1 2 3	CITY OF SALISBURY WORK SESSION JULY 15, 2024				
4 5 6	Public Officials Present				
	Council President D'Shawn M. Doughty Vice President Angela M. Blake (arrived 4:33 pm) Councilmember Sharon C. Dashiell Mayor Randolph J. Taylor Councilmember Michele Gregory				
7 8 9	Public Officials Absent				
10 11	Councilmember April R. Jackson				
12 13	In Attendance				
14 15 16 17 18 19	City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Deputy City Administrator John Tull, Fire Chief Rob Frampton, Housing and Community Development (HCDD) Director Muir Boda, City Planner Amanda Rodriquez, Assistant City Clerk Julie English, Council Intern Kofi Kessey, Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development (SWED) Director Dave Ryan, City Attorney Laura Ryan, Ashley Bosché, City Clerk Kim Nichols and members of the public.				
20 21 22 23 24	On July 15, 2024 the Salisbury City Council convened at 4:30 p.m. in Work Session in Council Chambers of the Government Office Building. Council President Doughty called for a moment of silent meditation for the family of the gentleman who was killed during Saturday's events in Pennsylvania.				
25 26	Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development (SWED) update				
27 28 29 30 31	SWED Director Dave Ryan joined Council to discuss some larger projects SWED was working on including the Salisbury Regional Airport, Westwood Commerce Park, and large bay industrial spaces. The latter two projects would bring about \$75 to \$80 million in real property investments over the next two years or so.				
32 33 34 35 36 37	President Doughty asked how it impacted our residents. A lot of times people saw the lack of industries as the lack of economic impact we should have in the area and asked what the projects would do for Salisbury. Mr. Ryan said there was no question that Salisbury and other areas across the Country saw a decline in the manufacturing sector over a long period of time. The diversification of our economy was good and distribution was much bigger today than it used to be. Salisbury's manufacturing base was about				
38 39 40 41 42 43	11% and the country's was about 6 ½ %. It did not make it any easier losing the longstanding Dresser, Campbell or Crown plants, but economic forces could overwhelm some of the best of intentions. It would be helpful to have the sites readily available with reasonable and competitive costs so that when we got prospects we had a place for them to go. He compared it to the housing supply. We were blessed with the legacy type companies such as Perdue, Chesapeake, Piedmont Airlines and Delaware Elevator. They				

hoped to bring further diversification of the economy and more jobs. Investments in infrastructure was good and investments in workforce development was terrific. President Doughty asked if the perspective jobs were such that people could see themselves make a career out of and Mr. Ryan thought so.

Ms. Dashiell asked about the Campbell Soup property and Mr. Ryan said it was purchased recently and divided up inside into three or four businesses.

Mayor Taylor said the market had changed and Mr. Ryan was doing what we needed him to do which was to partner with a private entity and get a building ready because those employers tended to be bigger, pay more and stay around longer. We appreciated that Mr. Ryan was that forward thinking and stayed involved in that kind of work. Mr. Ryan said that SWED appreciated the Mayor and Council's support. Two spec buildings were built before, once in the 1980's and once in the 1990's. They were home to Coke and Pepsi. The environment and the financing had changed, but this was what they could do. When someone came into those speculative type buildings which consisted of four walls, dirt floor and a ceiling, it took just as much time for them to begin designing and tailoring to their needs as it did to start from scratch The site approval process was different and we needed to mitigate that to be more competitive in the marketplace.

President Doughty thanked Mr. Ryan and would like to have him back in six months to a year. The update was for information only and Council did not vote or reach consensus.

2nd Quarter Fire Department Statistical update

Fire Chief Rob Frampton provided the attached statistical update, which has been made part of the minutes. He reported there were currently no vacancies in the department partly due to the Safer Grant which required them to not have any. The average age of the employees was 37. With the Safer Grant they employed a lot of young employees under the ages of 27. Their current minimum staffing level was 19 people per shift. The total time on the job was about 10 years. He was surprised by that with the Safer Grant being less than three years, he thought a lot of their time would be that. They currently employed 102 people and 37 active volunteers. They struggled with recruitment for volunteers and career positions. The County was revamping the CTE Program at the Vo Tech in the Fall with upwards of 15 students. The Fire Department started their Cadet Program back and hoped to have about 5 of the 15 people in the Cadet Program.

President Doughty said the Fire Department did a good job of explaining what they did in the community. The Junior Fire Academy looked really fun and he wished he could have attended the last day.

Ms. Blake asked if there were any updates on our Fire Service Agreement with the County. Chief Frampton explained he and the Mayor met with some of the County Council members and had good discussion. Lots of things were in progress to get the funding back up to \$2 million and dialogue was moving in the right direction. There were plans in early August to begin a long-term Fire Service Agreement discussion with

the County Council. It was trending in a very positive direction. The had been asked a lot about the data and were provided everything they were asked for. President Doughty said Council would love to be part of the conversations since it impacted our residents.

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Ms. Gregory said the EMTs and Fire responders were very quick and caring. She appreciated them when they came out for her family members.

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Mayor Taylor asked if the Fire Marshal's Office was revenue neutral, or if they captured as much as they spent they spent. Chief Frampton said it was revenue positive.

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Ms. Dashiell enjoyed the Junior Fire Academy which had energy-filled children during one of the hottest weeks of the year. Zack Bridges did a great job. There would be an academy for older children from August 5-9 for students 12 to 16 years old.

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One member of the public provided the following comments:

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 Requested the dates and times of the youth programs. She recalled the Fire Department held CPR programs and wondered if the youth were provided training in those fields. She asked if the service was available to the persons who lived in the woods. She heard from one who needed service early in the morning and was told the City service did not come out there and they had to search for someone to respond to them.

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Chief Frampton reported the Junior Academy was August 5th through the 9th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There may be one or two spots available for kids between the ages of 12 and 16 and call Fire Headquarters to fill out an application. The last Wednesday of each month CPR classes were taught at Headquarters at 6:00 p.m. by former Chief Tull. He also said they had certain patients that lived in the different areas in the wilderness. They routinely took calls and went out to the various locations quite often. The SWIFT services were Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If they called for a non-emergent response on a night or weekend they would have gotten an ambulance but might not have gotten that SWIFT follow-up. Much of the difficulty was tracking the patients down because they would make a visit and find them not there.

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The presentation was for Council information only and no consensus was reached.

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Ordinance Permit to authorize cannabis dispensary at 7:33 S. Salisbury Blvd.

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- 128 City Planner Amanda Rodriquez, Cathie Ralph, CEO, Elevated Mind & Wellness, LLC, Edward Shire, Attorney at McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walter, LLC, and Carl 129
- 130 Wilson with The Traffic Group, the traffic consultant with the project, joined Council 131 and introduced themselves.

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- 133 Ms. Rodriquez explained the ordinance permit was for a cannabis dispensary located at
- 134 733 South Salisbury Boulevard and explained the process it took to get to City Council.
- 135 The location was in the General Commercial District and a dispensary was allowed.

Ms. Ralph said a lot of information had been provided to Council and she wanted to be transparent about her business vision to be a cannabis retail store that serviced the City, contributed to the community, hired from the local work force, invested in City and County programs, and successfully developed a family of local personnel with growth and career opportunities. She discussed the existing dispensary's problems related to parking, traffic flow, on-site consumption concerns, etc. Her business would not experience those as the location had more than enough parking. They would add exterior security to ensure on-site consumption was prohibited and utilize kiosks to allow a much more tranquil and efficient retail experience for patrons. She discussed the Community Enrichment Program and the commitment to supporting various organizations to promote community health and well-being by pledging a percentage of sales.

Mr. Wilson discussed the traffic impact study for the site. During the PM peak, they estimated about forty trips in and forty trips out. On Saturday, they estimated sixty-three in and sixty-four out (about one per minute). The main recommendation for traffic flow on site was for the circulation to go from South Salisbury Boulevard and all the access coming into the site circulating to the east over to Roland Street. There was a two-way left turn lane on South Salisbury Boulevard. People could use that center lane to turn into the sit so as not to restrict any existing traffic flow. For exiting the site, coming out at an unsignalized intersection was more concerning than coming out on Roland Street. There were pedestrians on South Salisbury Boulevard and it was better to exit on Roland Street because of the site distance.

President Doughty said the traffic was the main concern with the other location. This this group did a good job addressing the concern with having just the one-way entrance coming in from Rt. 13 and exiting from Roland Street. Having these two businesses in Salisbury should split up the consumers going from one location to the other.

Ms. Gregory asked if they planned to do delivery service to mitigate traffic to the site. Ms. Ralph said she was looking into it as a dispensary license holder and would have to partner with a microprocessor/micro delivery for making the deliveries, but currently were not planning on that.

Mayor Taylor asked if on-site usage was a problem. Ms. Ralph said it was prohibited. Other people in the community had concerns with the Mt. Hermon dispensary with potential on-site consumption happening in the parking lot and odor.

Mr. Kitzrow added that the mechanism in which this was permitted (an ordinance permit) allowed the City to undo the permit should there become a problem and was why the legislation was structured in this way.

Ms. Blake said parking was a huge problem with another dispensary in the area. She was trying to visualize the flow of it. Ms. Ralph said they looked at the dispensary that they had and were taking the kiosk approach. The other dispensary took 45 minutes to an

hour to park, go in the building, and come out. With the kiosks, they were in and out between eight and eleven minutes.

Mr. Kitzrow asked if parallel parking was allowed on Roland Street. Mr. Wilson said the street was 36 feet wide and he did not recall seeing any signs restricting parking. Mr. Kitzrow asked if they had discussions with the adjacent property owners and Ms. Ralph said they had not. The business closest to the facility was also a holistic hemp kind of facility and Walgreens was on the other side.

Ms. Blake asked how many people one kiosk would serve, and Ms. Ralph said one person at a time. They planned to have between 12 and 14 kiosks in the building.

Council reached unanimous consensus to advance the Ordinance Permit to legislative session.

Fair Housing update

HCDD Director Muir Boda provided the update by taking the Analysis on Impediments to Fair Housing and identifying the top issues for Council to think about using the presentation attached and made part of the minutes.

He stated that the Fair Housing Guide with the Renter's Guide, Landlord's Guide, and Homeowner's Guide would be ready soon. President Doughty said this would guide HCDD on what they should focus their efforts on and looked forward to the next steps beyond Step 7. These exact things were discussed at the Housing Action Committee and were what people were seeing as impediments but also an expert was seeing this as well.

Ms. Gregory said that as a parent with one out the door and another with one foot out the door, she knew there were young people who wanted to move out on their own but could not because there was not enough supply. With trying to retain these young, talented people to remain in Salisbury, we needed housing for them after they graduated.

Ms. Dashiell asked when the guides would be completed and Mr. Boda said there were only a few minor things to be completed. Once finished, it would go to the Mayor's Office for approval, then they would post it. It would go into the CAPER, which the Grants Manager Jo Ellen Bynum prepared which went into the CDBG Plan.

Two members of the public commented the following:

• The report was thorough and answered the questions she had.

• Asked Mr. Boda to differentiate between fair housing and affordable housing. She thought Mr. Boda did that, but was concerned that what a developer may consider as fair housing may not be to those hoping to live there. Could wages could be married with housing to ensure it could be afforded before it became a hardship? Was there a particular type of housing that was being promoted?

• She encouraged Council to be cognizant of the prices that were set for housing when looking at employment versus housing so that people could be employed with a living wage and afford to live. They had families and needed time to invest into them without having to work a second or part-time job to make ends meet. We needed jobs that people would be able to live with and raise a family with.

President Doughty said that the Fair Housing Choice gave the definition of Fair Housing as the ability of persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or handicap of similar income levels to have the same housing choices available to them. He added that affordable housing was one component of fair housing, but not the only component. He referred to the chart on page three and asked if apartment complexes were 20 or more units. Mr. Boda said that Mill Pond Village would be in the 20 or more. President Doughty said that a larger portion of our houses in Salisbury were single family homes (41%) versus. Less than 10% were multi-family homes. 19.7% of the houses were 10-19 units and 8.9% were 20 units or more.

Mr. Boda said that Parson's Lake, currently under construction, had 300 to 350 homes. The one at the old Mall would have 40 to 50 more houses. The ultimate goal was that everybody at every level had the same choices available to them as everybody else.

- Another speaker referred to the chart with seven things and asked who the "they" were. About eight years ago she commented that the 4-2 law created a housing crisis. It took homes with four bedrooms and a bathroom and only allowed two unrelated people. This made all the expenses twice as expensive to each person since they were split two ways rather than four. Nobody thought about the cause and effect, and what the long-term outcome of that decision would be. They just wanted less parking in the neighborhoods close to college.
- We needed to revisit that piece of it but had to be careful with parking, density, overcrowding the neighborhoods.
- We had to think long-term because everything we did to bring people in our City created an impact on our Fire Department, Police Department, schools, teaching, education programs, sub-division supports. Adding another 500 houses meant they needed to go to school, ride the buses, call the EMT, etc. We had to be able to support all of those things, as well. Speaker implored all the decision makers to keep the vision of cause and effect and long-term reactions in place. Asked about the Housing Action Committee, who served on the committee, and asked to be a part of the group. Speaker also offered to help HCDD with outreach to make sure the documents they were preparing had stakeholder input.

President Doughty said they would send the last speaker an invite to the next meeting. They made sure to invite individuals from every sector and had a good group.

Mr. Boda said the consultant with the CDBG plan had worked on the update using internal data from the City and the American Community survey from the Census data. There were many components to it based on economic trends and average income.

Administration and Council Comments

Mayor Taylor was attending the prayer vigil at the Park Bandstand for the events that happened over the weekend in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Kitzrow announced the new director of Infrastructure and Development began today. He would be invited to an upcoming meeting. The ordinance permit was a step in the right direction for the City of Salisbury.

Ms. Dashiell requested an update on Carroll Street and HORIZON and HERE IS HOME programs. Mr. Kitzrow said they were coming.

Ms. Gregory was excited about the new dispensary and congratulated Ms. Ralph. The next few days will be very hot and the Wicomico County Health Department was opening cooling centers. The Civic Center would be open from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday. They did not allow pets. MAC offered a cooling center for residents aged 55 and older Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Stay cool for the next couple of days.

 Ms. Blake requested updates on Safe Streets For All and Rails to Trails. Mr. Kitzrow said that would be reported on at the same time as the Carroll Street update because Carroll Street was part of the Safe Streets For All. The Human Rights Advisory Committee met last week and were focusing on human trafficking and educating the community on it. If anyone was aware of human trafficking or knew someone involved in it, reach out to Life Crisis. They helped victims and were the key agency in reporting. The Pedestrian and Bike Committee was doing great things and both committees would be at Third Friday with a combined table. This Council was very busy. Each member had four or five committees, social events, all the Council sessions, and other meetings. They tried to be everywhere. If healthy enough, please donate blood and plasma.

President Doughty was glad we had the cooling stations in our community. He would post on Facebook about the free lunch and snack program for the summer for youth, funded by MSDE. He would meet with Administration to review the agenda items requested by Council and looked forwarding to getting some things buttoned up including Truitt Street Community Center and the Lake Street Playground. Mr. Kitzrow said it may be settled in a week or so. The Indian Village playground had some good free programs this summer. The County and the City were partnering for these children.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Work Session was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

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Council President

SFD 2024 1st Half Statistical Update

"Data Driven, Community Focused"



The Basics

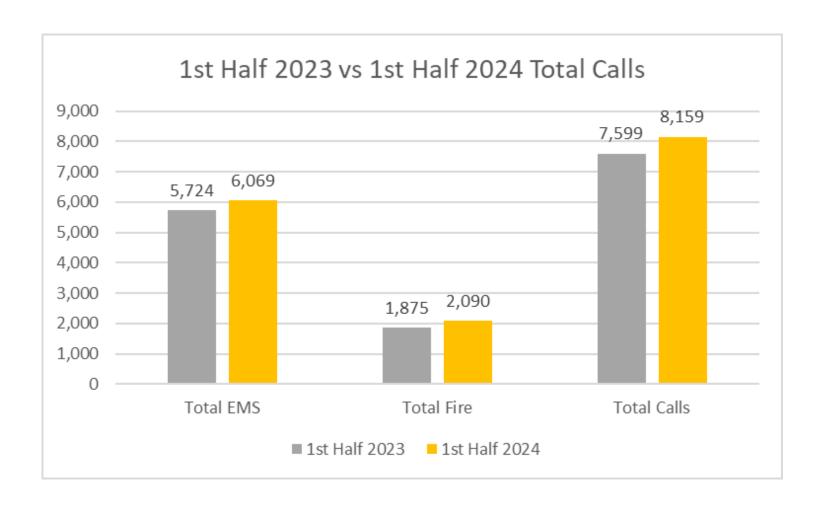
1st Half of 2023

- Total Calls 7,599
- Fire 1,875
- EMS 5,724
- Total Fire Unit Responses –
 Did Not Track in 2023
- 1 call every 34-1/2 minutes

1st Half of 2024

- Total Calls 8,159 (+7.4%)
- Fire 2,090 (+11.5%)
- EMS 6069 (+6.0%)
- Total Fire Unit Responses –
 3,332
- 1 call every 32 minutes

Visualizing the Basics



Let's Take a Deeper Dive

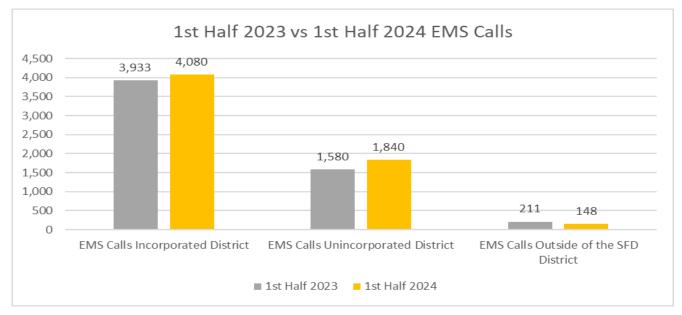
1st Half of 2023

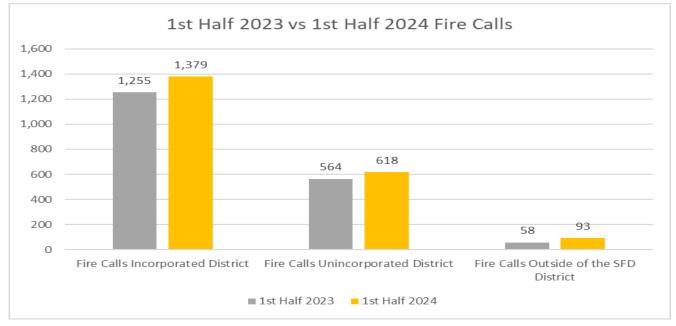
- EMS Calls (Incorporated District) – 3,933
- EMS Calls (Unincorporated District) – 1580
- EMS Calls (Outside of the SFD District) 211
- Fire Calls (Incorporated District) – 1255
- Fire Calls (Unincorporated District) – 564
- Fire Calls (Outside of the SFD District) – 58

1st Half of 2024

- EMS Calls (Incorporated District) – 4,081 (+3.76%)
- EMS Calls (Unincorporated District) 1,840 (+16.5%)
- EMS Calls (Outside of the SFD District) 148 (-29.9%)
- Fire Calls (Incorporated District) – 1379 (+9.8%)
- Fire Calls (Unincorporated District) – 618 (+9.6%)
- Fire Calls (Outside of the SFD District) 93 (+60.3%)

Visualizing the Deeper Dive





"Data Driven, Community Focused"

EMS, SWIFT, & MDCN

- Witnessed Cardiac Arrests 23
- Unwitnessed Cardiac Arrests 68
- Patients Successfully Resuscitated 13
- 45 Opioid Related Calls in the 1st Half of 2024
- Average EMS Unit Response Times to Charlie, Delta,
 & Echo 5 minutes and 54 seconds (Dispatch to Arrival)
- 19 New Patients Enrolled in SWIFT in 1st Half of 2024
- MDCN 600 Calls since January 1st, 2024
 - 165 Patients Treated with No Transport to ER
 - Over \$333,000 Reduction in ED Visits

EMS Billing Revenue

- 2nd Qtr 2024 EMS Gross Charges \$ Billed (Apr-Jun) \$2,363,664
- 2nd Qtr. 2024 EMS Transport \$ Collected (Apr-Jun) \$711,904
- Annualized EMS Transport Net Revenue \$2,847,616 (Based on 1st Half Collections, Up YoY & Above Budget by approx. \$400K)
- Average \$ Collected per Transport \$330

Fire Marshal's Office Report

- 1st Half of 2024 Property Value Saved from Fire \$36,210,751
- 1st Half of 2024 Property Lost from Fire \$2,034,360
- Fire Unit Response Times Average Under 4 Minutes (Travel Times Only)
- FM's Office Approved Building Plan Reviews 96
- FM's Office Building Inspections 444
- FM's Office Generated Approx. \$291k in Revenue in 1st Half of 2024
 - On Track to Be Above Budget by Approx. \$150k
- Fires Investigated by the FM's Office in 1st Half of 2024 15
- Civilian Fire Deaths 0
- Civilian Fire Injuries 2

More Information

- 1st Half Employee Sick Hours 2,325 hours (Slightly Higher than 2023)
- 1st Half FMLA Hours 1,577 hours (Slightly Higher than 2023)
- Numerous Community Events & Programs
 - Participated in the PTSD 9-1-1 Documentary
 - GIS Symposium Speaker Panel in Fairfax County
 - Family Fun Day at the City Park
 - \$22k Grant for Cancer Testing of All Members

Personnel Successes

- Vehicle Ordered for SWIFT Using Opioid Abatement Funds
- Progress on Lithium-Ion Battery Fires (Response, Safety Messages, Disposal)
- 5 Paramedic Students Graduated from Wor-Wic Community College
- FM's Office Completed Drone Training (GIS, Pre-Planning, Area Surveys, Wildfires, Large Area Searches)
- SWIFT/MIH Team Members Selected for National Presentations in Dallas and Las Vegas



Fair Housing Choice

HUD defines Fair Housing Choice as:

"The ability of persons, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or handicap of similar income levels to have the same housing choices available to them."



Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

- 1. There is a lack of affordable housing for all income levels in Salisbury.
- 2. There is a lack of new construction to meet the housing demand, especially owner-occupied housing units.
- 3. There are areas of minority housing concentration that correspond to areas of lower income concentration.
- 4. There are substantially more renter-occupied units than owner-occupied units.
- 5. Household incomes have increased at slower rates than housing costs.
- 6. There is a lack of zoning provisions that encourage fair housing choices.
- 7. Communication issues exist for persons with limited English proficiency (LEP).



Historical Housing Builds by Decade

As of 2017

Year Structure Built	Number	Percentage			
Built 2014 or 2017	91	0.60%			
Built 2010 to 2013	519	3.60%			
Built 2000 to 2009	3302	22.80%			
Built 1990 to 1999	1929	13.30%			
Built 1980 to 1989	2006	13.90%			
Built 1970 to 1979	1271	8.80%			
Built 1960 to 1969	991	6.90%			
Built 1950 to 1959	1468	10.20%			
Built 1940 to 1949	1131	7.80%			
Built 1939 or Earlier	1743	12.10%			
Total 14451 100%					



Types of Housing Units

Unit Type	Percentage	
1 Unit Detached	41.0%	
1 Unit Attached	10.0%	
2 Units	4.3%	
3 or 4 Units	5.5%	
5 to 9 Units	10.2%	
10 to 19 Units	19.7%	
20 or More Units	8.9%	
Mobile Homes	0.3%	
Other	0.1%	



Housing Permits Since 2017

Year Permitted	Total	Single Family	Multi- Family	5+ Units
2023	78	59	19	11
2022	95	35	60	0
2021	27	0	0	0
2020	92	43	49	39
2019	72	32	40	40
2018	41	25	16	12
2017	19	15	4	0

HCDD - Fair Housing: Addressing the Impediments



There is a lack of affordable housing for all income levels in Salisbury.

- Build every kind of housing.
- Change zoning code to:
 - Increase density.
 - Eliminate 4-2/3-2 law.
 - Allow ADU, SRO.



There is a lack of new construction to meet the housing demand, especially owner-occupied housing units.

- Remove barriers for new construction.
- Upzoning for Higher Density
- Mixed-Use Development
- Promote development loan, and mortgage assistance.
- Permit small-scale development for infill projects.



There are areas of minority housing concentration that correspond to areas of lower income concentration.

- Workforce development.
- Promote resources to these communities.
- Support revitalization grants and loan programs.
- Promote property rehabilitation programs.
- Promote home ownership programs.



There are substantially more renter-occupied units than owner-occupied units.

- We are a college town with SU, UMES, & Wor-Wic.
- SU will require juniors to live on campus.
- Promote SNHS & Habitat for Humanity Home Ownership programs.





Household incomes have increased at slower rates than housing costs.

• Promote educational opportunities through job training and skills development programs.



There is a lack of zoning provisions that encourage fair housing choices.

- · Zoning code changes.
 - Reduce restrictions.
- Develop a plan for developers who include affordable housing in their projects.





Communication issues exist for persons with limited English proficiency (LEP).

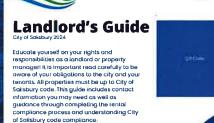
- Provide city documents and communications in Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole.
- Promote open city positions to these communities.





Coming Soon – Salisbury's Fair Housing Guide







Fair Housing Guide **QUESTIONS?** Muir Boda – mboda@salisbury.md **HCDD - Fair Housing: Addressing the Impediments**