

while preparing them for rigorous college and career requirements. In addition to a strong core academic program, IRHS offers a wide variety of career and technical pathways (including agriculture, marketing, construction, graphics, and a newly added Allied Health and NAF-sponsored Academy of Finance pathway), a Project Lead the Way STEM program, a regionally acclaimed arts program including instrumental, vocal and studio arts, a marine JROTC Leadership program, competitive athletic teams, and a variety of student organizations with local, state, and national recognition.

Indian River High School's rigorous academic program provides students of all levels with a variety of options to prepare for their college and career goals with a focus on critical thinking and project-based learning. IRHS offers ten Advanced Placement courses including Biology, Calculus AB, Chemistry, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, Psychology, Spanish Language, Statistics, and U.S. History. Students perform well above the national average on the AP exams. Additionally, students can earn college credit by taking dual enrollment courses with the University of Delaware's UD 110 - Writing class or Delaware Tech's SOC 111 – Sociology or BIO120 – Anatomy & Physiology I.

Website: <http://irhs.irsd.net/>

Source: Indian River School District and State of Delaware

HIGHER EDUCATION

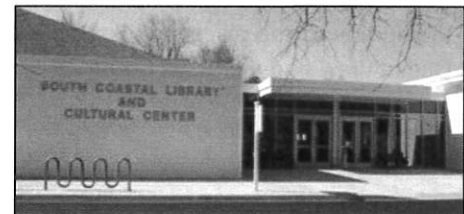
Delaware Technical and Community College (DelTech) is located approximately thirty minutes from Town in Georgetown. DelTech offers associates, bachelors, and certificate programs in several disciplines. Also located on the Georgetown campus are satellite offices and programs that are offered by the University of Delaware, Delaware State University, and Wilmington University, allowing for the completion of bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees all in one location.

Wor-Wic Community College is located approximately forty minutes from Town, just outside of Salisbury, Maryland. Wor-Wic offers programs that lead to an associate of applied science, science, arts, or arts in teaching, as well as certificates of proficiency and letters of recognition. Wor-Wic also offers the first two years of a bachelor's degree in a variety of programs for those wishing to transfer to a four-year college or university.

Salisbury University, a fully accredited four-year college offering a wide variety of bachelor's degree programs is located less than an hour from Town, in Salisbury, Maryland. The university offers 58 distinct graduate and undergraduate programs.

LIBRARY

South Coastal Public Library, located at 43 Kent Avenue in Bethany Beach, is approximately four miles away from Millville and is currently the closest library to the Town. The library was built in 1994 and underwent renovation in 2009, during which time services were temporarily relocated to the Town. Additional information can be found at <https://southcoastal.lib.de.us/>



POSTAL SERVICE

The U.S. Postal Service operates a full service post office at its facility located at 35764 Atlantic Avenue in Millville, which is open every day of the week except Sunday. The postal code for Millville is 19967.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

DORIC MASONIC LODGE #30

The Doric Lodge is the oldest fraternal organization with the goal to “make good men better”. The organization holds fundraisers, such as Dine and Donate, as well as holds a barbecue fundraiser for others. Additional information about Doric Lodge #30 can be found on their website at <http://www.doriclodge30.org>.



MILLVILLE VOLUNTEER GROUP

The mission of the Millville Volunteer Group (MVG) is to enhance the individual and collective safety and welfare of all people of the Town. The MVG provides a number services, such as assisting residents or Town staff, assisting at Camp Barnes, and being actively involved within the Indian River School System. Some projects include conducting food drives, participating in the Stockings for Soldiers project, preparing Foster Care Knapsacks, and helping with the preparation and volunteers at the Town’s Great Pumpkin Festival and Holiday Market. Additional information about the group can be obtained by calling (302) 539-0449.

MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The vision of the Millville United Methodist Church is to be a community based on loving and serving God and loving and serving all neighbors. The organization has two employees: a pastor, serving as spiritual leader, and an organist, providing music ministry. The church provides an opportunity for Christian worship; supports local charities such as the food bank, Lord Baltimore Elementary School, and other churches; and provides community outreach and the use of its Fellowship Hall. Annual events include Christian holiday services, a yard sale, and sing-alongs. Additional information about the church can be found on their website at <http://millvillemethodistchurch.org>.



PLACES OF WORSHIP

Currently, Millville has two places of worship located within Town limits. These institutions play an important role in the community. Listed below are their locations:

- Beacon Baptist Church – 32263 Beacon Baptist Road
- Millville United Methodist Church – 36405 Club House Road

In addition to the places of worship within Town limits, there are several additional institutions located nearby in Ocean View and in Sussex County.

Source: Google (October 2018)

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS

GOALS

3-1 | PROVIDE ADEQUATE, EASILY ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC SERVICES TO RESIDENTS.

3-2 | PROVIDE QUALITY COMMUNITY SERVICES IN AN EFFICIENT, COST-EFFECTIVE MANNER FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND BETTERMENT OF MILLVILLE’S CITIZENS.

3-3 | LOCATE ALL COMMUNITY SERVICES IN AND AROUND ATLANTIC AVENUE, BETWEEN THE CURRENT LOCATION OF TOWN HALL AND THE CORNER OF CEDAR DRIVE AND ATLANTIC AVENUE.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3-1 CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL POLICE DEPARTMENT.

3-2 CONTINUE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE DELAWARE STATE POLICE.

3-3 CONTINUE SUPPORTING THE MILLVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY.

3-4 WORK WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO LOCATE SERVICE DELIVERY CENTERS IN "DOWNTOWN" MILLVILLE.

3-5 WORK WITH SUSSEX COUNTY TO PLAN FOR AN ADDITIONAL LIBRARY IN MILLVILLE AS THE POPULATION INCREASES.

CHAPTER 4 | POPULATION & HOUSING PROFILE

The following chapter offers a population and housing profile for the Town. Most of the data from in this chapter has been drawn from U.S. Census products, unless otherwise noted. It should be noted that, due to possible sampling and surveying error, the data contained in this chapter cannot be construed as an irrefutable measure of existing population or housing conditions. The Town recognizes the differences in the population estimates from the 2010 Census, 2017 American Community Survey and the Delaware Population Consortium based on methodology and actual dates of collection. At this time, the Town would follow the 2017 ACS data as it is the most recent and acceptable source for funding agency applications. The Town will continue to work with the DPC on future population projections.

Note: The U.S. Census Bureau changed the method it uses to collect and disseminate much of its information. Beginning with the 2010 Decennial Census, the Census Bureau stopped distributing the traditional “long form” survey that historically provided demographic data, published as Summary File 3 and Summary File 4. These Summary Files included social statistics such as educational attainment, economic data, and housing data. These Summary Files were replaced by American Community Survey (ACS) data, which are available in one- and five-year estimates. It is important to note that, as the population of an area becomes smaller, the accuracy of these estimates decrease. One- and three-year estimates are available for all states and counties; however, only five-year estimates are available for the smaller municipalities within the State of Delaware. The only exceptions within the State are Wilmington, Dover, and Newark, due to their population sizes. The benefit of the five-year data is that they allow the Census Bureau to draw from a larger sample; however, the data is not as current.

POPULATION PROFILE

According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, the Town has an estimated population of 1,709 people. This is a 214% increase from the 2010 population of 544, a 560% increase from the 2000 population of 259, and a 734% increase from the 1990 population of 205. During this same time period, Sussex County saw an increase of only 9% and the State saw an increase of only 5%. While neighboring Ocean View did experience a growth in their population numbers as well, the rate was not nearly as great as that experienced by Millville. Comparatively, while Bethany Beach and South Bethany experienced substantial growth during the 1990s, this growth slowed and both towns lost population in the 2010s. Population growth figures can be found in Table 4 and a historical perspective of Millville, Sussex County, and the State, dating back to 1940 can be found in Table 5. Figures 1 and 2 provide graphical representations of population history for the Town, County, and State as well.

Table 4. Population Growth

Jurisdiction	Year				% Change			
	1990	2000	2010	2017	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'17	'00-'17
Millville	205	259	544	1,709	+ 26.3%	+ 110.0%	+214.2%	+559.8%
Bethany Beach	326	903	1,060	1,010	+177.0%	+ 17.4%	-4.7%	+11.8%
South Bethany	148	492	449	422	+ 232.4%	- 8.7%	-6.0%	-14.2%
Ocean View	606	1,006	1,882	2,150	+ 66.0%	+ 87.1%	+14.2%	+113.7%
Sussex County	113,229	156,638	197,145	215,551	+38.3%	+25.9%	+9.3%	+37.6%
Delaware	666,168	783,600	897,934	943,732	+ 17.6%	+ 14.6%	+5.1%	+20.4%

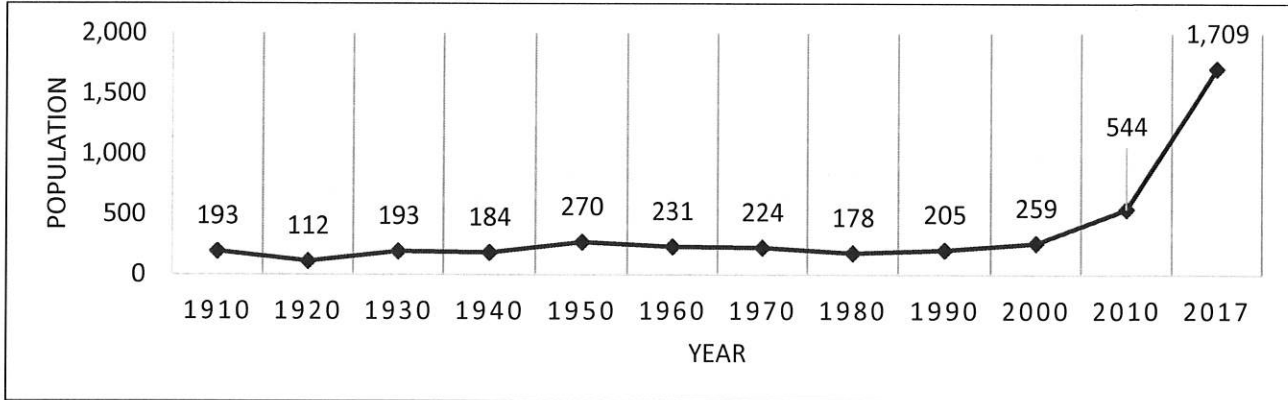
Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 1990, 2000, 2010 U.S. Census; 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Table 5. Population History

Year	Population			Year	Population		
	Millville	Sussex County	Delaware		Millville	Sussex County	Delaware
1940	184	52,502	266,505	1990	205	113,229	666,168
1950	270	61,336	318,085	2000	259	156,638	783,600
1960	231	73,195	446,292	2010	544	197,145	897,934
1970	224	80,356	548,104	2017	1,709	215,551	943,732
1980	178	98,004	594,338				

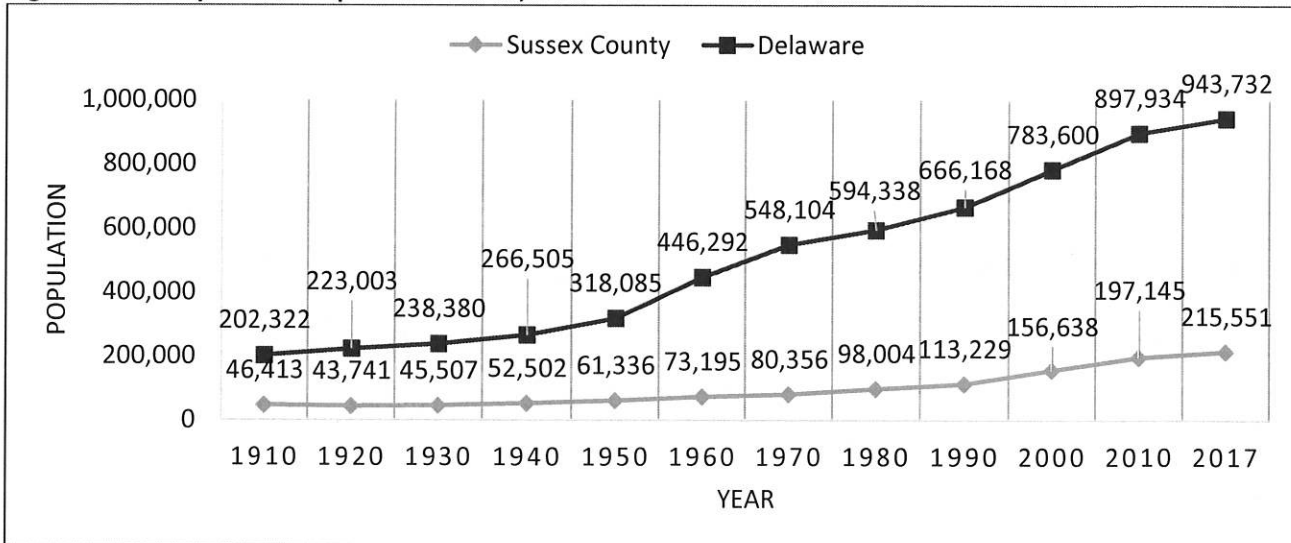
Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census (1940-2010); 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Figure 1. Town Population Trends, 1910 – 2017



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census (1910-2010); 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Figure 2. County & State Population Trends, 1910 – 2017



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census (1910-2010); 2013-2017 American Community Survey

RACE & ETHNICITY

Table 6 compares Millville’s racial composition to that of adjacent Ocean View as well as to Sussex County and the State. Table 7 summarizes changes in Millville’s racial composition from 2000 to 2010 and 2017. Although some of the percentage increases may seem quite large, such as an increase of 125% in Asian respondents between 2010 and 2017, this equates to an increase from four respondents in 2010 to 9 in 2017. As Millville exhibited a predominantly White population of 98% in 2017, small increases such as the previous example led to large changes in percentages of minority populations. Millville is much more racially homogenous than the County or the State, but shares more similar characteristics with neighboring Ocean View. Table 8 provides a summary of the Town’s population reporting Hispanic or Latino origin. Again, the absolute number of people reporting Hispanic or Latino origins has increased substantially and has also shown a considerable percent change (2,750% from 2000 to 2010); however, the percentage of the population is still somewhat small at less than 5% and has lost a small segment of population since 2010.

Table 6. Racial Composition, 2017

Race	Millville		Ocean View		Sussex County		Delaware	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
One Race	1,701	99.5%	2,144	99.7%	210,656	97.7%	917,472	97.2%
White	1,678	98.2%	1,988	92.5%	176,511	81.9%	652,170	69.1%
Black or African American	4	0.2%	24	1.1%	26,592	12.3%	206,290	21.9%
American Indian & Alaska Native	10	0.6%	5	0.2%	917	0.4%	3,482	0.4%
Asian	9	0.5%	0	0.0%	2,589	1.2%	36,553	3.9%
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	192	0.1%	465	0.0%
Some Other Race	0	0.0%	127	5.9%	3,855	1.8%	18,512	2.0%
Two or More Races	8	0.5%	6	0.3%	4,895	2.3%	26,260	2.8%
Totals	1,709	100.0%	2,150	100.0%	215,551	100.0%	943,732	100.0%

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Table 7. Change in Town's Racial Composition, 2000 – 2017

Race	2000		2010		2017		% Change		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	'00-'10	'10-'17	'00-'17
One Race	256	98.8%	535	98.3%	1,701	99.5%	+109.0%	+217.9%	+564.5%
White	251	98.0%	506	94.6%	1,678	98.2%	+101.6%	+231.6%	+568.5%
Black or African American	0	0.0%	13	2.4%	4	0.2%	n/a	-69.2%	n/a
American Indian & Alaska Native	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	0.6%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Asian	0	0.0%	4	0.7%	9	0.5%	n/a	+125.0%	n/a
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Some Other Race	5	2.0%	12	2.2%	0	0.0%	+140.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%
Two or More Races	3	1.2%	9	1.7%	8	0.5%	+200.0%	-11.1%	+166.7%
Totals	259	100.0%	544	100.0%	1,709	100.0%	+110.0%	+214.2%	+559.8%

Source: 2000 & 2010 U.S. Census; 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Table 8. Town Population Reporting Hispanic or Latino Origin, 2000 – 2017

Origin	2000		2010		2017		% Change	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	'00-'10	'10-'17
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2	0.8%	57	10.5%	54	3.2%	+2,750%	-5.3%
Not Hispanic or Latino	257	99.2%	487	89.5%	1,655	96.8%	+89.5%	+239.8%
Total Population	259	100.0%	544	100.0%	1,709	100.0%	+110.0%	+214.2%

Source: 2000 & 2010 U.S. Census, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

AGE

In 2000, the median age of Millville residents was 41.5 years old, compared with Sussex County's median age of 41.1 and the State of Delaware's median age of 36. Millville's population was, on average, older than the population of the State of Delaware but comparable to the age of Sussex County residents. In 2010, the median age of all three jurisdictions increased. Millville's median age was 44.1, compared to Sussex County's median age of 45.4 and Delaware's 38.8; Sussex County surpassed the Town with the oldest median age during this decade. In 2017, the median ages of Sussex County and the State again rose to 48.3 and 39.8, respectively, and Millville's median age also increased to 45.7. Age distributions for the three jurisdictions from 2000 to 2016 can be found in Table 9.

Table 9. Age Distribution, 2000 – 2017

	Age	2000		2010		2017		% Change	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	'00-'10	'10-'17
Millville	Under 5 Years	18	6.9%	32	5.9%	86	5.0%	+77.8%	+168.8%
	5 – 9 Years	13	5.0%	37	6.8%	48	2.8%	+184.6%	+29.7%
	10 – 19 Years	26	10.1%	38	7.0%	249	14.6%	+46.2%	+555.3%
	20 – 24 Years	10	3.9%	40	7.4%	124	7.3%	+300.0%	+210.0%
	25 – 34 Years	39	15.1%	71	13.1%	142	8.3%	+82.1%	+100.0%
	35 – 44 Years	39	15.1%	60	11.0%	190	11.1%	+53.8%	+216.7%
	45 – 54 Years	34	13.1%	66	12.1%	196	11.5%	+94.1%	+197.0%
	55 – 64 Years	31	12.0%	100	18.4%	328	19.2%	+222.6%	+228.0%
	65 – 74 Years	28	10.8%	52	9.6%	217	12.7%	+85.7%	+317.3%
	75 – 84 Years	18	6.9%	40	7.3%	76	4.4%	+122.2%	+90.0%
	85 Years +	3	1.2%	8	1.5%	53	3.1%	+166.7%	+562.5%
	Total	259	100.0%	544	100.0%	1,709	100.0%	+110.0%	+214.2%
	Median Age	41.5		44.1		45.7			
Sussex County	Under 5 Years	9,009	5.8%	11,487	5.8%	11,431	5.3%	+27.5%	-0.5%
	5 – 9 Years	9,960	6.4%	11,077	5.6%	11,714	5.4%	+11.2%	+5.8%
	10 – 19 Years	19,730	12.6%	21,939	11.1%	22,098	10.2%	+11.2%	+0.7%
	20 – 24 Years	7,556	4.8%	10,173	5.2%	10,887	5.1%	+34.6%	+7.0%
	25 – 34 Years	17,811	11.4%	20,656	10.5%	22,547	10.5%	+16.0%	+9.2%
	35 – 44 Years	23,425	15.0%	22,219	11.3%	21,275	9.9%	-5.1%	-4.2%
	45 – 54 Years	21,312	13.6%	28,390	14.4%	27,273	12.7%	+33.2%	-3.9%
	55 – 64 Years	18,813	12.0%	30,134	15.3%	34,092	15.7%	+60.2%	+13.1%
	65 – 74 Years	17,091	10.9%	24,259	12.3%	33,592	15.6%	+41.9%	+38.5%
	75 – 84 Years	9,362	6.0%	12,669	6.4%	15,244	7.1%	+35.3%	+20.3%
	85 Years +	2,569	1.6%	4,145	2.1%	5,398	2.5%	+61.3%	+30.2%
	Total	156,638	100.0%	197,145	100.0%	215,551	100.0%	+25.9%	+9.3%
	Median Age	41.1		45.4		48.3			
Delaware	Under 5 Years	51,531	6.6%	55,886	6.2%	55,282	5.9%	+8.5%	-1.1%
	5 – 9 Years	55,813	7.1%	56,486	6.3%	56,310	6.0%	+1.25%	-0.3%
	10 – 19 Years	110,906	14.2%	121,431	13.5%	117,849	12.5%	+9.5%	-2.9%
	20 – 24 Years	51,665	6.6%	62,867	7.0%	62,751	6.6%	+21.7%	-0.2%
	25 – 34 Years	108,840	13.9%	111,417	12.4%	125,241	13.3%	+2.4%	+12.4%
	35 – 44 Years	127,601	16.3%	116,087	13.0%	110,313	11.7%	-9.0%	+5.0%
	45 – 54 Years	103,999	13.3%	133,554	14.8%	128,392	13.6%	+28.4%	-3.9%
	55 – 64 Years	71,519	9.1%	110,929	12.3%	127,029	13.5%	+55.1%	+14.5%
	65 – 74 Years	56,415	7.2%	72,453	8.1%	95,605	10.1%	+28.4%	+32.0%
	75 – 84 Years	34,762	4.4%	41,080	4.6%	46,641	4.9%	+18.2%	+13.5%
	85 Years +	10,549	1.3%	15,744	1.8%	18,319	1.9%	+49.2%	+16.4%
	Total	783,600	100.0%	897,937	100.0%	943,732	100.0%	+14.6%	+5.1%
	Median Age	36.0		38.8		39.8			

Source: 2000 & 2010 U.S. Census, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

EDUCATION

The 2000 Census reported the Town had a higher percentage of residents with a high school education or a college degree than Sussex County. These rates were fairly comparable with the State of Delaware as a whole, with a slightly higher rate of high school completion and a lower rate of college degrees. The 2013-2017 American

Community Survey confirms these findings, reporting that, while fewer residents reported only high school degrees, percentages having completed some college were fairly comparable among the three jurisdictions. Town residents reported higher percentages of having obtained an associate's, bachelors, or other advanced degree when compared to County or State residents. Table 10 shows the educational attainment of Millville residents aged 25 or older, in comparison to Sussex County and Delaware.

Table 10. Educational Attainment, 2017

Educational Level	Millville		Sussex County		Delaware	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not HS Graduate	71	5.9%	21,039	13.2%	69,644	10.7%
High School Graduate	320	26.6%	53,268	33.4%	203,135	31.2%
Some College, No Degree	242	20.1%	29,896	18.8%	125,964	19.3%
Associate's Degree	120	10.0%	15,183	9.5%	51,028	7.8%
Bachelor's Degree or Greater	449	37.3%	40,035	25.1%	201,769	30.9%
Total Population 25 Years or Older	1,202	100.0%	159,421	100.0%	651,540	100.0%

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey (U.S. Census)

HOUSING PROFILE

The 2010 U.S. Census identified 433 housing units in the Town. The Town offers a mix of housing types, including single-family detached houses, multi-family homes, and townhouses. Compared to the 2000 U.S. Census data, which listed 141 housing units, Millville added 292 units, or increased housing units by 207.1%. The 2013-2017 American Community Survey identified 1,001 housing units, or an increase of 860 housing units since 2000, an additional increase of 131.2%. Table 12 shows the composition of housing stock within the Town during these three periods.

Table 11. Number of Housing Units

Year	Millville		Sussex County		Delaware	
	No.	% Change	No.	% Change	No.	% Change
1970	95	-	34,287	-	180,233	-
1980	93	-2.1%	54,694	+59.5%	238,611	+32.4%
1990	119	+28.0%	74,253	+35.8%	289,919	+21.5%
2000	141	+18.5%	93,070	+25.3%	343,072	+18.3%
2010	433	+207.1%	123,036	+32.2%	405,885	+18.3%
2017	1,001	+131.2%	132,980	+8.1%	423,489	+4.3%

Source: U.S. Decennial Census (1970-2010); 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Table 12. Composition of Housing Stock

Housing Type	2000		2010		2017		% Change		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	'00-'10	'10-'17	'00-'17
Single-Family Detached	132	88.6%	282	67.5%	602	60.1%	+113.6%	+113.5%	+356.1%
Single-Family Attached	0	0.0%	136	32.5%	378	37.8%	n/a	+177.9%	n/a
2-Family/Duplex	2	1.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	-100.0%	n/a	-100.0%
Townhouse	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12	1.2%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Multi-Family	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	9	0.9%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Mobile Home	15	10.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	-100.0%	n/a	-100.0%
Totals	149	100.0%	418	100.0%	1,001	100.0%	+180.5%	+139.5%	+571.8%

Source: 2000 U.S. Census; 2006-2010 & 2013-2017 American Community Survey

HOUSING OCCUPANCY

Of the 1,001 housing units listed in the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 652 units (or 65.1%) of those are occupied. Figure 3 compares the proportion of vacant units, owner-occupied units, and renter-occupied units in the Town to those of Sussex County, the State, and neighboring Ocean View, Bethany Beach, and South Bethany. As illustrated by the figure, Millville's vacancy and occupancy rates closely mirror those of the County. Vacancy rates are much higher than those of the State. This is probably due to Millville's proximity to the beaches and portion of units used as rentals, as well as portion of units on the market waiting to be sold. Conversely, Millville has much lower vacancy rates than the three comparison towns, indicating that a great number housing units in Bethany Beach, Ocean View, and South Bethany are more likely dedicated to seasonal and vacation use, rather than full-time residency. When looking only at the occupied units, Millville has more consistent owner and renter occupancy rates (80.1% and 19.9%, respectively) when compared with the State (71.3% and 28.7%) and Ocean View (87.8% owner and 12.2% renter occupancy) than when compared with Bethany Beach (95.5% owner and 4.5% renter occupancy) or South Bethany (98.3% owner and 1.7% renter occupancy).

Table 13. Town Housing Occupancy, 2000-2017

Occupancy Status	2000		2010		2017		% Change		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	'00-'10	'10-'17	'00-'17
Occupied Housing Units	111	78.7%	235	54.3%	652	65.1%	+111.7%	+177.4%	+487.4%
Vacant Housing Units	30	21.3%	198	45.7%	349	34.9%	+560.0%	+76.3%	+1063.3%
Homeowner Vacancy Rate	1.1%		8.6%		3.3%		+681.8%	-61.6%	+200.0%
Rental Vacancy Rate	29.2%		7.0%		0.8%		-76.0%	-88.6%	-97.3%
Total Housing Units	141	100.0%	433	100.0%	1,001	100.0%	+207.1%	+131.2%	+609.9%

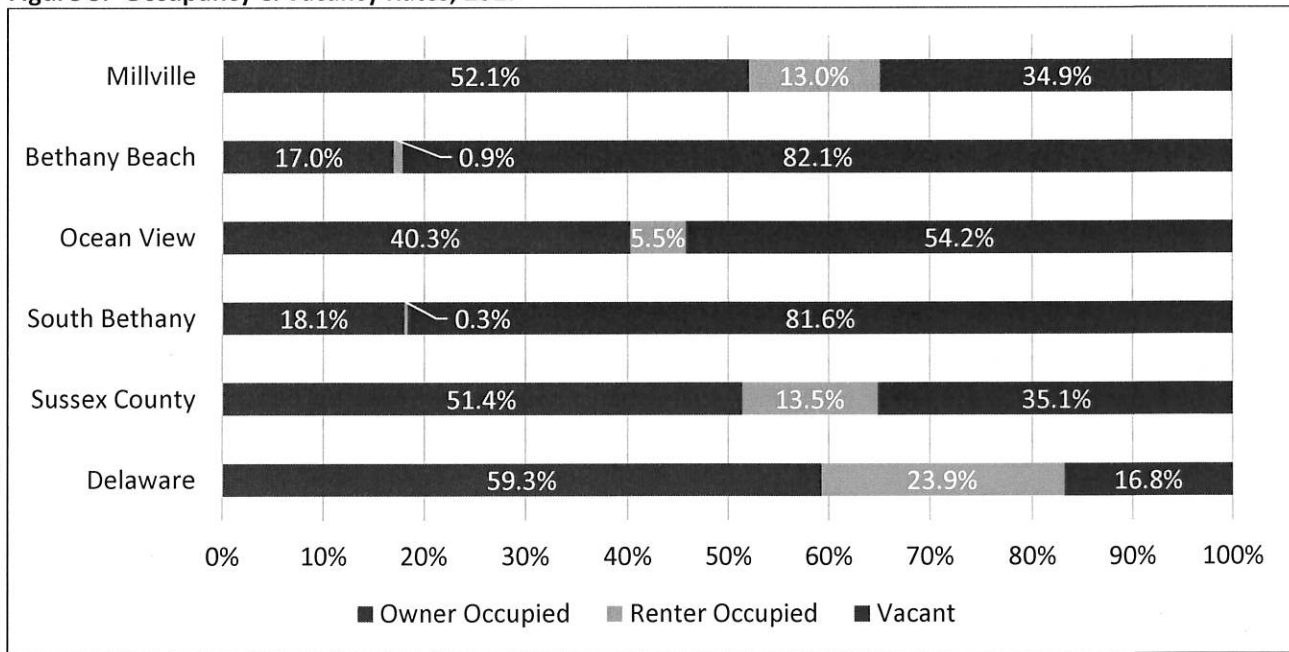
Source: 2000 & 2010 U.S. Census, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Table 14. Town Vacancy Status, 2000-2017

Vacancy Status	2000		2010		2017		% Change		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	'00-'10	'10-'17	'00-'17
For Rent	7	23.3%	5	2.5%	1	0.3%	-28.6%	-80.0%	-85.7%
For Sale Only	1	3.3%	16	8.0%	18	5.2%	+1500.0%	+12.5%	+1700.0%
Rented or Sold, Not Occupied	0	0.0%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	n/a	-100.0%	n/a
For Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional Use	22	73.3%	166	83.8%	270	77.4%	+654.5%	+62.7%	+1127.3%
For Migrant Workers	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Vacant	0	0.0%	10	5.0%	60	17.2%	n/a	+500.0%	n/a
Total Vacant Units	30	100.0%	198	100.0%	349	100.0%	+560.0%	+76.3%	+1063.3%

Source: 2000 & 2010 U.S. Census; 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Figure 3. Occupancy & Vacancy Rates, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Millville’s average owner-occupied household size decreased from 2.26 in 2000 to 2.11 and then increased to 2.21 in 2017; average renter-occupied household size showed a continual increase over all three periods from 2.76 in 2000 to 2.83 in 2010, to 4.27 in 2017. The only jurisdiction to show a similar pattern is the State of Delaware, although actual average household sizes were different. While the other jurisdictions except for South Bethany exhibited similar patterns for average owner-occupied household size, Bethany Beach’s renter-occupied size decreased in 2010 before increasing in 2017, Ocean View’s renter-occupied size decreased in both 2010 and 2017, and Sussex County’s renter-occupied size increased in 2010 before decreasing in 2017. South Bethany’s average owner-occupied household size decreased in 2010 and renter-occupied size was not reported in 2017, presumably due to the few number of units reporting. Renter-occupied households were larger than owner-occupied households in Millville, Bethany Beach, Ocean View, and Sussex County, as well as South Bethany in 2000, 2010, and 2017. Owner-occupied households were larger overall for the State of Delaware than renter-occupied households in 2017. Actual averages can be found in Table 15.

Table 15. Average Household Size

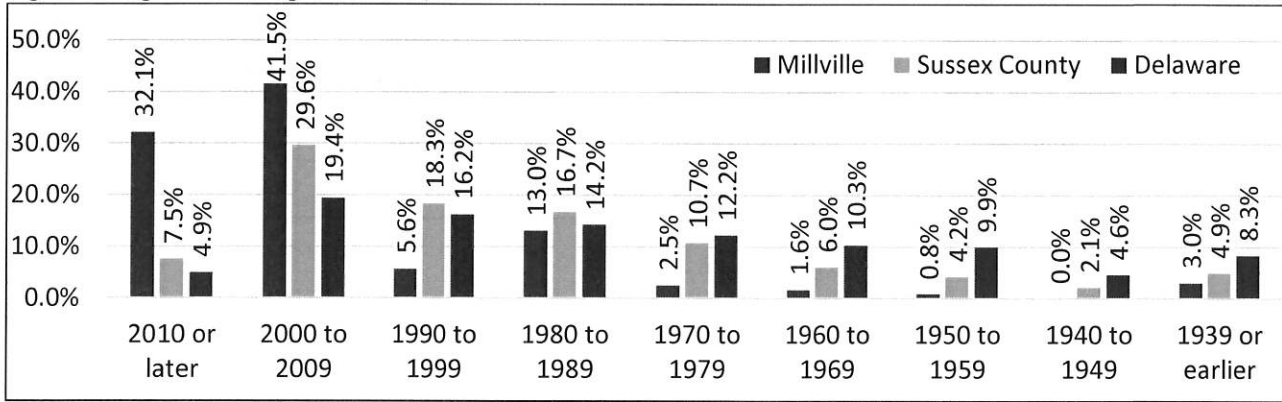
Jurisdiction	Owner-Occupied			Renter-Occupied		
	2000	2010	2017	2000	2010	2017
Millville	2.26	2.11	2.21	2.76	2.83	4.27
Bethany Beach	1.90	1.86	1.98	1.97	1.95	2.30
Ocean View	2.16	2.06	2.18	2.57	2.43	2.33
South Bethany	1.93	1.81	1.77	2.21	2.00	*
Sussex County	2.41	2.37	2.41	2.60	2.72	2.65
Delaware	2.61	2.58	2.64	2.37	2.48	2.52

Source: 2000 & 2010 U.S. Census; 2013-2017 American Community Survey; *Not Reported

HOUSING AGE

In Millville, nearly 75% (73.6% or 736 units) of housing was built since 2000, and approximately 96% (96.3% or 963 units) was built since 1960. Housing units built prior to 1960 make up about 3.8% (30 units) of the housing stock. While both Sussex County and the State of Delaware showed a large portion of growth in the 2000-2009 period, significantly fewer portions of the overall housing stock are found in that decade and the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s had fairly significant development as well. Millville also showed significant housing development in the 1980s and again in the current decade, with 13.0% and over 32% of housing structures having been constructed in those decades, respectively. It should be noted that those structures built prior to 1968 now meet the age eligibility criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Approximately 5.4% of Millville’s housing structures would meet this age criteria. Additional information on this topic is presented in Chapter 10.

Figure 4. Age of Housing Structures, 2017

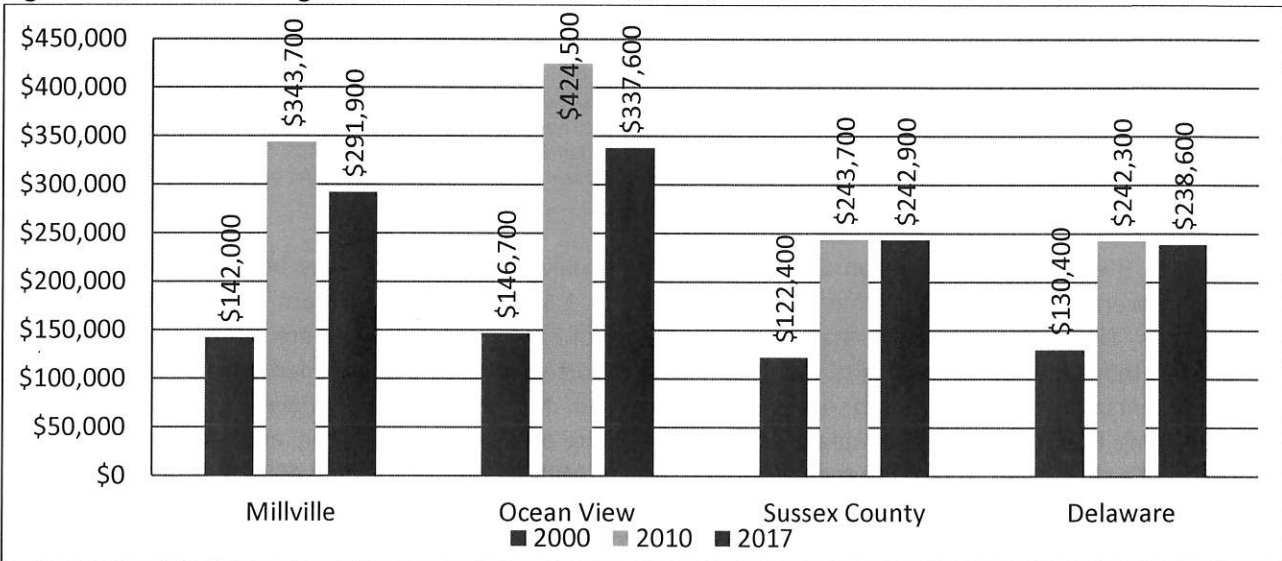


Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY & CHALLENGES

Compared to Sussex County and the State of Delaware, housing values in the Town were higher in 2017 by approximately \$51,000; however, Ocean View’s housing values were approximately \$46,000 higher than Millville’s. The median housing values for all four jurisdictions over the three periods can be found in Figure 5.

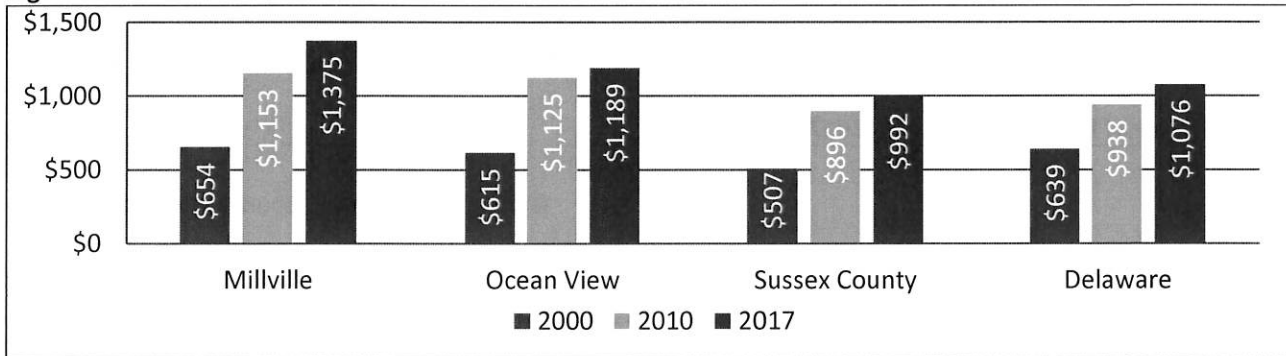
Figure 5. Median Housing Values



Source: 2000 U.S. Census; 2006-2010 & 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Housing values decreased from 2010 to 2017 in all four jurisdictions, but Millville and Ocean View experienced much larger decreases. In 2010, Millville had values that were approximately \$100,000 greater than the County and State and Ocean View’s value was approximately \$80,000 greater than that of Millville. In 2000, the median housing values were much more closely aligned between all four jurisdictions, with only \$5,000 separating Millville and Ocean View; however, the County and State still lagged behind the former by approximately \$20,000 and \$12,000, respectively.

Figure 6. Median Rental Values



Source: 2000 U.S. Census; 2006-2010 & 2013-2017 American Community Survey

The 2015-2020 Delaware Housing Needs Assessment, although not specific to the Town, noted that with high demand for coastal and near-coastal real estate, East Sussex is the most expensive market in Delaware and has a shortage of housing affordable to low and moderate-income households. The Assessment suggested that increasing the supply of housing affordable to households earning less than 80% of area median income (AMI), through incentives and existing housing programs, would work to diversify the housing market.

Table 16. Housing Challenges, 2017

Challenge	Millville		Sussex County		Delaware	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Overcrowded Units ¹	0	0.0%	1,531	1.8%	4,634	1.3%
Severely Overcrowded Units ²	0	0.0%	312	0.4%	1,213	0.3%
Homes lacking complete kitchen or plumbing facilities ³	0	0.0%	526	0.6%	2,651	2.5%
Cost Burdened Renters ⁴	40	45.9%	7,433	47.3%	45,623	49.3%
Cost Burdened Owners ⁴	81	25.0%	16,734	46.0%	48,504	29.3%

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey; Notes: ¹Overcrowded units are those occupied housing units that the ACS reports as having 1.01 to 1.50 occupants per room; ²Severely Overcrowded Units are those housing units that the ACS reports as having 1.51 or more occupants per room; ³Homes lacking complete kitchen or plumbing facilities are only reporting those that were occupied at the time of the 2013-2017 ACS; ⁴A household is considered cost burdened if selected monthly housing costs (such as rent and utilities for renters and mortgage, taxes, and insurance for owners) are greater than 30% of income.

According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, Millville did not have any housing units that were considered overcrowded, meaning that there were 1.01 to 1.50 occupants per room reported for occupied housing units. Sussex County and the State had percentages of 1.8% and 1.3%, which are seemingly low, but this accounts for thousands of housing units. Millville had no reported severely overcrowded units, meaning 1.51 or more occupants per room reported for occupied housing units. Millville also did not have any occupied housing units reporting that they lacked complete kitchen (consisting of a sink, refrigerator, and stove) or plumbing (consisting of a sink, toilet, and bathtub or shower) facilities. Millville did have almost 46% of its occupied rental households reporting that 30% or more of their income was spent on selected monthly housing costs. This percentage was slightly lower than that of the County (47.3%) and the State (49.3%). 25% of Millville’s owner

occupied households reported that 30% or more of their income was spent on selected monthly housing costs. This percentage was less than the County (32.8%) and the State (29.3%). Cost burden captures the idea that households have other costs and paying more than 30% on housing restricts the amount that a household can spend on other necessities.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS & HOUSING GROWTH

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Cedar Cove and Creekside developments were completed in 2008, adding 216 new homes to Millville. The Town also has over 1,500 approved and/or under construction units, which can be found in Table 17. In addition to these larger developments, the Town has issued building permits for 535 new single-family homes, 348 new townhomes, and 488 minor residential permits between May 2010 and December 2017. These latter permits cover items such as patios, decks, pools, fences, sheds, additions, pavers, enclosed patios, and structure demolition. Table 18 provides a breakdown of the 1,371 residential building permit issuance for this period. As of the writing of this Plan, Millville Residential, a 4.29-acre development was still pending, which if approved would allow for the development of 24 additional townhouse units.

Table 17. Housing Pipeline (approved developments / under construction)

Property Reference	Acres	No. SF Units	No. TH Units	Total Units	Status / Timeline
Sand Dollar Village (MBTS ¹)	70.33	179	73	252	Approved 2004
Summerwind Village (MBTS ¹)	32.49	83	0	83	Approved 2014
Lakeside Village (MBTS ¹)	12.86	45	0	45	Approved 2014
Sea Star Village (MBTS ¹)	33.56	102	0	102	Under Construction
Peninsula Village (MBTS ¹)	46.48	31	84	115	Preliminary Approval 2018
Coventry	25.06	76	0	76	Approved 2010
Bishop's Landing	130.42	202	231	433	Under Construction
Bishop's Landing 2 ²	95.08	127	189	316	Under Construction
H&D Subdivision	9.88	0	57	57	Approved 2010; extensions expire 1/2020
Parkside	31.32	92	0	92	Preliminary Site Plan Approval 2017
Southern Landing	6.85	16	0	16	Preliminary Site Plan Approval 2019
TOTALS:	494.33	953	634	1,587	

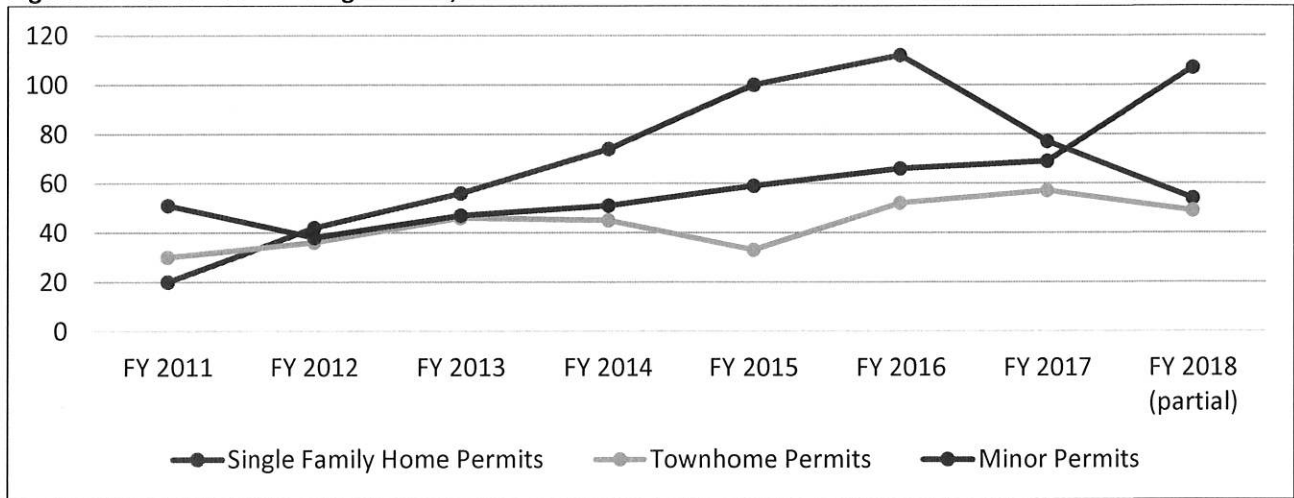
Source: Town of Millville (2/15/2019); ¹Millville by the Sea, ²fka Dove Landing

Table 18. Residential Building Permits, FY 2011-FY 2019 (partial)

Fiscal Year (5/1-4/30)	Single Family Home Permits	Townhome Permits	Minor Permits	Total Residential Building Permits
FY 2019 (partial)*	47	30	156	233
FY 2018	79	54	156	289
FY 2017	77	57	69	203
FY 2016	112	52	66	230
FY 2015	100	33	59	192
FY 2014	74	45	51	170
FY 2013	56	46	47	149
FY 2012	42	36	38	116
FY 2011	20	30	51	101
TOTALS	607	383	693	1,683

Source: Town of Millville (2/15/2019); *Partial Fiscal Year – 5/1/17 – 1/31/19

Figure 7. Residential Building Permits, FY 2011-FY 2018



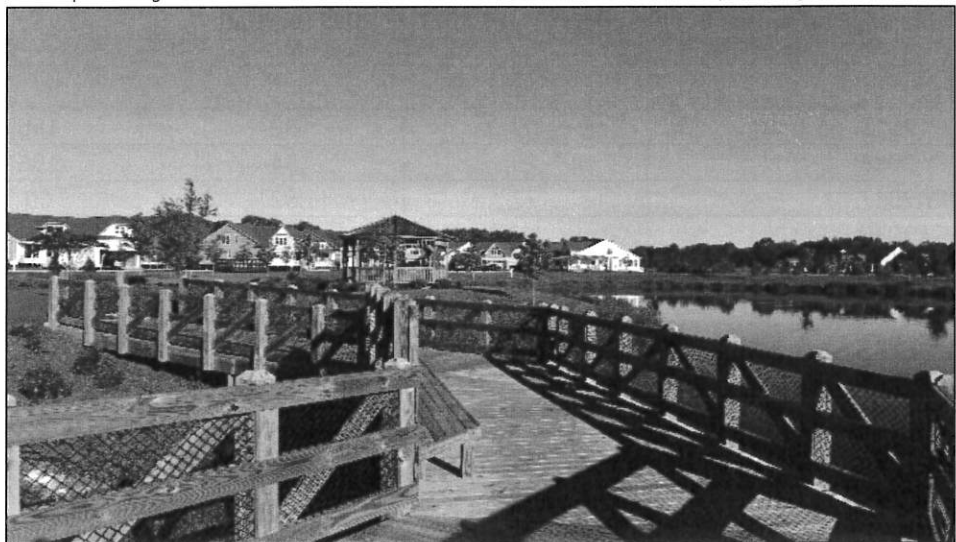
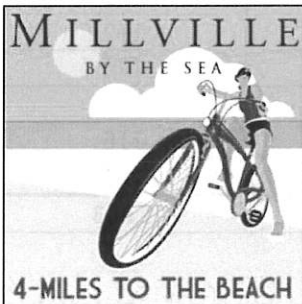
Source: Town of Millville (November 2017); FY2018 Partial Fiscal Year – 5/1/17-11/30/17



Clubhouse Pond at Bishops Landing



Aerial Fountain at Bishops Landing



HOUSING AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS

To project future population growth, the 2003 Plan displayed two simple population projection methods using historical Census data and transportation planning projections. The first method was a conservative estimation procedure labeled the “Low Projection,” which used population projections for transportation planning areas called “Traffic Analysis Zones.” A group of Traffic Analysis Zones were selected that correspond to the area surrounding the Town and it was estimated that the Town comprised of 8.8 percent of the selected zones. Using this method, it was projected the Town population would increase from 259 people to 272 people by the year 2010, and 276 people by 2020.

The second population projection, called the “High Projection,” assumed the growth rates for the two subsequent decades would be the same as the growth rate that the Town experienced between the 1990 Census and 2000 Census. As Millville’s population grew by 13 percent between 1990 and 2000 this method resulted in projecting the Town’s population would increase to 293 by the year 2010 and 331 by the year 2020.

The first, more conservative population projection predicts the need for approximately six new houses by 2010 and seven new houses by 2020. Using Millville’s average household size of 2.33 from the 2000 U.S. Census, the second population projection procedure resulted in estimating approximately 15 new houses that would be required by 2010 and 31 houses by 2020.

These population projection methods work best in larger communities with historically steady and consistent growth rates. This clearly has not been the case in Millville, where the development of a single large subdivision can dramatically affect the size and rate of population growth. With large annexations and new developments, these housing and population projections were far surpassed, as shown by the population count (544) and the housing unit count (433) in the 2010 U.S. Census.

In 2018, the Delaware Population Consortium developed population projections for each of the 57 municipalities in the State. Table 19 provides projections for the Town, County, and State, with information on how the population is estimated to change each decade. Between 2010 and 2050, the Town’s population is projected to increase 86.0%. The County’s population is projected to increase 40.4%, while the State’s population is projected to increase by 21.6%.

Table 19. Population Projections, 2020-2050

	Millville		Sussex County		Delaware	
	No.	% Change	No.	% Change	No.	% Change
2010	544	-	197,940	-	900,429	-
2020	649	+19.3%	235,396	+18.9%	989,803	+9.9%
2030	757	+16.6%	255,143	+8.4%	1,044,965	+5.6%
2040	875	+15.6%	268,180	+5.1%	1,076,165	+3.0%
2050	1,012	+15.7%	277,871	+3.6%	1,094,704	+1.7%

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, 2018

Assuming the average overall household size of 2.62, provided in the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, continues until 2050, one can project the number of households that will be needed to support the projected population shown in Table 19. Table 20 shows that the number of reported housing units within Town currently will satisfy the population projection: there will be 615 more units than needed, based solely on average household size. This does not take into account housing types or seasonal uses, but looks purely at the overall number of units within the Town.

Table 20. Projected Housing Units Needed, based on Population Projections, 2020-2050

	2010		2020		2030		2040		2050	
	Units ¹	+/- ²	Units ¹	+/- ²	Units ¹	+/- ²	Units ¹	+/- ²	Units ¹	+/- ²
Units Needed	208	+793	248	+753	289	+712	334	+667	386	+615

¹Units are the number of housing units projected, based on the population projections in Table 19, divided by the average household size of 2.62.

²+/- is the difference in the number of housing units between the projection and the number estimated to be currently in existence, per the 2013-2017 ACS. Source: KCI Technologies, Inc. projections and estimates based on Delaware Population Consortium projections, 2018.

GOALS

GOALS

- 4-1 | THE TOWN IS LOCATED WITHIN AN OSHA-DEFINED "AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY" WHICH ARE STRONG, HIGH VALUE MARKETS, OFFERING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOLS, AND SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT HELP HOUSEHOLDS SUCCEED. THE TOWN WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT A VARIETY OF HOUSING TYPES WHERE PEOPLE OF ALL INCOME LEVELS AND AGES SHOULD BE ABLE TO AFFORD QUALITY HOUSING.

- 4-2 | THE TOWN WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH DEVELOPERS, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND THE DELAWARE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY TO SUPPORT HOUSING FOR ALL INCOME LEVELS.

CHAPTER 5 | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This Chapter addresses Millville's economy and includes goals and strategies designed to enhance the Town's competitive advantages. In general, the Town should focus on the attraction of new businesses, the retention and expansion of existing businesses, and creating the conditions for productive investment in areas that have suffered from disinvestment or a lack of investment.

EMPLOYMENT

The 2013-2017 American Community Survey results indicated there were 1,392 residents in Millville that were 16 years of age and over (employable). By age group, the largest employed group consists of residents aged 25 to 54 years, with 419 employed and 30 unemployed. This age range is 38% of the employable population. Of the 608 employable residents not in the labor force, 277 or 19.9% come from age groups 65 years of age and older. Table 21 provides additional information.

Table 21. Town Employment Status by Age & Gender, 2017

	Total	Male	Female		Total	Male	Female
Population 16 and over	1,392	569	823	Population 55 to 59	143	46	97
In labor Force	784	326	458	In labor Force	101	27	74
Armed forces	0	0	0	Armed forces	0	0	0
Civilian labor force	784	326	458	Civilian labor force	101	27	74
Employed	732	304	428	Employed	101	27	74
Unemployed	52	22	30	Unemployed	0	0	0
Not in labor force	608	243	365	Not in labor force	42	19	23
Population 16 to 19	66	5	61	Population 60 to 64	185	67	118
In labor Force	17	3	14	In labor Force	55	17	38
Armed forces	0	0	0	Armed forces	0	0	0
Civilian labor force	17	3	14	Civilian labor force	55	17	38
Employed	17	3	14	Employed	55	17	38
Unemployed	0	0	0	Unemployed	0	0	0
Not in labor force	49	2	47	Not in labor force	130	50	80
Population 20 to 24	124	63	61	Population 65 to 69	160	103	57
In labor Force	93	42	51	In labor Force	38	24	14
Armed forces	0	0	0	Employed	34	22	12
Civilian labor force	93	42	51	Unemployed	4	2	2
Employed	85	42	43	Not in labor force	122	79	43
Unemployed	8	0	8	Population 70 years +	186	81	105
Not in labor force	31	21	10	In labor Force	31	23	8
Population 25 to 54	528	204	324	Employed	21	13	8
In labor Force	449	190	259	Unemployed	10	10	0
Armed forces	0	0	0	Not in labor force	155	58	97
Civilian labor force	449	190	259				
Employed	419	180	239				
Unemployed	30	10	20				
Not in labor force	79	14	65				

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

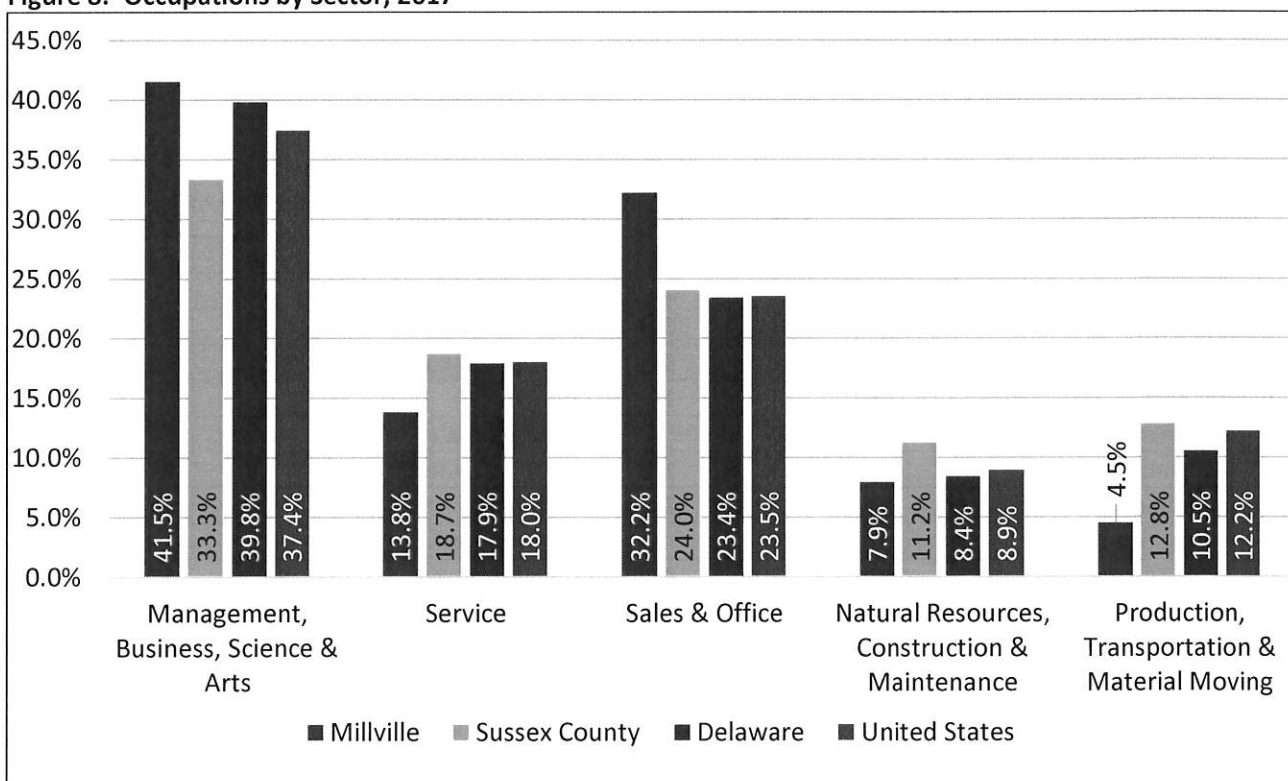
Out of those 784 residents in the civilian labor force, there were a total of 52 Millville residents who were unemployed. The Town's unemployment rate, based on these statistics (population of unemployed divided by

the population of the civilian labor force) was 6.6%. Just under 58% (30 people) of the unemployed fall into the 25 to 54 age range.

The 2013-2017 American Community Survey shows that Millville’s employment sectors’ percentages differ from Sussex County, the State of Delaware, and the national percentages. The sales and office sector in the Town is considerably higher, while the production, transportation and material moving sector is significantly lower. The remaining sectors are somewhat consistent, varying by no more than 5% when compared to the other jurisdictions.

About 41.5% of residents are employed in a management, business, and science and arts occupations. Another 32.2% of residents are employed in a sales and office occupation, followed by 13.8% in a service occupation. Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations account for 7.9%, while production, transportation, and material moving occupations account for only 4.5% of Millville occupations.

Figure 8. Occupations by Sector, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

As mentioned earlier in this section, there were 732 people employed in Millville in 2017, comprising approximately 53% of the total number of civilian residents 16 years of age and older in Town and almost 93% of the civilian labor force. Employed and unemployed percentages are fairly consistent between the Town, County, State, and nation; however, Millville has somewhat higher percentages of women in the civilian labor force but also slightly higher unemployment rates for women as well.

Table 22. Comparison of Labor Force Statistics, 2017

	Millville No.	Millville %	Sussex County %	Delaware %	United States %
Total Population	1,709	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Civilian Population, 16+ years	1,392	81.5%	82.8%	80.8%	79.7%
Female, Civilian Population	823	59.1%	52.0%	52.1%	51.2%
Civilian Labor Force (participation rate)	784	56.3%	56.3%	61.9%	63.0%
Female, Civilian Labor Force	458	58.4%	47.8%	49.1%	47.4%
Employed (% civilian population 16+)	732	93.3%	93.9%	93.6%	92.9%
Female, Employed	428	93.4%	93.9%	94.0%	93.6%
Unemployed (% civilian population 16+)	52	6.6%	6.1%	6.4%	6.6%
Female, Unemployed	30	6.6%	6.1%	6.0%	6.4%

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Table 23. Top Employers, Millville Area

Business Name	Address	Business Type
Beebe Medical Centers	Creekside Plaza	Medical
Giant Food	38069 Town Center Drive	Retail – Grocery
Weis Market	215 Atlantic Avenue	Retail – Grocery

Source: Town of Millville (2018)



Top Employers: Beebe Medical Center (above), Giant Food (right), Weis Market (far right)

INCOME & POVERTY

As of the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, there were a total of 652 households. Figure 9 provides a graphical representation of the following information: 8.7% or 57 households have incomes less than \$15,000; 29.9% or 195 households have incomes greater than \$100,000; income ranges from \$15,000 to less than \$50,000 account for 23.0% or 150 households; households where income is between \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 account for 38.3% or 250 households. The income range of \$50,000 to \$74,999 accounts for the largest single income range (ACS-reported) in Millville with 165 households, representing 25.3% of the Town.

Table 24 and Figure 10 show the median household, family, and per capita income for Millville, Sussex County, and the State of Delaware. The median household income of Millville residents in 1999, according to the 2000 U.S. Census, was \$36,932. This was \$2,276 lower than the Sussex County median of \$39,208 and \$5,062 lower than the State of Delaware median of \$41,994. Millville’s median family income and per capita was higher than that of the County’s, but still below the State’s. In 2010, the American Community Survey reported that Millville had higher median household and family incomes as well as per capita incomes than the County and the State. These incomes were \$63,333 (\$12,287 higher than the County and \$11,419 higher than the State), \$71,750 (\$12,697 higher than the County and \$8,768 higher than the State), and \$37,911 (\$11,132 higher than the County and \$10,577 higher than the State), respectively. In 2017, the American Community Survey reported that Millville once again had the highest median household income of \$68,000 (\$10,099 higher than the County, \$4,964 higher

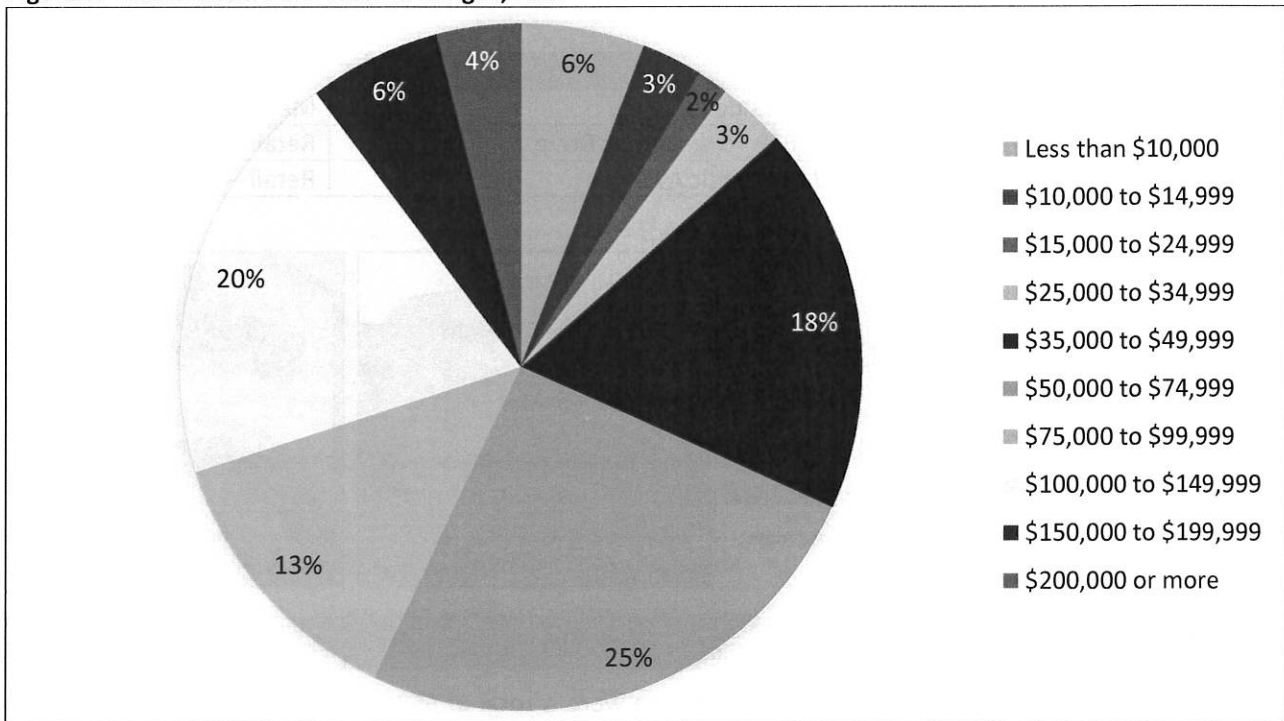
than the State, and \$10,348 higher than the nation), but had the second highest per capita income of \$70,074 (\$2,232 higher than the County, \$6,272 lower than the State, and \$776 lower than the nation) and second lowest median family income of \$32,600 (\$726 higher than the County, \$25 lower than the State, and \$1,423 higher than the nation).

Table 24. Household, Family & Per Capita Annual Income, 2017

Income	Amount in Dollars			
	Millville	Sussex County	Delaware	United States
Median Household Income	\$68,000	\$57,901	\$63,036	\$57,652
Median Family Income	\$70,074	\$67,842	\$76,346	\$70,850
Per Capita Income	\$32,600	\$31,874	\$32,625	\$31,177

Source: 2000 U.S. Census, 2006-2010 & 2012-2016 American Community Survey

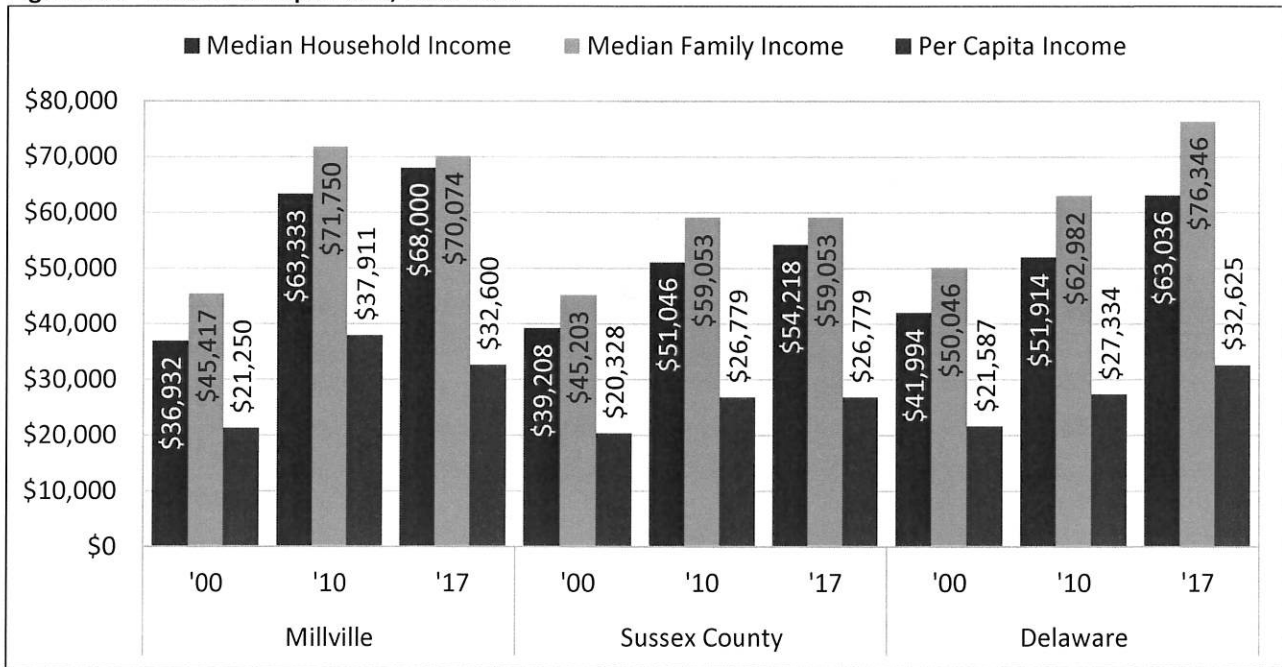
Figure 9. Town Household Income Ranges, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

In 2017, the American Community Survey reported that Millville had a lower percentage of households with annual incomes under \$25,000 (10.2%) than Sussex County or the State of Delaware. It had slightly higher percentages of households with annual incomes of \$100,000 (29.9%) or more. The Town had a fairly similar percentage of families living below the poverty level (8.3%), but had a lower percentage of individuals living below the poverty level (8.4%). The State and County had 2.5-3 times the percentage of individuals under 18 years old living below poverty level (17.4% and 22.6%, respectively), when compared to Millville (7.0%); however, Millville had 1.5-2.5 times the percentage of individuals over the age of 65 living below poverty level (11.8%) when compared to the County and State (4.8% and 7.2%, respectively). Table 25 provides selected income distribution and poverty data reported by the 2013-2017 American Community Survey.

Figure 10. Income Comparisons, 2000-2017



Source: 2000 U.S. Census, 2006-2010 & 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Table 25. Selected Income Distribution & Poverty Data, 2017

Item	Millville		Sussex County		Delaware	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Households with annual income under \$25,000	67	10.2%	13,581	16.4%	62,568	17.8%
Households with annual income of \$100,000 or more	195	29.9%	20,283	24.5%	98,733	28.0%
Families below poverty level	8.3%		7.3%		8.2%	
Individuals below poverty level	8.4%		11.0%		12.1%	
Individuals under 18 years old, below poverty level	7.0%		22.6%		17.4%	
Individuals 65 years and over below poverty level	11.8%		4.8%		7.2%	

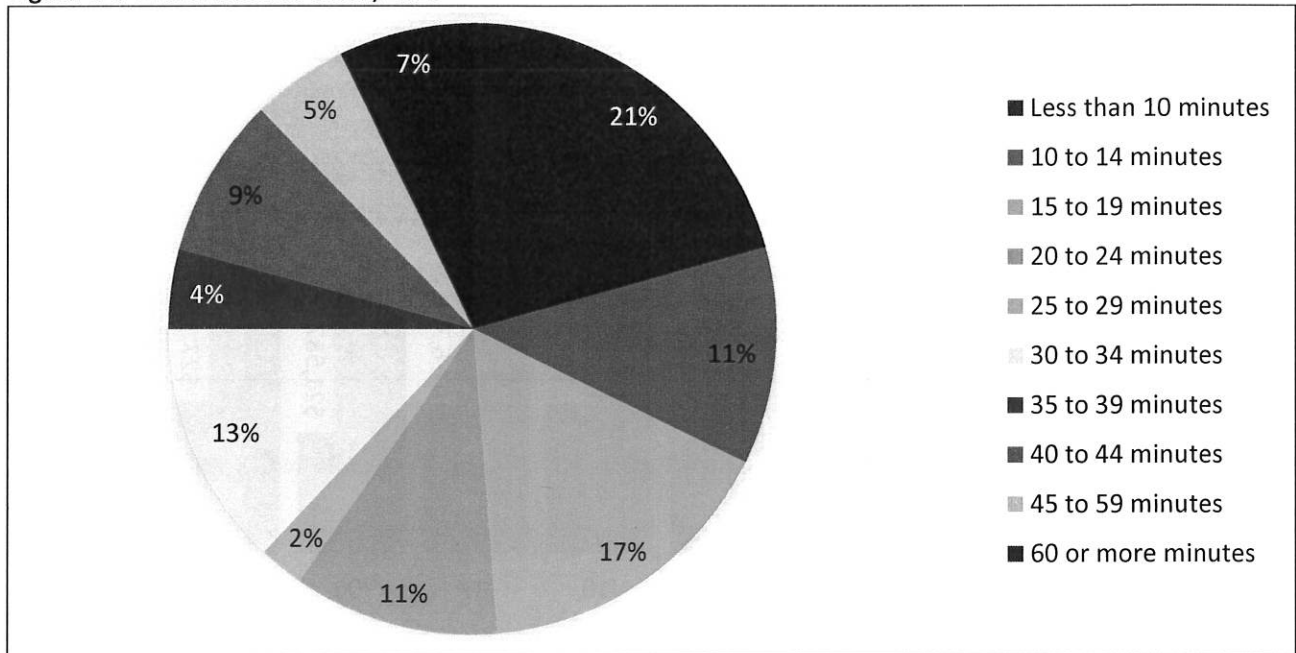
Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

ECONOMIC BASE & LABOR MARKET

TRAVEL TO WORK

In Millville, the largest percentage of working residents who work outside their home commute less than 10 minutes to work. Over 15% travel 10 to 14 minutes to get to work. Another 15% travel 15 to 19 minutes. More than six percent travel over 60 minutes to get to work.

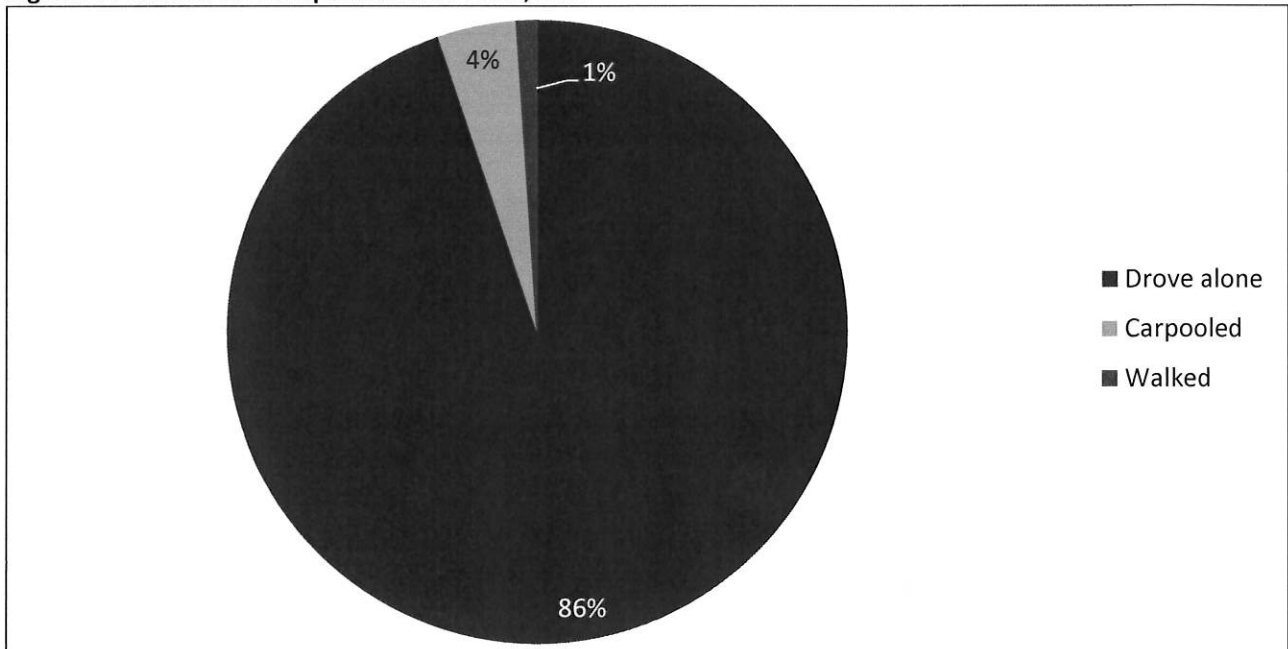
Figure 11. Travel Time to Work, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 86.4% or 591 of Millville’s residents who work drove alone to reach their destination; 8.8% worked at home; 3.8% carpooled; and 1.0% walked to reach their place of work. There were no reports of Millville residents using any form of public transportation to reach their work destinations.

Figure 12. Means of Transportation to Work, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

ENTREPRENEURS AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Continuing to grow and develop Millville’s business base to provide jobs and commercial and service outlets for Town residents is critical to long-term economic vitality and sustainability. All economies experience continual shifts as existing businesses close or move and new businesses are created. To be successful, more new businesses must be created than are lost and a share of those new businesses must achieve good long-term growth.

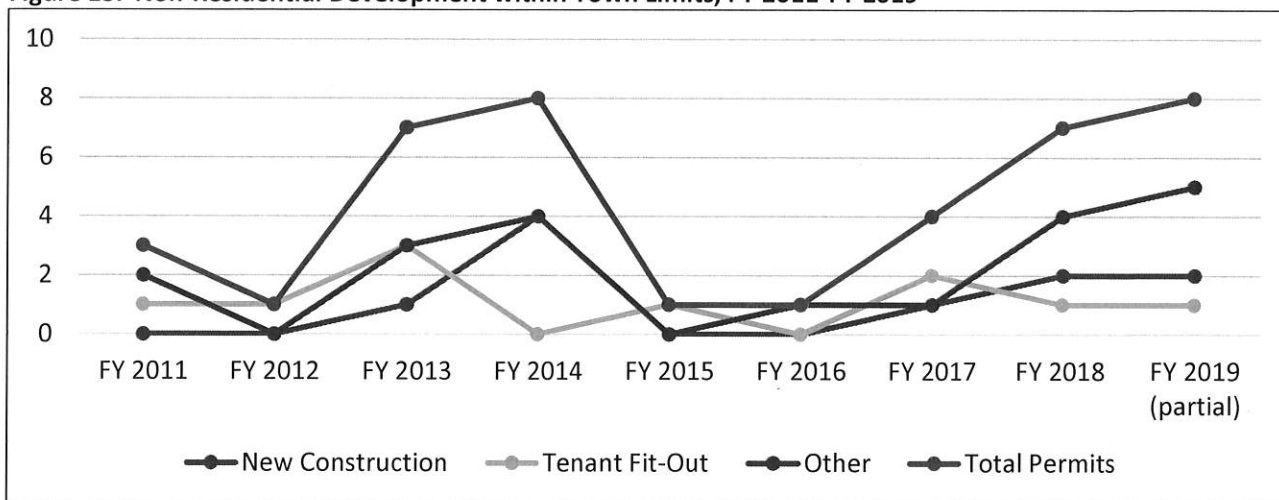
Businesses take multiple factors into consideration when seeking a location. Typical business location factors include:

- Location – access to customers/markets, suppliers, and transportation facilities;
- Facilities – buildings, land, office space, water, sewer, and transportation and telecommunication infrastructure;
- Business costs – cost of facilities, labor, taxes, and energy;
- Finances – availability and cost of capital, community/state economic development resources;
- Workforce – availability of workforce, cost, skill levels, and productivity;
- Business climate – permitting, regulations, zoning, government responsiveness;
- Knowledge resources – training resources, universities, colleges, research parks, labs;
- Business resources – networking, trade associations, training, exporting, procurement resources; and
- Quality of life – cost of housing, quality of schools, low crime rates, and recreation and cultural amenities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LAND USE

Land use policy shapes the urban form, creating memorable places and amenities that help Millville compete for businesses and residents.

Figure 13. Non-Residential Development within Town Limits, FY 2011-FY 2019



Source: Town of Millville (March 2019); FY 2019 Partial: 5/1/2018-3/1/2019

Table 26. Non-Residential Development within Town Limits, FY 2011-FY 2019

	New Construction	Tenant Fit-Out	Other
FY11	-	Fox’s Den Pizza	MBTS ¹ – Cabana MVFC ² – Membrane Roof
FY12	-	Denny Harris	-
FY13	Dollar General	Fox’s Den Pizza 32566 Doc’s Place – Unit 10 32550 Doc’s Place – Unit 2	DeIDOT – Demo 35834 Atlantic Ave – Shed Coventry – Accessory Building
FY14	MBTS ¹ – Community Center MBTS ¹ – Wellness Center Beazer Homes – Club House Millville Methodist – Meeting Hall	-	MBTS ¹ – Pavilion MBTS ¹ – Pool Building MBTS ¹ – Pool Millville Methodist – Demo
FY15	-	CFL Enterprises	-
FY16	-	-	Millville Town Center Assoc. – Addition
FY17	Millville Mini Storage – Storage Unit	Capano Management Millville Town Center Assoc.	Capano Management – Sidewalk
FY18	35722 Atlantic Ave – Showroom/Office 35308 Atlantic Ave – Take-out Food	32550 Doc’s Place – Beebe	35722 Atlantic Ave – Demo 35370 Atlantic Ave – Accessory Building 16949 Bellevue Ct – Pool House & Pool 35577 Atlantic Ave – Attached Acc. Structure
FY19*	35761 Atlantic Ave – Professional Ofc. 32750 Roxana Rd – Beebe ED/Cancer Ctr	35786 Atlantic Ave – Office	35745 Atlantic Ave – Demo 35246 Atlantic Ave – Demo 35266 Atlantic Ave – Demo 35761 Atlantic Ave – Demo 35715 Atlantic Ave – Accessory Structure

Source: Town of Millville (March 2019); *FY 2019: 5/1/2018-3/1/2019; ¹Millville by the Sea, ²Millville Volunteer Fire Company

REDEVELOPMENT

As a small Town in a resort area, Millville does not face the redevelopment issues experienced by larger municipalities. There are no brownfields, former industrial complexes, or vacant shopping centers requiring redevelopment; however, there are vacant buildings and parcels where the Town would like to see some redevelopment or clean-up efforts focused. These areas include scattered parcels along the Atlantic Avenue corridor and four parcels on Club House Road.

The Delaware Brownsfield Marketplace is an interactive database that contains a list of potential Brownsfield sites throughout Delaware. This is maintained by DNREC’s Site Investigation and Restoration Section and further information can be located at: <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/SIRB/Pages/Brownfields.aspx>.

GOALS

GOALS

- 5-1 | MAINTAIN, PRESERVE AND IMPROVE THE UNIQUE SMALL TOWN CHARACTER OF MILLVILLE.
- 5-2 | IMPROVE THE BUSINESS DISTRICT LOCATED ALONG ATLANTIC AVENUE, WHILE KEEPING THE UNIQUE SHOPS AND SERVICES.
- 5-3 | DEVELOP A VIBRANT AND UNIQUE SETTING BY ENCOURAGING THE CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT OF ATLANTIC AVENUE.

5-4 | FOSTER INVITING, PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY DESIGNS AS ONE ELEMENT OF ENSURING A LIVELY AND COMMERCIALY VIABLE SHOPPING DISTRICT.

RECOMMENDATIONS**5-1 CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE ATLANTIC AVENUE/ROUTE 26 STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS.**

The Town should continue to pursue grant funding to implement the recommended improvements and amenities in the “Millville Atlantic Avenue Streetscape Improvements Pattern Book,” dated April 2008. These improvements consist of shade trees, pedestrian-oriented lighting, and sidewalks connecting to all residential neighborhoods, among other amenities. In addition, the Town should seek to reinstate the DelDOT capital improvement project for Atlantic Avenue within Town limits. Additional information on these streetscape improvements can be found in Chapter 6, Transportation.

5-2 ESTABLISH A GATEWAY FOR ATLANTIC AVENUE (ROUTE 26).

Develop specific designs to enhance the gateway along Atlantic Avenue on the east and west boundaries of Town. The gateway should serve to visually reinforce entry into Millville, to define the Town edges, and to calm and manage vehicular traffic entering Town in a safe and efficient manner. This can be achieved through access management, landscape and frontage improvements, signage and banners, and overall quality of site and building design in the area. The Town should coordinate ongoing gateway development with all annexation activities and continue to work with the Town of Ocean View on the redevelopment of the Route 26 Corridor.

CHAPTER 6 | TRANSPORTATION

ROADWAYS

The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) maintains the major streets throughout the Town and in the surrounding area. Atlantic Avenue (Route 26) runs directly through the Town and is the major east-west route in Sussex County. It provides access from western Sussex County and points west to Bethany Beach and other Atlantic coast resorts. The Town does not own or maintain any roads within its borders. Generally, housing communities own their own roadways and are responsible for their maintenance and repair.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The 2018 Community Survey revealed a desire for public transportation. Of the surveyed respondents, 83% believe that there should be a form of seasonal bus or trolley service to the beach. Providing a summer trolley would relieve congestion along Atlantic Avenue and associated feeder roads. It is recommended that access to public transportation should either be part of the interconnected trail/bike system within Town or provide parking options for users.

PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE CIRCULATION

The compact nature of the Town's existing development enables much of Millville to be easily travelled on foot and bike; however, the lack of connected sidewalks and bike paths is a discouraging factor. Improving bicycle and pedestrian traffic paths will maintain and promote Millville's small town atmosphere, providing a means of offsetting the wake of development pressure.

Survey results revealed that 92% of respondents believe there should be clearly definable sidewalk, trail, and bike paths. Of the survey respondents, 88% indicated that the pedestrian system should connect with existing and proposed developments, while 91% indicated that the Town should work with neighboring municipalities to provide a connection for pedestrian and bicyclist traffic. Even though current DelDOT plans do not include sidewalks west of Clubhouse Road along Atlantic Avenue, the Town should work with DelDOT to incorporate sidewalks into current roadway development plans.

TRAFFIC CONGESTION & CALMING

The area of Atlantic Avenue between Roxana Road/Route 17 and Bethany Beach is experiencing high seasonal congestion and by 2025, the entire portion of Atlantic Avenue between Dagsboro and Bethany Beach is expected to experience high seasonal congestion. Traffic congestion already adversely affects the Town. Survey results confirmed that congestion on Atlantic Avenue is a major concern of the property owners in the Town. Many respondents indicated that there is too much traffic through Town during the summer. Seasonal traffic and large new developments in the surrounding area are certainly having significant local impacts. This congestion creates an increased need for street maintenance and discourages foot and bicycle traffic.

I believe a seasonal bus service to the beach running from municipal parking lots would reduce travel time to and from the beach, reduce traffic and improve the environment.

-Resident

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

The need for improvements to Atlantic Avenue stems from record growth through the 1990s and early 2000s, which resulted in traffic congestion, safety concerns, and operational issues. The improvements were the result

of a DeDOT Planning Study conducted from 1999-2001, recommendations received from the public at numerous public workshops, and advisory committee meetings.

The existing roadway was widened to provide one 11-foot travel lane in each direction with 5-foot shoulders that were striped as bike lanes. A 12-foot shared center left turn lane was included through the length of the project. Separate right turn and left turn lanes were added at intersections. Sidewalks and closed drainage were provided for much of the roadway segments through both Millville and Ocean View. The work made improvements that accommodate the area's multi-modal transportation needs. DeDOT and its SR 26 Project Team worked with neighborhood and community representatives, schools, local government leaders, concerned citizens, federal and state environmental and cultural resource agencies, and others to develop plans meeting the diverse needs of the community. Project construction was substantially completed in October 2016.

SR 26 construction begins fall 2013

Over four miles of SR 26 will be widened to provide one 11-foot travel lane in each direction with 5-foot shoulders which will be striped as bike lanes. A 12-foot shared center left turn lane will be included through the length of the project. This will help ease congestion by moving left turning vehicles into their own lane. Separate right turn lanes and left turn lanes will be added at intersections.

Sidewalks and closed drainage will be provided for much of the roadway segments through Ocean View and Millville. The improvements will help accommodate the area's multi-modal transportation needs.

Minimizing time in construction by maximizing work hours and work zones

DeDOT understands how difficult construction can be for motorists and for those who live and work within the project limits. So in order to minimize construction time as much as possible, DeDOT plans to work day and night in multiple areas of the project. Traffic delays will be monitored daily by local personnel and with the use of mobile and stationary cameras.

Businesses remain open throughout construction

Homes and businesses will be accessible throughout construction. **Please continue to patronize local businesses - they depend on you!** Bicycle and pedestrian traffic will also be maintained through the work zones. SR 26 will remain an evacuation route during construction.

Work times/lane restrictions ensure project is completed quickly with minimal disruption

Construction will occur day and night on this project in order to complete it in the shortest time frame possible. However, there are restrictions on when lane closures will be allowed.

Peak Season - May 18 through Sept 30

- Lane closures, shoulder closures, and lane shifts are not allowed from 6 am Friday to 7 pm Monday
- Lane shifts and shoulder closures are allowed, but no lane closures are allowed between Tuesday 6 am to Thursday 7 pm

Off-Peak Season - Oct 1 through May 15

- Lane closures, shoulder closures, and lane shifts are allowed at all times, except for the hours of 6 am to 9 am. During that time, no lane closures are allowed
- From January to March of 2015, SR 26 will be closed at two locations for bridge replacement - just east of the Lost Balltown Elementary School and just east of the Millville Town Hall. Please note that businesses in between the closure points will be kept Alternate routes (see map) are in place to get motorists around the closure points.

LEGEND

- PROJECT LANE (CLOSED)
- PROJECT LANE (UNCLOSED)
- ALTERNATE ROUTE
- ROAD CLOSED FOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT (JAN-MAR 2015)

GOALS

GOALS

- 6-1 | ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PLANNED TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT, COORDINATION, AND POLICIES CONSISTENT WITH ZONING AND DENSITY.
- 6-2 | ENCOURAGE SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT AMONG RESIDENTS BY PROMOTING INTERACTION THROUGH PEDESTRIAN NETWORKS, WHICH SHOULD BE LINED WITH SHADED SITTING AREAS INCLUDING BENCHES, SMALL PARK AREAS, ETC.
- 6-3 | REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN TOWN.
- 6-4 | SUPPORT THE STREETScape REVITALIZATION AND BEAUTIFICATION OF ATLANTIC AVENUE.
- 6-5 | PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION CHOICES INCLUDING PUBLIC TRANSIT AND A PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE NETWORK.
- 6-6 | IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE CONNECTIVITY AND SAFETY THROUGHOUT TOWN TO CREATE A MORE WALK AND BIKE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY.

6-7 | CREATE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR SENIOR RESIDENTS.

6-8 | ENSURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF PARKING WITHIN THE ATLANTIC AVENUE BUSINESS DISTRICT.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6-1 CONTINUE TO WORK WITH DELDOT ON ISSUES RELATED TO ATLANTIC AVENUE/ROUTE 26 AND OTHER STATE ROADS IN AND AROUND MILLVILLE.

All streets in the Town are either private streets or DeIDOT maintained streets. The Town should aim to maintain contact with DeIDOT to ensure State roads receive proper maintenance and to ensure that the Town remains informed of planned improvements that will impact area traffic patterns.

6-2 CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE ATLANTIC AVENUE/ROUTE 26 STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS.

To assist in further mitigating traffic impacts in Town and promoting pedestrian-friendly mobility, the Town should continue to pursue the investments identified in the "Millville Atlantic Avenue Streetscape Improvements Pattern Book," dated April 2008. Streetscape improvements may not only affect the appearance of an area, but can also contribute to the safety and convenience of vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle mobility. While the DeIDOT SR 26 Improvement Project installed bike lanes and sidewalks, additional improvements could include benches, light standards, trash receptacles, tree grates, bicycle racks, and signs, which would all assist in creating a positive image, promoting a pedestrian friendly environment, and assisting to stimulate economic activity.

6-3 DEVELOP A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN FOR TOWN MAINTAINED STREETS & SIDEWALKS.

A capital improvements plan should be developed for Town maintained streets and sidewalks and for the recommended streetscape improvements. Although the Town does not own or maintain streets, it should prepare for possible dedications in the future. The capital improvement plan will assist in prioritizing transportation needs and will establish a systematic approach to address these needs. The capital improvements program should specifically identify the locations and details of improvements and establish sources of funding. The program can further provide a routine maintenance schedule and budget for Town maintained streets and sidewalks. As part of this maintenance program, it is recommended that a windshield inventory survey be conducted, recording the miles of streets and drainage and conditions of curbing, sidewalks, and paving, among others. Pedestrian connectivity should be a priority and further studied as the Town continues to grow at its current pace.

6-4 CONTINUE INTEGRATING NEW AND OLD STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND BIKE PATHS.

In seeking to maintain a small town atmosphere while permitting reasonable growth, the Town should continue to require that streets in new developments link to the existing street network. Streets should interconnect within a development, with adjoining developments, and with existing streets. Along with extending the street network, sidewalks and bike paths also need to be connected. There should be an inventory completed of sidewalks, bike routes, trails, and connections to determine whether the existing sidewalk and bike network is adequate or if this needs to be expanded. It is also recommended that additional sidewalks be provided to complete a Town-wide sidewalk network. Every effort should be made to encourage pedestrian and bicycle transit between Town and nearby beaches. These interconnections will encourage development and accessibility throughout the Town and not lead to isolated communities. New development plans should incorporate and promote the interconnections within individual communities, neighboring communities, and the Town.

6-5 INVESTIGATE THE NEED AND FEASIBILITY FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.

Due to proximity to the beach and the significant amount of recent and anticipated growth, the Town may want to coordinate with the Delaware Transit Corporation (DTC) to discuss current needs and future demand for public transportation and what programs can be made available to the community. Alternative transportation choices may include beach shuttles and trolleys, as well as park and ride services. Discussions should include specific transit routes and destinations, drop off/pick up locations, frequency of stops, and necessary parking areas, among others. Design elements focusing on pedestrian safety and convenience should be considered to encourage public transit.

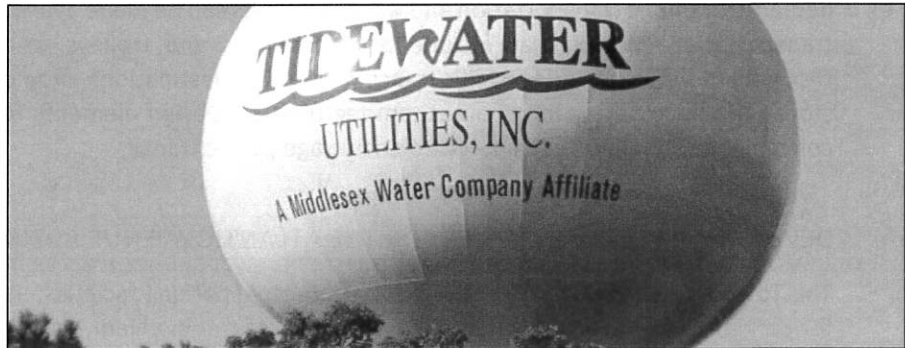
6-6 DEVELOP PARKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ATLANTIC AVENUE BUSINESS DISTRICT.

The Town should investigate the need for municipal parking facilities. It should also investigate the need for parking design standards that aim to provide safe, convenient, and attractive parking areas. Standards for parking design and landscaping should encourage safe and efficient vehicular and pedestrian circulation within parking lots. Lighting for new and redeveloped parking areas should consider "Dark Sky" compliant standards.

CHAPTER 7 | UTILITIES

WATER

Millville lies within the water services area for Tidewater Utilities, with the company providing central water to local businesses and residences. There are three potential approaches that the Town of Millville can take to extend water services to its residences and businesses:



1. **INCREMENTAL HOOK-UPS** | Millville could gradually connect to central water at the request of residents and businesses and infrastructure is expanded to support other development. This incremental approach could take a significant amount of time to achieve comprehensive water supply service.
2. **TOWN PLAYS AN ACTIVE ROLE** | Millville could work with Tidewater to purchase the CPCN and start their own water utility; the Town would potentially have the option of outsourcing operations to Tidewater or another public utility.
3. **TOWN PLAYS AN ACTIVE/PASSIVE ROLE** | Millville could partner with Tidewater to obtain funding for a comprehensive water supply system and adopt regulatory- or incentive-based approaches to accelerate connections. One example would be for the Town to adopt an ordinance requiring residential connection to the system. The Town could also adopt graduated impact fees, whereby fees increase according to a schedule where early connections are charged one rate and later connections are charged a higher rate.

The Town has been working to identify conversion spots from well to central water, as well as looking into updating the Tidewater service area and seeing what improvements can be made to better serve residents. With future community growth in mind, the Town is also taking into consideration how the water infrastructure will affect future development.

WASTEWATER

The Town relies on Sussex County for its wastewater planning efforts, which are overseen by the Sussex County Engineering Department. The County completed a planning study update in 2005 that addressed current and future sewer service in the South Coastal Area that includes the Town. The update identified certain future upgrades to existing infrastructure that is required. The update was based on assumptions for the Town of a minimum residential lot size of 7,000 sq. ft. (maximum 6.22 dwelling units per acre) in residential areas and a maximum of 6.67 equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) per acre in commercially zoned areas and undeveloped areas up to 650 feet north and south of Route 26. Other unincorporated areas beyond Millville are assumed to develop at a maximum of 4.0 EDUs per acre. In order to minimize additional sewer system upgrades, the County recommended, as part of the 2017 Pre-PLUS review process, that these assumptions not be exceeded and that anything that would increase flow should be approved by the Sussex County Engineering Department.

The County expanded the Bethany Beach Sanitary Sewer District to help service the Millville area by constructing a gravity collection system, where all the pipelines are installed on a slope so that the wastewater naturally flows to the lowest point due to gravity. The County divided the area into five construction contracts. The first contract, White's Creek Manor and a portion of Railway Road, was completed in June 2007. The second contract, awarded

at the end of 2007, connected sewer pipelines for Rogers Haven, Banks Harbor Retreat, Mill Run Acres, Collins Creek, Windmill and Pine Grove Lanes, and Burbage Road. The third contract, also awarded at the end of 2007, installed the pipelines in Banks Acres, Banksville Park, and the eastern portion of Atlantic Avenue. These two contracts were completed in 2009. The fourth contract was awarded in January 2008 and provided service for Denton Manor, Denton Woods, and the Land of Pleasant Living. The sewer project was completed in February 2009. At the end of the project, the completed system included 460 manholes, 130,000 feet of pipe ranging from 4-24 inches in diameter, eight pumping stations, and one grinder pump. The overall estimated project cost was \$34.6 million. Funding was provided by State and Federal agencies with segments completed by developers and dedicated to Sussex County upon completion and acceptance.

A two-phase sewer construction project was completed, starting at Town Hall and continuing west along Atlantic Avenue/Route 26. Additional sewer installation was also completed prior to the Atlantic Avenue expansion project. Efforts are being focused on expanding the sewer system to benefit current residents as well as preparing for development in its future growth areas.

As part of the County’s 2018 Comprehensive Plan process, its Engineering Department began a new approach to wastewater planning and divided the County into Planning Tiers. The Town falls into Tier 1, as does most of its Annexation Area. Small segments of its Annexation Area appear to fall within Tier 2. These tiers are further described below:

- **TIER 1 | SUSSEX COUNTY UNIFIED SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT** – Areas currently served under the Unified County Sanitary Sewer District where all future development is also to be served by the County.
- **TIER 2 | SUSSEX COUNTY PLANNING AREAS** – Any parcel(s) immediately adjacent to an existing sanitary sewer area boundary capable of annexation or areas where the County has plans to install central sewer to serve existing and future development.



Sussex County Sewer Tiers, Sussex County Online Mapping Website Screenshot (January 31, 2019)

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

Millville currently has additional services being offered by private providers within the Town limits and surrounding areas, such as electric, which is being served by the Delaware Electric Cooperative and Delmarva Power. Internet, cable, and telephone services are served by private providers as well, and the Town does not have any exclusive service provider contracts with any providers.

The Town will continue to research and listen to potential providers for any and all service opportunities that would benefit the Town and Millville community. Natural gas service could potentially be considered in the future, upon further research, benefit vs. cost factors, provider interest, and community education and coordination.

GOALS

GOALS

7-1 | CONVERT ALL RESIDENTS FROM WELL WATER TO A CENTRAL WATER SYSTEM.

7-2 | CONNECT ALL RESIDENTS TO A WASTEWATER SYSTEM.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7-1 INVENTORY CURRENT WATER SERVICES TO IDENTIFY WHERE WELLS CAN BE CONVERTED TO CENTRAL WATER.

7-2 CONTINUE TO WORK AT THE TOWN AND COUNTY LEVEL TO EXPAND THE SEWER SYSTEM, ESPECIALLY AS NEW DEVELOPMENT IS PROPOSED.

CHAPTER 8 | ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FLOODPLAIN

The floodplain or special flood hazard area is a graphic representation of the base flood on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). The base flood is the flood expected to have a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. In a 30-year period (the standard length of a conventional residential mortgage), there is a 26% chance that a structure in the floodplain will be flooded by a 1% chance flood, previously known as the 100-year flood event.

Millville has participated in the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program since September 25, 1981. In order to do so, the Town adopted and enforces floodplain regulations, which can be found in Section 155-15 of the Zoning Ordinance (FH – Flood Hazard District; floodplain management). This section regulates all construction in special flood hazard areas.

FEMA remapped the floodplains in Sussex County and found that there are 55.0 acres of 1% chance annual flood zone (special flood hazard areas) within Town limits. This equates to approximately 3.4% of Millville's total land area. Any development within these delineated areas will have to comply with the Town's floodplain management regulations. Although the floodplain maps used in this evaluation are recent, the most current FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps should always be consulted prior to the purchase of real estate and any development-related activities.

It is important to note that FIRMs provide an analysis of flood scenarios based on past events and data. They indicate areas of high, moderate, and low risk. Future conditions are not taken into account. The FEMA FIRMs do not account for:

- Shoreline erosion, wetland loss, subsidence, or relative sea rise;
- Upland development or topographic changes;
- Degradation or settlement of levees and floodwalls;
- Changes in storm frequency and severity; or
- The effects of multiple storm events.

While some of these factors do not impact Millville directly or have as great an impact as others, it is important to be aware that approximately 25% of flood damages nationally occur to structures that are outside of a FEMA-mapped special flood hazard area and that few, if any, standards exist nationwide for development in these areas immediately adjacent to the floodplain or outside of mapped floodplain areas. The most recent updates to Millville's FIRMs were issued on March 16, 2015.

The 100-year floodplain borders the northern part of Town, with Whites Creek and its tributaries being the waterway. The Town established a flood hazard district that encompasses the entire floodplain area. A floodplain ordinance was established to restrict building and implement appropriate construction safeguards in that selected area. A considerable acreage of forested wetlands is found in areas of concern throughout the Town. It would be recommended that the Town establish a woodlands preservation ordinance for added protection on those wetlands and forest resources.

WETLANDS

Wetlands are defined by wetland hydrology, hydric soils (those soils that are seasonally to permanently saturated), and hydrophytic vegetation (those plants suited to wetter soils) and are important to reduce or mitigate flooding impacts, maintain and improve water quality, and provide habitat for various plant and animal species. The United

States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates tidal and nontidal wetlands under Section 404 provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act. The State of Delaware more stringently regulates tidal and some nontidal wetlands (e.g., perennial and intermittent streams/ditches and ponds containing surface water connections to other wetlands) under the Subaqueous Lands Act (7 Del.C. Chapter 72) and the Regulations Governing the Use of Subaqueous Lands.

Map 10, Environmental Features, shows that approximately 157.5 acres of the Town, or approximately 9.8%, is covered in mapped wetlands. Where detailed wetland delineations have not yet been completed, hydric soil mapping can provide one indicator of possible wetland locations that should be examined further. Hydric soil mapping is available from the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Ideally, wetlands should include preserved open space around them, instead of parts of individual lots. During prolonged wet periods, the area within a wetland setback may become too wet for normal residential use. Designation as open space will aid in the prevention of decks, sheds, fences, kennels, and back yards being placed within the setback, thereby reducing common drainage complaints.

STORMWATER

The Town does not own any stormwater facilities, therefore does not perform the functions of construction oversight, inspections, or maintenance of facilities. Ownership and maintenance is the responsibility of homeowners' associations under State regulations with oversight provided by the Sussex Conservation District (SCD). The Town's engineering consultant reviews erosion and sediment control and stormwater management plans for new developments and further coordinates with the SCD to ensure compliance with Delaware's Sediment and Stormwater Regulations. In addition to plan review, the SCD inspects the construction and compliance of approved plans and conducts annual inspections of permanent stormwater facilities.

The Town recognizes that most of the statewide and local stormwater management regulations in the past have focused on regulating new development; however, many stormwater runoff problems are associated with existing developments that were built prior to the adoption of recent source water protection and non-point pollution control strategies. The Town further recognizes that traditional stormwater management technologies significantly alter the natural hydrology of a site, which has regional impacts.

SOURCEWATER PROTECTION

As development and population expand within the Sussex County area, the need to ensure that water supplies remain secure increases in order to safely serve new consumers in the future. To this end, the State was required to create a guidance document to account for the protection of water resources. This document was completed in April 2005 and provides the information necessary for policymakers to create regulatory standards for the protection of water resources. Generally, water resource protection standards address three main areas: surface water protection, wellhead protection, and groundwater recharge protection. Delaware's guidance document for the protection of these resources can be found online (<http://delawaresourcewater.org/publications>).

After consulting with DNREC, the Town may adopt an ordinance that protects these resources. If adopted, the ordinance should refer to the most current official source water map and relevant data. The Town may want to consider this as a future implementation item.

EXCELLENT RECHARGE AREAS

Excellent Recharge Areas are delineated as places where the water transmitting properties of the sediments in the interval between land surface and 20 feet below land surface are the greatest. The Delaware Geological Survey has produced a map that delineates four different drainage potential categories (i.e. excellent, good, fair,

and poor) in Sussex County. Those areas with excellent water transmitting properties can determine the amount of water that recharges Delaware's aquifers and how susceptible the aquifers are to surface pollutants. The protection of these areas is a key component to preserving the quantity and quality in the County's aquifers. As these areas become covered with increased amounts of impervious surfaces, there will be less water infiltrating into the underground aquifers to replenish the water supply and the water coming from these areas may contain non-point source pollutants that may infiltrate through the sediment and contaminate the groundwater.

There are currently no Excellent Recharge Areas located within Millville's boundaries; however, there is one immediately adjacent in Ocean View in the vicinity of Frontier Drive. See Map 10, Environmental Features.

WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS

Wellhead Protection Areas are those surface and subsurface areas surrounding a water well or wellfield supplying a public water system that is most vulnerable to contaminants that could move toward and reach the well or wellfield. Development within these areas should be avoided in order to prevent additional contaminants to the public water system than would otherwise occur naturally. A new wellhead protection ordinance may need to be established with the possibility of land being annexed in the future.

There is currently a small area of Wellhead Protection Area along Atlantic Avenue in the northwestern portion of Town. See Map 10, Environmental Features.

TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS

The Town is located within the Indian River Bay Watershed, which is an impaired water body designated by Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. Delaware's Inland Bays are also designated as "waters of exceptional recreational and/or ecological significance" requiring reduction of nonpoint sources of nutrients.

In 1998, the Department of Natural Resource and Environmental Control (DNREC) developed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's) for Indian River, Indian River Bay, and Rehoboth Bay to monitor the amount of pollutants going into the water. The TMDL establishes the maximum pollutant load (plus a safety factor) that a water body can absorb without degrading the beneficial uses (e.g., fishing, swimming, boating) associated with the water body. The main contaminants of concern within the Indian River Bay Watershed are nitrogen and phosphorus and other nutrients associated with agricultural, construction, and suburban runoff. The TMDLs for the Indian River Bay call for a 40% reduction in nonpoint sources of both nitrogen and phosphorous, a 40% bacterial reduction in fresh waters, and a 17% bacterial reduction in marine waters.

CLIMATE CHANGE & SEA LEVEL RISE

Sea level rise is one of several climate change impacts that can affect communities, some others being variable precipitation and increasing temperatures. Together, precipitation and accelerated sea level rise contribute to increased flooding. The Climate Framework for Delaware recommends that DNREC provide technical support to local governments to enhance focus on climate impacts, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and long-term sustainability, through adaptation and mitigation. DNREC's Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy administers grant programs and incentives, some of which can be found here:

- www.de.gov/sustainablecommunities
- www.de.gov/cleantransportation
- www.de.gov/eelit

Since the adoption of the Town's 2008 Comprehensive Plan Update, a number of resources have been made available related to climate change and sea level rise: