

DRAFT

EMBARK RICHMOND HIGHWAY

SELECTED ENVIRONMENT FEATURES



HUNTLEY MEADOWS PARK ~ DAVID COHEN

The Environment section of the Policy Plan and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance guide environmental planning efforts in Fairfax County. Adopted by the county, the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance aims to protect streams and the Chesapeake Bay from pollution that may result from development. The Policy Plan includes goals and objectives that reflect the belief that environmental protection and preservation are important contributors to a high quality of life.

The Richmond Highway Corridor falls into portions of the Cameron Run, Belle Haven, Dogue Creek, Little Hunting Creek, and Accotink Creek watersheds. Fairfax County has comprehensive watershed management plans that serve as tools to identify and address issues affecting the environment and to protect and restore streams and other resources.

FACTS AT A GLANCE



RESOURCE PROTECTION AREAS (RPAs)

A designation under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance, constitutes corridors of environmentally sensitive land located alongside or near the shorelines of streams, rivers, and other waterways. RPAs supply important biological and ecological functions such as protecting water quality, filtering pollutants out of stormwater runoff, reducing the volume of stormwater runoff, and preventing erosion.



STEEP SLOPES

In terms of constraints to development, land that has a 15% or great slope is characterized as steep slopes, and generally corresponds with portions of the RPAs.



PROBLEM SOILS

Soils that are present within or near delineated RPAs and has poor drainage properties, including marine clay. Development on these soils are at risk for uneven settling or cracking. Proper engineering design and construction are necessary to help mitigate these risks.



FEMA 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

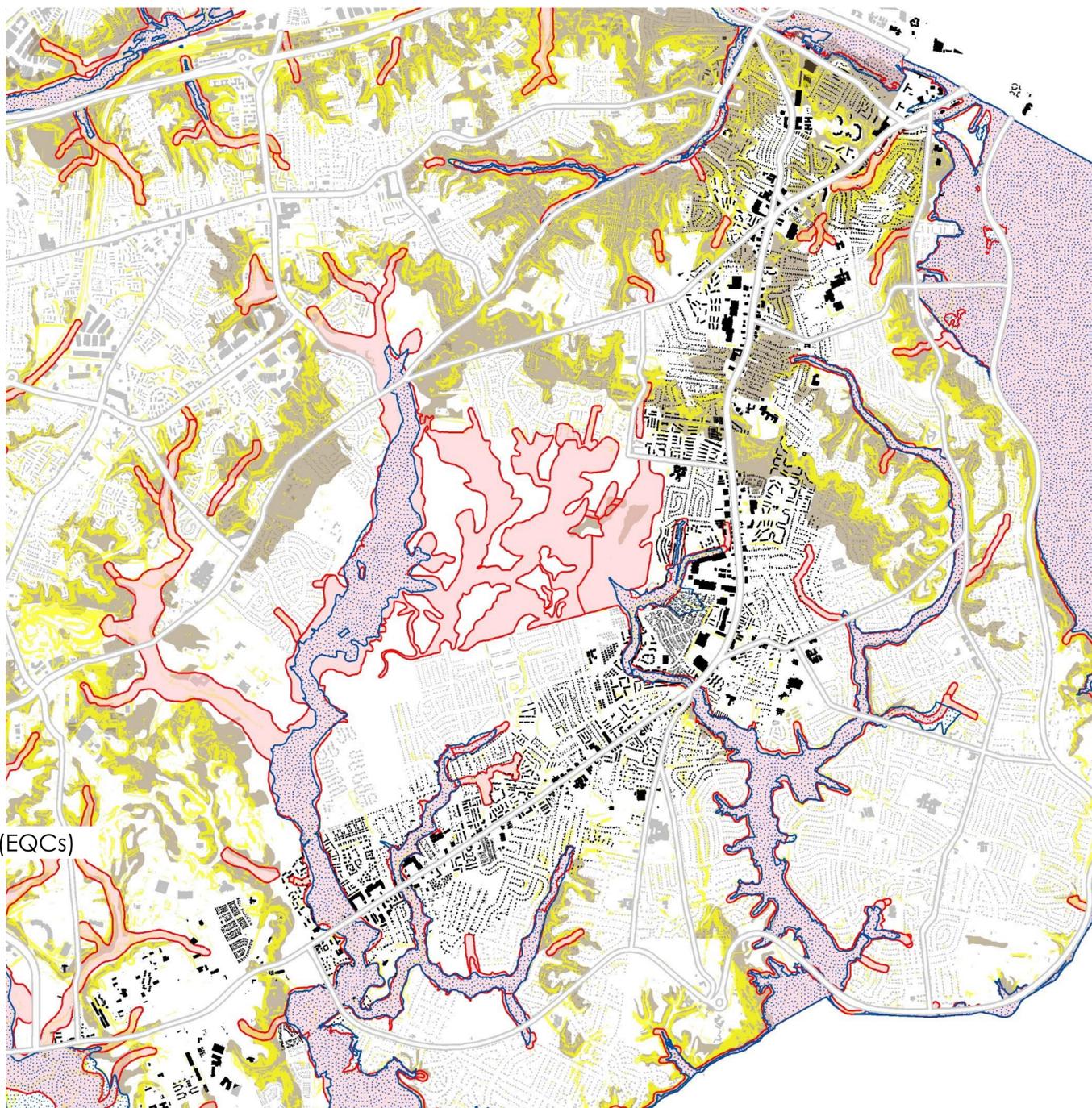
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) defines 100-year floodplains as the area that will be covered by a flood event that has a 1-percent chance of occurring in any given year. Floodplains are flat areas located adjacent to the main stream channel.



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CORRIDORS (EQCs)

*** Not mapped***

An open space system designed to link and preserve natural resource areas and provide passive recreation, including stream valley's wildlife habitats, and wetlands. The preservation of EQCs is a long-standing county policy and is currently achieved through the development review process, acquisition of parkland, and the donation of easements.



Information Provided by Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services

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WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN
Fairfax County



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
Fairfax County
Comprehensive Plan

EMBARK

RICHMOND HIGHWAY

CREATING A MULTIMODAL FUTURE