



RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE



February 26, 2020

Hai-Yan Zhang, PE
Montgomery County Department of Transportation
100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Re: Replacement of Mouth of Monocacy bridge M43 over the Little Monocacy River (exceptional rustic road)

Dear Hai-Yan:

Thank you for referring the replacement bridge M43, on exceptional rustic Mouth of Monocacy Road over the Little Monocacy River, to our committee for review. We have the following questions and comments:

1. We very much appreciate that this bridge retains the width, length, elevation and character of the existing bridge.
2. We support the use as proposed of the T631 bridge rails and W-beam guardrails on this bridge and the approaches. We request that these elements be brown.
3. The width of Mouth of Monocacy Road should be retained at 14 feet to 18 feet wide.
4. The gravel section of the road should be retained without any additional asphalt paving.
5. We support river bank restoration using weathered imbricated riprap on the bank if it will function and appear similar to the installation on Bucklodge Branch at exceptional rustic White Ground Road (see the photo below) or in the fashion shown in the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection stream restoration techniques as seen at this web page: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/restoration/streams>. Temporary use of riprap class I is acceptable, but as part of the final project it is not visually compatible and should not be left in place.
6. Our understanding is that the new bridge will not be weight-limited as is the current bridge. If this is correct, please remove all weight-limited bridge signs upon completion of this project.

On future projects, we would be pleased to meet with you and your team onsite to discuss bridge projects before the 30 percent design stage.



Again, we appreciate you submitting this project to us for review. If you have any questions, you may reach us through our staff coordinator, Darcy Buckley, at 240-777-7166 or Darcy.Buckley@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert J. Tworkowski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Robert J. Tworkowski, Chair
Rustic Roads Advisory Committee

Committee Members: Todd Greenstone, Laura Van Etten, Dan Seamans, Robert Wilbur, Kamran Sadeghi, Lonnie Luther, Leslie Saville (M-NCPPC)

cc: Stephen Aldrich, M-NCPPC