

#### OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

December 8, 2020

Casey Anderson, Chair Montgomery County Planning Board 2425 Reedie Drive, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Wheaton, MD 20902 Carla A. Reid, General Manager/CEO Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission 14501 Sweitzer Lane Laurel, MD 20707-5902

Dear Mr. Anderson and Ms. Reid,

On December 4, 2020, the County Council received recommendations from the County Executive regarding a package of six proposed Water and Sewer Plan amendments. The transmittal letter and Executive Staff report are enclosed.

State law requires that the County Council formally notify both WSSC and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission at least 30 days in advance of a public hearing regarding any revisions or amendments to the County's Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan. A public hearing date has been scheduled for January 12, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

Your staffs have provided comments to Department of Environmental Protection staff, and these comments are noted in the Executive Staff report. Any additional comments you may have should be forwarded to the Council as soon as possible. The Council expects that the Planning Board will provide a formal recommendation to the Council on the amendment package.

If you have any questions, please contact Keith Levchenko of Council Staff by phone at (240) 777-7944 or by e-mail at keith.levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Sincerely,

Tom Hucker Council President

c: Robert McCord, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning
 D. Lee Currey, Director, Water and Science Administration, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

Nicolai Francis-Lau, Maryland Department of the Environment

Enclosure TH:kml



#### OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

#### MEMORANDUM

December 4, 2020

TO: Tom Hucker, President

Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive

SUBJECT: Transmittal of and Recommendations on Proposed Amendments to the Ten-Year

Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan

Pursuant to the requirements of the Environment Article, Sections 9-503 through 9-506 and 9-515 through 9-516, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, I am transmitting my recommendations for six proposed amendments to the County's *Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan*. Recommendations and supporting documentation addressing these amendments are included in the attached staff report. All six amendments are requests for individual water/sewer service area category changes.

My recommendations for these amendments are consistent with the adopted policies and guidelines included in the Water and Sewer Plan and are consistent with precedents set under local area master plan service recommendations. Nevertheless, I expect that three of the category change cases have the potential to generate public testimony and worksession discussions. They are summarized as follows:

#### Abutting Mains Cases – WSCCRs 20-TRV-03A (Arora) & 20-TRV-05A (Kapoor)

The applicants have proposed the provision of public sewer service for two parcels along Boswell Lane, each with an existing single-family house. The properties are within the Piney Branch watershed and are subject to the restricted sewer access policy there. The Aroras' request could use a connection to an abutting sewer main under the county's "abutting mains" policy. The existing sewer main does not abut the Kapoor's property. However, the Aroras have proposed to construct a sewer extension from the existing main to a point directly in line with their house. The construction of this new main would then make the Kapoors' property also eligible for a sewer connection under the abutting mains policy.

The construction of additional sewer main is neither specifically allowed nor disallowed under the abutting mains policy. Executive staff cannot recall a case where additional main construction

Tom Hucker, President December 4, 2020 Page 2

was needed for a property approved for public service under the abutting mains policy. The concern in this case is that the construction of a sewer extension would open up sewer service for an additional property that at present does not qualify for sewer service. I have recommended a restricted approval for the Aroras' request for category S-1, with the provision that construction of a new main extension is not allowed. The sewer connection must be made from the existing, abutting sewer main. This is consistent with the Piney Branch sewer policy. I have recommended denial of the Kapoor's' request for category S-3 as not consistent with the both abutting mains policy and the Piney Branch restricted sewer access policy.

#### Abutting Mains Case: - WSCCR 20-TRV-09A (Ainane)

The applicants have requested approval for category S-1 for existing Outlot A t in the Piney Glen Farms subdivision along Piney Meetinghouse Road. Their intent is to record the outlot as a building lot and construct a single-family house there. The outlot abuts an existing sewer main by way of a flagstem but is currently ineligible to use the abutting mains policy. The adjacent building lot (Lot 1) was granted the service connection allowed for the original parcel from which these two properties were subdivided. The applicants own both the outlot and the adjacent Lot 2.

The County Council denied a previous category change request for S-1 for this property under Resolution No. 18-1272 on October 30, 2018 (WSCCR 17-TRV-01A). As part of that prior request, the applicants offered to transfer the allowed, unused service connection available for Lot 2 to Outlot A. That offer is not a specific part of this current request. In its consideration of WSCCR 17-TRV-01A, the Planning Board recommended approval of category S-1 for Outlot A, with the condition that a concept plan for the new building lot address the development challenges for the property.

Executive and M-NCPPC staff presented to the applicants a possible resubdivision concept for Lot 2 and Outlot A that could have allowed a revised Outlot A to qualify for an abutting mains sewer connection. The applicants declined to accept that resubdivision concept in part due to the complexity and cost of preparing a new preliminary plan for the properties. I continue to recommend denial of category S-1 for this request as it is not consistent with the abutting mains service policy.

Staff from the Department of Environmental Protection, Intergovernmental Affairs Division, will be available for and participate in upcoming committee and full Council work sessions.

ME:as

Attachment

c: Lee Currey, Director, Water and Science Administration, Maryland Department of the Environment Robert McCord, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning Casey Anderson, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board Carla Reid, General Manager, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Adam Ortiz, Director, Department of Environmental Protection Mitra Pedoeem, Director, Department of Permitting Services

# Requested Water and Sewer Category Map Amendments:

## Montgomery County Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan

# County Executive's October 2020 Amendment Transmittal to the County Council

Six Service Area Category Change Requests

Prepared by
The Department of Environmental Protection

Adam Ortiz, Director

Steve Shofar, Chief, Intergovernmental Affairs Division Alan Soukup, Senior Planner, Water Supply and Wastewater Unit George Dizelos, Planner III, Water Supply and Wastewater Unit

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

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Executive Summa	ary: Proposed Am	endments and Recommendation	
Category Change No. & Applicant Location - Zoning - Acreage - Proposed Use	Requested Category Change	Summary of Executive Recommendations & Policy Discussions	Packet Page No.
[1] WSCCR 20-PAX-01: Michael Smith			
<ul> <li>1701 Ednor Rd., Cloverly</li> <li>RC Zone; 32.87 acres</li> <li>Patuxent Watershed Conservation Planning Area Cloverly Master Plan (1997)</li> <li><u>Proposed use</u>: 6-lot residential subdivision. Preliminary plan pending.</li> </ul>	W-6 to <b>W-1</b> S-6 (no change)	Defer pending applicant's coordination with M-NCPPC on the related preliminary plan.  Public water service in the RC Zone is intended for clustered development. M-NCPPC has determined that the current preliminary plan does not satisfy that requirement. Deferral is proposed to allow the applicant and M-NCPPC time to modify the plan to satisfy this requirement and to conform with other master plan recommendations cited by M-NCPPC.	Report: Pgs. 6-8 Preliminary Plan: Pgs. 9-10 Map: Pg 11
[2] WSCCR 20-TRV-03A: Ashwani & Jana	ak Arora		
<ul> <li>10400 Boswell Ln., Potomac</li> <li>RE-2 Zone; 3.70 acres</li> <li>Travilah Planning Area Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)</li> <li><u>Proposed use</u>: Sewer service for the existing single-family house</li> </ul>	W-1 (No change) S-6 to <b>S-1</b>	Approve S-1, restricted to a single sewer hookup only from the abutting sewer main. The property satisfies the requirements for a single sewer hookup under the abutting mains provisions of the Piney Branch sewer restricted access policy. A proposed sewer extension that could serve 10401 Boswell Ln. is neither needed nor acceptable.	Report: Pgs. 12-13 Maps: Pgs. 14-15
[3] WSCCR 20-TRV-05A: Ravinder & Ritu	ı Kapoor		
<ul> <li>10401 Boswell Ln, Potomac</li> <li>RE-1 Zone; 2.00 ac</li> <li>Travilah Planning Area Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)</li> <li>Proposed use: Sewer service for the existing single-family house</li> </ul>	W-1 (No change) S-6 to <b>S-3</b>	Deny the request for S-3; maintain S-6.  The provision of public sewer service is not consistent with the requirements of the Piney Branch sewer restricted sewer access policy.	Report: Pgs. 16-18 Maps: Pgs. 19-20
[4] WSCCR 20-TRV-09A: Sami and Sihar	n Ainane		
<ul> <li>12000 block of Piney Meetinghouse Rd., Potomac</li> <li>RE-2 Zone; 2.51 ac.</li> <li>Travilah Planning Area Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)</li> <li>Proposed use: convert existing outlot to building lot for one single-family house</li> </ul>		Deny the request for S-1; maintain S-6. The provision of public sewer service is not consistent with the requirements of the abutting mains service policy.	Report: Pgs. 21-22 Subdivision Plat: Pg. 23 Maps: Pgs. 24-27.

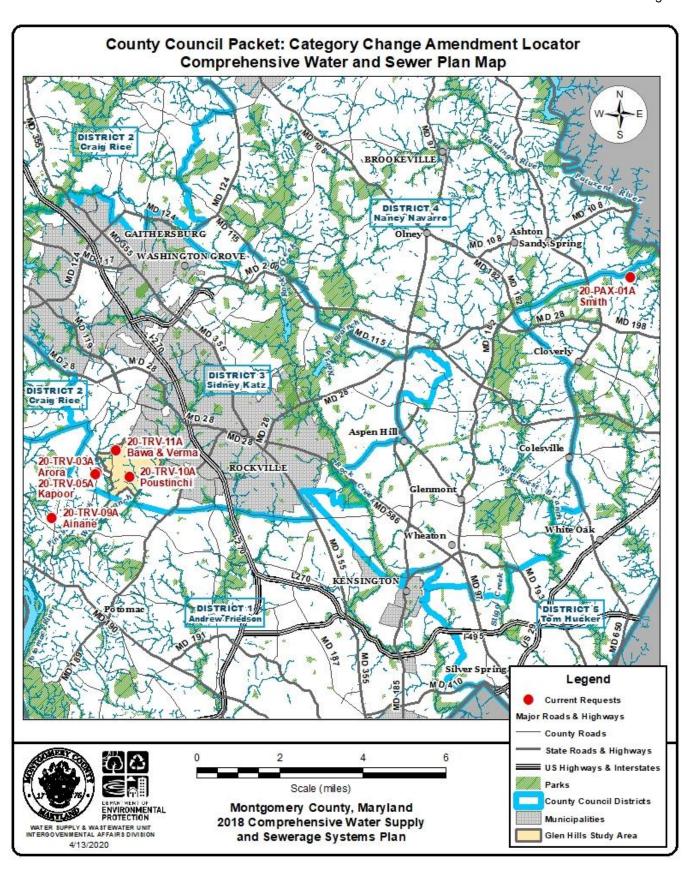
#### **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

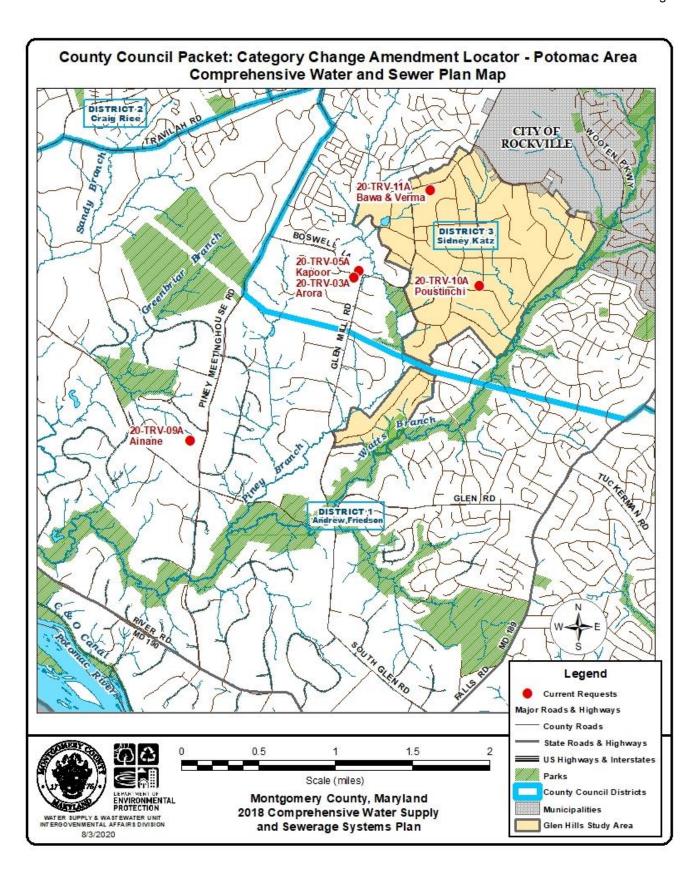
on the existing lot.

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<b>Executive Summary: Proposed Amendments and Recommendation</b>						
Category Change No. & Applicant Location - Zoning - Acreage - Proposed Use	Requested Category Change	Summary of Executive Recommendations & Policy Discussions	Packet Page No.			
[5] WSCCR 20-TRV-10A: Amir, Ahmad a	nd Rosa Poustinchi					
9701 Watts Branch Dr., Rockville	W-1 (No change)	Deny the request for S-3; maintain S-6.	Report:			
<ul> <li>RE-1 Zone; 1.01 acres (43,995 sq. ft.)</li> <li>Travilah Planning Area Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)</li> <li>Watts Branch Watershed (MDE Use I)</li> <li>Proposed use: Improvements to the existing property and single-family house</li> </ul>		The provision of public sewer service is not consistent with the Glen Hills sewer service policy.	Pgs. 28-30 Maps: Pgs. 31-32			
[6] WSCCR 20-TRV-11A: Meenu Bawa &	Anand Verma					
• 13517 Glen Mill Rd., Rockville	W-1 (No change)	Deny the request for S-3; maintain S-6.	Report:			
<ul> <li>RE-1 Zone; 0.92 acre (40,187 sq.ft.))</li> <li>Travilah Planning Area Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)</li> <li><u>Proposed use</u>: build a 4-bedroom house</li> </ul>	S-6 to <b>S-3</b>	The provision of public sewer service is not consistent with the requirements of the Piney Branch sewer restricted sewer access policy or with the Glen Hills sewer service policy.	<b>Pgs. 33-35</b> Maps: <b>Pgs. 36-38</b>			

See Executive Staff Reports for complete recommendation and policy discussion for each requested amendment.





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#### 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.  • 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.	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
W-2 and S-2	Categories W-2 and S-2 are not used in the Montgomery County Water and Sewer Plan. (State's definition: Areas served by extensions of existing community and multi-use systems which are in the final planning stages.)	connect to public service within one year of its availability.  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
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.	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.
<b>W-4</b> and <b>S-4</b>	Areas where improvements to or construction of new community systems will be programmed for the three- through six-year period. ● This includes areas generally requiring the approval of CIP projects before service can be provided.	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.)
<b>W-5</b> and <b>S-5</b>	Areas where improvements to or construction of new community systems are planned for the seven- through ten-year period. ● 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.	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.  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.
<b>W-6</b> and <b>S-6</b>	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.  • 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.	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.

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.

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#### Request [1]

#### WSCCR 20A-PAX-01: Michael Smith

County Executive's Recommendation: Defer action pending revisions to the preliminary plan that bring it into conformance with the cluster development option and with master plan recommendations.

Property Information and Location Property Development	Applicant's Request: Service Area Categories & Justification			
• 1701 Ednor Rd.,	Existing -	Requested – Service Area Categories		
Parcel P480, Snowdens Manor (acct. no.	W-5	W-1		
02416304)	S-6	S-6 (no change)		
<ul> <li>Map tile: WSSC – 223NE02; MD –KT21</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>South side of Ednor Rd. east of Gamewell Rd.</li> </ul>	Applicant's Explanation  "This property is currently used as a horse stable and horse-riding school. The owner has decided to subdivide			
RC Zone; 32.87 acres				
<ul> <li>Patuxent Watershed Conservation Planning Area Cloverly Master Plan (1997)</li> </ul>	this horse st	able and school land into a six-lot  Each proposed lot is to have five acres or		
Lower Patuxent River Watershed (MDE Use I)		es that are associated with the subdivision.		
Existing use: horse stable & pasture     Proposed use: six lot single-family residential subdivision; preliminary plan no. 120190010, "Reddemead Farm"	the lot lines on each prop on adjacent	ystems have been approved for each lot with being adjusted so that all septic systems are posed lot. No easements would be allowed lots for a septic system of the proposed lot. as dictated that a parcel (Outlot) of land		

along Ednor Road must be dedicated to MC Parks due to the historic Indian Soap Stone on this property. MC Parks also dictated that one lot must be setup to connect to the M-NCPPC park property on the East side of the PEPCO power parcel. M-NCPPC has dictated that this property and lots must be accessed by a public street and all lots must have frontage on this public street. Access to Gamewell Road would not be permitted. M-NCPPC also dictated that the new public road had to access Ednor Road to the West of the proposed MC Parks Outlot. Currently a water main is in the right of way of Endor Road and thus all of the proposed lots are required to have WSSC water service. Water wells would not be permitted for any of these proposed lots in this subdivision. Due to M-NCPPC requirements a new WSSC water line must be installed in the new public road that services these lots. Also with the new water line fire service is available as is required by the Fire Department."

#### **Executive Staff Report**

Executive staff recommend deferral of this request to allow the applicant time to work with M-NCPPC on the draft preliminary plan. The intent is to bring the plan into conformance with RC Zone cluster development requirements and with Cloverly Master Plan recommendations. (Note that deferral actions are intended to be resolved within approximately one year.)

The applicant seeks approval for a water category change from W-6 to W-1to support the development of a six-lot, single-family residential subdivision. An existing 10"-diameter water main abuts the site along Ednor Rd. and can provide public water service. An onsite water main extension along the proposed cul-de-sac will be needed. The applicant has submitted a preliminary plan to M-NCPPC for the proposed subdivision (see pages 9-10). The site, which totals 32.87 acres, is zoned Rural Cluster (RC) where public water service is intended for properties that develop using the RC Zone cluster option.

M-NCPPC staff have raised several concerns regarding the proposed preliminary plan (see below), chiefly that it does not satisfy master plan cluster development recommendations for the provision of public water service within the RC Zone. Only two proposed lots have sizes smaller than 5 acres, the remaining four lots exceed 5 acres in size. The only proposed, dedicated open space preservation is for the historic quarry site, totaling slightly more than one acre. M-NCPPC Parks staff are seeking at least 3 acres of dedication for this historic site.

Note that statements in the applicant's explanation (above) citing a requirement to use public water service for this project appear to be based solely on proposed use of public water by the submitted preliminary plan. The site

#### **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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is currently designated as water category W-6 and therefore eligible to use onsite wells. The preliminary plan, as currently configured, would require revisions to accommodate onsite wells and septic systems. Further, M-NCPPC's determination that the preliminary plan does not satisfy the cluster option requirements indicates that those proposed lots now larger than 5 acres will also need changes.

#### **Agency Review Comments**

#### DPS - Well & Septic

A septic plan was approved for this project on April 30, 2018. The plan approves the six lots using public water and septic reserve areas for dwellings with up to 6 bedrooms.

#### M-NCPPC - Planning Dept.

This 32-acre parcel is in the RC Zone and is located in the Agricultural Wedge of the 1997 Cloverly Master Plan Area. It is also located in the Patuxent River watershed and a half mile from the Rocky Gorge Reservoir. The Cloverly Master Plan states that water service in the RC zone should not be extended to residential properties unless Master Plan recommendations are met and that the cluster option is used. Master Plan recommendations for this property and for this area of the Plan are the following:

- Acquire the Thompson/Lethbridge Soapstone Quarry as an archaeological site. The
  Thompson/Lethbridge Soapstone Quarry is located on Ednor Road near the crossing of the Pepco
  power transmission lines. Artifacts from the site indicate that it was most heavily used from about 2500
  to 500 BC. The site was originally documented by pioneering Smithsonian archeologist William Henry
  Holmes in 1897. It is one of the few steatite (soapstone) quarries in Maryland that has not been
  destroyed by commercial quarrying. Public protection of the site is critical because a portion of the site
  has recently damaged by private activities. (p. 66)
- Preserve the stream valleys of the Patuxent River Watershed for the protection of the drinking water reservoir by clustering of low-density development and applying the Primary Management Area and as recommended in the 1993 Functional Master Plan for the Patuxent River Watershed and as outlined in the Environmental Guidelines for Development. This generally includes the protection and reforestation of stream valleys and a 10% imperviousness limit. (p. 17, 20, 81, 89)
- Encourage clustering of development to provide open space that protects natural resources, provides recreation, and contributes to the rural and residential atmosphere. Cluster subdivisions should be configured to protect environmentally sensitive areas, provide forested stream buffers and forested open space along arterial and major highways, provide access and views of parkland and open space and provide a transition to similar lot sizes of adjacent subdivisions. (p.31)

The Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage System Plan further recommends that for sites within the RC zone, the provision of community water service shall generally require approval of a subdivision plan which uses the cluster-option for the development. It is also quoted in the Cloverly Plan, "The decision to extend or restrict water service should focus on conformance with master plan land-use and development recommendations, rather than on generalized water service areas."

Staff does not support the request for water service for the purpose of subdivision. The preliminary plan for Reddemeade Farm provided as part of this category change request has not met Master Plan guidance that the cluster option be used in the RC zone to adequately meet the goals specified above. Also, the requirement in the Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage System Plan that the provision of water service be used to facilitate use the cluster option in the RC zone has not been met.

#### M-NCPPC - Parks Planning

The Department of Parks supports a water category change to W1 but will only support a preliminary plan layout that preserves the Ednor Soapstone Quarry, identified for public protection as an archaeological site in the 1997 Cloverly Master Plan. The site dates to the Late Archaic Period, 3700 BC to 1200 BC, and retains soapstone used by Native Americans to make bowls and other functional objects. With approximately 3-5 acres surrounding the quarry core, the site has the potential to become a small interpretive park focusing on Native

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American culture during the Woodland and Archaic Periods.

Additionally, via the cluster option requiring 60 percent open space, Parks intends to seek dedication of environmentally sensitive area along the southern edge of the property as an extension of the Patuxent River Watershed Conservation Park.

#### WSSC - Water:

Water pressure zone: 660A. A 10-inch water line in Ednor Road abuts the property (contract no. 1966-2307A). Because of the Applicant's intention to subdivide this property into a multiple-lot subdivision, a 660-foot-long non-CIP-sized water extension is required to serve the property. The extension would connect to the existing 10" man that abuts the property (contract no. 1966-2307A). Easements or public right-of-way would be required. Construction of this extension may involve the removal of trees and other site features. Local service adequacy will be evaluated at [the] Hydraulic Planning Analysis (HPA) phase.

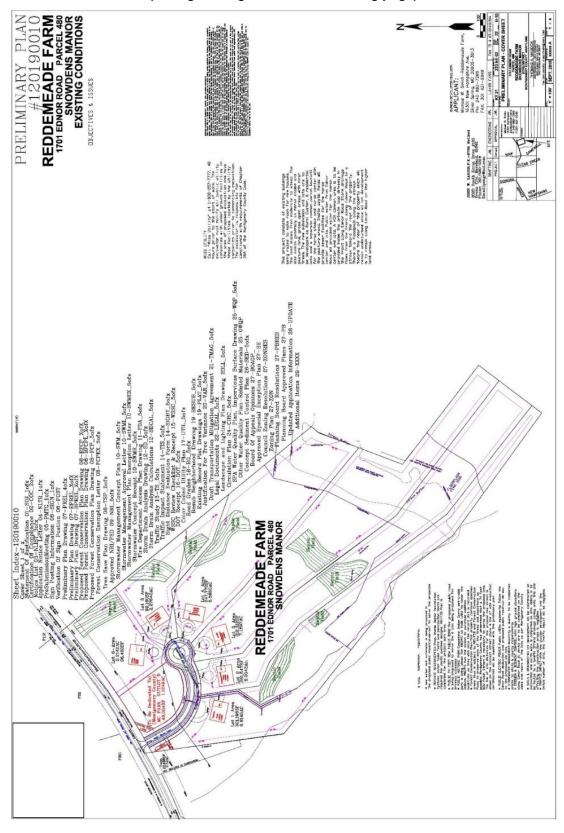
WSSC - Sewer: (not requested)

Maps, Plans, Etc.: Draft Preliminary Plan 120190010, Reddemead.......Pages-9-10

Requested Water Category Map Amendment......Page 11

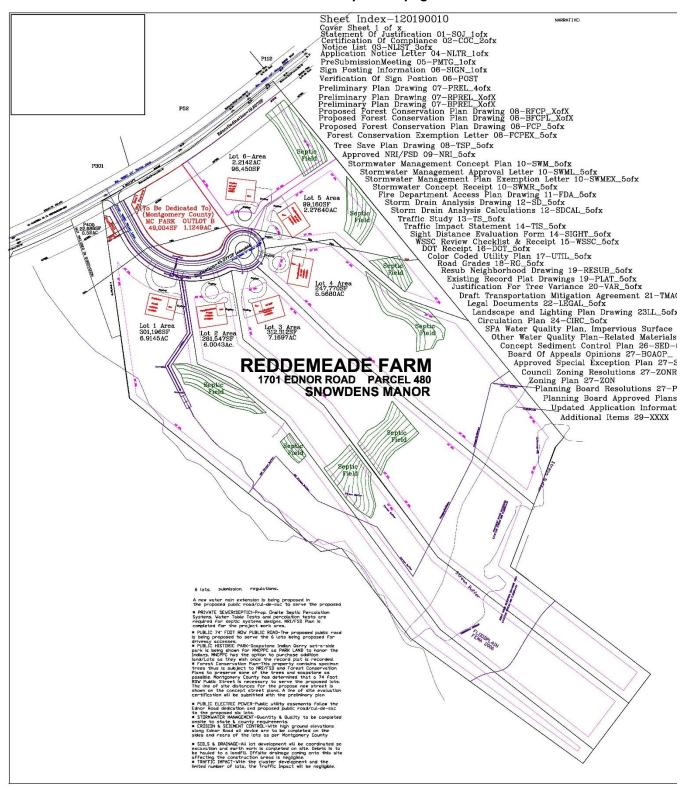
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## Preliminary Plan no. 1020190010 – Reddemead Farm (Enlarged image of lots on following page)

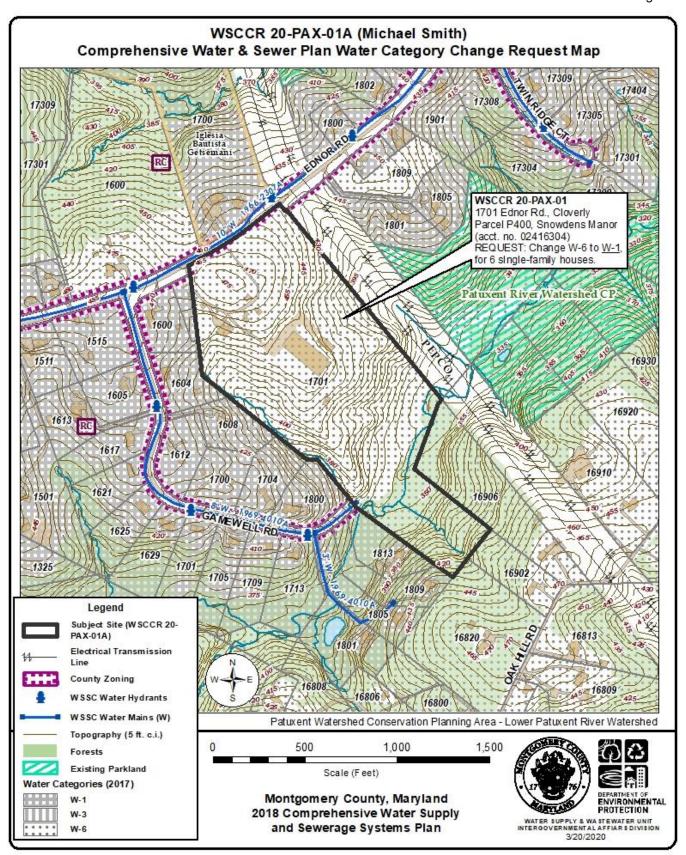


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## Part of Preliminary Plan no. 120190010 – Reddemead Farm (Enlarged & Rotated) North is to the top of the page



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#### Request [2]

#### WSCCR 20-TRV-03A: Ashwani & Janak Arora

<u>County Executive's Recommendation</u>: Approve S-1, for one sewer hookup only. Under the Piney Branch restricted sewer access policy, the approval of public sewer service for this property may not be used to support the subdivision of this parcel into more than one building lot. Sewer service is to be provided from the existing sewer main only.

Property Information and Location Property Development	Applicant's Request County Council Action			
• 10400 Boswell Ln., Potomac	Existing – Requested – Service Area Categories			
Parcel P741, Wickham & Pottinger (acct. no.	W-1 W-1 (no change)			
00046148)	S-6 <b>S-1</b>			
• Map tile: WSSC – 217NW10; MD –FR31				
Southwest corner, intersection of Glen Mill Rd. & Boswell Ln.	Applicant's Explanation  "A public sewer abuts the Subject property at the north-west corner			
• RE-2 Zone; 3.70 acres	along Boswell Lane. Hence, the Subject Property is eligible for a sewer service category change that would allow for a single			
Travilah Planning Area     Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)	connection to the public sewerage system pursuant to the abutting mains policy, Chapter 1, (Objectives and Policies), Section II.E.3.a of the Montgomery County Comprehensive Water Supply and			
Watts Branch Watershed (MDE Use I), Piney Branch Subwatershed (Mont. Co. SPA)	Sewerage Systems Plan. A standard, appropriate sewer main connection to the existing home is requested."			
Existing use: Single-family house (not residence), built 1996     Proposed use: No Change				

#### **Executive Staff Report**

Executive staff recommend approval of category S-1 for a single sewer hookup only. However, staff also recommend against allowing a sewer extension for 10400 Boswell Ln. that would also serve 10401 Boswell Ln. Staff also recommend against revising the abutting mains policy to allow making such service possible.

The applicants seek approval of a sewer category change from S-6 to S-1 to provide public sewer service to an existing single-family house. The property is a deeded parcel totaling 3.7 acres in size and zoned RE-2. Given zoning requirements the parcel cannot be subdivided into more than one building lot.

The site is within the Piney Branch subwatershed where the provision of public sewer service is controlled by a limited sewer access policy in the Water and Sewer Plan. (See pages 44-45.) An existing low-pressure sewer abuts the northwestern corner of the property along Boswell Ln. (see the map on page 14). The parcel existed at the time the abutting sewer main was constructed in 2016. WSSC has confirmed that a sewer connection and hookup from this existing main can provide sewer service to the existing house. Under the restricted sewer access policy and the Water and Sewer Plan's abutting mains policy (see pages 39-42), the existing parcel is eligible for sewer category S-1 with public sewer service limited to a single sewer hookup only.

Low-Pressure Sewer Extension and Abutting Mains Policy: The applicants, in coordination with the applicants for WSCCR 20-TRV-05A (following), have expressed an interest in constructing a 140-foot low-pressure sewer extension along Boswell Ln. abutting their parcel (see the map on page 15). This would bring the low-pressure main directly in line with the applicants' house, reducing the length of the onsite sewer hookup from approximately 210 feet to 130 feet. WSSC has indicated to DEP that the low-pressure extension is likely feasible and that either sewer hookup—from the existing main or from the proposed extension—could serve the existing house.

Further, the 140-foot main extension proposed would abut not only the applicants' property, but also the confronting property across the street at 10400 Boswell Lane. This property is also the subject of a sewer category change request included in this packet, WSCCR 20-TRV-05A (see pages 16-20). Once approved and without any service restrictions, the proposed extension would allow for a single sewer service hookup for 10400

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Boswell Ln. That approval would also be consistent with the abutting mains policy and the Piney Branch restricted sewer access policy. Note that without the proposed sewer extension, 1040 Boswell Ln. does not qualify for pubic sewer service under the Piney Branch restricted service sewer policy.

This is an unusual proposal in that virtually all approved abutting mains cases end up with the property connecting to the existing water or sewer main, without the use of a new extension. Constructing a new water or sewer main is time-consuming and expensive, something that most people would likely avoid if possible. Constructing a somewhat longer onsite service hookup will in most situations be cheaper than constructing an extension just to achieve a shorter service hookup.

Two issues potentially involved here are not currently addressed by the Water and Sewer Plan's abutting mains policy:

- Whether main extensions for properties approved under the abutting mains policy are allowed.
- Whether such an extension, if approved, may make public service available for another property.

The abutting mains policy was made part of the Water and Sewer Plan to allow owners of a limited number of properties to take advantage of water and sewer mains that happened to be available to those properties. Several limitations were built into the policy to ensure that it would not result in uncontrolled and unintended public service in areas using onsite systems. This proposal runs counter to that intention, setting up situations where main extensions could leapfrog from one property to the next opening unintended public service for additional properties.

If WSSC had advised that an extension was needed in order to allow service to the existing house, perhaps to avoid the having hookup cross a sensitive environmental feature such as a stream, then that issue could be addressed on an individual basis. A <u>limited</u> allowance could be made in the policy to address such situations. Or the Plan's policy could acknowledge that not all abutting mains cases can be implemented, despite a property meeting baseline requirements,. The following statement is included in the General Requirements subsection (II.G.3.a.) of the abutting mains policy: "The provision of community service under this policy also requires that service from the abutting main must be technically feasible." (Chapter 1, 2018 Water and Sewer Plan)

#### **Agency Review Comments**

#### DPS - Well & Septic\

The property has permitted septic system for 6 bedrooms and an approved septic reserve area.

#### M-NCPPC - Planning Dept.

[This property is] in the [RE-2] Zone and [is] located in the Travilah Planning Area, part of the Potomac Subregion. The Arora property totals 3.7 acres. [This property is] located in the Piney Branch Restricted Community Sewer Service Area. The Water and Sewer Plan limits public service in this area and outlines conditions that must be satisfied before public service is provided. One such condition allows single connections for properties that abut existing sewer mains. This provision was recommended in the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan. There is an existing line in Boswell Lane that abuts the northwest corner of the Arora property. [This property is] therefore eligible for service under Water and Sewer Plan policies for the Piney Branch Restricted Community Sewer Service Area. [The property is] eligible for a single hookup; the Arora property may not be subdivided under this policy.

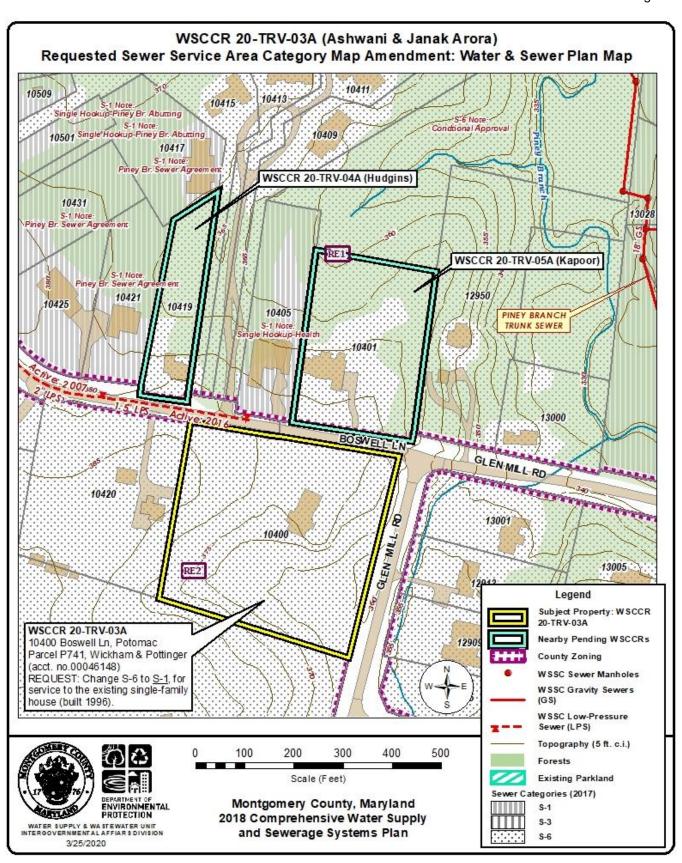
#### M-NCPPC - Parks Planning

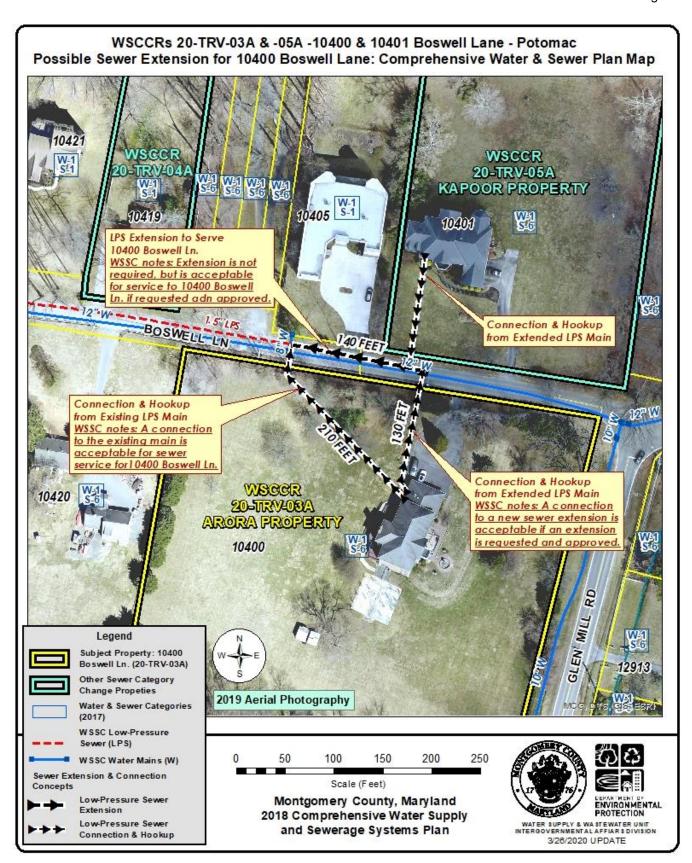
No park impacts.

WSSC - Water (not requested)

#### WSSC - Sewer

Basin: Watts Branch. The existing low pressure sewer system may require modifications to support the additional flow. Average wastewater flow from the proposed development: 280 gpd. Interceptor capacity is adequate. [Blue Plains] Treatment capacity is adequate.





#### **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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#### Request [3]

#### WSCCR 20-TRV-05A: Ravinder & Ritu Kapoor

County Executive's Recommendation: Deny the request for sewer category S-3; maintain S-6.

Property Information and Location Property Development	Applicant's Request: Service Area Categories & Justification			
• 10401 Boswell Ln, Potomac	Existing – Requested – Service Area Categories			
Parcel P666, Wickham & Pottinger Piney	W-1 W-1 (no change)			
Level (acct. no. 00053133)	S-6 <b>S-3</b>			
<ul> <li>Map tile: WSSC – 217NW10; MD –FR31</li> </ul>				
Northwest corner, intersection of Glen Mill Rd. & Boswell Ln.	Applicant's Explanation  "Public Sewer currently serves adjacent properties and			
• RE-1 Zone; 2.00 ac	extension of that service is requested facilitate the environmentally appropriate development of the property,			
Travilah Planning Area     Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)	consistent with the development along Boswell Lane."			
Watts Branch Watershed (MDE Use I), Piney Branch Subwatershed (Mont. Co. SPA)	DEP Note: The Council previously considered and denied requests for sewer category S-3 for WSCCR 11A-TRV-08			
Existing use: Single-family house, built 2006     Proposed use: No Change	(Kapoor) under CR 15-504 (7/24/12), and WSCCR 945B-TRV-02 (Riordan) under CR 13-830 (3/25/97) for this property.			

#### **Executive Staff Report**

Executive staff recommend against the approval of sewer category S-3 for this request, consistent with the provisions of the Piney Branch restricted sewer access policy and consistent with the executive staff recommendation for WSCCR 20-TRV-03A (page 13).

The applicants seek a sewer category change from S-6 to S-3 to provide public sewer service to an existing single-family house. The parcel is zoned RE-1 and is of 2 acres in size. Given this, the parcel is theoretically large enough for a two-lot residential subdivision. The property is located within the Piney Branch watershed and special protection area (SPA). As such, the provision of public sewer service is governed by the Water and Sewer Plan's Piney Branch restricted sewer service policy (see pages 44-45). At present, the parcel does not satisfy any of the six conditions in that policy that would allow for approval of sewer category S-3.

The applicants have proposed that this property could be served by a low-pressure sewer (LPS) extension from an existing main located to the west along Boswell Ln. This is the sewer main that abuts the parcel at 10400 Boswell Ln., discussed further with respect to the preceding WSCCR 20-TRV-03A for that property. (See the staff report at pages 12-13 and the maps at pages 14-15.) Such an extension would allow this parcel at 10401 Boswell Ln. to satisfy the "abutting mains" condition of the Piney Branch restricted sewer access policy. Such an extension is not supported by the current abutting mains service policy in the Water and Sewer Plan. WSSC has reported that the existing LPS main can provide public sewer service to the parcel at 10400 Boswell Ln. without the need for a main extension.

The applicants contend that this property has unique circumstances that would justify the provision of public sewer service in the Piney Branch sewer policy area:

- 10401 Boswell Ln. is the only property along Boswell Ln., between Piney Meetinghouse Rd. and Glen Mill Rd., that does not currently qualify for public sewer service. This is likely true. An existing gravity sewer (GS) main or an existing LPS main abuts the other properties located along this street (see page 20).
- The only additional property that the LPS extension proposed for 10400 Boswell Ln. would abut would be the applicants' property; no other property could receive sewer service from this sewer main extension. This is also true. The effect on the abutting mains provision of the restricted sewer access policy of the proposed LPS extension would be limited to the applicants' parcel, as illustrated by the map on page 15.

While creating a potentially unique set of conditions for the subject property, these circumstances do not, of themselves, justify the approval of sewer category S-3.

#### **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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The applicants further contend that four other properties along the north side of Boswell Ln. received approval for public sewer service while also failing to satisfy the requirements of the Piney Branch restricted sewer service policy, This request, WSCCR 00A-TRV-03 (R.A.M. Investing) shown on the map on page 20, received approval from the Council under CR 14-1516A on Nov. 26, 2002. That resolution (see page 18) noted that, while not specifically consistent with the restricted sewer access policy, the Council granted conditional approval of category S-3 due to special circumstances. MDE initially disallowed this resolution as inconsistent with the local master plan. However, the state subsequently allowed the action by default because MDE's initial denial action did not occur until after the response period required by state law,

In discussion with DEP staff, the applicants have also indicated a desire to eventually subdivide this parcel into two building lots to allow the construction of a second single-family house for family members. DPS Well and Septic staff have advised DEP that the construction of a second house on the property likely cannot occur using an onsite septic system. Testing for an additional septic system, a sand mound system, was not successful. The creation of two building lots from this parcel raises additional concerns with regards to the restricted sewer access policy. Properties approved for public sewer service under the abutting mains provision of the restricted sewer access policy are not intended to allow the single sewer hookup to support subdivision of the property into more than one building lot. The concept of creating two building lots from this parcel runs counter to the provision of the restricted sewer access policy, regardless of whether one or both lots receive public sewer service. Only three other sites located along or near Boswell Ln. have the potential for subdivision into more than one building lot (see the map on page 20).

#### **Agency Review Comments**

#### **DPS - Well & Septic Section**

This property has a permitted septic system for 6 bedrooms and an approved septic reserve area. Additional testing was conducted over a span of 5 years to establish another septic reserve area for a second dwelling but was ultimately unsuccessful in obtaining the required number of passing sand mound tests. Based on existing test data, topography and lot size it is not likely that further sand mound testing will result in approval of a secondary septic reserve area.

#### M-NCPPC - Planning Dept.

This two-acre property is in the RE-1 Zone and is located in the Travilah Planning Area, part of the Potomac Subregion. It also is located in the Piney Branch Restricted Community Sewer Service Area. The Water and Sewer Plan limits public service in this area and outlines conditions that must be satisfied before public service is provided. This property does not appear to meet any of the six conditions outlined in the Water and Sewer Plan. It is adjacent to a property that is currently served, but that sewer line does not abut any part of the Kapoor property. The Arora property, across Boswell Lane, is the subject of a category change request based on the abutting mains policy, but it is not clear whether connecting the Arora property would create a main abutting the Kapoor property.

#### M-NCPPC - Parks Planning

No park impacts.

WSSC - Water (not requested)

#### WSSC - Sewer

Basin: Watts Branch. There is an existing 1.5 inch low pressure sewer in Boswell Ln. (contract 200704595Z) that requires a public extension in order to abut this lot. The extension for the 1.5 inch low pressure sewer for 10401 Boswell Ln. to connect appears to be able to take the additional flow from this lot. Average wastewater flow from the proposed development: 280 GPD. Program-sized sewer main are not required to serve the property. Interceptor capacity is adequate. Treatment capacity [Blue Plains] is adequate.

Maps, Plans, Etc.:	Conceptual Sewer Connection and Hookup (19-TRV-03A)	. Page 15
	Excerpt from CR 14-1516A for WSCCR 00A-TRV-03	. Page 18
	Requested Sewer Category Map Amendment	. Page 19
	Boswell Lane Area Sewer Category Change Requests	. Page 20

## County Council Resolution No. 14 – 1516A (Nov. 26, 2002) – Attachment A: Page 1 of 1 July 2002 Water and Sewer Plan Amendment Transmittal

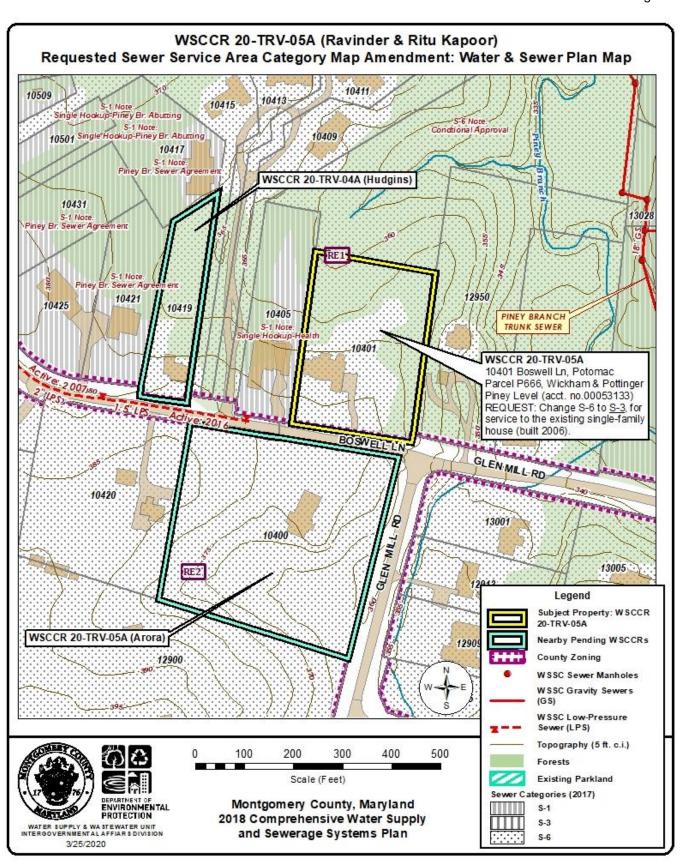
Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan: Individual Water/Sewer Category Map Amendments

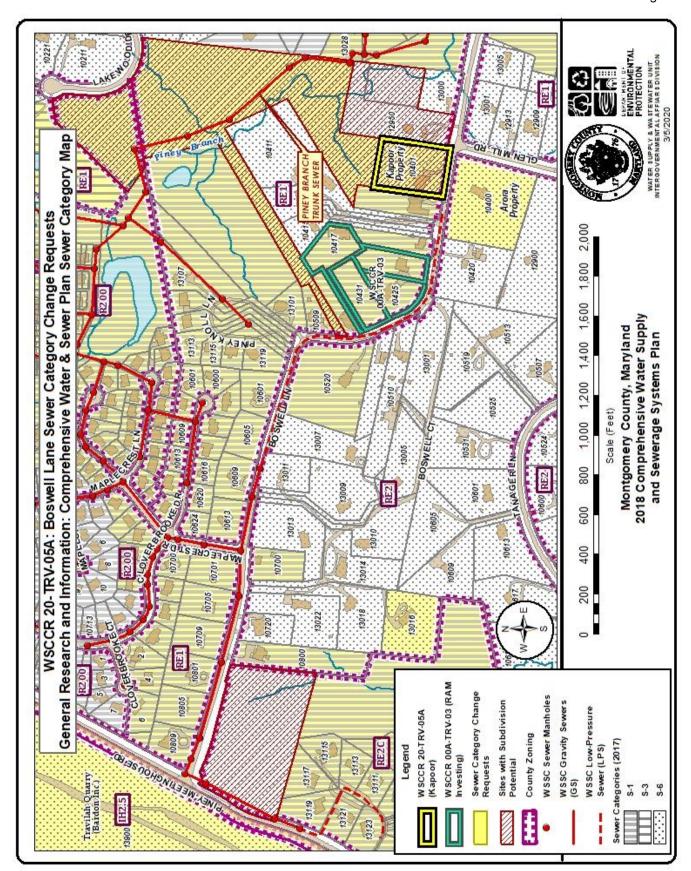
A 5 4 27		The state of the s	wer Category Map Amendments
Amendment No. Applicant (Owner) Description & Location	Master Plan & Watershed Zoning & Acreage Site Development	Service Area Categories Existing Requested	County Council Action (See Attachment B for mapping of this amendment.)
WSCCR 00A-TRV-03 R.A.M. Investing, Ltd. (and for Boswell Lane Limited Partnership) Parcels P606 & P636, Wickham and Pottinger; and Lot 1, Block C, Glen Mill Knolls – 10417, 10421 Be 10425 Boswell Ln. Tax map FR341; WSSC grid 217NW10 Northeast side of Boswell Lane, 800' west of Glen Mill Rd.	Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002) Watts Branch watershed — Piney Branch subwatershed (MDE Use I; Mont. Co. SPA) RE-1 Zone: 3.6 acres Existing use: 2 single-family houses Proposed use: 4-lot subdivision	W-1 No Change S-6 S-3  Previously deferred under CR 14-819, Mar. 2001, for completion of the Potomac Subregion Master Plan; and under CR 14-1481, Oct. 2002, for WSSC's evaluation the potential environ- mental impacts of sewer main extensions.	Maintain S-6, with advancement to S-3 conditioned on the applicant providing DEP with a copy of a recorded covenant for the subject site which includes the Piney Branch Sewer Agreement Recommendations.  (**Continues below*)

County Council Action (continued):

The Council grants this approval with the following conditions and understandings:

- That in order to implement this approval action, the applicant must extend public sewer service to this site only from the existing 8-inch-dia. sewer main at the intersection of Boswell Lane and Maplecrest Drive (WSSC #898066E).
- That in order for this project to proceed under the Council's action, WSSC must find the preceding sewer extension alignment acceptable.
- That while inconsistent with the specific requirements of the Water and Sewer Plan's Piney Branch Sewer Restricted Access Policy, this amendment is approved because of the special circumstances noted below:
- · Results in only a minimal increase in development density within the watershed;
- Minimizes potential environmental impacts to Piney Branch by avoiding sewer main construction near streams or within stream buffers.
- That this approval represents an exception to the Piney Branch Sewer Restricted Access Policy and is not a precedent for possible future exception requests.





#### **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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#### Request [4]

#### WSCCR 20-TRV-09A: Sami and Siham Ainane

<u>County Executive's Recommendation</u>: **Deny the request for category S-1, maintaining category S-6 with no allowed abutting mains sewer hookup.** 

Property Information and Location Property Development	Applicant's Request: Service Area Categories & Justification			
• 12000 block of Piney Meetinghouse Rd.,	Existing – Requested – Service Area Categories			
Potomac	W-1 W-1 (no change)			
Outlot A, Block D, Piney Glen Farms (acct. no. 03464464)	S-6 <b>S-1</b>			
• Map tile: WSSC - 215NW11; MD -FQ12				
West side of Piney Meetinghouse Rd., south	Applicant's Explanation  "Convert to building lot for one single-family home."			
of the intersection of Greenbriar Preserve				
Ln.				
• RE-2 Zone; 2.51 ac.	DEP Note: The Council previously considered and denied a			
Travilah Planning Area     Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)	request for sewer category S-1 for WSCCR 17-TRV-10A (Ainane) under CR 18-1272 (10/30/18) for this property.			
Watts Branch Watershed (MDE Use I)				
Outlot A existing use: Vacant     Outlot A proposed use: convert to building lot for one single-family house				

#### **Executive Staff Report**

Executive staff cannot find a policy justification for this category change request for sewer category S-1, and therefore recommend denial, maintaining category S-6 for the property.

The applicants have requested a sewer category change from S-6 to S-1 for existing Outlot A, Block D, in the Piney Glen Farms subdivision. This outlot was created along with Lot 1, Block D, following the approval of category S-1 for the original "parent" parcel under the abutting mains policy. The allowed sewer connection was assigned to the building lot, Lot 1, leaving the remainder of the original parcel, Outlot A, as sewer category S-6 and ineligible for sewer service under the abutting mains policy. (See the subdivision plat on page 23 and the map on page 24.) The applicants seek an exception to allow for a second sewer hookup for the existing outlot.

Under the prior request for this property (WSCCR 17-TRV-10A), the applicants had requested that the allowed sewer connection for the property at 12000 Piney Meetinghouse Rd. (existing Lot 2) be transferred to Outlot A The County's abutting mains policy (see pgs. 39-42) does not include a provision to allow the transfer of an allowed service hookup from one property to another, including those under common ownership. . As such, the County Council denied the applicants' prior request.

For Outlot A to qualify for a sewer hookup under the existing abutting mains policy, it would need to include a part of original Parcel P243. A residual of the original property (Parcel P243) can receive the allowed service connection from the original; property. The other remainder cannot use the allowed connection. Executive staff have developed a resubdivision proposal for Lot 2 and Outlot A that would incorporate a small part of Parcel P243 into Outlot A, satisfying the abutting mains policy requirement for the residual of the original property (see page 27). Executive staff presented this resubdivision proposal to the applicants. Because this proposal would require a new preliminary plan, the applicants decided against pursuing it due to the cost involved for preparing and filing the new plan.

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#### **Agency Review Comments**

#### **DPS - Well & Septic Section**

<u>Outlot A</u> - Water table testing was performed in 2017 and was unsuccessful. Soil conditions are not favorable for a conventional onsite system and the [out]lot is not eligible for an innovative or alternative septic system. DPS does not object to a category change for this parcel.

<u>Lot 2</u> - Water table and percolation testing was also completed in 2017 for the existing house at 12000 Piney Meetinghouse Rd. Testing was successful; a potential septic reserve area was identified. The existing septic system was installed under permit in 1960 and was not found to be failing at the time of testing.

#### M-NCPPC - Planning Dept.

Planning Board recommendation (October 11, 2018): Conditionally approve S-1 if a Concept Plan that addresses the development challenges of Outlot A and brought to the Planning department Development Review Committee. Lot 2 will remain S-6 with no future abutting main hookup.

The applicant had requested a sewer category change from S-6 to S-1 for Outlot A, Block D, a 2,51-acre RE-2 zoned property. The outlot and Lot 1, Block D were created with the approval of subdivision 120040010. The subdivision had been granted a single sewer hookup for the parent parcel. This hookup was assigned to the buildable Lot 1, leaving Outlot A in sewer category S-6 and ineligible for sewer service under the abutting mains policy. The applicant proposes to transfer an allowable abutting main hookup from a parcel adjacent to Outlot A, which they also own.

The Potomac Master Plan excludes areas zone for low-density development not already approved for service from further extensions. The Potomac peripheral service policy further excludes properties adjacent to and in the vicinity of the Palatine subdivision and the lower Greenbriar Branch properties, areas that include this property. Following a discussion the included the applicant, planning staff and executive branch staff, the Planning Board found merit in facilitating service to Outlot A and recommended that the right to a single sewer hookup from the adjacent property to the south [Lot 1] could be transferred to Outlot A if a Concept Plan analyzing development issue on the property is reviewed by the Development Review Committee.

#### M-NCPPC - Parks Planning

No park impacts.

WSSC - Water (Not requested)

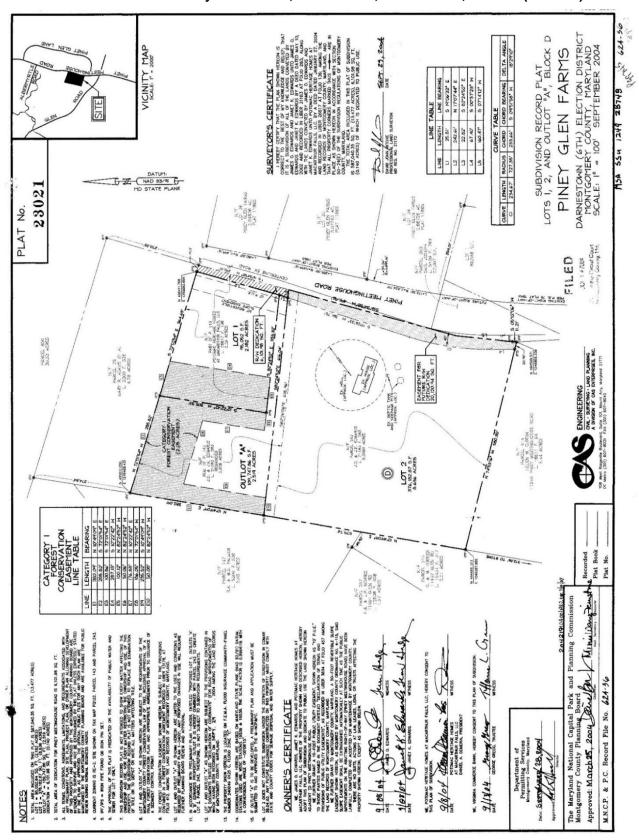
#### WSSC - Sewer

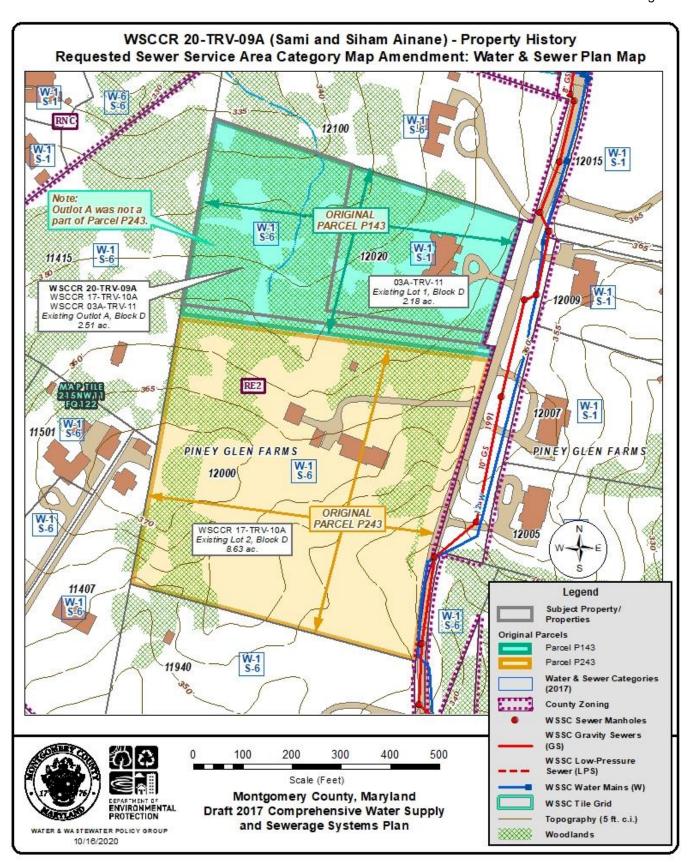
Basin: Watts Branch. A 10-inch sewer on Pine Meetinghouse Road abuts the property (contract no. 1990-8410A). On-site sewage grinder pumping system may be required. In order to pump wastewater to the sewer main. Flow from the proposed development: 280 GPD. Program-sized sewer mains are not required to serve the property. Interceptor capacity is adequate. Treatment capacity [Blue Plains] is adequate.

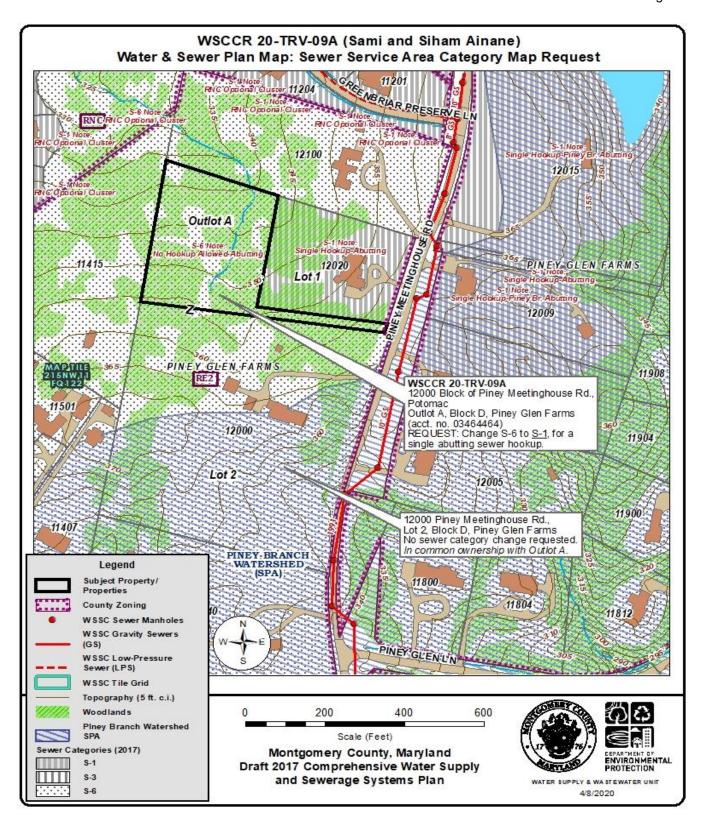
Maps, Plans, Etc.: Subdivision Plat for Piney Glen Farms, Lots 1-2, Outlot A, Block D	Page 23
Property History	Page 24
Requested Sewer Category Map Amendment	Page 25
Planned Sewer Service Envelope	Page 26
Proposed Resubdivision Concept Plan	Page 27

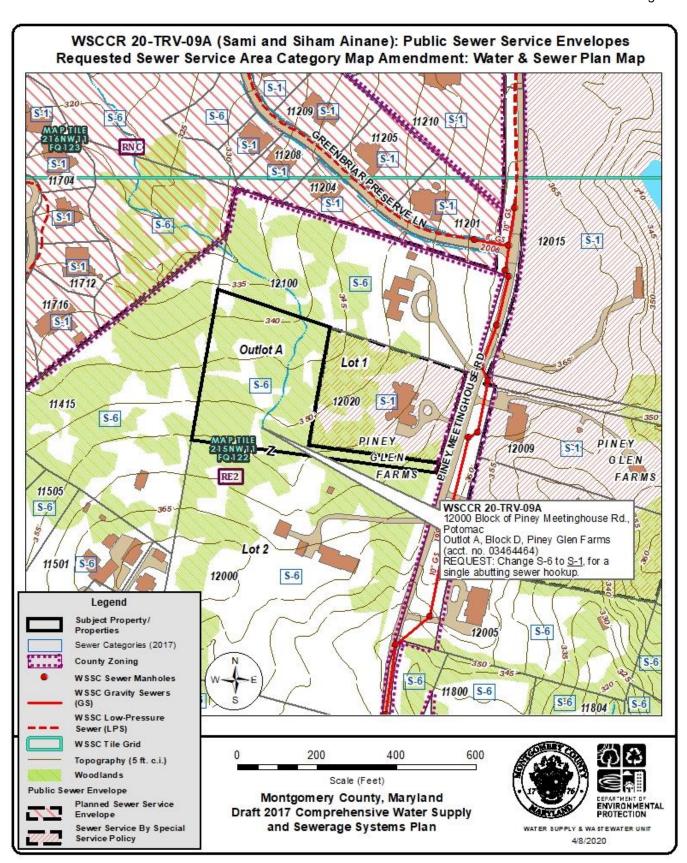
Page 23

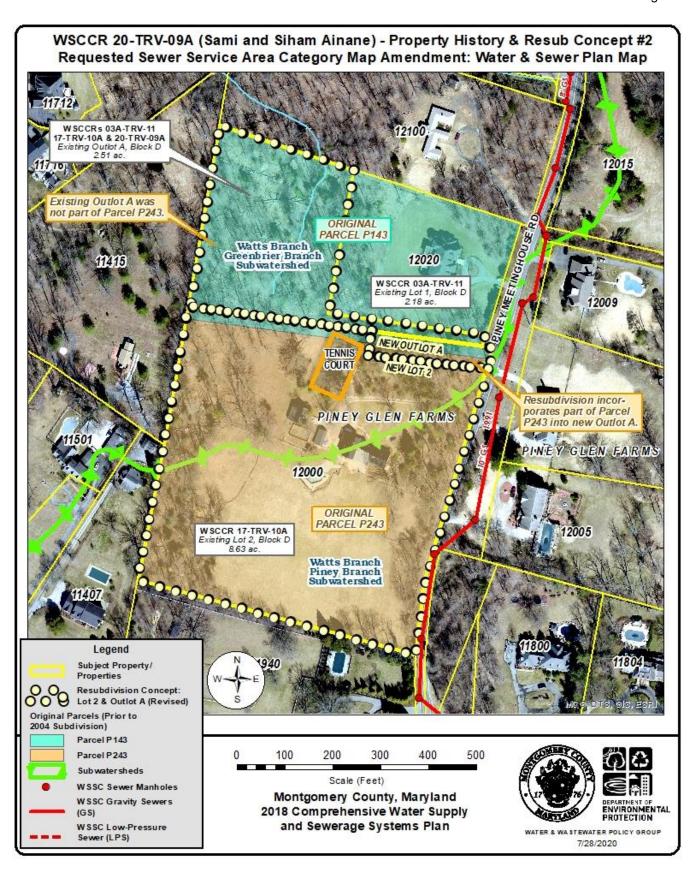
#### Subdivision Plat for Piney Glen Farms, Lots 1 and 2, and Outlot A, Block D (10/14/04)











#### **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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#### Request [5]

#### WSCCR 20-TRV-10A: Amir, Ahmad and Rosa Poustinchi

County Executive's Recommendation: Deny the request for sewer category S-3; maintain S-6.

Property Information and Location Property Development	Applicant's Request: Service Area Categories & Justification
9701 Watts Branch Dr., Rockville	Existing – Requested – Service Area Categories
• Pt. Lot 39, Block 3, Glen Hills (acct. no.	W-1 W-1 (no change)
00079172)	S-6 <b>S-3</b>
• Map tile: WSSC – 2178NW10; MD –FR41	
<ul> <li>Northwest corner, intersection of Watts Branch Dr. and Valley Dr.</li> </ul>	Applicant's Explanation: "The property owners is trying to make
• RE-1 Zone; 1.01 acres (43,995 sq. ft.)	improvements to the property which would require establishment of a new septic reserve area and installation of a
Travilah Planning Area     Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)	new septic system. There is limited space available to set aside for the septic reserve. Since public sewer is nearby in
<ul> <li>Watts Branch Watershed (MDE Use I)</li> </ul>	Watts Branch Drive and other properties are being served by
Existing use: Existing single-family house Proposed use: Improvements to the existing property and single-family house	public sewer, the owner would like to extend the public sewer system to the lot so the property can be served by the WSSC system."

#### **Executive Staff Report:**

Executive staff cannot find a policy justification for this category change request for sewer category S-3, and therefore recommend denial, maintaining category S-6 for the property.

The applicants have requested approval for sewer category S-3 for an existing lot in the Glen Hills subdivision in support of improvements to the lot and the existing house. The site consists of 1.01 acres zoned RE-1 in the Watts Branch watershed. The provision of public sewer service in this area is addressed by the Glen Hills sewer service policy (see pages 42-43). Given current conditions, the property does not qualify for public sewer service under this policy. There is no reported failure of the existing septic system, neither is the property part of a designated special sewer service area. No existing or approved sewer main abuts the property. The property neither abuts nor confronts the planned public sewer envelope, requirements for consideration under the Potomac peripheral sewer service policy (see pages 45 -47). Although DPS does not have complete records for the existing septic system, no evidence of a septic system failure has been provided.

WSSC's sewer extension proposal for the property would require an approximately 2,400-foot gravity extension first running southeast along Watts Branch Dr., then running northeast along Overlea Dr. to an existing manhole in front of 9419 Overlea Dr. (see page 32). Much of the sewer extension was included in a conceptual main extension from the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study. The extension would abut as many as 20 additional properties, 17 of which are currently designated as sewer category S-6. Although the main extension was included in the Glen Hills study, its actual need has not been established by a septic system survey for this part of Watts Branch Dr. DEP's experience with main extensions indicates that an extension of this length is not financially manageable for a single property owner.

The applicants have proposed an alternate means of providing sewer service to this lot: extending sewer service to the property from a nearby gravity sewer main to the west along Watts Branch Dr. At DEP's request, WSSC evaluated this sewer extension option. WSSC staff found that this sewer extension is not feasible. See the DEP note with the WSSC sewer service report starting on the following page for additional information.

The applicants have drawn attention to certain comparisons between this request and the adjacent property at 9703 Watts Branch Dr., WSCCR 01A-TRV-10 for Eberhard Klein (see the map on page 31.). In granting an approval for the Klein request under CR 14-1481 (10/22/02), the County Council cited five circumstances that

#### **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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were found to create a reasonably unique situation that would result in only a minimal precedent for future actions. These included:

"Approve S-3 for one sewer hookup only. In granting this sewer category approval in the Glen Hills area, the Council recognizes the following special circumstances and thereby sets only a very limited precedent:

- "That this recorded lot is the only vacant, undeveloped property out of the twelve lots along this block of Watts Branch Drive:
- "That providing public sewer service requires only a relatively short main extension along the existing street, which will not spur any additional development within the subdivision;
- "That constructing the sewer main has only minimal environmental impact on the neighborhood and does not affect streams or stream buffers;
- "That the lot has demonstrated through testing no suitability for an on-site septic system;
- "That the provision of public sewer service will not promote any resubdivision of this lot; at 1.03 acres in size, the lot has no potential for resubdivision under the existing RE-1 zoning."

While these two cases share some similarities, three issues separate them:

- The sewer extension involved with WSCCR 20-TRV-11A will need to extend some 2.400 feet, while the
  extension for the Klein property ran only about 150 feet.
- At the time the Council granted approval of category S-3 for WSCCR 01A-TRV-10, the subject property was the only unimproved lot along this block of Watts Branch Dr. This property, 9701 Watts Branch Dr., is improved; the applicants seek to improve the existing house.
- The current Glen Hills sewer policy would allow for consideration of sewer service for the Klein property under the Potomac peripheral sewer service policy; that does not apply to this request.

#### **Agency Review Comments**

#### DPS

DPS only has record of a septic system being installed under permit but no details on the specifications of the system. DPS has not conducted any soils testing on the property.

#### M-NCPPC - Planning Dept.

This one-acre part of a lot is in the RE-1 Zone and is located in the Travilah Planning Area, part of the Potomac Subregion. The Water and Sewer Plan limits public service in this area and outlines conditions that must be satisfied before public service is provided. This property does not appear to meet any of the six conditions outlined in the Water and Sewer Plan. It is adjacent to a property that is currently served, but that sewer line does not abut any part of this property. Sewer Service is inconsistent with the Glen Hills Sewer Policy.

#### M-NCPPC - Parks Planning

No park impacts.

WSSC - Water (not requested)

#### WSSC - Sewer

This project is located in Glen Hills. Some parts of Glen Hills are located in a county designated Special Sewer Service area. Basin: Watts Branch. A 2,400-foot-long non-CIP-sized sewer extension is required to serve the property. This extension would connect to MH 149-N located in Overlea Dr. (contract no.83AS5793A) and would abut approximately 20 properties in addition to the applicant's. This extension would follow the conceptual gravity sewer alignment No 10 from the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study: Phase 2 Report. Average wastewater flow from the proposed development: 280 GPD. Program-sized sewer mains are not required to serve the property. Interceptor capacity is adequate. Treatment capacity [Blue Plains] is adequate.

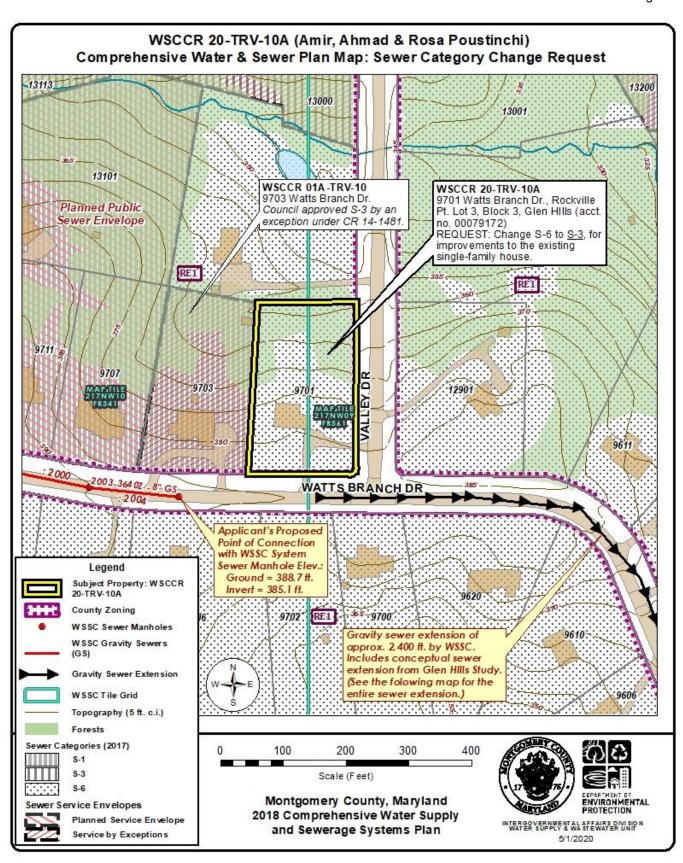
DEP Note: DEP requested that WSSC review the applicant's proposal to connect an extension to the sewer manhole to the west along Watts Branch Dr. (see page 31). The gravity sewer main along this part of the street "bucks the grade," meaning that while the sewer main slopes upward from west to east, the ground slopes downward from west to east. The invert (bottom) of the nearby manhole is very shallow, only about 3-1/2 feet

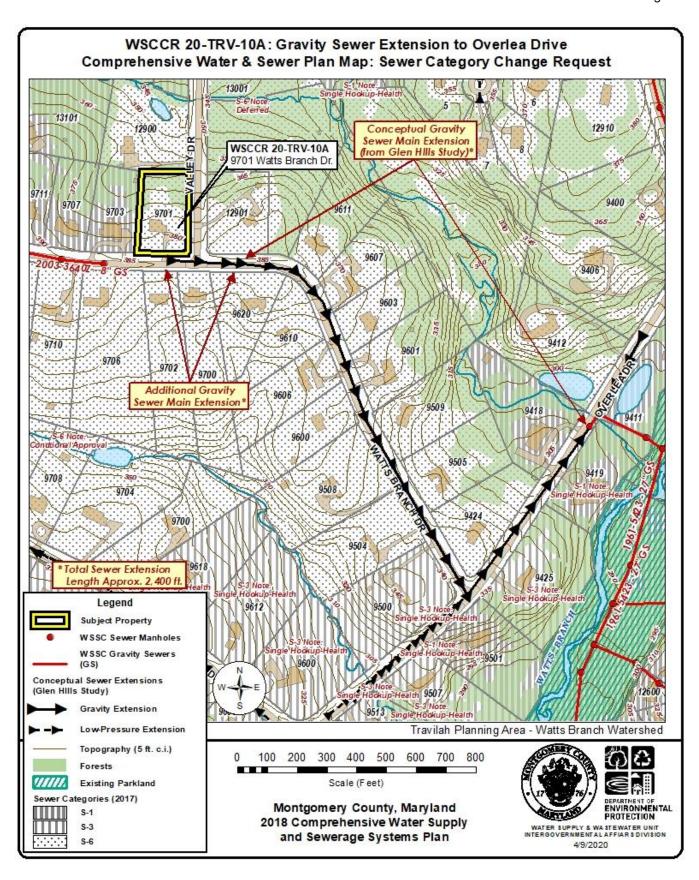
#### FY 2020 Category Change Requests

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below elevation of the street. As a result, an LPS extension, or a nonabutting sewer connection, to this manhole will have to cross over top of an existing water service connection. This arrangement is contrary to WSSC's design specifications.

Maps,	Plans,	Etc.:	Requested S	Sewer C	ategory	Map Amen	dment	 . Page 31
			Conceptual	Sewer I	Main Ext	ension		 Page 32





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#### Request [6]

# WSCCR 20-TRV-11A: Meenu Bawa & Anand Verma

County Executive's Recommendation: Deny the request for sewer category S-3; maintaining S-6.

Property Information and Location Property Development	Applicant's Request County Council Action
<ul> <li>13517 Glen Mill Rd., Rockville</li> <li>Lot 9, Block 5, North Glen Hills Section 1 (acct no. 00078188)</li> <li>Map tile – MD: FR42; WSSC: 218NW10</li> <li>South side of Glen Mill Rd. east of and opposite Pheasant Dr.</li> </ul>	Existing - Requested Service Area Categories
<ul> <li>Travilah Planning Area Potomac Subregion Master Plan (2002)</li> <li>Watts Branch Watershed (MDE Use I), Piney Branch Subwatershed (Mont. Co. SPA)</li> <li>RE-1 Zone; 0.92 acre (40,187 sq.ft.)</li> <li>Existing use: unimproved Proposed use: build a 4-bedroom house on the existing lot.</li> </ul>	and July 2010 and sand mound septic test on June 12, 2012. Consequently, public sewer connection remains the only alternative to improving it.  "Zoned as RE-1, this lot (size 40,187 sf) is not further subdividable.  "This is the only undeveloped lot on both sides of 13500 block of Glen Mill Road with fully built homes."

#### Applicants' subsequent explanation (9/14/20):

"Last year, the County Council determined that Potomac peripheral sewer service policy properly applied within the Piney Branch subwatershed when it approved an S-3 single sewer hook-up for an unimproved lot at 13101 Valley Drive (District 4, Glen Hills Subdivision). Accordingly, the County Council should apply the same peripheral sewer service policy within the Piney Branch subwatershed in approving an S-3 for our unimproved lot at 13517 Glen Mill Road (District 4, Glen Hills Subdivision). Our lot will have a non-abutting sewer connection from Cavanaugh Drive without necessitating any public right-of-way easement.

"Please note that our lot at 13517 Glen Mill Road, if approved S-3, cannot potentially establish a precedent for public sewer hookup inasmuch as with the exception of one unimproved lot at 14212 Glen Mill Road (already has an approved public sewer connection) there is no other unimproved lot between 13500 and 14300 Glen Mill Road with 54 built-up homes on both side of the street, which could possibly use our approval as precedent for a sewer hook up."

### **Executive Staff Report**

Executive staff cannot find a justification in existing policies for this category change request for sewer category S-3, and therefore recommend denial, maintaining category S-6 for the property.

The applicants have requested a sewer category change from S-6 to S-3 to allow for the construction of one new single-family house on an existing, vacant lot in North Glen Hills. The 0.92-acre lot is zoned RE-1, located in the Piney Branch subwatershed of the Watts Branch watershed. The provision of public sewer service in this area is addressed by both the Glen Hills sewer service policy (see pages 42-43) and the Piney Branch restricted sewer service policy (see pages 44-45). Given current conditions, the property does not qualify for public sewer service under either of these policies. There can be no reported failure of an existing septic system, neither is the property part of a designated special sewer service area. No existing or approved sewer main abuts the property. While the property confronts the planned public sewer envelope across Glen Mill Rd., properties in the Piney Branch subwatershed are excluded from consideration under the Potomac peripheral sewer service policy (see the additional discussion on pages 34-35 and the policy on pages 45-47). M-NCPPC staff concur with these findings.

<u>Sewer Main Extension:</u> WSSC had identified an 800-foot gravity sewer main extension needed to serve the property. The extension would run west on Glen Mill Rd., then turn north along Pheasant Dr. to an existing

# **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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gravity main along that street (see page 36). This is part of a conceptual main extension identified in the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study. Although the main extension was included in the Glen Hills study, its actual need has not been established by a septic system survey for this part of Glen Mill Rd. The property across the street at 15308 Glen Mill Rd. is designated as sewer category S-3 due to the identification of a septic system failure.

WSSC has noted several difficulties with this extension alignment. Primarily, that the extension would cross four natural gas pipelines at Pheasant Dr. Further, it would run parallel to and cross the 24-inch diameter water transmission main for the City of Rockville at Glen Mill Rd. WSSC subsequently noted that the Rockville transmission main is constructed of precast circular concrete pipe (PCCP), which WSSC has found to be susceptible to breakage and leaks. It is likely that a detailed engineering study would be needed to fully assess these issues.

DEP requested that WSSC evaluate an alternative extension alignment that would run west along Glen Mill Rd., then follow Cavanaugh dr. west to an existing gravity sewer (see page 36). WSSC has indicated that this alternative alignment may be feasible even though it would have less fall than WSSC's proposed alignment. The terminal manhole at this location is approximately 11.3 feet shallower than the Pheasant Dr. manhole. This main would also need to cross one natural gas transmission main and run parallel to and cross the Rockville water transmission main. Again, a detailed engineering study would be needed to fully assess these issues.

### Specific Conditions Related to This Request -

- <u>Lack of Septic System Suitability:</u> In their explanation for this request (see the previous page), the
  applicants contend that the property cannot support a conventional onsite septic system. DPS has
  confirmed this assertion, indicating that the Well and Septic Section has identified the lot as not suitable
  for an onsite system.
- <u>Lack of Subdivision Potential:</u> The applicants further contend that the lot cannot be resubdivided for additional building lots. This is correct; under the RE-1 Zone standards, minimum lot size is 40,000 square feet. This lot totals 40,187 square feet; only one building lot is possible.
- <u>Uniquely Unimproved Property:</u> The applicants have stated that their lot is the only unimproved building lot along the length of Glen Mill Rd. from the 13500 block to the 14300 block. This is essentially correct, with the possible exception of 12928 Valley Dr. with frontage on Glen Mill Rd., as shown on the map on page 37.

However, none of the three preceding conditions serves as justification for the approval a change from S-6 to S-3 under either the Glen Hills sewer service policy or the Piney Branch restricted sewer service policy.

Comparison to WSCCR 01A-TRV-10 at 9703 Watts Branch Dr.: Certain comparisons can be drawn between this request and WSCCR 01A-TRV-10 (Eberhard Klein), also in the Glen Hills area (see the map on page 31). In granting an approval for the Klein request under CR 14-1481 (10/22/02), the County Council cited a number of circumstances that were found to create a reasonably unique situation that would create only a minimal precedent for future actions. These included:

"Approve S-3 for one sewer hookup only. In granting this sewer category approval in the Glen Hills area, the Council recognizes the following special circumstances and thereby sets only a very limited precedent:

- "That this recorded lot is the only vacant, undeveloped property out of the twelve lots along this block of Watts Branch Drive;
- "That providing public sewer service requires only a relatively short main extension along the existing street, which will not spur any additional development within the subdivision;
- "That constructing the sewer main has only minimal environmental impact on the neighborhood and does not affect streams or stream buffers;
- "That the lot has demonstrated through testing no suitability for an on-site septic system;
- "That the provision of public sewer service will not promote any resubdivision of this lot; at 1.03 acres in size, the lot has no potential for resubdivision under the existing RE-1 zoning."

While these two cases share some similarities, two issues separate them:

• The sewer extension involved with WSCCR 20-TRV-11A will need to extend some 800 feet, while the

# **FY 2020 Category Change Requests**

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- extension for the Klein property ran only about 150 feet and did not have natural gas pipeline and water transmission main complications,
- While both cases are found within the Glen Hills Study Area, WSCCR 20-TRV-11A is also within the Piney Branch subwatershed and special protection area. The Klein property is not within Piney Branch and was not subject to the restricted sewer access policy.

Potomac Peripheral Sewer Service Policy: The applicants also contend that their property satisfies the conditions for sewer service using the Potomac peripheral sewer service policy. In this assertion, the applicants cite another case in the Glen Hills area at 13101 Valley Dr. (WSCCR 09A-TRV-02) which was approved for S-3 under that policy. The difference between these two cases involves a prohibition in the policy against its use for properties within the Piney Branch subwatershed. (See the map on page 38.; the policy is provided starting on page 45.) The applicants state that the Council's action to approve the prior request established the use of the peripheral sewer service policy in the Piney Branch subwatershed. However, the property at 13101 Valley Dr. is outside the Piney Branch subwatershed and therefore not affected by this restriction in the peripheral service policy. Neither did its approval for category S-3 change the use of the peripheral sewer service policy allowing for its use within Piney Branch. The subject Bawa/Verma property, however, is within the Piney Branch subwatershed. Although the property confronts the planned public sewer envelope across Glen Mill Rd., it cannot make use of the peripheral sewer service policy to justify a change to sewer category S-3.

#### **Agency Review Comments**

#### DPS - Well & Septic

Percolation tests were conducted in 1959 and 2010 and sand mound testing was conducted in 2012. All testing failed. The property was formally identified as being unsuitable for an onsite system per correspondence in 1991, 2011 and 2016. DPS has no objection to the category change.

#### M-NCPPC Area 3 Planning Team

This 40,187 square foot lot is in the RE-1 Zone and located in the Travilah Planning Area, part of the Potomac Subregion. It also is located in the Piney Branch Restricted Community Sewer Service Area. The Water and Sewer Plan limits public service in this area and outlines conditions that must be satisfied before public service is provided. This property does not appear to meet any of the six conditions outlined in the Water and Sewer Plan. Therefore, staff does not support sewer service to this property.

#### M-NCPPC Parks Planning

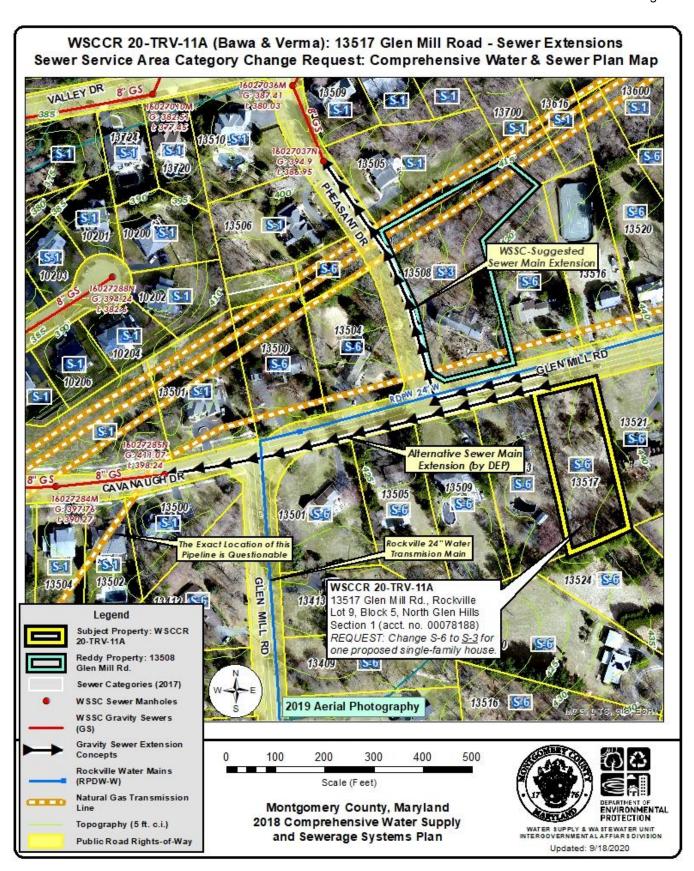
No park impacts.

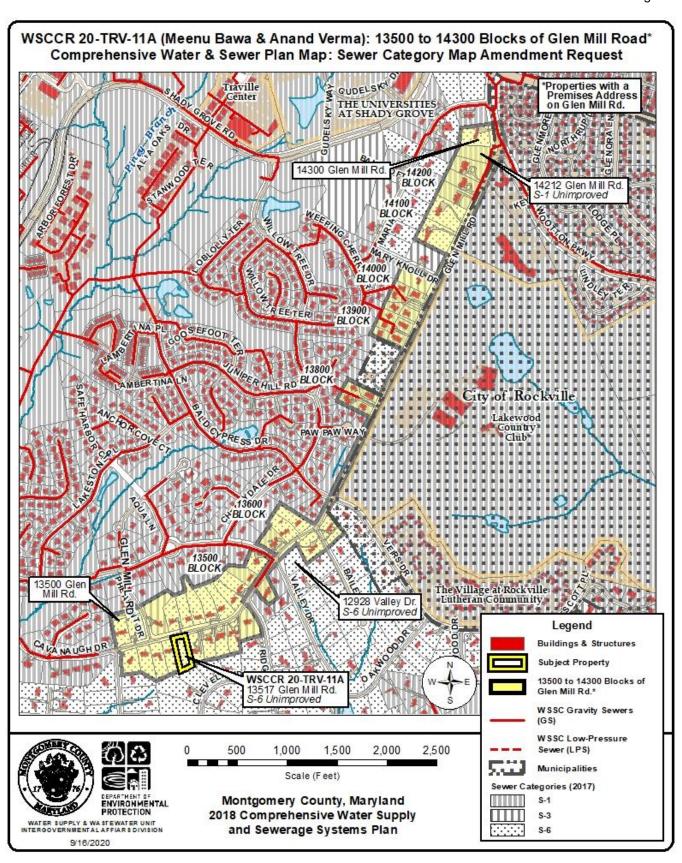
WSSC - Water (No change requested)

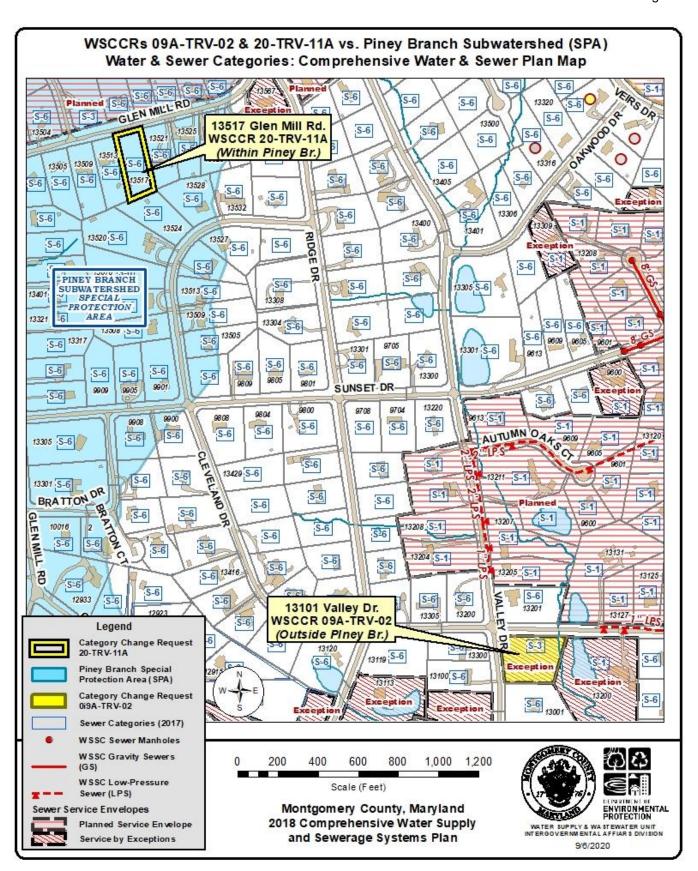
#### **WSSC - Sewer**

This project is located in Glen Hills. Some parts of Glen Hills are located in a county designated Special Sewer Service area. Basin: Watts Branch. An 800-foot-long non-CIP-sized sewer extension is required to serve the property. This extension would connect to MH 37-N located in Pheasant Dr. (contract no.91-9198A) and would abut approximately 6 properties in addition to the applicant's. This extension would follow the conceptual gravity sewer alignment No 1 from the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study: Phase 2 Report. This alignment would require a crossing of (3) Williams Gas Pipeline - Transco Natural Gas Mains. This alignment will also run parallel to a 24" Water main feeding the City of Rockville. Average wastewater flow from the proposed development: 280 GPD. Program-sized sewer mains are not required to serve the property. Interceptor capacity is adequate. Treatment capacity [Blue Plains] is adequate.

Maps, Plans, Etc.:	:: Requested Sewer Category Map Amendment & Conceptual	
-	Sewer Main Extensions	. Page 36
	Development Along 13500 to 14300 Blocks of Glen Mill Road	. Page 37
	09A-TRV-02 & 20A-TRV-11 vs. Piney Branch Subwatershed	. Page 38







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# Packet Appendix: Related 2018 Water and Sewer Plan Service Policies

#### Chapter 1, Section II.G.3: Community Service for Properties Abutting Community System Mains

County Council Actions: Adopted October 2, 2018 (CR 15-396)

#### II. POLICIES FOR THE PROVISION OF WATER AND SEWERAGE SERVICE

#### II.G. Special Policies for Water and Sewer Service

The Plan's general service policies address water and/or sewer service issues for the majority of development recommendations found in local area master plans. However, a master plan's general recommendations and this Plan's general service policies cannot anticipate every possible service situation. Many of the following special service policies were developed from specific cases where the County Council, in addressing an exceptional situation, found sufficient cause to establish its action as a precedent for other similar situations that follow. The Council adopted these policies in order to provide consistent policy guidance, rather than relying on case-by-case interpretations.

### II.G.3.: Community Service for Properties Abutting Community System Mains

Under specific and limited circumstances, community water and or sewer service may be provided to properties that abut an existing or approved water and/or sewer main. Except in cases where this policy specifically requires the County Council's consideration and action, DEP may grant approval for abutting service hookups through the administrative delegation process, under the "Community Service for Properties Abutting Community System Mains" policy, Section V.D.2.a.

### II.G.3.a.: General Requirements

The provision of community service under this policy requires that the property, or a structure on the property, must have been established prior to the extension of the abutting water or sewer main. Residential, institutional, and commercial uses qualify as existing structures; barns, garages, or other types of outbuildings do not qualify. Satisfaction of this requirement qualifies the property for a single public service hookup. Neither the construction of a building on an unimproved property, nor the addition to or replacement of an existing structure, invalidates the application of this policy. The provision of community service under this policy shall not be used as justification for the connection of intervening or nearby lots or parcels if they would not otherwise be entitled to connect to community systems.

#### Technical Feasibility of Service Connections

The provision of community service under this policy also requires that service from the abutting main must be technically feasible. Major water and sewer transmission mains and sewer force mains cannot support individual service connections and hookups, and therefore do not qualify abutting properties for community service under this policy. Service from low-pressure, small-diameter sewer mains may also be restricted, depending on the type or number of users proposed. WSSC's current pump/pressure system policies do not permit both residential and non-residential (commercial/institutional) uses to connect to the same low-pressure main, requiring instead separate, dedicated mains for each separate non-residential use.

### Planned Community Service Mains

The implementation of this policy applies to both existing and planned service mains. Where a category change approval is based on new mains planned and approved by WSSC, actual service depends on the construction of that main by the applicant for that main. The owner of a property with a restricted abutting mains approval based on construction of a new main cannot independently initiate the construction of all or part of that new main.

#### Non-Abutting Service Connections

A non-abutting water or sewer connection may allow for the provision of community service under this policy. A non-abutting connection is typically located within either a public road right-of-way or a WSSC main easement. The associated service hookup must be located on *only* the customer's property receiving community service. The use of an offsite service hookup in an easement crossing another intervening property is not allowed. Non-abutting service connections require specific approval from WSSC.

Policies for the use of non-abutting service connections differ between this Plan's policies and WSSC's. In this Plan, the preceding policy concerning non-abutting service connections will determine whether a property

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### Chapter 1, Section II.G.3: Community Service for Properties Abutting Community System Mains

qualifies for community service under this abutting mains policy. Most often, such a property is located outside the planned community service envelope and is considered for community service only because it satisfies this special service policy. WSSC's policy for non-abutting service connections addresses cases involving access to a community system main where the County has already approved the property for community service. Typically, the property is within the planned community service envelope. In summary:

- The Water and Sewer Plan's policy concerning non-abutting service connections affects decisions about which properties may receive community service.
- WSSC's non-abutting connection policy affect decisions about the best way to serve a property once the Plan has established that property for community service.

### Abutting Mains Policy Exclusions

This policy will not apply in the following circumstances:

- Private Institutional Facilities The application of this policy does not include the provision of community service for private institutional facilities (PIFs) located outside planned community service envelopes.
   These cases must be addressed separately through the PIF policy (see Section II.G.4.).
- Limited Access Service Mains This policy cannot be applied in cases where the County Council has
  expressly restricted access to the abutting main as specified under the Limited Access Water and Sewer
  Mains policy (see Section III.A.1.).

#### II.G.3.b.: Single Hookups for Only One Property

A single water and/or sewer hookup only is allowed for an individual property or for a structure that satisfies the policy requirements under Section 3.a. preceding. The application of the policy is most often for a single property in the same geographic configuration that existed at the time an abutting main was approved or constructed. However, the policy does allow for exceptions, as follows:

#### Allowed Property Changes

A change in the property configuration due to the following circumstances does not invalidate this allowed single hookup:

- Dedication of land for a public use such as a road right-of-way or park land.
- An exchange of land between a *qualifying* property and an adjacent property, qualifying or not, provided the overall number of qualifying lots—and therefore the allowed number of hookups—remains the same. Under this provision, *at least one* property must have qualified for a single hookup under this policy *before* the lot line adjustment occurred. A lot line adjustment to acquire frontage along a main does not justify an abutting mains approval.
- The inclusion of additional contiguous, commonly-owned properties, if those properties are combined through subdivision with the qualifying property into a single property. Only one single water and/or sewer hookup for the entirety of the combined properties will be approved in such cases, so that the provision of community service does not promote the further subdivision of additional lots. Final approval of a category change will require the Planning Board's approval of the subdivision plan or plat assembling the properties.

#### Remainders of Qualifying Properties

The allowed single hookup may also be assigned to an existing property that is the remainder of a property that would have originally qualified for a single hookup under Section II.G.3.a. above. For approval of single service hookups, these properties must satisfy both of the following conditions:

- The residual property proposed for community service abuts the existing or approved main; and
- The allowed service hookup has not been used elsewhere on the property that originally qualified for the single service hookup. Community service provided elsewhere on the original

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#### Chapter 1, Section II.G.3: Community Service for Properties Abutting Community System Mains

property where consistent with both Water and Sewer Plan general service policies and with master plan recommendations shall not be considered to have used this one allowed hookup.

DEP may grant approval for this single hookup under the administrative delegation process included in this chapter, as noted previously in Section II.G.3., provided that either:

- All of the residual properties involved are still under common ownership, or
- None of the other residual properties from the original abutting property could qualify under this policy for the allowed hookup because they do not abut the subject water or sewer main.

However, DEP shall refer to the County Council any cases where two or more residual properties that could qualify for the single service hookup are under different ownership. DEP will attempt to notify the owners of those qualifying properties of the pending category change request amendment and of the Council's hearing for that amendment.

#### Single Community Service Hookups in Proposed Subdivisions

Some properties that qualify for a single community service hookup under this policy will also be proposed for new subdivisions. In these cases, this policy may allow for a new lot using community service in addition to those lots approved using individual, onsite systems. Qualifying projects will need to satisfy the following conditions:

- The original property had to satisfy the general policy requirements for a single community service hookup under Section II.G.3.a, preceding.
- The property in the subdivision receiving the single community service hookup must receive service by either a direct connection or non-abutting connection to the water or sewer main. The conditions for the use of a non-abutting connection apply as explained in Section II.G.3.a., preceding.
- Final approval of a category change under this condition will require the Planning Board's approval of a preliminary plan that specifies the lot receiving the allowed community water and/or sewer hookup.

Properties located within the <u>Piney Branch Restricted Sewer Access Area</u> and the <u>Glen Hills Study Area</u> do not qualify for this provision of the abutting mains policy with regard to sewer hookups. The policy is not intended to promote the creation of additional subdivision lots in these areas. A single sewer hookup may be provided in a subdivision to one qualifying lot that could be served by an individual septic system.

# **II.G.3.c.: Multiple Sewer Hookups**

In order to protect and preserve sensitive environmental features on the site (*e.g.* stands of trees/forest, wetlands, etc.) that would be potentially harmed by the installation of septic systems, while also limiting the effects of sewer-supported development, community sewer service may be provided to a property abutting an existing sewer main provided all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The site would qualify for a single sewer hookup under section 3.a. above;
- The site contains sensitive environmental features that DEP, in consultation with M-NCPPC, determines
  would be preserved to a greater extent by the provision of community sewer service rather than the
  construction of septic systems;
- The number of sewer hookups allowed shall not exceed the number of lots which could have been
  approved for septic systems, based on a review of the site conditions (soils, groundwater conditions,
  local history, etc.) by DEP in consultation with DPS and M-NCPPC, and assuming that at least one
  sewer hookup is allowed;

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#### Chapter 1, Section II.G.3: Community Service for Properties Abutting Community System Mains

• That all the proposed sewer hookups can be provided from the abutting mains: no on-site main extensions are required, no off-site main extensions or hookups (special connections) are required, and no rights-of-way from other properties are required.

This policy cannot be applied in cases where the County Council has expressly restricted access to the abutting main as specified under the Limited Access Water and Sewer Mains policy (see Section III.A.2.). The provision of community service under this policy shall not be used as justification for the connection of intervening or nearby lots or parcels if they would not otherwise be entitled to connect to community systems.

# II.G.3.d.: DEP Advance Approval of Single Abutting Hookups in Categories 4, 5, and 6

DEP may direct WSSC to provide an allowed single water and/or sewer hookup for a residential use on a property not currently designated for community service (categories 4, 5, or 6) upon confirmation of the following:

- DEP staff confirmation that the property qualifies for service under this policy, and does not require consideration and action by the County Council for approval; and
- DEP receipt of a valid category change request application for the property.

Only in such cases may DEP approve service for a residential use from an abutting main in advance of granting the actual service area category approval. Commercial and institutional uses must first receive the required service area change.

### Appendix C, Section II.E: Glen Hills Study Area

Sewer Service Policy Area: Established by Council Resolution No. 18-423 (3/8/16)

<u>Subject Area</u>: Residential development zoned RE-1 as identified in the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study.

<u>Service Recommendation & Comments</u>: In March 2016, the County Council adopted Resolution No. 18-423 that established sewer service policies for the Glen Hills area, as shown below (see Figure C-F4). These service policies resulted from a study of general septic system suitability in the area conducted by DEP. This study had been recommended by the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan. Pending the Council's consideration of the study's results, the provision of new community sewer service in the Glen Hills area was limited to properties with septic system failures documented by DPS

The Council's 2016 resolution established the following sewer service policies for the study area:

- Individual, on-site septic systems are the primary wastewater disposal method consistent with the area's standard-type development under the RE-1 Zone.
- Community sewer service can be considered only under the following conditions for:
  - Properties in need of relief from public health problems resulting from documented septic system failures (Sections II.G.2.a.).
  - Properties included within a specifically designated special sewer service area (Section II.G.2.b.). The septic system survey process used to establish these areas is outlined in the Council's resolution and in Chapter 1, Section II.G.2.b: Area-Wide Onsite Systems Concerns, et seq. The research conducted for the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study will allow DEP to streamline the survey process for properties in these neighborhoods. Once DEP has established a survey area, an Executive recommendation for the Council concerning that area is expected within approximately three (3) months. A decision by the Council is generally expected within three months after that.

DEP will give a higher priority for surveys that include properties located within Review Areas (RAs) established in the Glen Hills Study and those with documented septic system problems. DEP will give a lower priority to survey areas outside of RAs or where DPS has not identified existing septic problems.

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The County has approved one special sewer service area in Glen Hills for part of the South Overlea Drive Septic Survey Area. The County Council under CR 18-888 (July 25, 2017) acted to include 16 of 24 properties surveyed by DEP and DPS within a special sewer service area.

The County Council's 2018 action to approve this Plan update changed the County's approach to the consideration of area-wide health problems where located outside the planned community service envelope. Establishing a septic system survey requires the inclusion of at least one property that has a DPS-documented septic system failure (see Chapter 1, Sections II.G.2.b. – d.).

- Properties that abut existing or planned sewer mains and that satisfy the requirements of the "abutting mains" policy (Section II.G.3.)
- Properties at the edge of the Potomac Master Plan planned public sewer envelope, that abut and/or confront properties within the envelope, consistent with the Potomac area peripheral sewer service policy. (Consistent with this policy however, properties at the periphery of the planned sewer envelope within the Piney Branch watershed are excluded.) Note that this service condition was subsequently added to the Glen Hills study area in 2018 by the County Council's action to approve this update of the Plan.
- Properties within the study area and within the Piney Branch subwatershed that satisfy the requirements for community sewer service under the Piney Branch restricted sewer service policy (Section II.G.11.b.).

Property owners shall not use the provision for a single sewer hook-up under any of the four Glen Hills area sewer policy provisions cited above to support subdivision or resubdivision of existing properties into more than one lot.

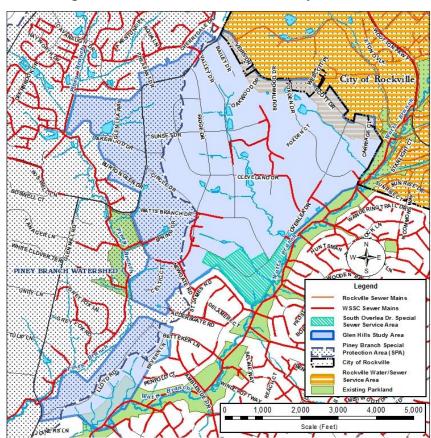


Figure C-F4: Glen Hills Sewer Service Policy Area

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### Appendix C, Section II.L: Piney Branch Watershed

Adopted by the County Council October 2, 2018 (CR 18-1257); MDE Approved 311/19

Restricted Community Sewer Service Area: Current version established by Council Resolution No. 15-396 (11/18/03) and recommended by the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan.

Subject Area: Natural drainage area of Piney Branch, a tributary of Watts Branch.

<u>Service Recommendation & Comments</u>: The provision of community sewer service within this watershed is regulated by the Piney Branch Restricted Sewer Access. This policy was amended in 2002 in accordance with the recommendations in the updated 2002 master plan. (See Figure C-F11.)

In 1991, the County Council established a policy to restrict the availability of community sewer service in the Piney Branch Watershed which is designated as one of the county's Special Protection Area watersheds. Through the Piney Branch Sewer Restricted Access Policy, the Council sought to limit the growth of public sewer-dependent development within and near this environmentally-sensitive watershed, particularly within the areas of the watershed zoned for one- and two-acre development. The Council subsequently amended the policy in March 1997 under CR 13-830 and again in October 2002 under CR 14-1481. By these actions, the Council has specifically designated the Piney Branch Trunk Sewer and its tributary mains as **Limited Access** mains (see Section III.A.1.).

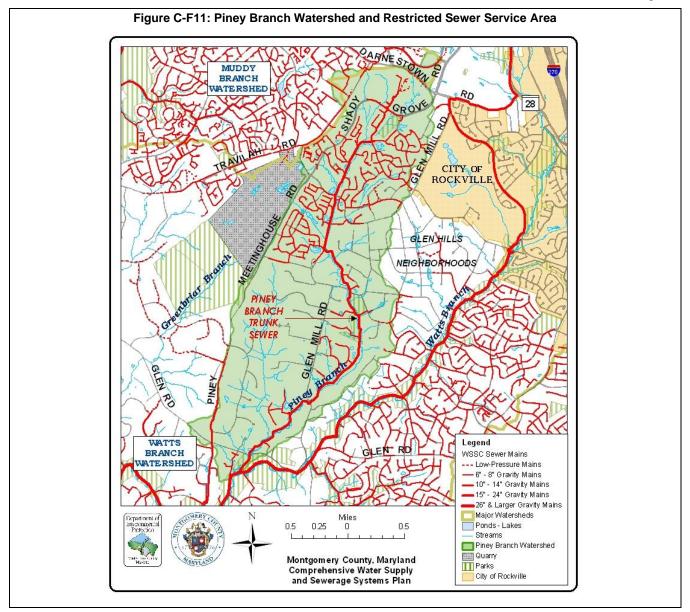
This restricted access policy was recently reexamined in the context of interrelated land use, zoning, and sewer service recommendations in the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan; the following conditions reflect the policy changes recommended by the new master plan. In order to be eligible for community sewer service, properties within the Piney Branch watershed must satisfy at least one of the following six conditions:

- Master Plan Sewer Staging: Properties designated as Sewer Stages 1 or II in the 1980 Potomac Subregion Master Plan.
- Trunk Sewer Right-of-Way: Properties that the Piney Branch Trunk Sewer right-of-way either traverses
  or abuts, including properties adjacent to and commonly owned with these abutted or traversed
  properties as of December 3, 1991,
- **Prior Sewer Category Approvals:** Properties with approval or conditional approval for sewer categories S-1 or S-3 as of December 3, 1991,
- **Public Health Problems:** Properties with documented public health problems resulting from failed septic systems, and properties included within a Council-designated special sewer service area, where the provision of public sewer service is logical, economical, and environmentally acceptable,
- Abutting Sewer Mains: Properties that abut existing or approved sewer mains and which satisfy the
  policy requirements for Section II.G.3.: Community Service for Properties Abutting Community System
  Mains Single Hookups for Only One Property. Applicants shall not use the provision of a single sewer
  hookup to support subdivision or resubdivision of these properties into more than one lot. (This
  condition does not restrict sewer service provided to properties satisfying condition ii., preceding.)
- **Cluster Development:** Properties zoned RE-2C located in the southeast corner of the intersection of Boswell Lane and Piney Meetinghouse Road which develop using the cluster method.

All other properties within the Piney Branch watershed are restricted from community sewer service, whether from the Piney Branch sewerage system or from other adjacent sewerage systems.

Developers seeking to subdivide parcels into building lots using community sewer service in the Piney Branch subwatershed are required to record, as a covenant running with the properties, the Piney Branch Sewer Agreement Recommendations as a condition for the approval of sewer categories S-1 or S-3. Properties established prior to 1988, and for which only a single sewer connection is sought, are exempt from this requirement. Contact DEP staff (see Appendix D) for copies of the draft covenant and the required recommendations.

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# Appendix C, Section II.M: Potomac Area RE-1 and RE-2-Zoned Properties

County Council Actions: Adopted October 2, 2018 (CR 15-396)

### **II. SPECIFIC SERVICE AREAS**

The following sections identify and explain the areas in the county where exceptional water and/or sewer service policies apply.

II.M.: POTOMAC AREA RE-1 AND RE-2-ZONED PROPERTIES [aka Potomac Peripheral Sewer Service Policy]

Special Community Sewer Service Policy: Recommended by the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan

<u>Subject Area</u>: Properties zoned RE-1 or RE-2-at the edge or "periphery" of the master plan's recommended community sewer service envelope

Service Recommendation & Comments: The master plan's recommendations concerning for community sewer service properties zoned for rural estate development (RE-1 and RE-2) depart from those in the 1980 master plan. The previous master plan had allowed for the consideration of sewer service for rural estate zones. The 2002 master plan follows in line with the Water and Sewer Plan's general service policies for rural estate zones. However, the new master plan also

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### Appendix C, Section II.M: Potomac Area RE-1 and RE-2-Zoned Properties

recognizes that before 2002, the approval and provision of community sewer service within these zones occurred on a case-by-case basis, resulting in an irregular sewer service envelope. The master plan recommends that RE-1- and RE-2-zoned properties located at the edge or periphery of the recommended community sewer envelope may be *considered* for community sewer service on a case-by-case basis. In such cases:

- The property under consideration must abut or confront another property within the master plan's designated sewer service envelope.
- The extension of community sewer service is intended to follow existing public rights-of-way and must not affect streams, stream valley buffers, or other environmentally-sensitive areas.

In addition to the preceding essential requirements, several years of experience implementing this policy have resulted in the acceptance of guidelines that further refine the evaluation of and recommendations for potential cases.

- Properties that confront the sewer envelope across broad public rights-of-way should also be in relatively close
  proximity to other properties approved for sewer service on their own side of that right-of-way.
- The selection of sewer main extensions, wherever possible, should minimize the number of properties abutting new sewer main extensions

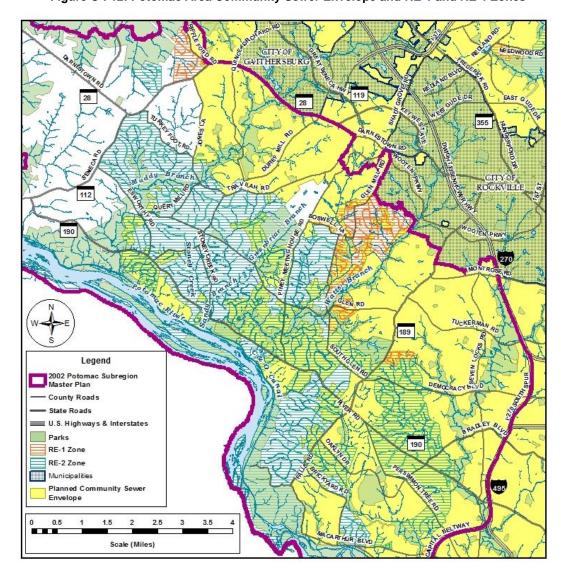


Figure C-F12: Potomac Area Community Sewer Envelope and RE-1 and RE-1 Zones

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# Appendix C, Section II.M: Potomac Area RE-1 and RE-2-Zoned Properties

Note that the 2002 master plan specifically recommends excluding properties within or at the edge of the following neighborhoods from the use of this policy (see Figure C-F13):

- The Piney Branch subwatershed
- The Palatine of Potomac neighborhood
- The Greenbriar Estates neighborhoods.

The preceding exclusion areas previously included the Glen Hills neighborhoods. The 2002 master plan recommended reconsideration of this exclusion following the completion of the Glen Hills Area Sanitary Study. However, the recommendations provided with the study did not address this policy. The 2017 Water and Sewer Plan update removes the Glen Hills area exclusion, except for those properties at the periphery of the planned sewer envelope within the Piney Brach watershed.

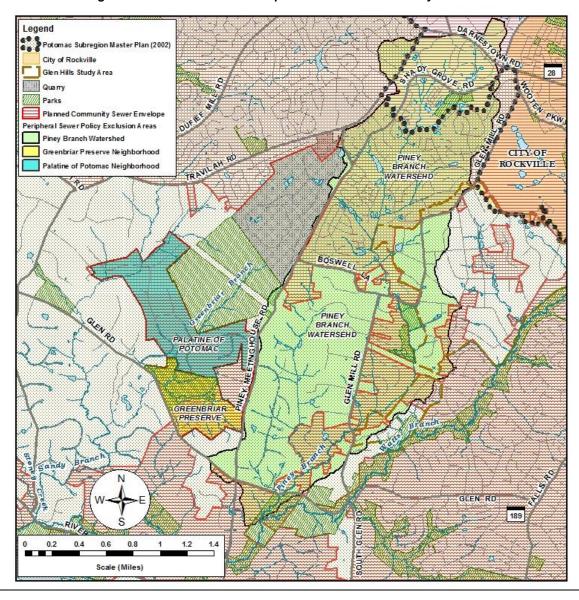


Figure C-F13: Potomac Area Peripheral Sewer Service Policy Exclusion Areas