



Dear Community,

The Greater Crisfield Action Coalition continues to receive wonderful support and much positive feedback, encouraging us to continue our work on behalf of the citizens, business owners, and property owners of Crisfield. Below is what others are saying about our mission

and our five year Action Plan. We will provide an explanation of each of the five components of the plan in a series of articles in the County Times in the coming weeks to help you to be better informed about our goals.

Board Members:

- Charlotte Scott, President ● Paul Register, Vice President ● Darlene Taylor, Secretary
- Jay Tawes, Treasurer ● Keith Campbell, Director of Workforce Development
- Angenette Stewart ● Isabelle Register

www.GreaterCrisfieldMD.org



Owner at Harbour Lights:

"Thanks for including me with this information. This is an extremely ambitious, well thought out and presented plan. I am looking forward to seeing it take shape over the next several months and years. Crisfield owes you and this board a huge debt of gratitude, especially if it materializes as planned."

Local businessman regarding the Action Plan:

"This is nice to see. Been needing an action plan for a long time."

Owner at Harbour Lights:

"It was refreshing to see that you did this plan yourselves with community support."

State official:

"I read the plan, and I like it. I like how comprehensive it is."

Local resident:

"Their (GCAC's) plan is based on common sense, realistic and obtainable goals for everyone involved and has the residents' best interest at heart. In this plan is a common sense layout based upon the knowledge of experienced people who have the town, its residents and business owners as their core objective.

I ask that our City Council and Mayor take great consideration that we are all in this together and it's ultimately your decision to join hands with a group that provides the best opportunities for itself, its residents and our future residents."

Community leader:

"I couldn't get over Mark saying the plan was "too big... If you're gonna come in with a plan, don't make it a small one."

Retired State Community Development Professional:

"My first impression is that this is a very complete and ambitious plan. Whoever wrote this did a nice job in communicating and laying out an action plan."

Property owner:

"If this plan, or even a portion of it comes to fruition, it could have an enormous positive impact on the economic value of our property and on the quality of life in Crisfield."

State official:

"WOW!! That is some editorial [letter to editor from Paul Regester]. I have been hearing about what is going on, and it is a shame. I hope this all gets turned around sooner rather than later."

Owens property here and has family here:

"Keep up the fight!"

Businessman from Somerset County and owner at Harbour Lights:

"Very interesting....I thought I heard it was a tie vote. Which members aren't supporting this? I appreciate your effort in trying to make Crisfield a better place for all of us."

Has a very successful business in DE and owns a condo here:

"Sorry to read the account of the Crisfield council meeting."

Has family roots in Crisfield:

"Thank you. Our war is not of earth but of principalities that have controlled Somerset way too long. Maybe back to slavery or before we were here. The battle is God's, and He will be victorious. Hang tough."

Community leader:

"I saw Paul's letter, and it was great. The failure of the Council to endorse GCAC is not only sad, but it reflects poorly on the Crisfield Government. Hang in there!"

Community leader:

"I did read that letter [by Darlene Taylor] and hopefully we will take a picture of that downtown instead of a drawing!"

Property and business owner in area:

"Great article, and we loved the rendering."

Frequent visitor:

"We noticed improved service in restaurants after the GCAC training. Keep it up!"

Owns property here and has family here:

"I hope that there will be fruitful meetings now between GCAC and City Council, and I hope I am able to come home for the meeting where Council finally agrees to accept the help that this exceptional group of people is eager to provide. I guess I'm not giving up hope just yet."

Community leader:

"I do hope and pray that the work session on the action plan happens. One thing that struck me at last night's meeting was that the audience in support of your organization was comprised of the most diverse group of people I have ever seen in Crisfield. There were both white and black folks from the upper end of the socio-economic spectrum, the same for working folks and the same for those seeking jobs and training. That was impressive!"

State leader:

"Keep the faith!"

Retired local businessman:

"If that meeting [August 24th] didn't change the council's mind, I don't know what it would take... One of the council had told me most people were against this. Where were they?"

Community leader:

"For city council members to say they didn't hear about GCAC was a "self indictment" with 80-100 people standing there who did know about it..."

Successful businessman to Mayor Lawson:

"You need growth, and you've got as talented a group of people as you have in this town, and you're pushing them away... They can help you get the growth!"

Local business woman:

"Thank you for caring for our town and having a vision. I admire all of you."

Supporter:

"I'm grateful for the magnificent job and your efforts put forth in the betterment of Crisfield. Keep up the good work."

Community leader:

"I found it 'remarkable' the poor quality of the reasons given for not supporting GCAC's mission."

Retired local leader:

"I read the plan off Facebook. Looks great and I truly hope it will be achieved."

Supporter and friend and Crisfield visitor:

"Wow! There has to be some divine help with this project. It seems all-inclusive, comprehensive, and a labor of faith. Kudos to you and your team."

Former resident, property owner:

"I grew up here in Crisfield, moving away in 1968, but I keep a vacation house here and come back once a month or so. I really love this town and have hated to see how it has gone down since I was a kid, and I am very happy to see the work that your group is doing. I will continue to give small amounts as I am able to support your efforts."

Retired teacher and supporter from Princess Anne:

"Best of luck. I will keep you and Crisfield in prayer."

CHS graduate and corporate analyst in metropolitan area:

"Wow, is that resistance I'm reading...? It seems like some folks don't want change. You guys may need some media attention, so that the city council can explain itself in front of everyone. I've been talking Crisfield up to some folks (possible donors). Trying to get them to come down and take a look. I'll get back to you once I get a feel about what they will do."

CHS graduate and leader in sales:

"What can I do to help? I would love to support my community. God is blessing me and my Family more and more . You can call on me anytime."

Property owner:

" I have been following the GCAC, and I am in support of what you are trying to do. I also believe Crisfield has great potential and that is why I initially invested a lot in property. However, I am convinced it is virtually impossible to improve our situation as long as the unfair property taxes are forced upon those who are actually paying taxes. Crisfield has to enlarge its tax base to survive, and they will never do it with these ridiculous taxes. I am sure you have had the same responses I've have when talking with potential home buyers. The statement is always that the taxes are higher than they are paying in Baltimore, New York, etc etc.

It seems the only way to get away from this unfair tax situation is to either suspend the Crisfield City Charter or do what is necessary to not pay Somerset County taxes. Since the County does little or nothing for these monies, it would not hurt us. Even though I really enjoy the view and the fishing, I have a hard time justifying this kind of cost. Anyway, keep up the good work, and I hope things do change for the better."

Municipal leader in the region:

"I supported whatever would help my town... This [GCAC] seems like a no-brainer."

Local business owner:

"I could not comprehend why a council representing the city they themselves live in would turn down free help from a group of professional business men and women who are offering their services free of charge. These are professionals who have proven over the years of their careers that they can get successful results. Wasn't it Moses who asked Joshua and Caleb to hold up his arms in battle? When his arms were raised, they won; when they were lowered, they lost. Right now I see Crisfield with its arms down. Vision [imagine] Crisfield as Moses, the City Council on one side and the GCAC on the other side for a business plan of triumph. The Coalition is not asking you for funds; citizens and businesses are freely giving of their time, talents and monies to move forward."

Resident and businessman:

"I can't for the life of me understand why they would not accept help from GCAC. Crisfield has had study after study... Isn't it time for some action?!"

Retired local businessman:

"I want to see Crisfield up and running."