



## CITY OF ST. MARYS

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Port of St. Marys Development Proposal Open House

**The Port of St. Marys LLC, represented by Christopher Ragucci, held an Open House to provide information and answer questions with regard to the proposed rezoning proposal for the old Durango Mill site. The JDA and City of St. Marys helped facilitate the public information session.**

Nearly one hundred St. Marys citizens came out for this first Informational Open House held at the St. Marys Elementary School from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, December 5.

The Port of St. Marys, LLC, submitted a rezone application with the City of St. Marys, on November 5, 2015, triggering the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) process administered by the Coastal Regional Council (CRC). The DRI process allows for regional stakeholders to have their input on a development that is determined to be of regional impact. The CRC through the DRI process requests input from regional stakeholders, including surrounding jurisdictions and state agencies.

Through the DRI process the CRC has thirty days to develop a DRI Report, which summarizes the proposed project's consistency and compatibility with the Joint Comprehensive Plan 2007-2027, considering the guiding principles from aspects ranging from transportation and natural resources to growth management and industry. The DRI Report provides the local jurisdiction a list of recommendations for additional study and potential impact and sets the stage for local land use action. The DRI Report has just been released to the local jurisdiction, the City of St. Marys and is available at the City of St. Marys' website.

The City of St. Marys will begin their review of the rezone application in January, 2016, and will provide numerous occasions for public input throughout the process, which requires Planning Commission and City Council review.

The development team involved with repurposing the mill host the second public information session on December 15th at St. Marys Elementary School, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The sessions are hosted by Mr. Chris Ragucci of The Port of St. Marys LLC, and provide citizens an opportunity to better understand the group's request to rezone the property and their site development plan along with potential eventual end users.

A copy of the DRI Report can be found online, at the City of St. Marys' website, and at the City Clerk's office in City Hall. If you have any questions regarding this matter or any other questions about the DRI process, please contact Jeff Adams, St. Marys Community Development Director, at [Jeff.Adams@stmarysga.gov](mailto:Jeff.Adams@stmarysga.gov), or (912) 510-4032.