



# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
July 25, 2019

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## **Executive Gardner Announces Strategic Plan** *Poised for prosperity, planning for progress!*

FREDERICK, MD – Building on her accomplishments and re-energized with new ideas and opportunities, County Executive Jan Gardner today released a strategic plan for her administration. The plan focuses on five key priorities: education, jobs, seniors, community needs, and growth. She outlined numerous initiatives to support and deliver results on these five priorities.

“Frederick County is poised for the future!” Executive Gardner exclaimed. “We have exceptional schools, a safe community, a thriving economy with thousands of new jobs over the past few years, and a high quality of life that is the envy of mid-size communities around the country. Our challenge is to protect what we love about Frederick County, seize our opportunities, and embrace new ideas and innovation.”

Executive Gardner held a Leadership Conference in February with approximately 75 community leaders to review what had been accomplished in her first term, identify issues, and brainstorm ideas to support the five priorities. This input is at the heart of the resulting strategic plan. The process was guided by the shared community vision of Leadership Frederick, a vision of great places to live, a high quality of life, and a healthy environment for years to come.

Initiatives to implement the strategic plan were highlighted during Executive Gardner’s public information briefing today. They include:

- Education: Identify adequate funding for public schools, build needed schools, support innovation in public education and lifelong learning through our libraries and Frederick Community College;
- Jobs: Implement the Growth Opportunities Strategy, create a competitive advantage, support targeted new businesses, like life sciences, and ensure the economic viability of agriculture;
- Seniors: Increase access to healthcare, help people to age in place with grace, engage active seniors through employment and meaningful volunteerism, and expand space and programming;
- Community needs: Sustain a safe community, improve mobility/transportation options, provide workforce housing, promote healthy living, and expand parks and recreational opportunities;
- Growth: Preserve our unique sense of place, develop rural historic districts, grow wisely, go green to save green, and expand broadband.

To view today’s briefing, visit [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/FCGTV](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/FCGTV). The strategic plan can be found online at [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/CountyExecutive](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/CountyExecutive).

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