



February 24, 2005

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA: Jeff Zyontz, Chief  
Countywide Planning Division

FROM: Katherine Nelson, Planner Coordinator (301) 495-4622  
Countywide Planning Division

SUBJECT: Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Capital Improvements Program  
Proposed for Fiscal Years 2006 - 2011

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**Recommendation: Approve Staff Comments for Transmittal to the County Council**

The following comments pertain to CIP projects from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Capital Improvements Program (CIP) that have significant community, environmental or parkland impact. No comments were made on projects that have already been approved by the Planning Board and/or already received a park disturbance permit. Attached are pages from the WSSC CIP that explain each project. A copy of the entire CIP is available for review in Environmental Planning or online at the following address: [http://www.wssc.dst.md.us/cip/FY2006Proposed/Proposed\\_CIP\\_FY2006.pdf](http://www.wssc.dst.md.us/cip/FY2006Proposed/Proposed_CIP_FY2006.pdf).

**General Comment:** All water and/or sewerage infrastructure required to traverse M-NCPPC property to serve priority projects is subject to a park permit and route approval through park property by the Montgomery County Planning Board and as a further elaborated in the "Memorandum of Understanding between the Maryland-National Capital park and Planning Commission and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission", dated April 1, 1996 and subsequent amendments.

Approved category changes or CIP projects do not convey to an applicant any rights to cross park property. WSSC facility studies involving park property are subject to alternatives analyses to be reviewed by Planning staff and the Planning Board.

## **Project-specific Comments**

### **1. Clarksburg Area Stage 3 Water Main, Part 1 (Attachment 1-9)**

This project places a new water main along Brink and Old Baltimore Road and adjacent to parkland along much of the length (Ridge Road Recreational Park, North Germantown Greenway and Black Hill Regional Park).

**Comment: Keep disturbance for this project within the Road right-of-way and outside park property.**

WSSC has sent us the following statement based on a positive meeting staff had with them last month:

“Our Planning Group is drafting an internal memo to WSSC senior management next week recommending the preferred alignments. The recommendations will be consistent with meeting/presentation on the Clarksburg Facility Plan given by WSSC/Rodgers Consulting at M-NCP&PC in Silver Spring last Wednesday (2/9/05). (We are waiting on a letter/comments from M-NCP&PC to forward along with our memo to senior management.) The Clarksburg Facility Plan will address the water main, wastewater pumping station and force main.”

Based on the meeting with WSSC and these comments from them, staff is hopeful that these comments will be adequately addressed.

### **2. Lower Seneca Basin Sewer (Attachment 2-10)**

This project is part of the Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and will redirect previously pumped sewage to gravity mains that feed directly to the treatment plant. Work will take place entirely within Seneca Creek State Park.

**Comment: Provide alignments for new gravity sewer lines to Park and Planning staff for review when they become available.**

### **3. Cabin Branch Wastewater Pump Station and Force Main (Attachments 2-15 & 2-16)**

This project description currently shows these new facilities within Black Hill Regional Park. However, recent meetings with WSSC and staff indicate that there are plans to place them on private property. (See WSSC comments from #1)

**Comment: Locate these facilities outside park boundaries according to agreements between Planning staff and WSSC for the Clarksburg Facility Plan.**

### **4. Damascus Centre Wastewater Pump Station (WWPS) (Attachment 2-18)**

The Damascus Centre WWPS is an outdated pump station that serves much of the business and residential development in the Damascus town center north of MD 108. WSSC plans to redesign and relocate this privately built facility. The Damascus master plan is currently undergoing review and decisions regarding land use change may affect the design and location of this facility.

**Comment: Delay design and relocation of the Damascus Centre WWPS until the Damascus master plan process is completed.**

**5. Potomac Water Filtration Plan Submerged Channel Intake (Attachment 3-8 &3-9)**

This project creates a new intake facility within the Potomac river channel and will be used in addition to the current intake at the river's edge. Staff have been involved in planning meetings for this facility for almost two years.

**Comment: This project should come before the Planning Board as a Mandatory Referral.**

**6. Potomac Bi-County Supply Main (Attachments 3-10 and 3-11)**

This project is the alignment, design and construction of a 84-inch water main between the intersection of Tuckerman Lane and I-270 and the western terminus of the Bi-County Water Tunnel near I-495 and Stoneybrooke Road. Representatives from WSSC presented this project to the Planning Board on February 10, 2005.

**Comment: This project should come before the Planning Board as a Mandatory Referral before a decision on the alignment is made.**