



MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THE MARYLAND - NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

MCPB Item # 8

September 22, 2010

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 30, 2010

TO: Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA: Mary Bradford, Director of Parks
Mike Riley, Deputy Director of Parks
John E. Hench, Ph.D., Chief, Park Planning and Stewardship Division
Doug Redmond, Natural Resources Manager, Park Planning and Stewardship Division

FROM: Jai Cole, Principal Natural Resources Specialist, Park Planning and Stewardship Division

PROJECT: ICC Environmental Stewardship-Compensatory Mitigation Projects PB-113, PB-120/121, PB-131, and PB-132 Upper Paint Branch Special Protection Area (SPA) Best Management Practice (BMP) Sites

REVIEW TYPE: Mandatory Referral No. 10002-SHA-1: ICC Environmental Stewardship

APPLICANT: Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA)

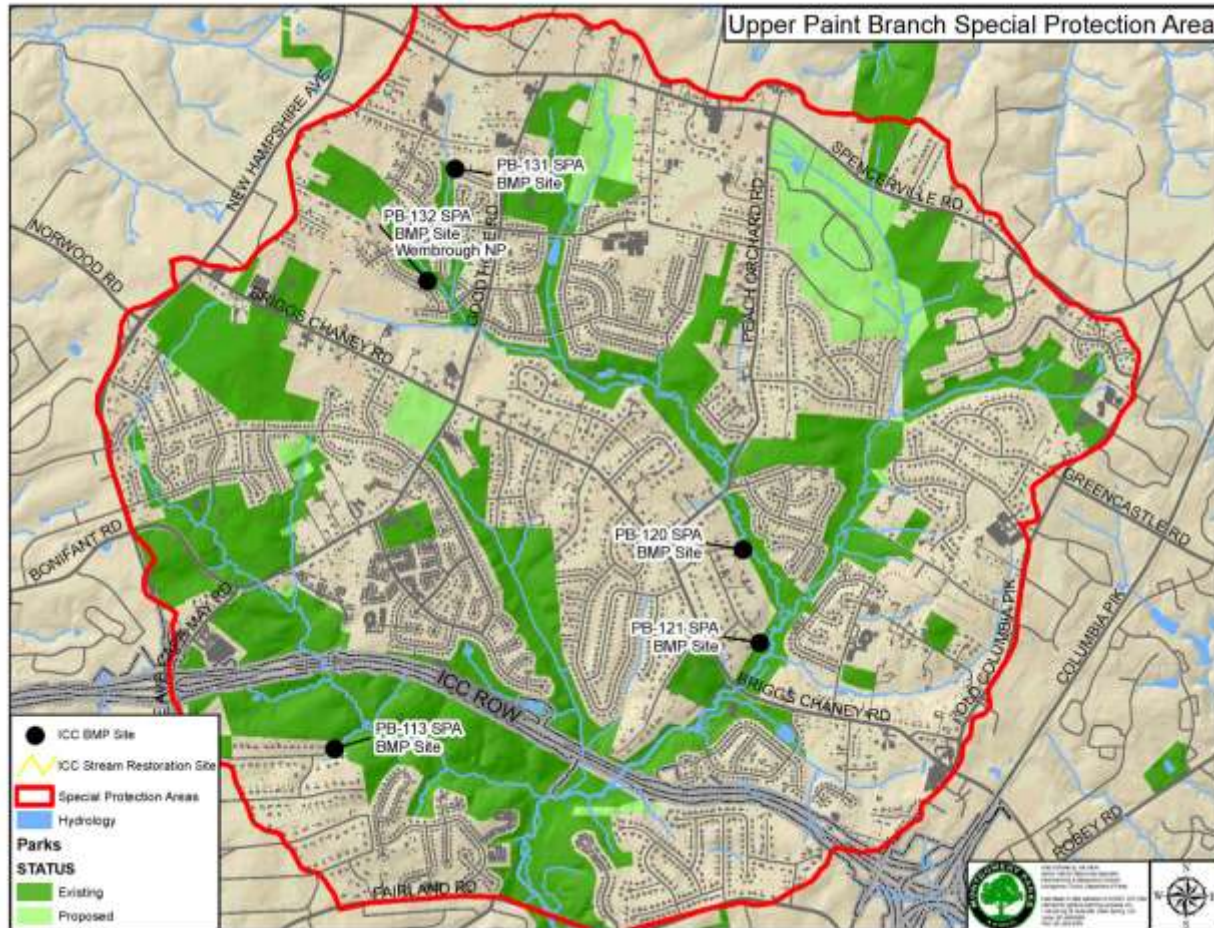
APPLYING FOR: Plan Approval

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the construction of four Upper Paint Branch Special Protection Area (SPA) Best Management Practice (BMP) Environmental Stewardship projects (PB-113, PB-120/121, PB-131, and PB-132) located within Montgomery County DOT right of way, on parkland owned by M-NCPPC or on Private Property.

Background

As a part of the ICC Environmental Stewardship and Compensatory Mitigation Program, the State Highway Administration (SHA) is completing a number of stream restoration, wetland creation, and stormwater management projects throughout Montgomery County. Many of these projects focus on the Upper Paint Branch SPA due to the impact of the ICC on this watershed's high water quality and unique self-sustaining brown trout population. This contract is comprised of five (5) Upper Paint Branch Special Protection Area (SPA) Best Management Practice (BMP) sites (Figure 1.) All sites are a part of the ICC Project's Environmental Stewardship – Compensatory Mitigation program. These projects were identified during the planning studies and included in the ICC Record of Decision (ROD) in order to address a range of watershed issues within the Upper Paint Branch Special Protection Area.

Figure 1 – SPA BMP Sites



Biotrenches

Biotrenches are essentially in-line bioretention facilities consisting of an excavated trench approximately four to six feet in depth, filled with specific gradations of stone. The surface of the biotrench is covered with a specific soil mix and planted with turf grass/sod for final stabilization. When completed, the biotrenches will be similar in appearance to the existing grass swales. The following describes the four (4) proposed biotrench projects:

- PB-113: This project, located within the DOT ROW along Hobbs Drive, Somerset Lane and Orchard Way in the Colesville Farm Estates community, involves providing biotrench facilities within existing roadside ditches.
- PB-120/121: These projects, located within the DOT ROW along Fairacres Road, Apple Tree Lane and Great Oak Lane in the Fairland Acres community, involves providing biotrench facilities within existing roadside ditches.

- PB-131: This project, located within the DOT ROW along Foster Road and within the Good Hope Estates subdivision, involves providing a biotrench facility within an existing roadside ditch as well as realigning and stabilizing a storm drain outfall channel. **The storm drain outfall channel is located on parkland. The storm drain outfall channel will be realigned slightly to avoid impacts to an existing sanitary manhole and has been selected to avoid tree impacts.**

New Stormwater Management Pond

PB-132 is located within Wembrough Neighborhood Park (Figure 2.), and involves providing a new stormwater management pond to intercept untreated roadway runoff. Wembrough Neighborhood Park is a 9.2 acre park located northeast of Valencia St. and northwest of Wembrough St in Cloverly. This park has a playground and a half basketball court located off Wembrough St. These recreational facilities are across the stream from the proposed stormwater management facility and therefore will not be affected by construction. This facility will provide channel protection quantity management for more frequently occurring storm events by reducing runoff to the Left Fork of the Paint Branch.

Figure 2 – PB-132 Wembrough Neighborhood Park



Natural Resource Inventory and Forest Stand Delineation (NRI/FSD)

No forest stands exist within the project areas, therefore no impacts are anticipated as a result of this contract. An exemption of the Forest Conservation Act will be coordinated with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources as required in accordance with the Forest Conservation Act. Strategies for protecting individual trees will be included in the design plans including root pruning, avoidance of critical root zones, and tree protection fencing.

Air and Noise

As proposed, the project is not expected to have any significant affect on traffic within the adjacent communities. Therefore, an environmental traffic noise analysis and assessment was not conducted. The construction phase of the project has the potential to temporarily affect the local ambient air quality by generating dust through activities such as vehicle traffic, excavation, and materials handling. SHA has addressed this possibility by establishing "*Standard Specifications for Construction and Materials*" that specifies procedures to be followed by contractors involved in site work.

Traffic Control

SHA will coordinate with the appropriate staff of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation for construction access and materials transport.

Public Meetings

- For PB-113, a meeting was held May 25, 2010 to provide the community an opportunity to review and comment on plans for the project. Representatives from each of the neighborhoods were in attendance.
- For PB-120/121, PB-131, and PB-132, a meeting was held April 14, 2010 to provide the community an opportunity to review and comment on plans for the project. Representatives from each of the neighborhoods were in attendance.

Funding

The proposed environmental stewardship projects are being funded by the Maryland State Highway Administration.

Implementation

Construction is expected to begin spring of 2011 following the award of the contract under the normal SHA bid process normally used for similar environmental contracts.

Maintenance

- For PB-113, PB-120/121, and PB-131, the maintenance and monitoring of the biotrenches and curb extensions is expected to be minimal. Under the agreement with the County, after the projects are accepted for maintenance, these duties will be assumed by MCDEP and County staff.
- For PB-132, located at Wembrough Neighborhood Park, aesthetic and everyday maintenance (e.g. regular mowing, trash cleanup, etc.) will be done by Parks while structural maintenance will be done by MCDEP.

PC:

Gene Giddens, Deputy Director, Department of Parks

Mike Horrigan, Chief, Northern Region, Department of Parks

Jeff Humerick, Operations Manager, Northern Region, Department of Parks

Mike Little, Park Manager, Olney Manor, Department of Parks

Mitra Pedeem, Chief, Park Development, Department of Parks

Mark Pfefferle, Chief, Environmental Planning, Department of Planning

John Carter, Chief, Community Based Planning

Andy Frank, Environmental Engineering Section Leader, Park Development, Department of Parks