Carroll 2030
January 18, 2013

Ideal Carroll County

Put yourself in the future. It is 2030. You are there now. Carroll has met its challenges successfully, and taken advantage of opportunities. It has built on its strengths and minimized its weaknesses. What is your ideal Carroll County like in 2030?

1. Carroll County 2030 is a vibrant and dynamic community which provides economic and entrepreneurial opportunities, and educational, cultural and historic activities for its residents
2. It is well to live in a county that has planned for its growth. No other place in central Maryland offers the natural beauty and the opportunity as does Carroll.
3. Carroll County is a high-tech center providing tech support and development to industries throughout the world. It is a model of community engagement with abundant skills and talents that are routinely shared…a high-tech education center training and re-training students of all ages…run 80% on alternative energy for homes, cars, and businesses.
4. Carroll County is inviting, supportive, productive and affords opportunities for engagement and growth to all.
5. Carroll County is a more culturally diverse community which offers quality job opportunities to its citizens with a strong education system while retaining its rural heritage.
6. Carroll County is a place to live affordably, work responsibly and have a high standard for our quality of life.
7. In 2030, Carroll County is a healthy, educated, safe, competitive, forward-thinking community with an emphasis on caring for all its citizens across the lifespan.
8. Carroll County is a community where residents benefit from unique natural resources, participatory governance, and collaborative partnerships that contribute to healthy lifestyles.
9. Carroll County in 2030 is:
    *   Vibrant and interactive, neighbors help neighbors through a variety of private and nonprofit agencies and all ages volunteering.
    *   Industry is growing and thriving as the workforce is educated and available
    *   Government provides tax-supported infrastructure which meets the needs of the county and sustains growth.
10. Carroll County is a vibrant, multigenerational community of citizens who place a high priority on understanding the needs of all of its citizens and who take an active role—paid or unpaid—in meeting those needs. We are a true servant-community who place a priority on meeting the needs of those traditionally marginalized and vulnerable members of our community.

11. Carroll County is a safe and rural community of positive citizens who know their neighbors and continue to work effectively to maintain the environment we have grown accustomed to living in.
12. Carroll County is a group of connected communities with diverse populations working together to educate the children, care for the infirm/disabled/elderly while building a life that respects and works hard in all endeavors.
13. Carroll County is a wonderfully diverse community with many cultural and educational opportunities for the young as well as the adult and elderly citizens.   It has adequate and advanced transportation and health care for all, and is environmentally sound with a solid infrastructure, and technological advances for everyone.
14. Carroll County is a model American community, promoting a high quality of life through public and private stewardship, empowerment and personal responsibility.
15. Carroll County is a place that places high value on the quality of life of its residents by supporting:
    - Great schools with adequate funding to prepare the workforce for a global economy using state of the industry technology and learning opportunities
    - Entrepreneurship and business growth
    - Communication, transportation infrastructure to grow business and increase interconnectivity to the region and world
    - Services for mentally and physically challenged citizens
    - Adequate, affordable housing for all socioeconomic levels
    - And is a welcoming, diverse county that supports the arts.
16. Carroll County is a vibrant, strong, and safe community that values:
    - All community members and their interests/needs
    - Service to the community and volunteerism
    - Well-planned growth and infrastructure
    - Aligned business and educational system that supports and retains our community members

Themes we heard:
- Community, inclusion and diversity, neighbors, caring
- Education
- Technology
- Vibrancy
- Health
- Infrastructure
- Business
- Heritage and culture
- Engagement, volunteerism, service—idea of sacrifice or giving back

Resources and funding are implied...what would we give up to get?