have permission to services and, between the three boots, a transport aland residents if necessary. Tourists ferry is scheduled to perform two round-trip are not allowed to use the school boat for

cruise boats that leave from Cristeld and from



Develop and maintain a reliable and sustainable transportation system that meets the needs of residents and increases tourist opportunities

Two Captains License Courses: \$12,000

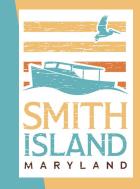
Transportation Study 2017: \$50,000

Transportation Study 2024: \$50,000

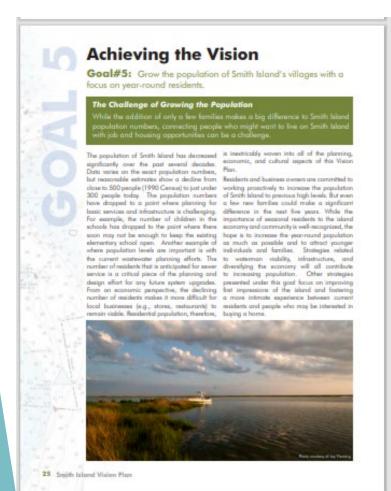
Tylerton Boat Ramp: \$125,000

Ewell Dock Repairs: \$130,000

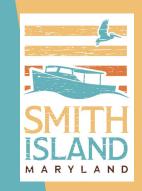
RP Dock Replacement: \$562,000







Grow the population of Smith Island's villages with a focus on year-round residents



All of the grants collectively:
future investment, growth and overall
improvement of the island=
Increase in home buyers/residents

Dental Clinic: \$100,500
Rural Housing Preservation Grant \$50,000
Facade Improvement Grant: \$75,000
Community Center Renovations: \$120,000



AND THE GRAND TOTAL SO FAR....



Projects Since Vision Plan Adoption (2015-2024) \$43,569,500.00

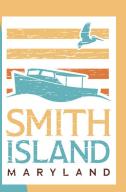
- . Smith Island Vision Plan \$90,000
- . Dredging Study \$25,000
- Rhodes Point Shoreline Stabilization \$4,472,000
- . Drainage Improvements \$350,000
- Rhodes Point Dock Replacement \$562,000
- · Façade Improvement Programs \$75,000
- Community Park Overlook & Canopy \$170,000
- . Community Center Renovations \$120,000
- . Rhodes Point jetty project \$10,690,000
- . Thoroughfare Dredging \$3,800,000
- . Martin Wildlife Shoreline \$8,400,000
- · Elevate roadways 12 inches \$1,871,000

- Smith Island Drainage Study \$50,000
- Tylerton Breakwater \$100,000
- Tylerton Boat Ramp \$125,000
- Ewell Dock emergency repairs \$130,000
- . Forever Maryland Cleanup Grants \$7,000
- Smith Island Park Improvements \$5,000
- Two Captains License Courses \$12,000
- Dental Clinic \$100,500
- Cultural Center Remodel \$150,000
- Sewer Plant Improvements \$12,200,000
- Rural Housing Preservation Grant \$50,000
- Branding Smith Island \$15,000



EMaryland

BUT WE'RE NOT DONE YET....



- ▶ Verizon Grant
- ► Façade Grants
- ► Tourism and Economic Grant
- ► Ferry Transportation Grant
- ► Goal 2 Committee: Social Media/Toursim Development

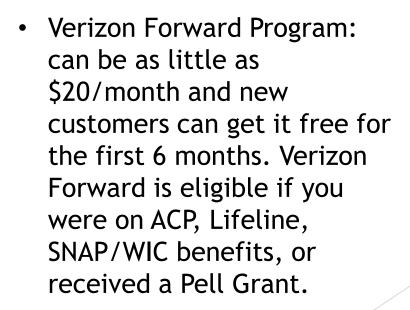


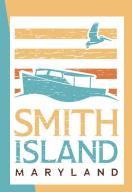
VERIZON

Plan & savings details

5G Home	5G Home Plus
2-year price guarantee	3-year price guarantee
Starts at \$35/month when combined with select Verizon 5G mobile plans ² and Auto Pay ³	Starts at \$45/month when combined with select Verizon 5G mobile plans ² and Auto Pay ³
Starts at \$45/month when combined with other mobile plans and Auto Pay ³	Starts at \$55/month when combined with other mobile plans and Auto Pay ³
\$50/month with Auto Pay only	\$70/month with Auto pay only

• Existing customers: can get service for \$35/month.





Want to learn more about 5G and network connectivity? Check out



OPEN DISCUSSION

- ► Q&A
- ► General Comments
- ► Closing Remarks
 - ► Website/Social Media- Be careful what you post
 - ► Issues/Ideas: See your SI Representative
 - ► Next Meeting



