

September 8, 2020

Mr. Mark Schwartz

mschwartz@arlingtonva.us

Manager, Arlington County

2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 318

Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Mr. Schwartz,

At a time of severe Covid-induced budget shortfalls in Virginia, it is more important than ever that capital improvement projects in Arlington be as cost-effective as possible. ASF is very concerned about our sustainable future. We are very concerned about issues including livability, housing, stormwater and natural areas. It is essential for the County's future to have current investments in infrastructure be pragmatic and forward- looking.

For this reason, we are writing to call your attention to the fact that the Donaldson Run (Tributary B) project is based on outdated methods and, as a result, is far more expensive than it needs to be. Redesigning the project using a state of the art "regenerative" stream restoration approach could cost less and achieve Chesapeake Bay credits. This approach will result in the destruction of far fewer trees and provide important benefits for our health, environment, and recreation.

ASF believes that a key focus of our sustainable future must include our watershed and the needs of our existing communities. Decisions must be based on proven, durable practices informed and upgraded to best available innovations. There must be full analysis and information given to the community so they may have a clear understanding of all the costs and benefits of infrastructure investments showing that they meet resident preferences.

We urge you to immediately pause the needed stream restoration project on Donaldson Run to review alternatives that have been provided that will significantly reduce the cost and impacts of this project.

Sincerely,

ASF

Cc: Arlington County Board, countyboard@arlingtonva.us

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Jane Rudolph, jrudolph@arlingtonva.us