



**Proposed Amendment to the Montgomery County Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan:  
Polk Property – WSSCR-POT-10A**

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**Completed: 10/31/13**

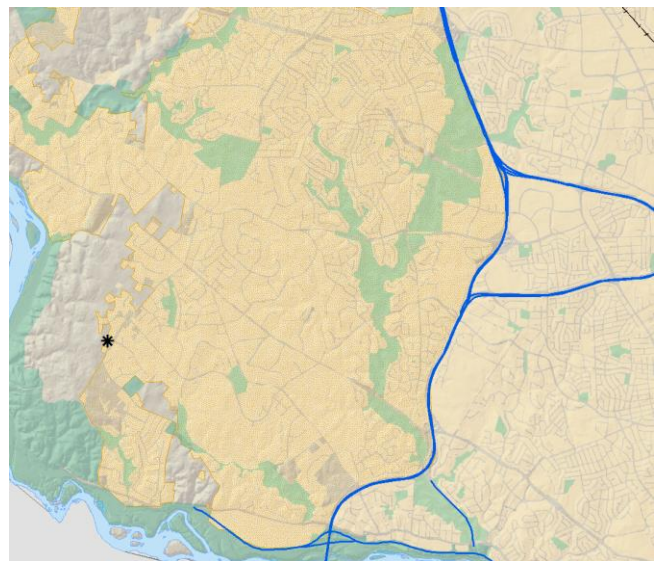
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**Description**

Council Sewer and Water Category Change Request:

- Referred to the Planning Board for a determination of consistency with relevant master and sector plans with recommendations to the County Council for final action.

The accompanying map shows the existing sewer envelope in tan. The property requesting sewer service is shown as an asterisk. More detailed information on zoning, existing and proposed uses, and recommendations of other agencies are shown in the attached packet from the County Executive.



**Summary**

The Planning Board is required by State law to make a Master Plan determination for consistency on each case. Staff recommends denial of sewer service based the Potomac Subregion master plan recommendations. The property is not located in or adjacent to the Potomac sewer envelope.

**Sewer Category Recommendation:** Deny S-1.

## **Analysis**

### **12-POT-01A: Judith Polk**

This property is outside and not adjacent to the 2002 Potomac master plan sewer service envelope. (circle 6 of the attachment) The Potomac peripheral sewer service policy “allows for the limited provision of community sewer service for areas zoned RE-1 and RE-2 within and at the periphery of the proposed sewer service envelope.” (circle 5 of the attachment) No compelling case, such as a failing septic system, has been presented. Therefore, staff recommends denial of S-1.

The executive staff recommendation is as follows (circle 1 of the attachment):

#### **Executive Staff Report**

The applicant has requested a service area change from S-6 to S-1 for the provision of public sewer service to allow for an addition to an existing single-family house. The property is zoned RE-2, and as such is generally intended to use an on-site septic system to satisfy wastewater disposal needs. The use of a septic system is consistent with both Water and Sewer Plan service policies and master plan service recommendations; whereas the provision of public sewer service is inconsistent with both of these plans. No other policy justifications support approval of category S-1 in this case. Staff recommends denial of the request for category S-1, maintaining the existing S-6 category.

According to DPS, the existing house is served by a septic system completed in 2006. WSSC reports that a 700-foot main extension along Belmart Rd. could bring public sewer service to the property; all or part of that extension would require a low-pressure sewer main and an on-site grinder pump. That sewer extension would have the potential to offer public sewer service to one other property not otherwise eligible for sewer service. The feasibility of service, however, is not the primary consideration in this case, since public sewer service is not consistent with either the Water and Sewer Plan or the local master plan.

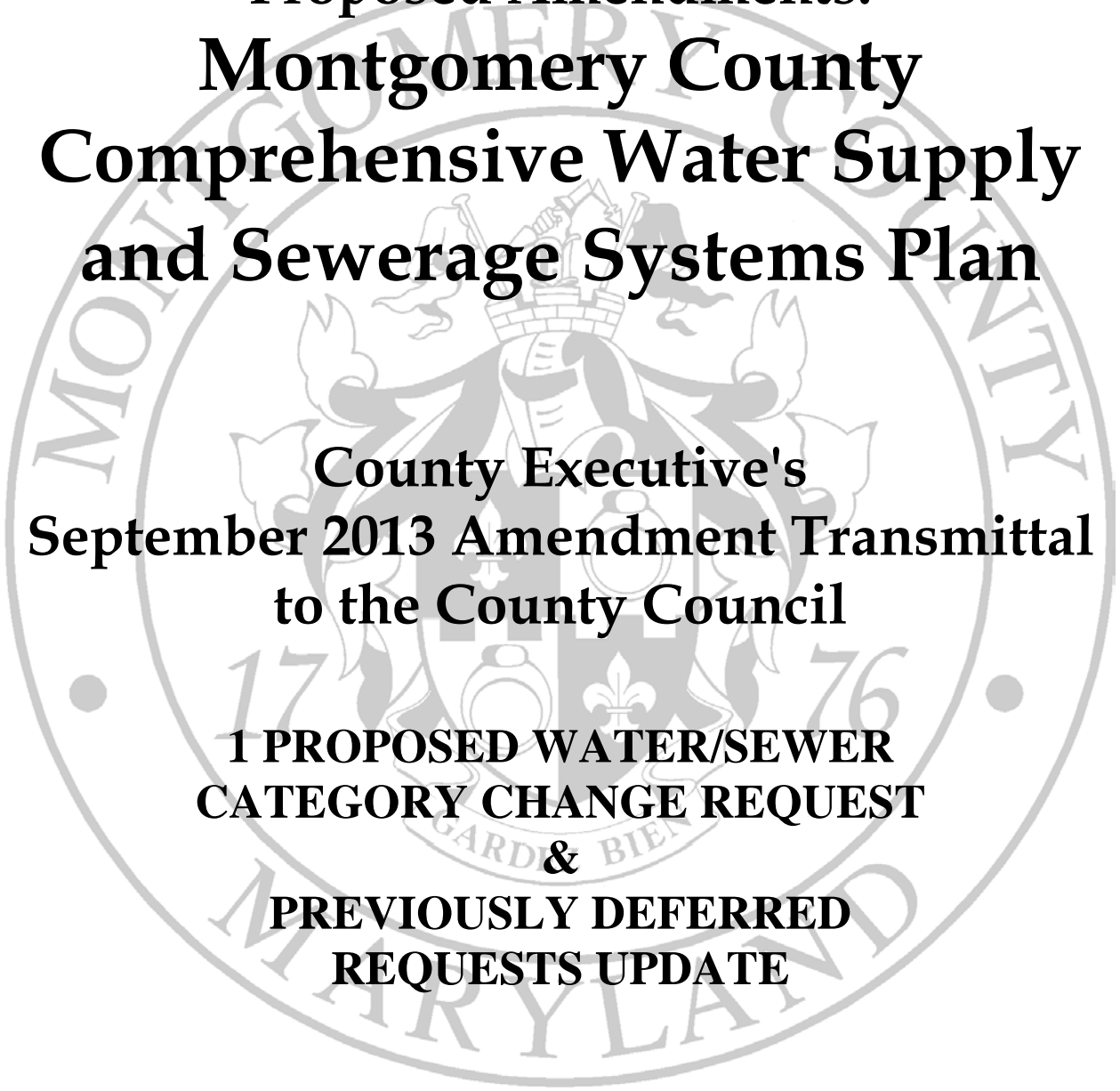
## **Recommendation**

Sewer service to this property is not consistent with the master plan and should not be granted.

## **Next Steps**

The Planning Board’s recommendations will be transmitted to County Council during a public hearing on November 12, 2013. The County Council T&E Committee will subsequently discuss this case before bringing it to the full Council for final decision.

Attachment



**Proposed Amendments:  
Montgomery County  
Comprehensive Water Supply  
and Sewerage Systems Plan**

**County Executive's  
September 2013 Amendment Transmittal  
to the County Council**

**1 PROPOSED WATER/SEWER  
CATEGORY CHANGE REQUEST**

**&  
PREVIOUSLY DEFERRED  
REQUESTS UPDATE**



**Montgomery County  
Comprehensive Water Supply and  
Sewerage Systems Plan  
Proposed Category Map Amendments**

**County Executive's September 2013  
Amendment Transmittal to the County  
Council:**

- **1 Current Category Change Request  
&  
Previously Deferred Requests Update**

**Prepared by  
The Department of Environmental Protection**

**Robert G. Hoyt, Director**

**David Lake, Manager, Water and Wastewater Policy Group  
Alan Soukup, Senior Planner, Water and Wastewater Policy Group**

**We acknowledge and appreciate the assistance of the following  
agencies in the preparation of this amendment packet:**

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission  
Maryland - National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services**



**COMPREHENSIVE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS PLAN AMENDMENTS**  
**County Executive's September 2013 Transmittal Packet**

**Executive Summary: Proposed Amendment And Recommendation**

Plan Amendment No. & Applicant Location - Zoning - Acreage - Proposed Use	Requested Category Change	Executive Recommendation & Policy Summary	Packet Page No.
<b>POTOMAC – CABIN JOHN PLANNING AREA</b>			
<b>WSSCR 12-POT-01A</b> <b>Judith Polk</b> 10800 Pleasant Hill Drive, Potomac RE-2 Zone; 4.07 ac. Use: Proposed addition to the existing single-family house	W-1 (no change) S-6 to S-1	<b>Deny the S-1 request; maintain S-6.</b> The provision of public sewer service is inconsistent with both Water and Sewer Plan service policies and with Potomac Subregion Master Plan recommendations.	Report: Pgs. 1-2 Map: Pg. 6

**Additional Packet Items:**

Executive Summary .....	Pg. i
Status of Previously Deferred Requests .....	Pgs. i-ii
Water/Sewer Service Area Category Information .....	Pg. iii
Active and Deferred Map Amendment Locator .....	Pg. iv
2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan Excerpt: Low-Density Area Sewer Service Recommendations .....	Pgs. 3-5

**Status of Category Change Requests Previously Deferred by the County Council**

The Water and Sewer Plan generally intends that a deferred category change request or other Plan amendment should return to the Council for a decision within approximately one year of the deferral action.

Plan Amendment No. & Applicant Location - Zoning - Acreage - Proposed Use	Requested Category Change	Council Resolution & Reason for Deferral Status of Deferred Amendment
<b>WSSCR 06A-BEN-03</b> <b>Maurice Gladhill</b> Bethesda Church Rd., Damascus RDT Zone: 41.44 ac. Use: water service for approved child lots	W-6 to W-1 S-6 (no change)	<u>CR 15-1588 (8/1/06)</u> : Deferred pending recommendations on child lots from the Ad Hoc Agriculture Working Group. <b>Status</b> : Awaiting Council consideration and decision on child-lot policy issues, including a proposed amendment on water service policy to the Water and Sewer Plan. DEP recommends returning this request to the County Council for a decision with the next cycle of amendments in November 2013.
<b>WSSCR 06A-TRV-07</b> <b>Carole &amp; Donald Dell</b> Stoney Creek Rd. opposite Wetherfield La. RE-2 Zone: 17.29 ac. Use: proposed 8-lot single-family subdivision	W-3 (no change) S-6 to S-3	<u>CR 15-1588 (8/1/06)</u> : Deferred pending the Council's review of the Potomac peripheral sewer service policy in the next update of the Water and Sewer Plan. <b>Status</b> : Awaiting completion of the pending update of the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan.
<b>WSSCR 07A-CLO-05</b> <b>Julian Patton</b> Norwood Rd. at Norbeck Rd. (MD 28) RE-2 Zone: 27 ac. Use: proposed place of worship for the <b>Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church</b> (on an unimproved site)	W-3 (no change) S-6 to S-1	<u>CR 16-500 (4/8/08)</u> : Deferred for submittal and review of the church's site development plan. <b>Status</b> : The church has proposed to locate on the RE-2C portion of the property, which is already approved for public water and sewer service without restriction. The Planning Board approved the church's preliminary plan (120100240) for the new site on July 29, 2012 (opinion issued Oct. 4, 2010). DEP will contact the church, now the owner of the entire property, and request withdrawal of the deferred category change application.
<b>WSSCR 07A-DAM-08<sup>C</sup></b> <b>Bethel World Outreach Ministries</b> Brink Rd., Germantown RDT Zone: 119.4 ac. Use: proposed house of worship for the owner (existing farm house may remain). <sup>C</sup> Goshen – Woodfield – Cedar Grove Planning Area	W-6 to W-6 <sup>D</sup> S-6 to S-6 <sup>D</sup> <sup>D</sup> multi-use system	<u>CR 16-500 (4/8/08)</u> : Deferred for a development proposal that conforms with RDT Zone requirements for properties with agricultural preservation easements. <b>Status</b> : Awaiting the applicant's submittal of a revised development plan. (Note: Litigation <sup>E</sup> in federal court between the applicant and the County continues over zoning and multi-use sewer system issues. <sup>E</sup> The church's prior suit over denial of public water and sewer service is resolved in favor of the County.

**COMPREHENSIVE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS PLAN AMENDMENTS  
County Executive's September 2013 Transmittal Packet**

**Status of Category Change Requests Previously Deferred by the County Council**

The Water and Sewer Plan generally intends that a deferred category change request or other Plan amendment should return to the Council for a decision within approximately one year of the deferral action.

Plan Amendment No. & Applicant Location - Zoning - Acreage - Proposed Use	Requested Category Change	Council Resolution & Reason for Deferral Status of Deferred Plan Amendment
<p><b>WSSCR 09A-CKB-01</b>  <b>Windridge Farm (for Orchard Run)</b>                      Ridge Rd. (MD 27) &amp; Brink Rd., Clarksburg                      RE-2 Zone: 54.37 ac.                      Use: Proposed senior/retire community for 225 units and community center</p>	<p>W-1 (no change)                      S-3 (PIF use only)                      to <b>unrestricted S-3</b></p>	<p><u>CR 17-217 (7/19/11)</u>: Deferred for a decision on the request for rezoning from RE-2 to PRC.  <b>Status:</b> The Council granted conditional approval for removing the PIF restriction from sewer category S-3 on May 7, 2013, under CR 17-742. Final approval of unrestricted sewer category S-3 by DEP required the Council's approval of local zoning amendment G-881, granting the PRC Zone for the project site.                      The Council granted the request for the PRC Zone for the project site on June 11, 2013, under CR 17-780. DEP will begin work on a final approval action for unrestricted sewer category S-3.</p>
<p><b>WSSCR 09A-PAX-06</b>  <b>Burtonsville Associates (for New Hope Korean Church)</b>                      16100 Block of Old Columbia Pike (former U.S. 29), Burtonsville                      RC Zone: 9.52 ac.                      Use: Proposed place of worship with 1,700-seat sanctuary, gym, kitchen, and classrooms</p>	<p>W-6 to <b>W-3</b>                      S-6 to <b>S-3</b></p>	<p><u>CR 17-217 (7/19/11)</u>: Deferred for the applicant's need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit a revised plan more sensitive to recommended impervious limits in the Patuxent watershed</li> <li>• Provide more information of water and sewer extension alignments and their compliance with the PIF policy</li> <li>• Conduct outreach efforts with local homeowner, civic and environmental organizations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> The applicant has not provided information for any of the preceding deferral requirements. Instead, the applicant has filed a new category change request for this site (WSSCR 13-PAX-04A) in conjunction with three other requests for the Canaan Christian Church. This submittal by the applicant supersedes the deferred request which is now voided.                      Note that the approved 2012 Burtonsville Crossroads master plan has recommended low density development for this and nearby sites and confirmed Rural Cluster (RC) zoning. The master plan further specifically recommends against the use of public sewer service for these RC-zoned properties.</p>
<p><b>WSSCRs 09A-TRV-03 &amp; -03</b>  <b>Ted and Roxanne Smart</b>                      13000 Block of Valley Drive, Rockville                      RE-1 Zone: 2.20 ac. Total                      Use: one new single-family house on each of two existing, unimproved parcels.</p>	<p>W-3 (no change)                      S-6 to <b>S-3</b></p>	<p><u>CR 17-217 (7/19/11)</u>: Deferred pending the results of the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study.  <b>Status:</b> The Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study is currently underway. Phase 1 of the study, the evaluation of the existing on-site system conditions of the neighborhood, is complete. Phase 2 of the study, the consideration of wastewater disposal measures for areas with potential limitations for on-site septic system suitability, concluded in June 2013. A report for the Council on the study findings and service recommendations is in preparation.                      According to DPS Well and Septic Section staff, the applicant has successfully tested one of these two parcels for a deep trench septic system for a new single-family house.</p>

**Status of Additional Outstanding Category Change Issues**

- WSSCR 11A-TRV-01**  
**Christopher and Christina Marshall**..... The Council's approval of category S-1 under CR 17-217 (7/19/11) was disallowed by MDE in October 2011. The Council requested reconsideration of MDE's decision in March 2012 and is awaiting a response.
- WSSCR 11A-TRV-06**  
**Glenstone Foundation (Mitchell Rales)** ..... The Council's approval of category S-3 under CR 17-504 (7/24/12) was disallowed in part by MDE, revoking S-3 for Parcels N547, P527, and P600. DEP is preparing a correction action to incorporate this change to the Council's resolution into the Water and Sewer Plan.



**COMPREHENSIVE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS PLAN AMENDMENTS**  
**County Executive's September 2013 Transmittal Packet**

**WATER/SEWER SERVICE AREA CATEGORIES INFORMATION**

The Montgomery County Ten-Year Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan designates water and sewer service area categories for each property within the county. These service area categories determine a property's eligibility to receive public water and/or sewer service and indicate when the County and the sanitary utility (usually the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC)) should program water and sewerage facilities to serve those properties. (Although the actual provision of public service is often dependent on an applicant's own development schedule.) The Water and Sewer Plan is adopted and amended by the County Council; it is administered by the County Executive through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

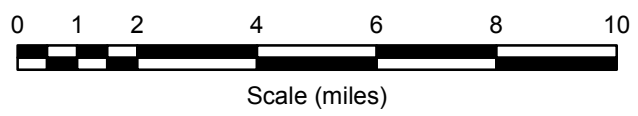
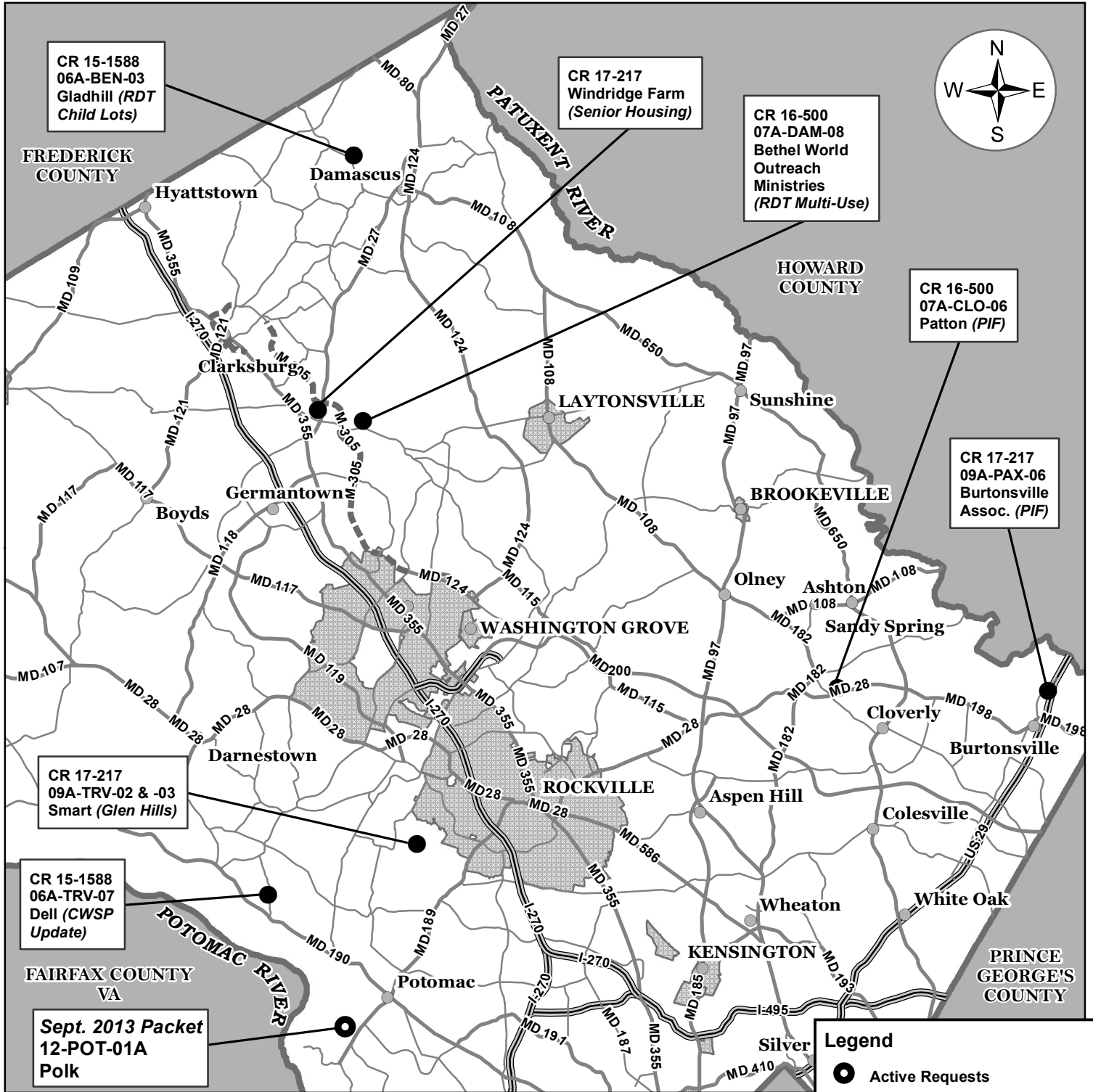
**Water and Sewer Service Area Categories Table**

Service Area Categories	Category Definition and General Description	Service Comments
W-1 and S-1	Areas served by community (public) systems which are either existing or under construction. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This may include properties or areas for which community system mains are not immediately available or which have not yet connected to existing community service.</li> </ul>	Properties designated as categories 1 and 3 are eligible for to receive public water and/or sewer service.  New development and properties needing the replacement of existing wells or septic systems are generally required to use public service. Properties with wells or septic systems on interim permits are required to connect to public service within one year of its availability.
W-2 and S-2	<b>Categories W-2 and S-2 are not used in the Montgomery County Water and Sewer Plan.</b> (State's definition: Areas served by extensions of existing community and multi-use systems which are in the final planning stages.)	Where water and/or sewer mains are financed under the front foot benefit system, WSSC will assess front foot benefit charges for mains abutting these properties unless the property has a functioning well and/or septic system. WSSC provides public water and sewer service throughout the county, except where service is provided by systems owned by the City of Rockville or the Town of Poolesville.
W-3 and S-3	Areas where improvements to or construction of new community systems will be given immediate priority and service will generally be provided within two years or as development and requests for community service are planned and scheduled.	WSSC will not serve properties designated as categories 4 or 5, but will work to program water and/or sewer projects needed to serve these areas. Permits for new wells and/or septic systems for category 4 properties will be interim permits. (See above for further information.) MCDEP may require that development proceeding on interim wells and septic systems in category 4 areas also provide dry water and sewer mains and connections.
W-4 and S-4	Areas where improvements to or construction of new community systems will be programmed for the three- through six-year period. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This includes areas generally requiring the approval of CIP projects before service can be provided.</li> </ul>	Where water and/or sewer mains are financed under the front foot benefit system, WSSC will assess front foot benefit charges for abutting properties designated as category 4 unless the property has a functioning well and/or septic system. WSSC will not assess front foot charges for properties designated as category 5.
W-5 and S-5	Areas where improvements to or construction of new community systems are planned for the seven- through ten-year period. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This category is frequently used to identify areas where land use plans recommend future service staged beyond the scope of the six-year CIP planning period.</li> </ul>	WSSC will neither provide service to nor assess front foot benefit charges for properties designated as category 6. Development in category 6 areas is expected to use private, on-site systems, such as wells and septic systems.
W-6 and S-6	Areas where there is no planned community service either within the ten-year scope of this plan or beyond that time period. This includes all areas not designated as categories 1 through 5. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Category 6 includes areas that are planned or staged for community service beyond the scope of the plan's ten-year planning period, and areas that are not ever expected for community service on the basis of adopted plans.</li> </ul>	

Please note that the County does not necessarily assign water and sewer categories in tandem (i.e. W-3 and S-3, or W-5 and S-5), due to differences in water and sewer service policies or to actual water or sewer service availability. Therefore, it is important to know *both* the water *and* sewer service area categories for a property.

# Water and Sewer Plan Map

## September 2013 Packet Transmittal: Active & Deferred Amendments Locator



**Legend**

- Active Requests
- Previously Deferred Requests
- Localities
- Major Roads & Highways
- County Roads
- State Roads & Highways
- == US Highways & Interstates
- - - Proposed Roads
- ▨ Municipalities



DEP  
Water and Wastewater  
Policy Group

(9/18/13)

**Montgomery County, Maryland**  
**2013 Comprehensive Water Supply**  
**and Sewerage Systems Plan**

**COMPREHENSIVE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS PLAN AMENDMENTS**  
**County Executive's September 2013 Transmittal Packet**

**POTOMAC – CABIN JOHN PLANNING AREA MAP AMENDMENT**

WSSCC 12-POT-01A: Pg. 1

**WSSCC 12-POT-01A: Judith Polk**

**County Executive's Recommendation: Deny the request for category S-1; maintain S-6.**

Property Information and Location Property Development	Applicant's Request: Service Area Categories & Justification				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10800 Pleasant Hill Dr., Potomac</li> <li>• Lot 17, Block 12, Great Falls Estates (acct. no. 00878740)</li> <li>• Map tile: WSSC – 211NW11; MD – FP11</li> <li>• Northwest corner, intersection of Belmart Rd. &amp; Pleasant Hill Dr.</li> <li>• RE-2 Zone; 4.07 ac.</li> <li>• Potomac – Cabin John Planning Area Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)</li> <li>• Potomac River - Great Falls Tributaries Watershed (MDE Use I)</li> <li>• <u>Existing use:</u> single-family house (built 2008)</li> <li>• <u>Proposed use:</u> enlarge the existing house</li> </ul>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">W-1</td> <td style="width: 50%;">W-1 (no change)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S-6</td> <td><b>S-1</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Applicant's Explanation</u></p> <p>"We would like to increase size of home and bedroom count. The current septic does not support the expansion of home and sewer service is one lot away."</p>	W-1	W-1 (no change)	S-6	<b>S-1</b>
W-1	W-1 (no change)				
S-6	<b>S-1</b>				

**Executive Staff Report**

The applicant has requested a service area change from S-6 to S-1 for the provision of public sewer service to allow for an addition to an existing single-family house. The property is zoned RE-2, and as such is generally intended to use an on-site septic system to satisfy wastewater disposal needs. The use of a septic system is consistent with both Water and Sewer Plan service policies and master plan service recommendations; whereas the provision of public sewer service is inconsistent with both of these plans. No other policy justifications support approval of category S-1 in this case. Staff recommends denial of the request for category S-1, maintaining the existing S-6 category.

According to DPS, the existing house is served by a septic system completed in 2006. WSSC reports that a 700-foot main extension along Belmart Rd. could bring public sewer service to the property; all or part of that extension would require a low-pressure sewer main and an on-site grinder pump. That sewer extension would have the potential to offer public sewer service to one other property not otherwise eligible for sewer service. The feasibility of service, however, is not the primary consideration in this case, since public sewer service is not consistent with either the Water and Sewer Plan or the local master plan.

**Agency Review Comments**

DPS – Well & Septic: Our records indicate a septic reserve area and new septic system were completed in 2006. The system is sized for a 6 bedroom house and is located in the corner of the property highest in elevation. The system requires pumping and the location appears limited due to soil and site features.

M-NCPPC – Planning Dept.: This property is outside and not adjacent to the 2002 Potomac master plan sewer service envelope. The Potomac peripheral sewer service policy "allows for the limited provision of community sewer service for areas zoned RE-1 and RE-2 within and at the periphery of the proposed sewer service envelope." No compelling case, such as a failing septic system, has been presented. Therefore staff recommends denial of S-1.

M-NCPPC – Parks Planning: No apparent park impacts.

**COMPREHENSIVE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS PLAN AMENDMENTS**  
**County Executive's September 2013 Transmittal Packet**

**POTOMAC – CABIN JOHN PLANNING AREA MAP AMENDMENT**

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WSSCCR 12-POT-01A: Pg. 2

WSSC - Water: (Not applicable, existing category W-1.)

WSSC - Sewer: Basin: Rock Run. This property appears to lie outside of the current Montgomery County sewer service envelope. However, if sewer service were to be extended to the property, a 700-foot-long non-CIP-sized sewer extension would be required to serve the property. This extension would consist either entirely of grinder pump & low-pressure sewer, or as a combination of gravity sewer and grinder pump & low-pressure sewer. The sewer extension would connect to an 8-in sewer in Belmart Rd. (contract no. 91-9173A) and would abut about four properties in addition to the applicant's. Be advised that grinder pump & low-pressure sewer systems can generate significant odor problems, depending on various factors for each designed system. A detailed analysis of low-pressure systems is performed during WSSC's Hydraulic Planning Analysis stage. Average wastewater flow from the proposed development: 300 GPD. Program-sized sewer mains are not required to serve the property. Interceptor and treatment capacity are adequate.

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- **Acquire the Miller & Smith (Pepco) property (258 acres) as conservation park land.**
- **Acquire by dedication significant portions of the Tipton tributary properties in the lower Greenbriar Branch as conservation park land. These properties include the Tipton, Piney Grove, Weihe, and Semmes properties. Priorities include the Greenbriar Branch mainstem riparian areas along with the forested area west of the gas line easement.**
- **Acquire by dedication portions of the Hanson Farm along the border of Muddy Branch Stream Valley Park, including the northern corner where a trail connection is desirable and where the mainstem is close to the property line.**
- **Protect the riparian area along the Turkey Foot tributary of Muddy Branch through acquisition, dedication or conservation easement.**
- **Acquire forested property (parcel 170) adjacent to Muddy Branch Stream Valley Park land at the end of Cervantes Avenue and with access from Esworthy Road.**
- **Acquire property south of Esworthy Road (parcel 121), surrounded by the Muddy Branch Stream Valley Park.**
- **Acquire the surplus school site located inside the bend on Brickyard Road to protect scarce forested land in this densely developed area.**
- **Designate the 97-acre Callithea Farm (Figure 3) bordering Blockhouse Point and the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park as park land that will include a publicly owned horse farm.**
- **Explore designation of part of Gokturk Woods, on Berryville Road in Seneca Village, as a neighborhood conservation area.**

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## **Sewer Service Policies**

A critical policy related to water quality is the provision of community sewer service. Providing community sewer service to relieve failed septic systems minimizes groundwater contamination. However, the provision of community sewer service can damage the environment and water resources by facilitating development to the maximum zoning density. Extensions along stream valleys can also create habitat disturbance, threatening species survival, and can adversely affect the natural hydrologic system due to wetland fragmentation. Once sewer lines are in place, their structural integrity may deteriorate over time, resulting in sewage leaks and further disturbance to the ecosystem. This is particularly troublesome where eroding or shifting stream channels expose sewer mains and manholes, leaving them more susceptible to damage.

In general, the County's water and sewer policies allow the provision of sewer service only to those areas zoned for moderate to dense development (i.e., greater than or equal to one unit per 20,000

square feet). However, at the recommendation of the 1980 Master Plan, sewer service has been provided to some areas zoned for one- and two-acre lots, creating both a policy dilemma and, in some cases, environmental damage. Typically, low zoning densities (such as RE-1 and RE-2) are used to protect the natural environment by minimizing development impacts. Low and, in some cases medium, density areas (such as R-200) are dependent on septic suitability, often resulting in actual development yields well below the maximum allowed by zoning. Extending sewer lines into these areas has the potential to allow development density at or near the zoned maximum, to disrupt the environment and to provide rationale for further extensions and greater density. One of the greatest challenges facing the Potomac Subregion and this Master Plan has been to develop compatible land use and sewer service recommendations which protect the Subregion's environmental quality. The section addressing sewerage systems provides detailed recommendations regarding these sewer service issues.

Community sewer service in the Subregion is provided through trunk lines which parallel most of the major tributaries. These trunk mains drain to the Potomac Interceptor, a large sewer line that parallels the Potomac River and conveys sewage to the Blue Plains Treatment Plant in the District of Columbia.

The County's policies on the provision of community sewer service are governed by the *Water and Sewer Plan*, the County's *General Plan*, master plans, the State's Smart Growth policies, and other policy documents. Master plans recommend where sewer service is to be provided, generally in areas of dense development, consistent with *Water and Sewer Plan* policies. The *1980 Potomac Subregion Master Plan* is one of the County's few master plans recommending sewer service for zones such as RE-1 and RE-2, an exception to the general policies for sewer extension. The County Council has asked that as part of the Potomac master plan update, the Planning Board study the effects of sewer service in these areas on land use, infrastructure, the environment, and budget.

## Low-Density Areas

In part, the 1980 Potomac Master Plan's intent was to use community sewer service to take maximum advantage of the allowed density in lower-density zones such RE-1 and RE-2 where it was appropriate. Much of the undeveloped area zoned RE-1 and RE-2 was placed in master plan sewer stage IV where the provision of community sewer service was evaluated case-by-case on the basis of logical, economical, and environmentally acceptable service. Twenty years later, a comprehensive evaluation indicates that providing community sewer service to areas zoned for one-and two-acre development, and contrary to smart growth policies, has undermined the environmental emphasis of zoning areas for low-density development, especially where septic suitability is marginal. With increasing demand for homes and recent development and redevelopment trends, especially where sewer service is provided, this exception to the general sewer service policy is no longer effective. Much of the remaining undeveloped RE-1 and RE-2 land is beset by environmental constraints limiting development potential without sewer.

Under the prior master plan, the Subregion has experienced substantial provision of community sewer service to lower-density areas. Because of this, and because the County considered the approvals for much of this service on a case-by-case basis, the current Potomac community sewer

envelope is irregular, established by demand rather than by plan. Voids within the envelope and irregular boundaries along its perimeter abound. Although this Master Plan generally recommends against the continued provision of community sewer service to low-density (RE-1 and RE-2) areas, it does support limited approvals for community sewer service for the low-density areas within the envelope and along its currently-established edge. The focus of this limited service and expansion should be on properties which already abut existing or proposed mains and on properties which can be served by sewer extensions within public rights-of-way. Main extensions that would disrupt streams and their undisturbed buffer areas should be avoided. Any approvals granted along the currently-established edge should not be cited as justification for expanding the sewer service envelope beyond the limits recommended in this Plan.

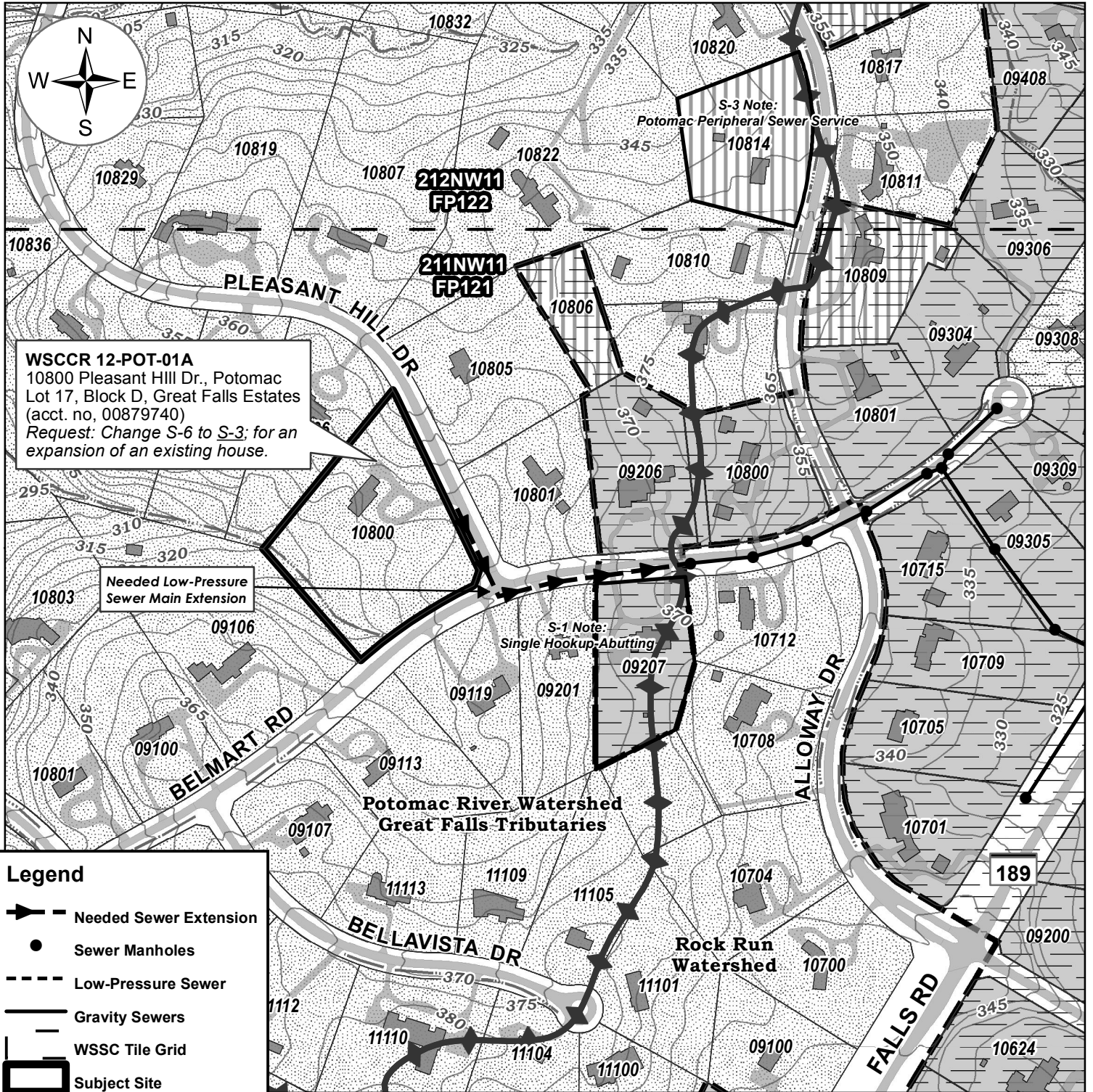
### *Sewer Service Recommendations*

- **Provide community sewer service in the Subregion generally in conformance with *Water and Sewer Plan* service policies. This will generally exclude areas zoned for low-density development (RE-1, RE-2, and RC) not already approved for service from further extension of community service.**
- **Allow for the limited provision of community sewer service for areas zoned RE-1 and RE-2 within and at the periphery of the proposed sewer service envelope. (See Foldout Map D.) Exclude from this peripheral service policy properties adjacent to and in the vicinity of the Palatine subdivision and the lower Greenbriar Branch properties, and all properties within the Piney Branch Subwatershed, the Darnestown Triangle, and the Glen Hills Area (until completion of the study described on page 24, which will evaluate whether this exclusion should continue in the future). Emphasize the construction of sewer extensions, if needed, along roads rather than through stream valleys.**
- **Help to protect water quality in the Stoney Creek subwatershed of Watts Branch by requiring that sewer main extensions to serve the few properties approved for community service be located along River and Stoney Creek Roads, rather than along the stream valley.**
- **Deny the provision of community sewer service to the areas zoned R-200 near the intersection of River and Seneca Roads.**

### **Glen Hills Area**

The Glen Hills area consists of several established subdivisions with lots generally at least one acre in size. Most of the lots were established in the 1950's and 60's using septic systems. At that time, septic standards did not include septic buffers, water table testing, multiple depth testing, and the consideration of fractured rock. The Department of Permitting Services (MCDPS) has raised concerns about the periodic septic failures which occur in the neighborhood because subsurface conditions often do not allow for replacement systems which satisfy current septic regulations. This Plan supports a study of the septic failures in Glen Hills to develop the measures necessary to ensure

# Sewer Service Area Categories Map: WSCCR 12-POT-01A (Judith Polk)

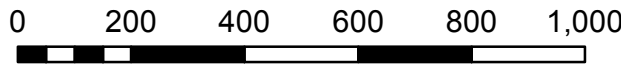


**Legend**

- Needed Sewer Extension
- Sewer Manholes
- Low-Pressure Sewer
- Gravity Sewers
- WSSC Tile Grid
- Subject Site
- Topography (5 ft. c.i.)
- Planned Sewer Envelope

**Sewer Categories**

- S-1
- S-3
- S-6



SCALE (Feet)

Montgomery County, Maryland  
 Draft 2013 Comprehensive Water Supply  
 and Sewerage Systems Plan



DEP  
 Water and Wastewater  
 Policy Group

8/19/13



**WATER/SEWER SERVICE AREA  
CATEGORY CHANGE REQUEST  
APPLICATION**

WSSCR 12-POT-01A  
Applicant POLK

DEP STAFF USE ONLY PAGE 1

**COMPREHENSIVE WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE SYSTEMS PLAN AMENDMENT  
Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection**

*Please refer to the accompanying information and instruction packet for help with completing this application.*

**PROPERTY INFORMATION**

PROPERTY Address 10800 PLEASANT HILL DR, POTOMAC MA 20854

Property Identification 17-D-0011  
▲ Lot, Block, Subdivision - or - Parcel No. - See Your County Property Tax Bill

Property Tax Account No. 00878740  
▲ See County Property Tax Bill

Current Use RESIDENTIAL Property/Site Size 4.0700 AC  
▲ Acres or Sq. Ft.

Proposed Use RESIDENTIAL

Subdivision Plan No. & Status \_\_\_\_\_

**Property/Site Map:** A page-size (8.5"x 11") map, clearly and accurately showing the property/site boundaries must accompany this application. Refer to the instructions packet for more details and resources.

**CATEGORY CHANGE REQUEST**

Water Category Current: W- 1 Requested: W- 1  No Change  Multi-Use<sup>A</sup>  Shared<sup>A</sup>

Sewer Category Current: S- 6 Requested: S- 3  No Change  Multi-Use<sup>A</sup>  Shared<sup>A</sup>  
Questions about current or requested categories? Contact DEP-WWPG staff for assistance (see pg. 2). <sup>A</sup> Refer to the instructions for information about the terms "multi-use" and "shared".

**Applicant's Reason for this Request** (Attach additional pages, cover letters, etc., if necessary):

*WE WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE SIZE OF HOME AND BEDROOM COUNT. THE CURRENT SEPTIC DOES NOT SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF HOME AND SEWER SERVICE IS ONE LOT AWAY.*

DEP STAFF USE ONLY  
Received: 10/19/11 Fee: 4250 Paid  Receipt Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Review Group: 2012-Q2 Process:  Admin. Del.  County Council  
Planning Area: Potomac-Cabin John WSSC Tile: 211N111 Tax Map: FP 11  
Master Plan (Date) Potomac Subregion (2002)  
Zoning: RE-2 Recent Zoning Activity: none  
Major Watershed: Potomac River (direct) MDE Watershed Use: I  Mont. Co. SPA