

Agenda date: February 28, 2002

MEMORANDUM

To: Montgomery County Planning Board

Via: Jeff Zyontz, Chief, County-wide Planning  
John E. Hench, Natural Resources Supervisor, *JEH*  
Park Planning and Resource Analysis

From: Doug Redmond, Natural Resources Specialist II, *DR*  
Park Planning and Resource Analysis Unit

Subject: Stream Restoration Projects – Little Falls Branch, Little Falls Mall Tributary and Upper Rock Creek, Stream Valley Way; and Stormwater Management Project – Fairland Gardens Retrofit.

**Recommendation:** Planning Board approval for MCDEP to construct streambank stabilization, habitat enhancement, and stormwater management projects on park and non-park property in the Little Falls Branch, Upper Rock Creek, and Upper Paint Branch stream valleys.

**Background (stream restoration projects):**

**Little Falls Mall Tributary:** The Little Falls Mall tributary was identified as a priority subwatershed in the Countywide Stream Protection Strategy. Biological conditions in the tributary are poor and the contributing land area is 39% impervious. The proposed project begins just downstream of the storm drain outfall from the Little Falls Mall and continues for about 800 feet to just above the Capital Crescent Trail overpass. This section of the stream has severely eroded banks, damaged storm drain outfalls, and a fully exposed sewer line. A public meeting, attended by 40 citizens, was held on June 20, 2001. This project would be constructed on a combination of park (Little Falls Stream Valley Unit 1) and non-park property. A map of the Little Falls Mall area is attached.

**Stream Valley Way tributary:** This tributary is located in the Upper Rock Creek subwatershed, which was identified as a priority subwatershed in the Countywide Stream Protection Strategy. Biological conditions within the subwatershed are excellent, but there are problems with excessive sedimentation and impacts from past realignment of the stream just downstream of Fieldcrest Road.

The proposed project begins in the Laytonsville Knolls Community upstream of Fieldcrest Road and continues downstream for about 4,200 feet to the end of Falling Spring Court and Stream Valley Way. This section of the stream has eroding banks, an inadequate riparian buffer, and a lack of in-stream habitat features. A public meeting, attended by 15 citizens, was held on November 29, 2001. This project would be constructed on a combination of park (Rock Creek Stream Valley Unit 15) and non-park property. A map of the Stream Valley Way tributary is attached.

**Background (stormwater management project):**

The Fairland Gardens subdivision is located in the Right Fork subwatershed of Upper Paint Branch, which was identified as a priority subwatershed in the Countywide Stream Protection Strategy and is located within the Paint Branch Special Protection Area. Biological conditions within the subwatershed are excellent, although habitat conditions that potentially threaten the naturally reproducing trout population have been noted by Maryland DNR. Seventeen priority projects, including this one, were identified in the Upper Paint Branch Watershed Stormwater Management/Stream Restoration Assessment Report. Proposed modifications to the existing Fairland Gardens stormwater facility will reduce peak flow rates and improve water quality in the Right Fork of Paint Branch. A public meeting, attended by 7 citizens, was held on August 30, 2001. This project would be constructed on private property that is proposed for addition to the Upper Paint Branch Stream Valley Park. A map of the Fairland Gardens area is attached.

**Funding:** These projects are being funded by the Montgomery County Capital Improvements Program, and grants from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of the Environment.

**Implementation:** If approval is granted, construction is expected to begin the summer of 2002.

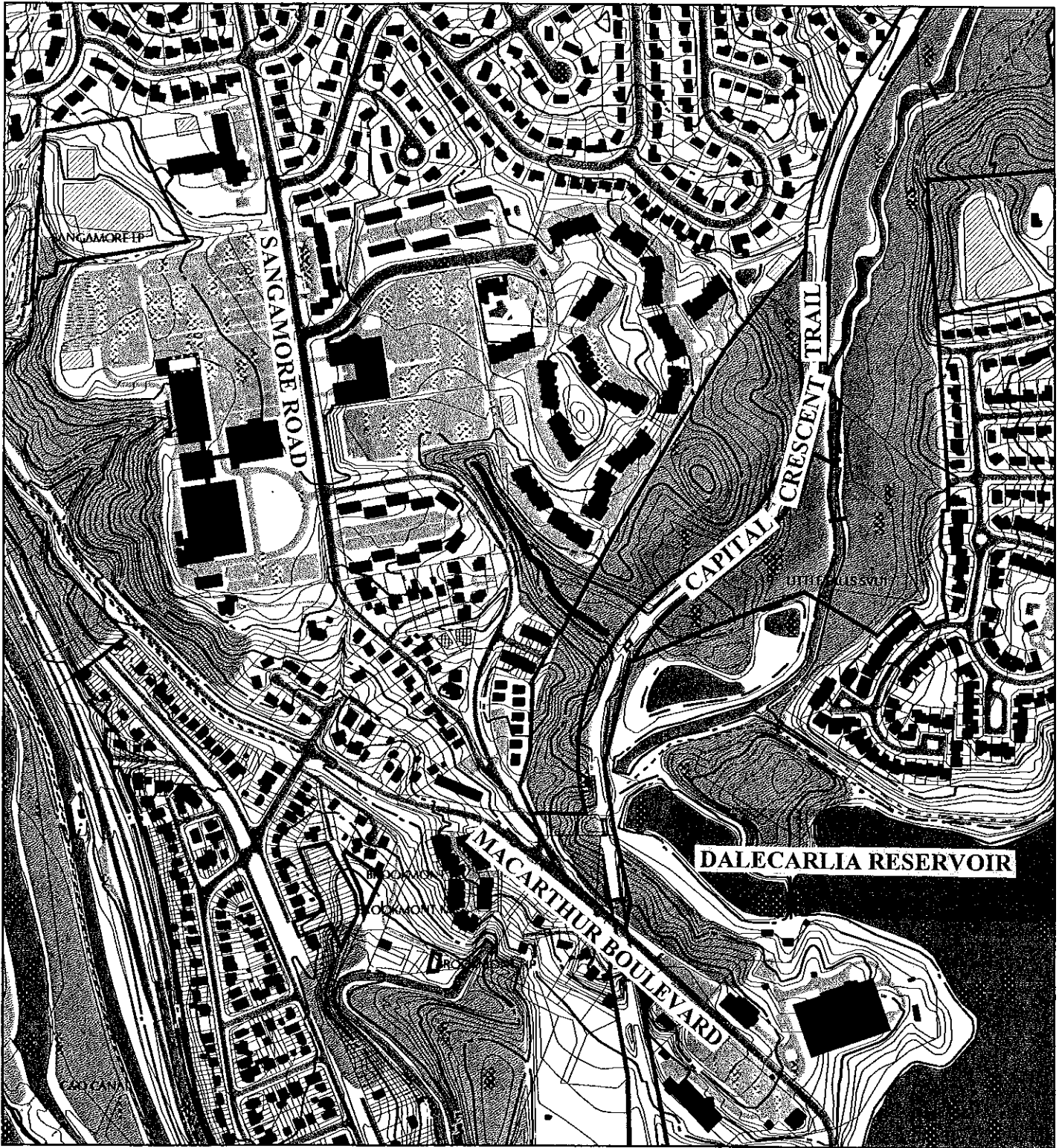
**Maintenance:** Maintenance of stream restoration structures, if necessary, will be coordinated between DEP and M-NCPPC. Maintenance of the stormwater management facility will be conducted by DEP.

Pc: Donald K. Cochran  
Carl Falcone  
Gordon Rosenthal  
John Boyd  
Mike Riley  
Candy Bunnag  
Dan Harper, MC DEP

Lester Straw  
Garry Harman  
Doug Ludwig  
Tanya Schmeiler  
John Carter  
Cameron Weigand, MC DEP

VICINITY MAP FOR

# LITTLE FALLS MALL STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT



Map compiled on January 08, 2002 at 10:03 AM | Site located on base sheet no - 208NW08

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Key Map



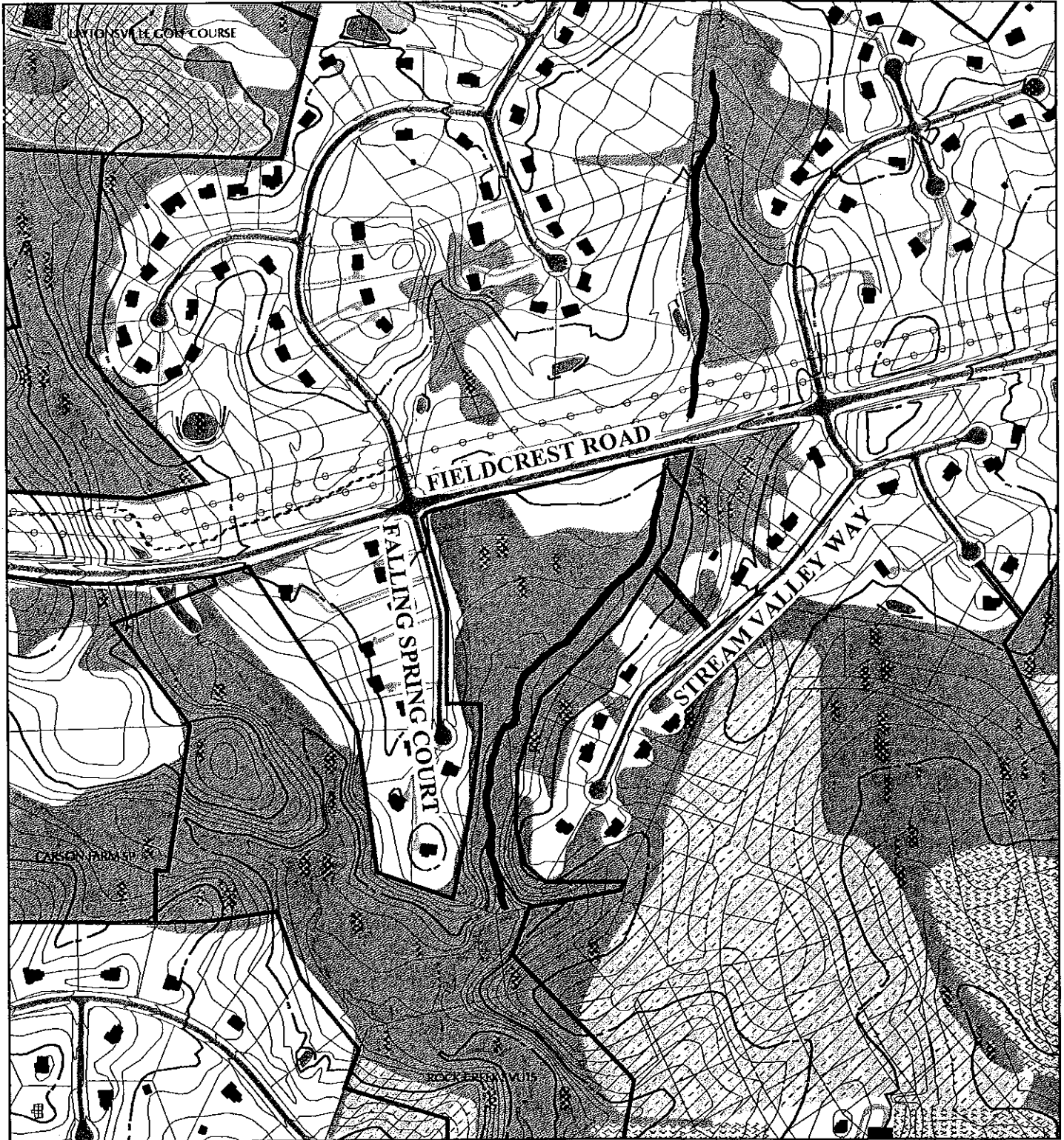
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THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

VICINITY MAP FOR

# UPPER ROCK CREEK STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT



Map compiled on January 04, 2002 at 4:08 PM | Site located on base sheet no - 227NW08

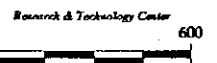
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VICINITY MAP FOR  
**FAIRLAND GARDENS SWM FACILITY RETROFIT**



Map compiled on 1/26/02 at 9:52 AM | Site located on base sheet no. 2189EC3

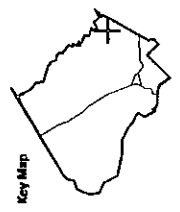
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