



**Comprehensive Plan 2040**  
Your County. Your Vision. Your Future.

# Chapter 1

## Snapshot of Washington County

# SNAPSHOT OF Washington County

## Geographic Context

Washington County is one of four counties commonly described as “Western Maryland”. It is bounded to the east by Frederick County; the north by Pennsylvania (Mason-Dixon Line); to the west by Allegany County, and the south by the Potomac River. There are nine incorporated municipalities located within the County. Hagerstown, the County seat and largest municipality, is located approximately 70 miles northwest of Baltimore and Washington DC and 165 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

The County contains 468 square miles (299,522 acres), of which approximately 455 square miles are land. The terrain consists of prominent ridges and broad valleys running in a northeast to southwest direction. More than 100 miles of shoreline along the Potomac River occur within the County. Two major highways, Interstate 81 and Interstate 70, intersect within the County’s borders.

Map 1-1: Washington County Vicinity

