



Date: November 11, 2011

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 9, 2011

TO: Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA: Mary Bradford, Director of Parks
 Michael F. Riley, Deputy Director, Administration *MR*
 Dr. John E. Hench, Ph.D., Chief, Park Planning and Stewardship Division (PPSD) *Jehench*
 Doug Redmond, Natural Resource Manager, Park Planning and Stewardship Division (PPSD)

FROM: Jai Cole, Principal Natural Resources Specialist (PPSD) *J Cole*

D Redmond

SUBJECT: Hollywood Branch Stream Restoration Project (Mandatory Referral **2010006**)

Recommended Action:

Approve the construction of a stream restoration project on the Hollywood Branch of Paint Branch by Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as part of the County's Watershed Restoration Program.

BACKGROUND

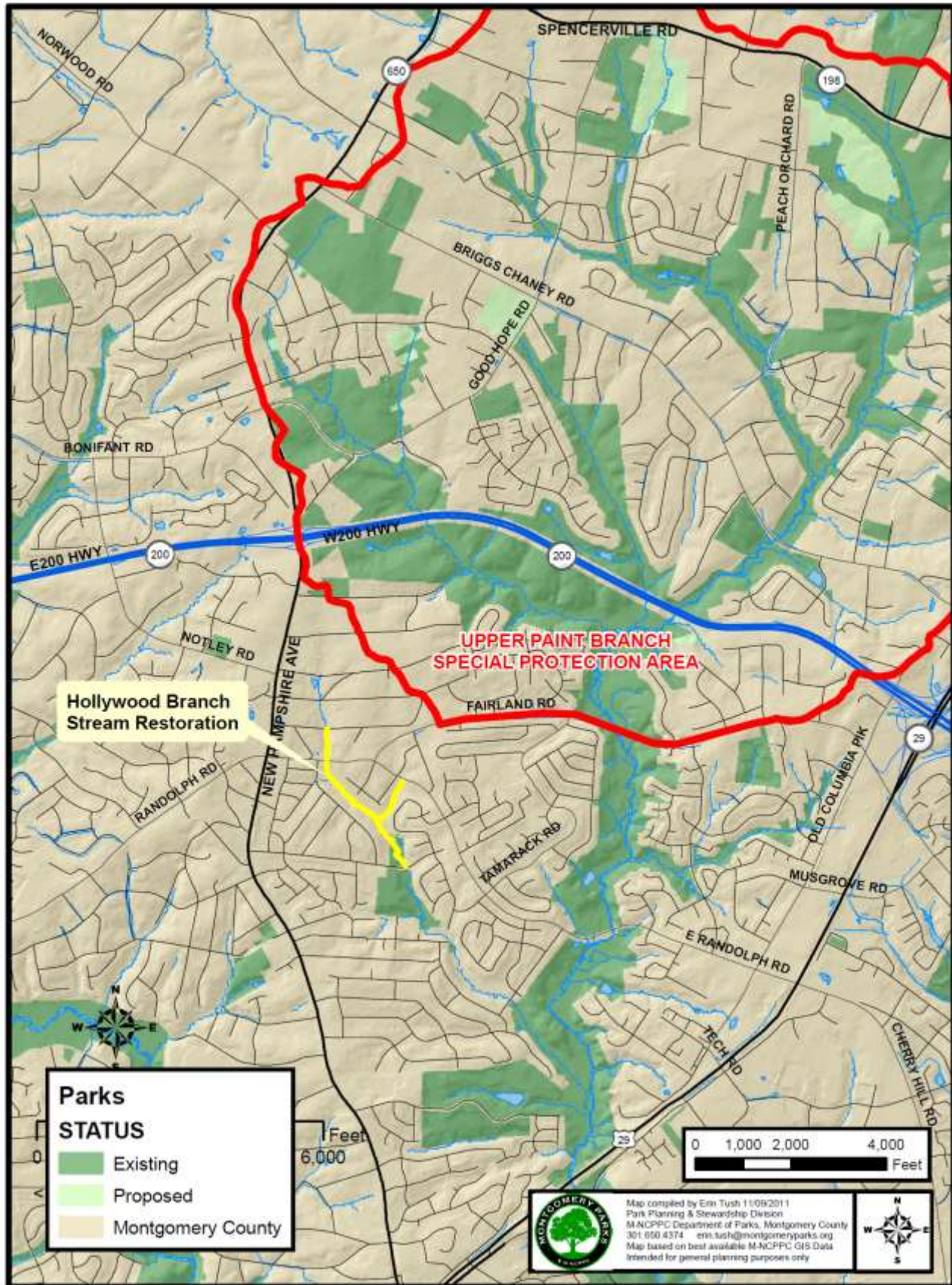
Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is proposing a stream restoration project along upper Hollywood Branch between Midland Road and Cannon Road. This stream restoration project will help to improve water quality and benefit stream ecology both within the project area and downstream of the site.

Hollywood Branch is a tributary of the Paint Branch Mainstem that flows from Notley Rd. south to the confluence with Paint Branch just north of Rt. 29 (Figure 1). This is a natural, urban perennial stream through medium-density deciduous forest surrounded by single-unit residential land use. A Lower Paint Branch Watershed Restoration Study was conducted in 2005 (DEP 2006). As a result of this study, this project was identified as a priority stream restoration project in support of the County's watershed restoration program.

DESIGN

Hollywood Branch is located in an urban area where much of the development within the watershed occurred prior to the requirement for stormwater controls. Uncontrolled stormwater runoff has caused the stream to widen, exposing sewer line manholes, eroding private property, and polluting the stream with excess sediment. The proposed stream restoration project, which is approximately one mile in length, focuses on:

VICINITY MAP



- Reconstructing the stream banks in areas where the channel is over-widened to decrease sediment input and restore the channel to its proper dimension, pattern and profile.
- Improving aquatic habitat
- Installing cross vanes for grade control
- Installing J-hook vanes at several outside meander bends to reduce shear stress and decrease sediment deposition
- Enhancing riparian buffers
- Protecting sewer infrastructure and public and private property.

ACCESS

Access to the stream restoration areas will require specialized access routes that are designed to protect forest resources while providing the minimum space required for constructing the proposed improvements. Access for this project will be closely coordinated with Parks staff to minimize forest impacts. DEP will acquire permanent and temporary easements as necessary for constructing and accessing on public and private property.

There are nine proposed accesses (Figure 2) for the project – although depending on final review of the plans, all may not be used. Access to the northern portion of the project will be from Midland Rd. and access to the southern portion of the project will be from Cannon Rd. Other proposed accesses include: East Randolph Rd. just east of Clifton Rd. (both north and south), East Randolph Rd. just east of Burkhardt St, Octagon Ln., Anderson St. (at two locations), and Broadmore Rd.

WETLAND AND STREAM IMPACTS

Montgomery County DEP staff has coordinated efforts to ensure that natural resource impacts are minimized to every extent possible while still meeting the goals of the restoration project. Numerous field reviews with regulatory agencies and stakeholder have taken place to ensure that access, stream work, and landscaping do not unduly impact natural resources. In addition, this project will be required to obtain Federal, State and County permits, as well as a Park Permit for impacts to Parkland.

Temporary impacts will occur in the stream channels due to access and construction of the proposed stabilization structures. In-stream construction will cause temporary impacts to the streambed, which is expected to naturally re-stabilize over time. Stream impacts are regulated by Maryland Department of the Environment and reviewed by Parks for impacts on Parkland.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

The Maryland Historical Trust has reviewed the project and has determined that no historical properties will be impacted by the project.

NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY AND FOREST STAND DELINEATION

The NRI/FSD was approved by Environmental Planning on April 21, 2010.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY NOISE ORDINANC

DEP will perform all construction activities in accordance with Section 31(b) of the County Code.

TRAFFIC IMPACT STATEMENT

DEP is applying for right of way permits from the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

A public meeting was held on November 2009, which provided adjacent residents the opportunity to review and comment on preliminary plans for the project. DEP also mailed public notifications to the adjacent property owners during the start of the project, and prior to the public meeting. DEP will have another community meeting this Spring.

IMPLEMENTATION

If approval is granted, construction is expected to begin July 2012.

MAINTENANCE

DEP budgets for maintenance of their stream restoration projects. If any maintenance is required, it will be coordinated with Parks and adjacent property owners.

PC:

Gene Giddens, Deputy Director, Department of Parks

Brian Woodward, Chief, Southern Region, Department of Parks

Steve Chandlee, Operations Manager, Southern Region, Department of Parks

Dave McGrady, Park Manager, Martin Luther King Jr. Recreational Park, Department of Parks

Mitra Pedoeem, Chief, Park Development, Department of Parks

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

Steve Reid, Engineer, Park Development, Department of Parks