

## Growing the Town of Kensington for the Better

The Town of Kensington Council convened a new committee this summer to consider annexing 35 homes and several commercial properties in the area located just North of the existing town boundaries. This area is already part of the Walter Johnson High School cluster and includes the following streets: the Northern half of Perry (the town's boundary runs down the center of Perry), Madison, Decatur, and a few homes along University, Lexington, and St. Paul (see map below). This also includes the commercial properties where the Valero gas station and the Train shop reside. Annexation would grow the count of single family homes in Town by about 7%.

The Council is considering annexation for several reasons:

- Bridging the gap between town and non-town residents who are already in the Walter Johnson High School Cluster would strengthen the sense of community;
- Many residents in the area under consideration support annexation despite the fact that it will raise their property taxes;
- The 35 homes and handful of commercial properties would generate additional state income tax and commercial tax revenue for the town; and
- The Town would gain ordinance control and a voice in any commercial property redevelopment along University.

The Mayor and committee members believe the annexation under consideration represents a win/win for town and non-town residents alike.

To learn more about the annexation under consideration, ***please attend our next Annexation Committee meeting on Wed., Dec. 6th, 7 pm, at Town Hall.*** In the meantime, please send any concerns or questions about annexation to the Mayor and Town Council by e-mailing [mayor.council@tok.md.gov](mailto:mayor.council@tok.md.gov) or by calling the Town Office at (301) 949-2424.

