



Public Safety
Background Report



Table of Contents

Introduction.....	5
Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services	5
Police Department.....	6
Sheriff’s Office.....	10
Detention Facilities	10
Office of Emergency Management.....	13
Challenges, Conclusion, and Future Needs.....	16

Introduction

A safe community provides for better neighborhoods, economic development, and an overall quality of life that benefits all of its residents. Anne Arundel County is fortunate to be served by excellent public safety services that include fire protection and emergency medical response; police protection and crime prevention; advancement of the criminal justice system through the Sheriff's office and detention; and emergency management.

Inclusion of public safety services in the County's comprehensive plan is important because future development patterns may impact the demand on these services as well as the County's ability to provide them. This report outlines the existing public safety services and facilities as well as existing and future needs that have been identified.

The 2009 General Development Plan (GDP) has a goal to "provide a high level of police protection, fire protection, emergency response, and disaster relief services to all citizens". This goal is being achieved through implementation of action items such as adding patrol posts, recruiting and retaining highly qualified professionals, providing for expansions and relocation of facilities and creating an additional police district. Further detail regarding the status of these recommendations can be found in the 2009 GDP Implementation Report located at www.aacounty.org/Plan2040.

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Anne Arundel County Fire Department's mission is to stand ready as an all-hazards organization to assure the safety of its communities. The Department responds to calls for fires, medical and other emergencies as well as promotes fire prevention strategies and life safety programs. In addition, the Fire Department enforces fire code compliance to ensure that buildings are safe.

The County's Fire Department is one of the largest combination fire departments in the nation, operating out of 31 fire stations with 871 career firefighters, 23 civilian fire communications operators, 3 civilian fire inspector, 517 certified volunteer firefighters and 28 civilian support personnel. All personnel, career and volunteer, are certified in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association standards and have, at a minimum, Emergency Medical Technician medical certification. The Department currently has over 280 Advance Life Support providers. The Department is functionally organized into three bureaus, Operations, Logistics and Planning.

The Operation's Bureau is the largest Bureau and is responsible for staffing and responding to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and fire incidents from each of the 31 fire stations located throughout the County. In addition, Special Tactical Teams, such as Hazardous Material Response, Marine Operations and Collapse/Confined Space Rescue are assigned to various fire stations based on the proximity to the rest of the County.

According to recent data on calls for service, the Bureau responded to nearly 79,750 calls for service in the calendar year 2017. Eighty-four percent of these calls were for emergency medical service and 16 percent were for fire, rescue and special operations service.

The Logistics Bureau provides operation's support to the Department through the procurement and maintenance of the Department's apparatus fleet and equipment. The Bureau also includes the Training Division which is responsible for providing firefighting and specialized rescue training, as well as

emergency medical training, to both the career and volunteer work forces. The bureau also provides emergency medical supervision and quality assurance through Emergency Medical Supervisors who ensure compliance with State-established medical protocols during medical incidents. In addition, the bureau works to prevent and reduce accidents, injuries and occupational illnesses while striving to maintain safe and healthful working conditions by establishing operating practices and procedures designed to prevent injury, and illnesses that comply with all Federal, State and Local Laws, as well as, all applicable consensus standards.

The Planning Bureau includes the Fire Marshal Office and the Information Management Division (IMD). The functions of Code Enforcement and Fire Investigation are located in the Fire Marshal Office. The Code Enforcement Section enforces the County's Fire Code in existing and newly constructed buildings. The Fire Investigation Section investigates and determines the cause and origin of all fires and explosions in the County through the use of trained firefighting personnel who are also certified by the Maryland Police Training Commission as law enforcement officers. IMD provides emergency 9-1-1 dispatch services to the County, as well as the City of Annapolis, through the use of a Computer Aided Dispatch system as well as an 800 MHz radio system. In addition, IMD compiles statistics and produces maps for use during emergency medical responses. The Bureau also administers the Department budget, as well as State and Federal grant monies.

The 31 fire stations currently operating in the County and the fire company areas are shown in Figure 1. Twenty-one stations are County-owned and eleven stations are owned by a volunteer fire company. Since the 2009 GDP was approved, the West Annapolis Fire Station and the Fire Burn Building have been renovated and a new Marley Fire Station opened in 2012. The Galesville (scheduled to be replaced with a County-owned fire station in 2019) and Riveria Beach Volunteer fire departments are the oldest and have been in operation since 1930. The newest station, the Lake Shore Fire Station opened in July 2018. Two County-owned stations, Harmans Dorsey and South Glen Burnie are being renovated in 2018.

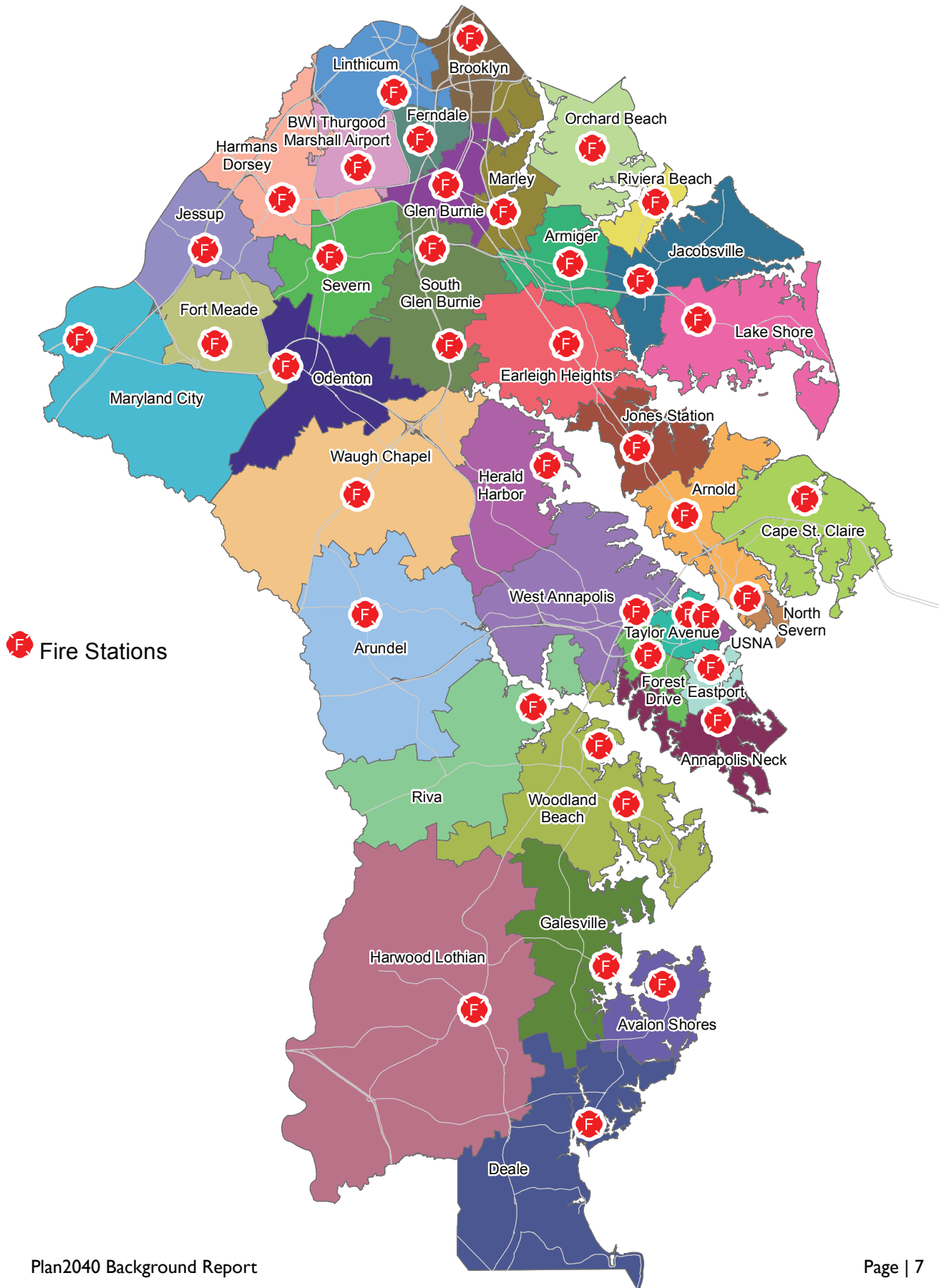
Police Department

Anne Arundel County's Police Department mission is to protect life and property from the threat of criminal activity, respond to calls for service from victims of crime, enforce criminal and traffic laws, promote crime prevention strategies, assure that police officers are well trained and to maintain strong community-police relations.

To carry out its mission, the Police Department employs 696 sworn officers and 225 civilians. The Department is authorized to employ 745 sworn and 249 civilians. In addition, there are 131 school crossing guards (180 authorized) who man the 316 school crossings both morning and afternoon (632 daily assignments) during the school year. There are 135 Reserve Officers (volunteers) and an additional 68 VIPS (Volunteers in Police Support) There are 42 other part-time positions, some funded through grants, assigned to other special needs through the Department such as Crime Analysis and the Crime Laboratory. The Police Department is divided into two main commands: Administration and Operations.

Administration Command houses the Fiscal Management Section (that includes the Strategic Planning Unit) and the Bureau of Administration which provides support and technical services to the Department including the Police Academy, Animal Control, Personnel / Property Management section,

Figure 1: Fire Station and Fire Company Areas



and the Central Records, Communications and Technology sections. The Strategic Planning Unit is responsible for identifying present and future staffing needs as well as capital improvement and facility needs. The “Strategic Plan” of the Anne Arundel County Police Department is continually updated, modified, negotiated, prioritized and reprioritized, as a result of real time developments, including but not limited to:

- economic, social, environmental crises;
- priorities of the County Executive and County Council;
- internal emergencies within the Police Department involving staffing, materials, equipment, infrastructure, either from direct needs or from legal mandates placed on the Department.

The Operations Command oversees the Bureau of Operations and Investigations and the Bureau of Patrol.

- The Bureau of Operations and Investigations is responsible for the direction and control of the Special Operations Division and Criminal Investigation Division.
- The Bureau of Patrol provides direct police services through patrol and district-level investigative and specialized functions through the Community Relations Division, the Crime Analysis Section and the police districts.

The Department’s response area is currently divided into four geographic districts as shown in Figure 2. The four districts stations are strategically located to provide the greatest access to serve the area and provide for community-oriented policing. The district stations provide administrative support to patrol beats within the district (see Figure 2) and are often used by the communities for meetings.

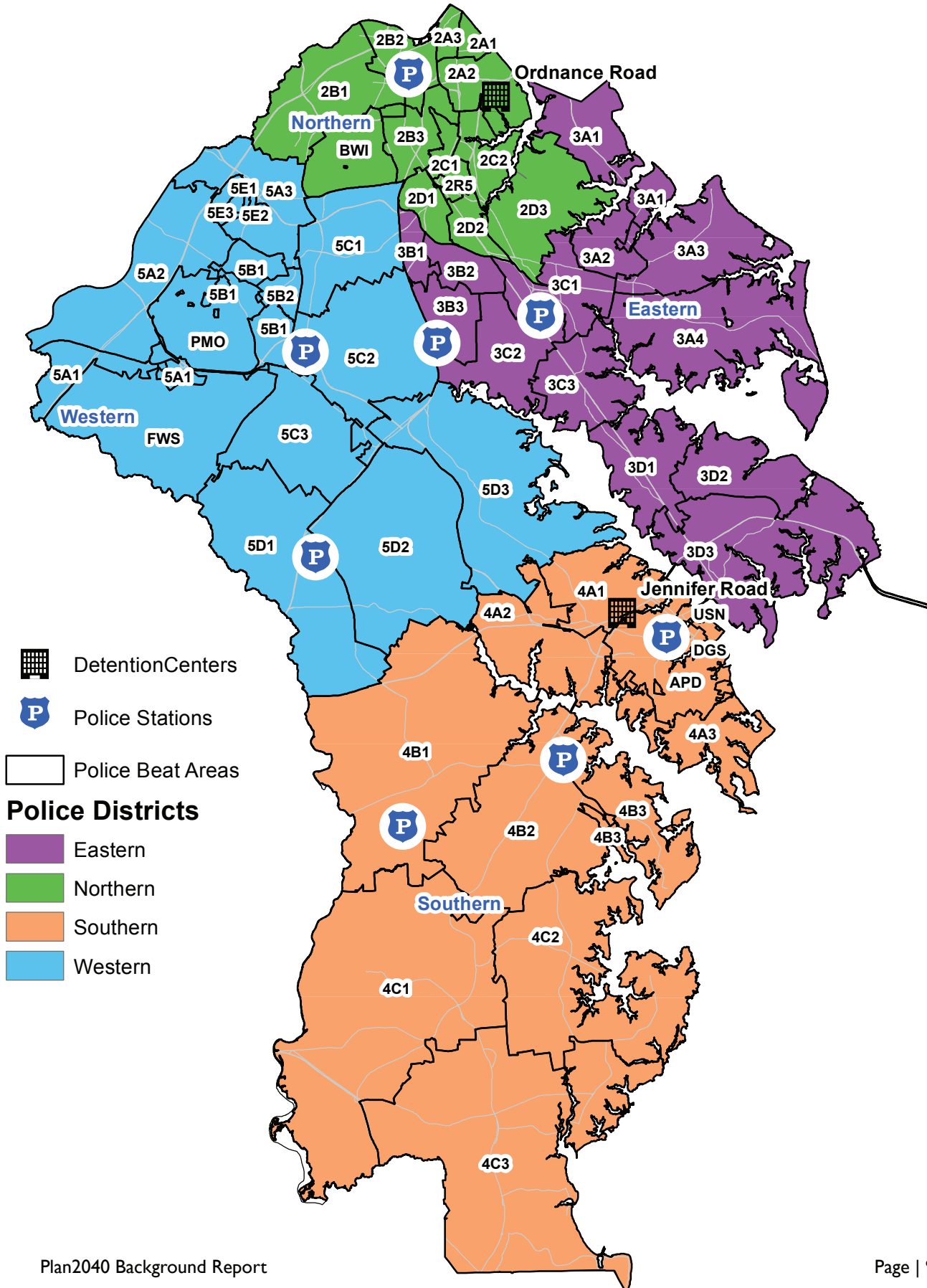
Each patrol district is responsible for the initial response to calls for service within their area. The districts have developed positive partnerships with the communities and continue to enhance these relationships and create new ones. The districts also continue to have success in relationship building through the Police and Community Together (P.A.C.T.) unit. The district’s Tactical Patrol Units (TPU), Tactical Narcotics Teams (TNT) and many other operations, continue to help reduce crime within Anne Arundel County.



The Eastern District Police Station in Pasadena, completed in 2015.

Since the approval of the 2009 General Development Plan, the Police Headquarters has been renovated and the Eastern District Police Station has been replaced. In addition, the Criminal Investigation Division will be relocated from Crownsville to an existing building in Millersville, approximately September 2018.

Figure 2: Police Station and Detention Center Locations



Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's Office is comprised of three bureaus: Administration, Operations and Security. The Administration Bureau is overseen by the Chief Deputy and houses the Sheriff's Administrative staff including Human Resources, Finance and Training. The Operations Bureau is supervised by a Sheriff's Captain who is responsible for the Warrant Teams, Civil Process Unit, Document Control Unit, Domestic Violence Unit, Communications Center, and K-9 Unit. The Security Bureau is supervised by a Sheriff's Captain who is responsible for the Transport and Detention Unit and the Security Teams.

The mission of the Sheriff's Office is to:

1. to serve the citizens of Anne Arundel County and advance the criminal justice system and the public safety of Anne Arundel County by providing professional and uncompromising service through teamwork and a commitment to excellence.
2. to preserve and maintain the safety and dignity of the courts and of all individuals through fair and impartial performance of duty.
3. to achieve professionalism in every facet of our operations and to maintain the highest level of personal integrity.
4. to cooperate with and assist other law enforcement agencies in carrying out their duties and to enforce the laws of Anne Arundel County and the State of Maryland.
5. to fulfill the duties of the Office of the Sheriff in a dignified manner so as to inspire the confidence of the public and to strive consistently to advance the quality of life in Anne Arundel County.

Detention Facilities

The mission of Anne Arundel County Department of Detention Facilities (AACDDF) is to provide for public safety through the confinement of pretrial detainees and certain convicted offenders in safe and secure facilities, and by offering alternatives to incarceration, administer programs that maintain and improve the health, education levels and work skills of convicted offenders in order to return them to the community in better condition than when they entered their terms of confinement, administer mental health services that provide optimal care, and be a national leader in protecting the public from crime and victimization.

Detention Facilities (see Figure 2) serves the citizens of Anne Arundel County by professionally managing safe and secure correctional facilities and offering programs and services to pretrial and convicted individuals which support successful re-entry to the community. The vision for the Department is that Anne Arundel County will be the safest large jurisdiction in Maryland; that the citizens will be protected from criminals, fires, medical emergencies and disasters of all types, both natural and man-made; that the citizens will be supported if they are victims of crime, emergencies or disasters; and that the Department will assist other jurisdictions in their efforts to improve public safety.

The Department of Detention Facilities accomplishes its mission through:

6. Training of staff in current correctional philosophy and techniques,
7. Promulgation of policies reflecting recognized standards in the management of staff and offender population,

8. Careful adherence to security principles,
9. Maintaining clean, safe facilities,
10. Providing medical and mental health care services, and
11. Offering services to inmates to aid in their re-entry to the community.

Toward this end, the Department has set the following goals:

1. Operate constitutional and efficient facilities that comply with Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards,
2. Operate safe and secure facilities that ensure public, staff, and inmate safety,
3. Use new technologies that maximize efficiency and reduce operating costs,
4. Provide the resources necessary to ensure effective recruitment, training, performance, and development of staff,
5. Partner with the criminal justice system to develop initiatives which control inmate population growth by ensuring efficient case processing and making available effective alternatives to incarceration, and
6. Establish and maintain partnerships with other governmental and community agencies and with the private sector to provide services which support offenders' successful re-entry to the community.

Specialized units

The Department has five specialized units – Drug control unit, honor/color guard unit, security threat group, special operations response team, and the transportation unit.

The use of illicit drugs and the improper use of prescribed medicine by inmates presents a serious threat to the safety and security of the Department's correctional institutions, programs and processes. The importation, trafficking and use of drugs threaten the correctional work and program environment for staff and inmates. Drug testing of inmates is an integral part of an effective drug interdiction strategy.

The individuals selected for the Enzyme Multiplied Immunoassay Technique or EMIT Drug Control Officer is a specialized assignment requiring specialized training to administer urine tests that detect drug use among/within the inmate population.

The Honor Guard serves as ambassadors to the public, presenting a positive image of their service and assisting with the recruiting effort. The Color Guard is a detail consisting of five or six individuals whose purpose is to guard and carry/post the National, State, County and Department flags at formal functions.

The Anne Arundel Department of Detention Facilities maintains a Security Threat Group (STG) Unit to promote security and control in both facilities and to ensure public safety. A Security Threat Group is comprised of three or more individuals who possess in common a distinct goal, symbolism or philosophy; and, who pose a present or potential threat to the safety of staff, inmates or the public; or, who possess identifiable skills or resources to engage in unauthorized activities within the Department, or by a pattern of illegal activity.

The unit is responsible for gathering, interpreting, and disseminating intelligence within the Department to identify security threat groups and make determinations on designating inmates as security risks; serve as an intelligence liaison with other correctional and law enforcement agencies; and maintain a listing of security threat groups and their members, and designated security risks.

The long-term goal of the STG unit is to implement gang prevention, intervention and suppression programming for the targeted offender population in order to take a more proactive, rather than reactive, stance on this issue. It will take good communication and the continued support of all AACDDF employees, a great attitude from those working with these offenders, and a strong sense of teamwork from all involved within the secure facilities, community programs, probation and parole, local law enforcement agencies and community support entities.

The Special Operations Response Team or SORT Team was developed to address the need to respond to high risk situations in the detention facility such as cell extractions, inmate movement or transport, and hostage and/or riot situations. Testing for this specialized team includes a personnel file review, and physical agility test to determine proper candidates for this highly sought after specialization. A SORT member is expected to be a leader amongst their fellow jail staff and a resource for those staff members in regards to officer safety and tactics in the jail.

All SORT members are required to maintain a high level of training and expertise, and attend specific training programs. SORT members are duly trained throughout the year in special operation principles to include mock riots, facility evacuations, emergency procedures, dealing with high risk inmates, cell placements and extractions. SORT members are duly trained in specialized equipment, including use of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC), riot batons and less-lethal specialty weapons.

The Department's Transportation Unit is a specialized unit responsible for statewide inmate transportation. The Transportation Unit has a fleet of 27 vehicles and on a yearly basis securely transports, without incident, more than 15,000 inmates totaling 140,000 miles. These transports include but are not limited to: transfers to and from other correctional facilities, court appearances, compassionate leave, administrative details, medical appointments, alternative sentencing placements and mental health evaluations.

Facilities

Jennifer Road Detention Center: The Jennifer Road Detention Center (JRDC) is the County's maximum security intake and pretrial detention facility. Its population consists primarily of persons arrested and awaiting trial in Anne Arundel County who do not make their bail and who require special housing for medical, mental health or behavioral reasons. The JRDC has a total rated capacity of 635.

Ordnance Road Correctional Center: The Ordnance Road Correctional Center (ORCC) is the Department of Detention Facilities' medium security detention facility for men and women who have been convicted and sentenced to terms up to 18 months. The ORCC is the County's medium security facility for men and women who have been convicted and sentenced to terms up to 18 months. It also holds men and women who are awaiting trial. ORCC offers extensive programming designed to prepare inmates for successful re-entry to the community after they have completed their sentence. The total rated capacity of the Ordnance Road Correctional Center is 540.

Office of Emergency Management

The Office of Emergency Management's (OEM) primary responsibility is for the overall coordination of information and resources during man-made or natural disasters. The Office coordinates with local, State, Federal, and non-governmental partners to accomplish nine strategic goals to improve the County's ability to prevent, protect, respond, recover, and mitigate:

- **Protection and Prevention:** Enhance information sharing among County departments and agencies and the general public.
- **Response:** Strengthen and refine Anne Arundel County's capabilities to respond and coordinate government operations during emergency events.
- **Recovery:** Expand the County's ability to recover from both large-scale and small-scale emergency events.
- **Mitigation:** Mitigate against accidental or deliberate man-made or natural hazards.
- **Planning:** Enhance a strategic planning process that integrates planning, training, exercises, and evaluation to ensure plans are coordinated with appropriate departments, stakeholders, and contiguous jurisdictions.
- **Training and Exercise:** Continue to maintain a formal training and exercise program that is driven by plans, policies and procedures, and corrective actions to ensure maximum efficiency in prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.
- **Resiliency:** Strengthen infrastructure and empower the County to be resilient by creating a culture of preparedness through fostering partnerships to preserve the economy, environment, future growth, and quality of life before, during, and after emergencies.
- **Resource Management:** Implement and maintain a County-wide resource management system in order to effectively respond to and recover from emergencies.
- **Data and Technology:** Obtain and secure data to efficiently present information to improve interoperability, situational awareness, and decision making.

The nine strategic goals mentioned above are accomplished by the development and implementation of the following plans:

- **Emergency Management Strategic Plan:** The Strategic Plan outlines a single, common preparedness vision and strategy designed to accomplish measurable results, ensure accountability, and assist County efforts in directing programmatic efforts and establish funding priorities. This planning effort also ensures that limited resources are properly allocated, and that all County employees with a role in emergency management functions have a clear, common roadmap towards the County's preparedness goals. The Strategic Plan is updated on an annual basis.
- **Emergency Operations Plan:** All-hazards approach to respond to man-made and natural disasters to protect life, property, and environment.
- **Evacuation Plan:** This plan establishes a coordinated strategy for the decision making and implementation of shelter-in-place and evacuation protective actions.

- **Extreme Temperature Plan:** This plan is a coordinated approach to providing cooling and warming relief to vulnerable populations in Anne Arundel County during extreme temperature situations.
- **Fixed Nuclear Facility Emergency Response Plan:** This plan establishes a coordinated response in the event an emergency occurs at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant or Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station.
- **Hazard Mitigation Plan:** The Office is currently updating the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Plan. FEMA requires the County to have a current Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County to remain eligible for certain kinds of federal aid and grants following natural disasters. The plan includes descriptions of the types of natural hazards that can affect the County, their potential effects, and the actions and projects the County is considering to reduce damages.
- **Long-Term Recovery Plan:** This plan is an all-hazard approach to recovery from catastrophic incidents. The plan is designed to guide recovery actions that result in resilient, safe, physically accessible, sustainable, and economically strong communities.
- **Mass Care Sheltering Plan:** This plan is designed to establish temporary dwellings and basic services for Anne Arundel County residents and visitors that have been displaced during a disaster or emergency.
- **Mitigation Plan:** This plan is designed to focus on a County-wide approach to disaster damage reduction to focus on a process to attain a sustainable future for the community.

Shelters

The Office of Emergency Management coordinates with Anne Arundel County Public Schools to utilize the following high schools as shelters:

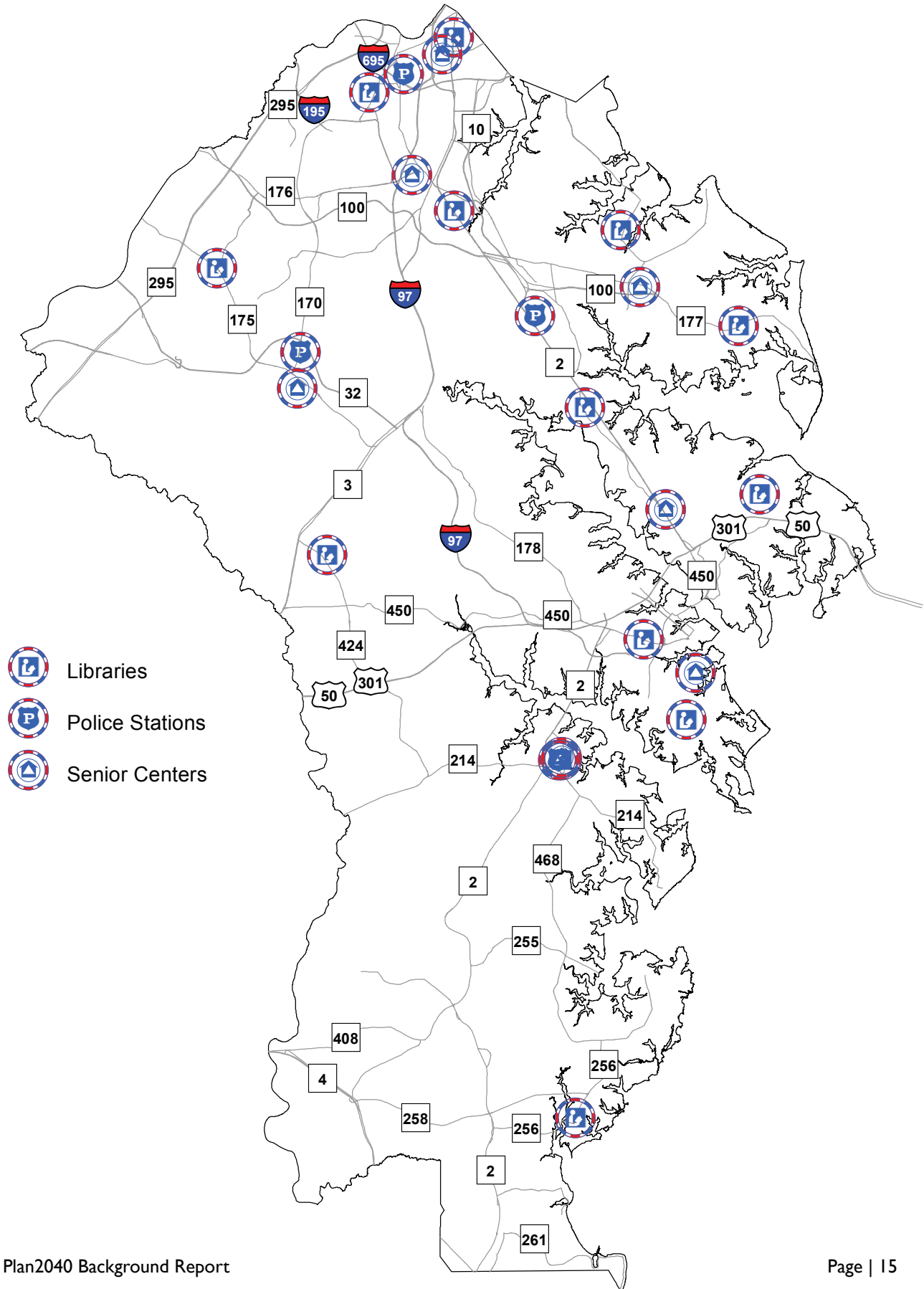
- Annapolis High School - 2700 Riva Road, Annapolis
- Meade High School - 1100 Clark Road, Ft Meade
- Northeast High School – 1121 Duvall Highway, Pasadena
- Severna Park High School - 60 Robinson Road, Severna Park
- Southern High School - 4400 Solomons Island Road, Harwood

The County owns three 350kW generators to serve as backup generators. Of the five approved shelters, only Annapolis and Severna Park have transfer switches and wiring complete to provide a backup generator if power fails. Currently, there are three elementary schools wired for emergency generators; however, they are not practical to utilize due to the smaller lavatory facilities. Once the electrical system is fixed, Northeast High School will be approved as a shelter. The Crofton High School, which is anticipated to open in 2020, is projected to be added as a primary shelter.

Warming/Cooling Centers

The Office of Emergency Management coordinates with Police Department, Department of Aging and Disabilities, Office of Transportation, Central Services, and Libraries to provide warming and

Figure 3: Warming/Cooling Centers



cooling centers during extreme temperatures. Figure 3 identifies the warming and cooling centers within the County. For the most up-to-date information on warming/cooling centers in the County, visit the County's website at <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/office-of-emergency-management/emergency-information/before/shelters.html>

Of the 24 locations to serve as warming and cooling centers, only the four Police Stations include backup generators. This could be problematic if the County experiences a long duration of extreme temperatures with power outages and Anne Arundel County Public Schools are in session.

Specific to the Warming/Cooling Centers, below is the 'Mass Care Shelters' section of the draft Extreme Temperature Plan which explains the transition of Warming/Cooling Centers to Mass Care Shelters if events escalate:

Mass Care Shelters differ from cooling and warming centers due to their extended nature, as opposed to a temporary respite from extreme temperatures. Large-scale power outages or water shortages may result in larger numbers of citizens seeking relief than can be supported by cooling or warming centers, which would warrant consideration for opening a Mass Care Shelter. This will be a joint decision involving the County Executive's Office and the OEM Director. If the decision is made to open a Mass Care Shelter, the Anne Arundel County Mass Care Sheltering Plan will be activated and subsequently direct all notifications and operational issues, per the Anne Arundel County Emergency Operations Plan, Emergency Support Function 6. If Mass Care Shelters are opened, consideration should be given to closing some or all cooling or warming centers to reduce staffing requirements and provide focused assistance and oversight. The decision to consolidate operations will also be a joint decision involving the County Executive's Office and the OEM Director.

Challenges, Conclusion, and Future Needs

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

The provision of efficient and effective fire and EMS services to all citizens is a significant challenge to Anne Arundel County. Like many local jurisdictions around the country, the County must deal with tight budgets, unfunded mandates, increased training requirements, insurance requirements, and legal issues. The Fire Department must be able to recruit and retain highly qualified professionals during a time when fewer adults are seeking public safety careers and the number of volunteers is declining.

The County's current Fiscal Year 2018 capital program includes funding for several major capital projects related to fire protection. First, construction of a new Galesville fire station will begin in 2018. In addition, funding for replacement stations for the Herald Harbor and Jacobsville fire stations is allocated. Beginning in fiscal year 2020, funding is allocated to use for future fire station renovations, replacements and new fire station construction as appropriate.

In addition to these planned capital projects, the Fire Department is conducting a Fire Station Location Study using funds available in the Fire and Police Project Plan capital project. The study will build upon a recently completed Response Times Study. Combined, these studies include a review of current levels of service and allocation of resources, an analysis of current and projected demand, and an assessment of station locations and response times. The study will analyze alternatives for delivery of services that may include relocation of fire stations, renovations or expansions of facilities, introduce the concept of

sub-stations, and/or redeployment of fire and EMS units. This study will enable the Fire Department to better assess future challenges and determine how to best allocate funds and resources in the future.

In addition to maintaining adequate service levels and response times, the County must also ensure that an adequate water supply is available for fire suppression. Per Article 17 of the County Code, all subdivision and site development plans must pass an adequate public facilities test for fire suppression facilities before the plan can be approved. It must be demonstrated that the public or private water supply system serving the development will be capable of providing adequate fire flow.

Because the Fire Department is a combination fire department, it is dependent on the support of volunteer fire companies, both in terms of volunteer personnel as well as their apparatus assets. The County is able to support the volunteer companies by providing preventive maintenance and repairs, insurance, and fuel to volunteer-owned apparatus as well as some funding for the purchase of new apparatus. However, some of this funding comes from grant sources that may vary from year to year. In addition, because the County does not own all of its fire stations it does not have complete control or flexibility with regard to station relocations.

The Fire Department anticipates that it will need additional personnel to support projected moderate growth within the county. In anticipation of this growth, the Fire Department has been exploring ways to better deploy its workforce in order to maximize service delivery to the citizens and guests of Anne Arundel County. To achieve this, the Department is looking for opportunities to hire more civilian employees for certain jobs in order to free up uniformed personnel for reassignment to other positions in the Department and looking for more efficient service delivery models where appropriate. To this end, the Fire Station Location Study will be critical in determining how the County can best allocate its resources to meet this demand.

Police Department

The Police Department also faces funding availability challenges for current and future staffing and capital improvement needs so that it may effectively deliver law enforcement services to the citizens of and the visitors to Anne Arundel County.

The posts that each patrol officer covers need to be periodically examined to determine if law enforcement services are being effectively delivered. If the workload consistently exceeds the capacity of one officer, posts have to be realigned and/or reduced in size or split. Ultimately, new posts will be established requiring additional officers and ultimately, addition supervisors are needed.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) was contracted in 2016 to complete a comprehensive staffing study of the Anne Arundel County Police Department. The study examined crime, calls for service, and other data that occurred during the 2015 calendar year. Additionally, ride-a-longs with officers and process review were conducted. The report concluded that there is a need for additional staffing, especially sworn officers. The FY19 Budget includes the addition of 20 police officers that will aid in implementation of the IACP study and help meet the anticipated demand.

The current budget also includes a new Police Criminal Investigation Division facility that will consolidate the Forensic Sciences Division, Evidence Collection Unit, and the Property Unit that are currently operating out of multiple trailer units.

In addition, construction of new administration and fitness buildings, site improvements and renovations of the fire arms building and pistol range at the existing Police Academy site in Davidsonville is planned in the current capital budget and program. The project is anticipated to be completed in June 2019.

Also, the current capital budget includes a public safety radio system upgrade to the existing 800MHz radio system, including the replacement or upgrade of existing mobile and handheld radios that are not industry standard compatible. This project will also improve coverage through the installation of additional towers, and include the purchase of additional radios.

The official County budget only reflects the projects that are within the 6-year budget cycle however, the Police Department has identified several additional needs beyond the FY2019-FY2024 Capital budget as follows:

- The Police Department and the Fire Department need additional radio channels and communications operators to staff those channels in order to meet the increasing need for police and fire services within Anne Arundel County. There is no room in the existing communications locations to renovate for additional capacity. Police and Fire Communications need to relocate and consolidate. However, relocation is problematic and eliminates potential locations within Anne Arundel County due to the need for substantial fiber optic communications cable to reach the new facility; Anne Arundel County seeks to minimize the cost to access the nearest communications hub. One option is to construct a Combined 911 / Communications Center.
- The Northern Police District Station is past its lifecycle and will need renovations beginning in January 2026. For parallel reasons to that as enumerated above for the additional (5th / Central) district the building will need routine renovation or relocation.
- The Western Police District Station is past its lifecycle and will need to be renovated in 2027. For parallel reasons to that as enumerated above for the additional (5th / Central) district the building will need routine renovation or relocation.

Detention Facilities

The recruitment and retention of detention officers is a key challenge within the Department of Detention Facilities. In addition to staff priorities, capital projects remain an ongoing challenge. Despite the Central Holding and Processing Center construction project at Jennifer Road anticipated to be completed in 18 months, there will be a lack of parking for staff. Additionally, renovations to the open front lobbies needs to be made at both detention center (Jennifer Road and Ordnance Road) to enhance safety and protect from security threats such as an active shooter situation.

From a program standpoint, the Department identifies the need for the development of mandatory specialized programs for addictions and the ever increasing need for mental health. Lastly, the Department will need to retain 100% accreditation by both Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards and National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

Construction has begun of a Central Holding and Processing facility at the Jennifer Road Detention Center to improve the operating efficiency of the Anne Arundel County Criminal Justice System. The facility will create a single point of delivery where detainees can be safely booked and securely held for processing and arraignment. This project replaces the present system of processing detainees in multiple

locations throughout the county followed by transports to Commissioners offices that are neither safe nor secure. The project has recently begun and is expected to be completed by fall 2019.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

The OEM has identified significant challenges in providing effective and efficient recovery services to citizens of Anne Arundel County. To overcome the challenges and concern for family unification, sheltering, recovery, community distribution space, personnel to staff those centers, and expansion of the outreach program must be able to be addressed.

The OEM has been in discussions with Central Services and Anne Arundel County Public Schools regarding additional space for other types of facilities (Family Assistance Centers, Disaster Recovery Centers, etc.). Since space is limited, OEM realizes this is a gap in future planning and continues to research potential County and non-governmental facilities to expand upon response/recovery services.

The County's ability to open additional Mass Care Shelters in schools is hampered by the lack of funding for generators and the associated transfer switch and rewiring of the schools. As far as additional planning efforts for Mass Care Shelters, the County has developed a draft Recovery Plan that focuses on identifying and prioritizing facilities to be restored for response operations. One preparedness objective within the Plan identifies the need to develop an inventory and prioritize critical infrastructure restoration and reconstruction. This should be developed by the County Operations Recovery Group and should be based on the prioritization of facilities designed for response operations and the function and critical nature of the facility as it applies to overall County operations.

The County also faces the obstacle of properly staffing recovery service centers such as the Family Assistance Center, the Disaster Recovery Center, Mass Care Shelters, Commodity Points of Distribution, etc. To meet this challenge and be able to deliver adequate services to the citizens, the OEM is exploring the utilization of volunteer organizations to enhance staffing levels as well as a provision to expand on all County position descriptions by adding an agreement to be reassigned to perform alternate recovery work and assist in the opening of the centers in the event of a disaster.

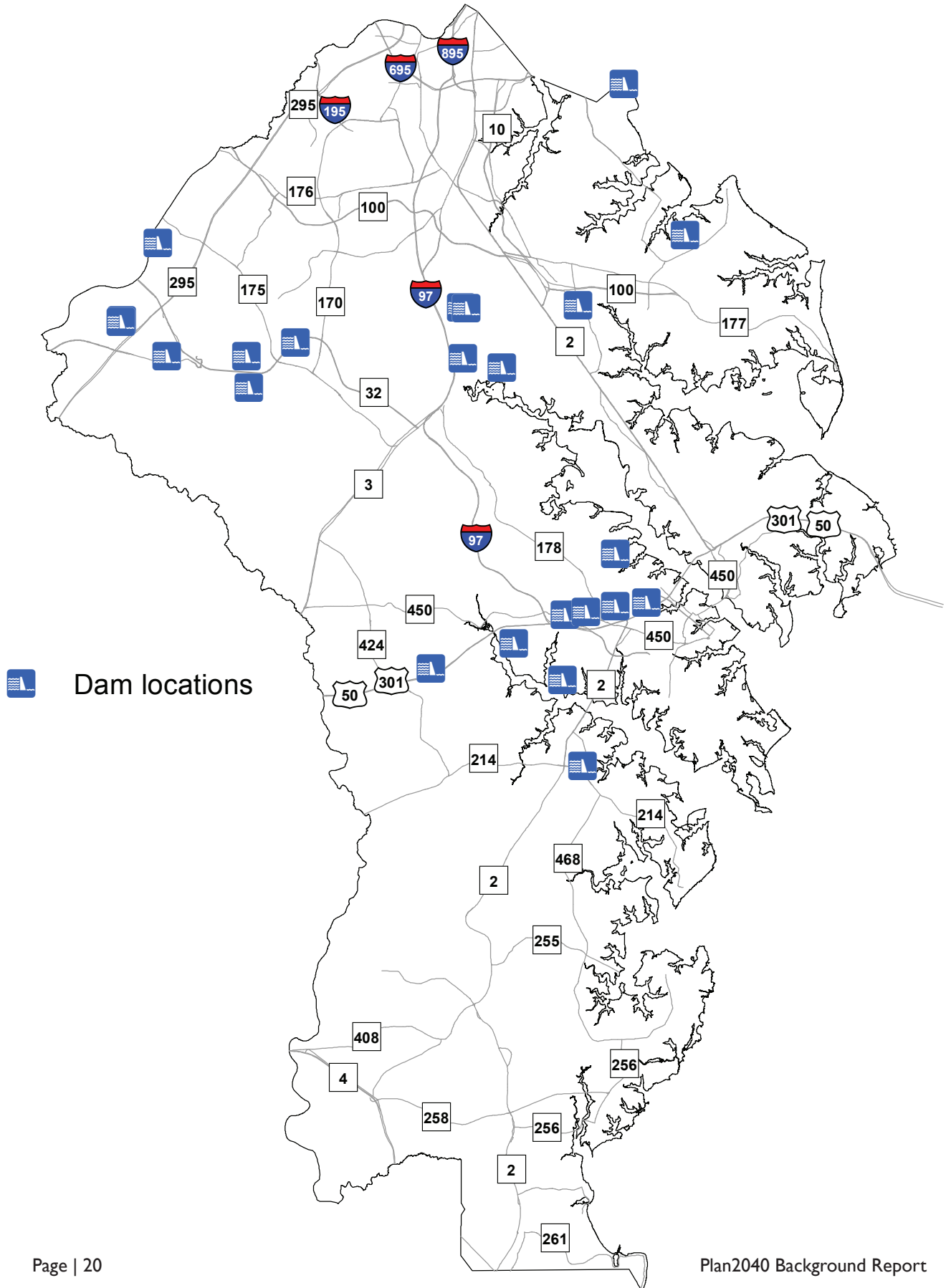
To build and maintain a resilient community before, during, and after a disaster, it is essential for the OEM to expand on its ability to educate citizens and elected and appointed officials. Currently the outreach program is sustained through the allotment of office supply funds which hinders the capability to increase outreach activities to citizens. In anticipation of future funding, the OEM has developed educational brochures and booklets to educate children and adults before, during, and after disasters. To achieve and develop effective education to elected and appointed officials through efficient training, the OEM has been updating and revising emergency response/recovery plans.

Lastly, there are approximately 26 dams in the County. The Maryland Department of the Environment requires approximately 12 of these to have Emergency Action Plans. OEM recommends consideration is given to land use patterns near existing and future dams. See Figure 4 for a map of dams in the County.

Challenges and Issues Identified During the Plan2040 Listening Sessions

Most of the comments received at the Listening Sessions and online survey regarding public safety dealt with opioid abuse. This issue is discussed in more detail in the Community Services Background Report. Other comments relating to public safety dealt with general safety concerns, like curbing drugs

Figure 4: Dam Locations



and crime, improving police and fire response times, ensuring public safety departments are adequately staffed and identifying locations for new public safety facilities (ex. a new fire station in the Mayo/Edgewater area).

The challenges and issues that have been identified in this report will be discussed during the development of Plan2040.