

Greener Greenbelt: Your Ideas, Our Future

The Greener Greenbelt Initiative (GGI) is a 3-year working partnership between GHI and the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Also involved are the City and the County; the Univ. of Maryland's School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; and other individuals and organizations concerned about Greenbelt's future.

What's the purpose of *Greener Greenbelt: Your Ideas, Our Future*?

The goal of this partnership is to create a vision and strategic plan for the future of old Greenbelt, so that over the next 30 years we will remain a national model of an attractive, livable, affordable and healthy community. The plan will be used, for example, to guide GHI in our major capital expenditures.

Why do we need the Greener Greenbelt Initiative?

As we celebrate our 70th birthday, we face a number of challenges, such as:

- Maintaining our appeal to families while preserving our distinctive architecture;
- Making our homes more energy efficient and reducing our energy costs;
- Ensuring the economic and social viability of Roosevelt Center;
- Enabling people to age in place; and
- Protecting our lake, open spaces and forests.

What are the major activities of the Greener Greenbelt Initiative?

The major activities consist of opportunities for GHI members and other people with a stake in old Greenbelt, to express their ideas about what they'd like to see happen here – particularly with regard to the challenges listed above. You will be able to express your ideas in a number of ways, including a survey, a website, and special events such as:

- April 28, 2007: Open house & visioning event, Roosevelt Center, 10 am to 2 pm.
- August 5: Artful Afternoon at the Community Center, focused on the GGI
- September 28-30: an interactive visioning event (called a “charrette”) at the Greenbelt Elementary School, in which we will brainstorm ideas for old Greenbelt's future and our AIA partners will draft pictures, designs and plans that reflect our suggested ideas and then refine them based on our feedback.

How can I get involved?

The success of *Greener Greenbelt: Your Ideas, Our Future* depends on active participation by those who care about Greenbelt. In addition to participating in the above events, you can help plan the Sept. 28 visioning session. For information on how you can get involved, contact Jim Cohen at (301) 345-0472 or e-mail him at jimcohen@umd.edu.