TEAM SNAPSHOT
Prince George’s County, Maryland

DAVID LEWIS
Senior Business Development Manager / Prince George’s County
Economic Development Corporation

Experience with neighborhood development: David Lewis is a member of the Prince George’s County (Maryland) economic development team. David has 18 years of economic development experience, including 14 years as a manager at the Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development.

NANCY J. MEYER
CEO, Community Forklift / Chair, Port Towns Community Development Corporation

Experience with neighborhood development: Varied background of 30 years of nonprofit community development and housing related experience. Have worked for the last 7 years with Community Forklift, the DC’s largest reuse center. I am interested in learning about...how to develop a robustly sustainable and vibrant community.
One challenge I’d like to address: How to deeply engage the community and support our local nonprofit partners so they can continue to provide critical community service and leadership.

DARRELL MOBLEY
Director, Prince George’s County Department of Public Works and Transportation

Experience with neighborhood development: As a Transportation Engineer, I have had the opportunity to design, construct and maintain roadway improvements in rural and urban neighborhoods. I am interested in learning about...EcoDistricts and how neighborhoods are transformed without relocating residents.
One challenge I’d like to address: Invoking in a community and having its members maintain and care for the improvements within the neighborhood.

JOHN MOSS
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

Experience with neighborhood development: I have a varied background, with experience from many aspects, including the creation of green space, community engagement and successful, viable and effective partnerships. I am interested in learning about...creating a more sustainable community that offers a variety of services without the need for automotive transportation.
One challenge I’d like to address: How to create a better, more sustainable historic community that incorporates the elements of smart-growth and affordable housing.

ADAM ORTIZ
Director, Prince George’s County Department of Environmental Resources

Experience with neighborhood development: I was the Mayor of Edmonton, one of the Port Towns, where we spearheaded efforts to green and beautify our infrastructure through the nationally recognized Edmonton Green Street. I am interested in learning about...how to create a geographic area that attracts a targeted industry sector and builds upon the accomplishments of our existing green microeconomy.
One challenge I’d like to address: How do we leverage our strengths into greater economic benefit for our community?

PETER SHAPIRO
Executive Director of the Revenue Authority of Prince George’s County

Experience with neighborhood development: I served 6 years on the Prince George’s County Council, and was founding board member of the Gateway CDC, a board member of three other CDCs in Maryland and DC. I am interested in learning about...the variety of creative funding mechanisms to help bring the EcoDistrict to fruition.
One challenge I’d like to address: How we best organize the effort. What would the lead organization/leadership team look like? What role will county, state and municipal elected leaders have in the effort? What will be the role of government agency heads such as ourselves and how will we collaborate amongst ourselves?

HOWARD WAYS
Team Lead, Redevelopment Authority of Prince George’s County

Experience with neighborhood development: I have had 18 plus years involved with neighborhood development in Baltimore, and in Washington, DC and its suburbs.
I am interested in learning about...how to accelerate the adoption of sustainability practices at a neighborhood or community scale when there is an opportunity to integrate green building development within existing neighborhoods.
One challenge I’d like to address: How to create a land use regulatory framework that encourages EcoDistrict development.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT
Port Towns

The Port Towns is the most historic, ethnically diverse enclave in Prince George’s County. Covering 2.18 square miles, the area has 13,331 residents with a median household income of $42,570, significantly less than the $73,538 median household income for the County. The Port Towns’ population is 47% Black, 26% White, 4% Asian and 3% Hispanic of any race.
The Port Towns EcoDistrict project has two chief goals: (1) to be a regional leader in recycling, reuse and repurposing of building and organic waste by transforming industrial space and creating a leading edge facility to (2) help incubate and accelerate the development of green and sustainable businesses.

Why this neighborhood?
Ideally located adjacent to the District of Columbia and its increasingly vibrant economy, Port Towns benefits from a shared vision of environmental stewardship within the four local jurisdictions: Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City, and Edmonton, as well as from political support from experienced and innovative community-based sustainability organizations.

Neighborhood PRIORITIES:
1. Strengthen the Port Towns identity and brand
2. Strengthen the Port Towns identity and brand
3. Create more healthy lifestyle choices, including access to healthy food.

Neighborhood CHALLENGES:
1. Building capacity within community to maintain the EcoDistrict
2. Leveraging strengths into greater economic benefit for community
3. Balancing sustainable development with historic preservation