

## **Project: Food Policy: Farmland Preservation**

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Team: Health

### **Project name**

The Smart Growth movement has helped create farmland preservation laws as communities continue to spread into rural and peri-urban areas. However, these laws have not always had their intended effect. While laws may protect and preserve farmland, they may fail to provide sufficient incentives to farm. Without agricultural production, communities may face developmental, environmental, and food security issues with negative effects on the economy and public health.

### **Clients & collaborators**

Our client is Johns Hopkins University's Center for a Livable future. The Harrison Institute gathers and analyzes legal policy for use and dissemination by the Center.

### **Goals & objectives**

The implementation of Maryland laws that effectively preserve farmland by:

- Having Maryland counties pass laws that not only preserve farmland but help farmers produce nutritious products.
- Inform policymakers, academics, and citizens of the Maryland county laws that effectively preserve farmland.

### **Stages of work**

- List analytic work products:
  - Paper examining the effectiveness of farmland preservation laws in Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, and Baltimore County
  - Depending on time, webpage with information presented in plain-language
- Outreach to policy networks: Local non-profits that are involved with the issue, Maryland county councils, and Maryland Legislature
- Presentations to policy audiences – N/A