



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Agreement Reached on Dolley Madison Library Expansion

Dranesville Supervisor Joan DuBois is pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached on an amended site plan for the Dolley Madison Library expansion with County staff and residents representing the McLean Citizens Association Environment and Parks Committee.

A team composed of staff from the Department of Public Works, Park Authority, the Supervisor's office, and citizens met Thursday morning to review several alternative site plans with three goals in mind: reduce the tree loss especially in the sensitive area nearest the stream, improve the stormwater retention on site, and incorporate use of porous pavement where possible.

"I pushed the County staff to go above and beyond their usual practices to work cooperatively with citizens, to include more innovative stormwater techniques, and to minimize the tree loss. At one point, I threatened to break out the old grade school ruler. I'm told the planning staff has a ruler with my name on it in case I need to use it in the future. We declared a victory on the plan but there's a lot of work to do to see if these recommendations will work for the site," stated Supervisor DuBois.

An agreement was reached to pursue an option that preserves the grove of trees nearest the Dead Run Stream that was slated for removal under the old plan. The parking area for the Supervisor's office is moved from behind the library to an existing parking area off of Oak Ridge Drive which is expanded to serve both the office and the park users. The plan also includes several innovative stormwater management techniques to reduce the runoff that flows into the Dead Run stream. The former plan used several rain gardens to retain stormwater on the site. The new direction is to also make use of porous pavement and/or pavers in the parking areas, and additional vegetative filter boxes to handle runoff from the building and pavement.



Dranesville Tavern – Circa 1830

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Charlie Willmott, co-chair of the MCA's Environment and Parks committee stated, "I am thrilled at the progress that has been made with the County in addressing the MCA's concerns with the proposed Library renovation/expansion site plan. The new plan as now conceived will preserve highly valued parkland, save many mature trees that were slated for removal, and dramatically improve the storm water runoff from the Library site into Dead Run...a "win, win, win" for the environment, the McLean Community, and the County. Supervisor DuBois' leadership and support of the MCA's suggested site plan changes has made a huge difference in motivating the County to act quickly after months of resistance. While we are still formulating a final plan that is acceptable to all parties, I believe that we are all now moving in the same positive direction."

In addition to the progress on the library, other site improvements are planned in conjunction to the expansion project. The county is planning a stream restoration project on a 1200 foot section of Dead Run in McLean Central Park beginning at Old Dominion and Dolley Madison Boulevard.

Supervisor DuBois elaborates, "I have asked the McLean Community Center to consider contributing to the stream restoration effort by funding the remaining 1200 feet or so of stream that would improve Dead Run all the way to Churchill Road. The MCC is also looking at stormwater improvements on their site and coordinating this work with the library and stream projects. The library, supervisor's office, community center and the park are working together to improve the site as a whole."

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