

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Analysis Public Comments Summary

Compiled as of November 8, 2021

Report to County and Arcadis Staff Team

Overview:

- [Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Analysis Report](#) released to the public on July 22, 2021
- The public comment period was July 22 through August 22, 2021
- Two public meeting were held:
 - In Person July 29, 2021, at Annandale High School
 - Virtual August 5, 2021, via the Public Input platform/Zoom
- Comments were submitted at the public meetings, through the comment box found on the [Lake Accotink Dredging Project Page](#), via email to F515@PublicInput.com, by US Mail to Fairfax County DPWES – Lake Accotink Dredging, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 449, Fairfax, VA 22035 and by emails to FCPA, DPWES, Braddock District Supervisor’s Office and directly to staff.
- One set of comments, from the Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley, was received on August 25, 2021, but has been added to the other comments received during the public comment period to ensure inclusion.
- A summary of all comments received is attached to this report.
- This summary addresses the comments received. However, during the two public meetings there were also a number of questions asked with responses from elected officials and staff from the county and the project design consultant, Arcadis Inc. Those questions and the responses are compiled in the attached public meeting transcripts.

Comment Summary:

Comment Type	# of Comments
Total Comments	181
Do not use Howrey Park for spoils processing.	121
Do not use athletic fields for spoils processing.	3
Use Lake Accotink island for spoils processing.	5
Do not use Lake Accotink island for spoils processing.	1
Do not support any of the current options.	4
Do not use Wakefield Park.	5
Use the options that have the lowest impact to trees and the environment.	6
Comments on project funding.	3
Support dredging of Lake Accotink.*	3
Supporting trails.	3
Consider other possible locations to process dredged materials.	3

*Note that quite a few comments supported dredging the lake, but their primary purpose was directed at other topics.

Notes:

The comments primarily centered around not using athletic field locations, and an array of comments that generally support the staff recommendations of use of one of four locations within Lake Accotink

Park and Wakefield Park. There are a number of comments that either promote or oppose the use of one of the four staff recommended sites for spoils processing. At least three comments address project funding. There were also a number of comments that praised the current process.

Based on this public feedback staff recommend:

- Move forward with consideration of the four sites recommended by staff.
- Continue to take into account impact to the following public priority categories when finalizing proposed work locations:
 - Active Recreation & Culturally Significant Sites
 - Environmentally Sensitive Sites with Emphasis on Trees
 - Trails
 - Communities (to include noise)

The staff recommendations presented to the public during the July 29 and August 5 public meetings are as follows:

- Dredging: Pursue hydraulic dredging with mechanical debris removal.
- Pipeline:
 - Pursue lowest impact/cost pipeline alternative: along CCT, lake perimeter trail or Flag Run/Port Royal Road or Beltway.
 - Retain flexibility during design for permanent and temporary pipeline options.
- Dewatering:
 - Retain consideration for four potential locations during design for maximum flexibility, impact minimization, cost efficiency:
 - Dominion Energy ROW – Wakefield Park
 - Settling Basin – Lake Accotink Park
 - Maintenance Area – Wakefield Park
 - Lake Island – Lake Accotink Park

Attachments:

- Public Meeting Transcript from 7-29-2021
- Public Meeting Transcript from 8-5-2021
- Comments from Friends of Soldiers Memorial Fields at Howrey Park, Inc. 6-14-2021
- Comments from Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley
- Summary of Comments Received

**Lake Accotink Dredging Public Meeting Question and Answer Session
July 29, 2021
Annandale High School**

Affiliation: area resident

Comment: Hi. My name is Wade. I had a little campsite, a secret garden, really close to the trail. You may have seen me saying "Hi. Please be well." I love all of the people who use the trail – the parents of autistic children, the husband with wives, the toddlers running in front of their parents pushing a stroller. I was there 2008. I saw them expanding the island. I am shocked. I love all of you and I love the park, and I ask you to stand and not allow them to expand the island. Thank you. My name is Wade. Peace.

Affiliation: area resident

Question: Is the pipeline to the north or south side of the lake?

Answer – Arcadis: The pipeline is on the south side of the lake along the old rail alignment.

Affiliation: Friends of Accotink Creek

Comment: If this information had been available earlier in public discussions, we would have taken a different course. The costs of these options are high and so are the negative environmental, recreational, and community impacts. The existing island with rotation of truck traffic is not a good option, but maybe the least bad. Yes, there is the nuisance impact of park users and vagrants, but they are also the most direct beneficiaries of the lake. We suggest that we begin planning now for a longer term future. That of incorporating the dredge spoils to construct the berm that will enable us to reconnect Accotink Creek and have a smaller, deeper, cleaner, purer Lake Accotink. Further, we citizens of Fairfax County must focus on eliminating the sediment at its source, which is excessive stormwater runoff from our own roads, roofs, and parking areas.

Question: Why do you see the gravity dewatering drying agents have such a smaller footprint than the other methods?

Answer – Arcadis: The overall footprint for the drying agent does have a smaller footprint, but there are some significant limitations on both the dredging methods that can be used as well as the location that would need to be utilized for that method. For the slurry method, what you end up doing is, to be able to transport it by pipeline, there is a significant amount of water. As a result, it's going to significantly increase your costs. You want to only use the drying agent method when you're using a mechanical dredging option, and then you will have to actually physically transport it with a barge.

That will require the use of location, such as the island. It has a smaller footprint, but it does have some other consequences for it that might not be beneficial.

One of the other things to consider when you're looking at the drying agents is that you're going to add some type of drying agent, such as wood chips. Consequently, there is the potential that the amount of material that gets generated as part of the dredging dewatering process increases due to the mixing in of that drying agent.

Question: Can you address possible toxicity or waste creation issues associated with the flocculant or the drying agent?

Answer – Arcadis: All of that would be tested. Based on the testing that we have done, all of the sediment has met multiple test options and shown that there are no contaminants. By either adding a flocculant or the drying agent, there would be no toxicity added to them.

It would, depending on type of drying agent you use, such as wood chips, help absorb the water. There are other methods that would generate a little bit of heat that would help evaporate the water, but that wouldn't change the overall disposal characterization.

Question: The flocculant itself is not something that would turn into any sort of plastic waste-type material?

Answer – Arcadis: No.

Question: Is it biodegradable?

Answer: Yes. There would have to be additional studies and contractors may have specific brands that they use, but, whenever a flocculant is added, there's always a monitoring component that's associated with it. So, all the water would be collected and confirmed that it meets all the criteria for being returned to the lake.

Question: Why does this route that we are seeing for the upper settling basin pipeline follow the trail rather than taking a more direct route from the lake directly to the location?

Answer – Arcadis: The reason that we did that was mostly to help with the elevation change. It's a little more gradual. So, if you were going to do something more direct, there is potential for needing more pumps, bigger pumps to overcome that elevation distance.

Affiliation: Friends of Lake Accotink Park

Question: How much is the pipeline going to cost? Is there a ballpark figure per mile or per hundred yards or anything?

Answer – Arcadis: At this point in time, it's too early to say, because there are a number of factors that would go into pipeline cost. It's too early to provide an answer to that, but that's certainly something we'll be getting into this fall.

Answer – County Staff: Arcadis initially looked at a permanent pipeline because this has to go into the operation and maintenance cycle. The most expensive alternative we have looked at so far is the ductile iron pipe, which is actually buried. We will also look at a temporary pipeline, which could potentially be able on the surface. This could be a lot cheaper, but you have to install it and remove it.

Question: Years ago, when this all got started, there was talk of helping pay for it through a loan from a state agency of up to about \$30 million at a rate of about half a percent. Is that still a viable option?

Answer – Braddock District Supervisor: That is still the financing mechanism, and the Board approved an application for an additional \$30 million with an additional application. The mechanism is through the Virginia Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, which is about 1% and the cheapest rate you can find.

Question: How many companies will be bidding on this?

Answer – Arcadis: This is somewhat specialized work. There are contractors in Virginia and throughout Virginia that do this type of work. A project of this size and this type of work will also attract interest from contractors across the country. It's difficult to pinpoint how many companies will be interested, but I expect there will be a considerable amount of interest in a project like this across the dredging community.

Affiliation: Canterbury Woods subdivision

Comment: I endorse the statement of the Friends of Accotink Creek. I was one of the 10% who was not in favor due to the financial implications. In my opinion, we should be returning the creek to its original state. The sediment problem, in my view, could be dealt with through good watershed management and water land management.

Question: We have no idea what the various costs of the alternatives are. Is there going to be a subsequent opportunity when there is more certainty over the different costs of the alternatives, where we can come back in and provide input? Are we looking at immediate costs and long-term costs?

Answer – County Staff: Yes. As the process moves forward, we will have more certainty in terms of costs. I don't think that there are dramatic differences in costs between the different alternatives that we've seen, but absolutely, we will be coming back to the community with more certainty in terms of costs, and we will be going back to the Board of Supervisors with more certainty in terms of cost.

Affiliation: Danbury Forest Community Association

Comment: Everybody here, we all have one thing on common – we love Lake Accotink. We walk around it. Sometimes we fish in it. We kayak in it. It's a bigger thing than any politics. John Cook, over there, supported it. James Walkinshaw supported it. I love both of you guys. I love the neighborhood. I love the lake.

Question: In 1967, six young men from Fort Belvoir were putting up a flagpole at Howrey Field and were struck by lightning. It has significance, but what I can't comprehend is some people are putting up these signs that say, "No mud at Howrey Field." What sense does that make? There's a neighborhood that borders Audrey Moore and Howrey Field. Where do people get the idea that we're going to dump sludge there?

Answer – County Staff: I think that the concern was that we did look at that as an option. We would have essentially had to take over the whole park and turn it into a processing area. That's where the concern arose, and we definitely heard that concern. As a result, from a staff perspective, we've recommended to remove Howrey Field from consideration as an option.

Affiliation: North Springfield resident

Question: Are there any long-term plans, like 5 or 10 year projections? It seems to me that we have an every 20-year project that seems to be costing millions of dollars, which doesn't seem sustainable. Are we considering doing something different? In 20 years, are we going to be sitting in this auditorium asking the same questions? Is anybody considering more sustainable options, given that climate change is real, and we should be trying to restore our natural landscapes rather than continuing to keep up manmade issues.

Answer – Supervisor James Walkinshaw: Absolutely. We don't want to be here in 20 years having the same conversation, and it probably would be sooner than 20 years given the rate of the sedimentation that we're seeing. We don't want to be having the exact same conversation 10 years from now. That's why part of the analysis part of the process is potentially the installation of some permanent infrastructure to allow smaller, shorter term dredges to take place.

I think your real question is what are we doing to prevent the sediment from entering the lake in the first place? And that's a county-wide challenge, a regional challenge, and a national challenge. In this watershed, though, we actually have a lot of projects that have been completed and major ones that are coming up to restore some of the streams and to reduce the amount of sediment. We have a significant project coming up in Long Branch that flows into the lake, ultimately to try to improve that watershed and reduce the amount of sediment that is entering the lake. The reality is that it is not going to happen in time to prevent this lake from filling in, and it's not going to solve the problem entirely.

Part of the challenge is that many of our neighborhoods, including mine, Ravensworth Farms, and yours in North Springfield, were built at a time when there were no stormwater management requirements. Consequently, every drop of rain that falls on your roof and my roof hits the driveway, goes right into the storm sewer, and directly into the lake.

We don't allow building like that to take place anymore. There has to be systems to control stormwater. Most of the communities in this watershed, however, were built when these stormwater requirements didn't exist. A gentleman suggested solving this problem with better stormwater management, and we have to do that, but the reality is there's no feasible way to go back in and retrofit 50 to a 100 years-worth of development that didn't have real stormwater management.

This is the situation we are in right now, but we do have projects upstream of Lake Accotink that, hopefully, will reduce the problem. You're absolutely right. Climate change is making this worse, because we do know that the storms we're seeing now are stronger than the storms that we saw 10 or 15 years ago. We would still be dredging the lake with or without climate change, but climate change is shortening the amount of time between dredges.

Answer – County Staff: We actually have done work in the Accotink Watershed, and we have a lot more plans. We are completing our fourth stream restoration in Wakefield Park. We have stream restorations that have been completed as well as installation of low-impact development structures and solar controls in Nottaway Park into Vienna all the way down into the mainstem of the Providence District, coming off of I-66 and Route 29 and along Prosperity Avenue. We have several in the Braddock Area and the Mason District. In Danbury Forest, the stream restoration design is complete, and we should start construction in about a year.

We have a lot of projects. The one that James referred to – Long Branch – is our most unique project yet. The entire subwatershed drains directly under Braddock Road, past Howrey Park and Wakefield Chapel Road. We are planning the restoration of the entire subwatershed. It is specific that we meet the state mandated goal to reduce the sediment load to meet the total maximum daily load (TMDL) requirement. That is a heavy lift effort for us, and we are excited to work with the community on that.

Your point is very well taken. We are trying to restore the system as best we can. One of the parts of Long Branch that is important is that we're working with multiple communities to do things in the watershed, because private property is where the water is coming from. That is one of the most exciting parts is how do we work collaboratively and take a holistic approach to the watershed and try to reduce the impacts to the system.

Affiliation: Ridgewood Farm resident and Board of Directors for Friends of Lake Accotink Park

Comment: Thank you to Supervisor Walkinshaw and Supervisor Cook for your efforts in preserving this lake. I am 100% behind this effort.

Question: What is to become of land masses and islands in the lake during the dredging process or will the dredging simply remove sediment from low areas covered by water?

Answer – Arcadis: There are some sections where, since the 2008 dredging event, the sediment deposits are now above the water surface. Some of those are targeted for removal but the actual island will remain. The focus is on the areas below the existing water. During construction, the plan is that all of the dredging would be done in the wet, so the water level would generally remain at its same elevation and the material would be removed so that it wouldn't expose the island or drain the lake during construction.

Answer – County Staff: The island was actually created during the 2008 dredging event and was part of the mitigation requirement of our permit. We actually monitored the island for several years. As Amanda said, under most scenarios, the island would remain as is – as a mitigation site. If we used the island, we would have to mitigate for that impact, which would be another scenario.

Affiliation: Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE) liaison and Springfield representative to the Trail Site, Cyclists, and Bikeways Committee

Comment: We support off road trails and natural surface trails around the county and around the region. I appreciate the coordination with the community so that we know what's going on and are standing by to help in rerouting for groundwork.

I wanted to mention that, with the north right of way dewatering concept, there are road drains off 495 that you're going to run into or they're going to run into you. That's going to be a very difficult area to work in. Plus, you've mentioned several times the difficulty of getting up and down that hill, I wanted to make sure that you try and drive the truck up and down that hill before you commit it.

Thank you. We look forward to continuing working with you to make sure things at the CCT stay open for commuters and that the trails stay open for recreation.

Affiliation: Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley and resident of Stone Haven

Question: I thought I heard that the analysis didn't have the weighted categories, and I was just curious why the weighted categories were not part of the analysis.

Answer – Arcadis: The objective that Fairfax County made to Arcadis was to look at the technical component and how feasible the different options are. Because there are a

lot of political and social implications, the idea was that, if there is any weighting, that would start coming out as a part of that process.

Answer – County Staff: As the president of the Friends of Long Branch, he is one of our lead stakeholders for the Long Branch project. We've just finished up a weighted analysis process for that project. It's kind of a parallel project. As Amanda indicated, this site is a lot different from Long Branch, because Long Branch was focused on specific parameters that had to do with proximity to properties and a lot of different impacts. We were able to create weights. We had significant measurements in the field of things that we were measuring, so we had a lot of data that we were able to use to create these weighted metrics. With the Lake Accotink project, as indicated, we are going with the more technical component of looking at the analysis. We have not done as much in the field analysis. That will occur once we start to select the alternatives. The weighted analysis was not appropriate in this phase.

Name: not provided

Affiliation: not provided

Comment: I first want to just thank everybody for being here – from the county, from the park, from Arcadis, particularly our supervisors past and present. We appreciate you carrying the torch for us.

Question: I think I've heard the amount of \$30 million since 2016. I might simplifying it a little bit. We might've spent \$30 million since 2016. We've got another \$30 million teed up.

Answer – County Staff: We were authorized to apply for loans for \$30.5 million in 2019 and now, because the cost estimates have been refined, we've been authorized to apply for an additional \$30 million. We have not drawn on any of that yet. At this point, the state has approved a \$30.5 million loan that we could draw on or ask them to put an additional \$30 million. We are not obligated to use any of that money. The current money that has been spent on the Arcadis contract has come out of the stormwater funds.

Question: Do we anticipate that that will carry us through 2026 and the completion of the project?

Answer – County Staff: We're in the process of refining the alternatives analysis. The current estimate is based on what it will cost us to dredge and dewater the sediment spoils and to process them. What we need to refine further is what it would cost us to dispose of that material.

We don't have that nailed down yet. We will go through the design phase during this fall and winter. By next spring, we'll have much better cost estimates. Once we have those cost estimates, we will come back to the Board, and the Board will have to approve any expenditure to the project.

Question: It seems like you all have spent a lot of money and that you haven't dredged anything.

Answer – County Staff: All that we've spent so far is the money on the design contract. We haven't spent any money toward the actual dredging process. We've just gotten authorization to apply for loans.

Answer – Braddock District Supervisor's Office: The 2019 cost estimate was based on removing 350,000 cubic yards of dredge material from the lake. The estimate that we now have from Arcadis is that we'll need to remove 500,000 cubic yards of dredge material from the lake. That has been the most significant driver thus far. There's still a lot of uncertainty, and that's why we'll be coming back to the community and to the Board with a more refined cost estimate.

Affiliation: Parks and Recreation and Committee Chair for the North Springfield Civic Association

Question: You mentioned when the gentleman had a question about Howrey Park that it's not the staff recommendation that the park be included as an option. Who is receiving the staff recommendations and who ultimately make those decisions?

Answer – County Staff: It's a collaborative process between the Department of Public Works, the Park Authority, the Park Board, and the Board of Supervisors. I think there's close to unanimity among all the players that Howrey Field is not a good option. It's a collaborative decision making process. Ultimately, the Park Authority Board and the Board of Supervisors will be responsible for the decisions that are made.

Question: What is the process for the contractor selection, finalizing designs, and public input after this forum?

Answer – County Staff: We will certainly come back to you during the different design phases. When we get to the 35% design phase, we will have another public meeting. We'll post the design on the website and it available for public review. We will get your feedback, and we'll probably have some workshops too. We had a walk a couple of years ago with James and the Friends of Accotink Creek. We will do several of those.

The 35% design locks in where we're going to do things, and that's the piece where we get the most community feedback. Going forward from the 35% design, we'll be refining how the project's going to be completed. We will brief you during the design phase, before we go to construction, and toward the end of the project.

In terms of hiring a contractor, all of our hiring processes are defined by the State of Virginia. There are very specific guidelines on how we can contract. We're considering two alternatives. One is called construction management or risk process, and that would mean that when we hit the 35% design phase, we could advertise for and hire a contractor who will then work with us to complete the design and lock in the price for us.

There're multiple advantages to that. You'll get a guaranteed maximum price, and you have a collaborative relationship with the construction contractor, where they can help advise how they would do it. They can also target where they hire people to do the work to make sure it's done in the most effective way. We also may be able to get the project done more quickly. The other alternative is called design/bid build where Arcadis completes the design and permits it. We bid it and get the contractor to do the construction, which is the most common practice the county uses. We're going to weigh that option through the design phase work with our Arcadis and others and determine which contracting method to use.

Question: Is passive dewatering included in the timeline? What will the cycle be for the maintenance dredge, especially regarding decisions for the pipeline and the dewatering?

Answer – Arcadis: The passive dewatering timeline is accounted for. Although it is passive, the actual sort of sequencing of what construction might look like is that there might be three different dewatering cells where one cell is being actively built as part of the dredging, while one cell is sitting there and dewatering, and the last cell is being loaded out. Based on what we typically see, the waiting period can be as short as 1 week and as long as a month. Based on the information that we have so far, our current assumption is that it will probably be about a 2 week period of each cell.

Between dredging events, in theory, especially with the passive dewatering system, it's a fairly simple process. All of the depressed cell tubes and any of the areas that the tubes will be in will be removed. The base cap underneath it will remain in place. The actual frequency of those events will be evaluated. There is a little bit of a variable as the sediment comes into the lake each time. It depends on a number of different variables, such as if it's a wet or dry year. The idea is that dredging will be on a more frequent basis than every 20 years.

Question: Do we know how often the cycle will be for the maintenance dredge?

Answer – County Staff: There's a couple thoughts. As you empty the lake, it becomes more efficient at trapping sediment. The irony is that even though it is shallow, it's not trapping as much. When you dig it deeper, it actually can capture more sediment. We can't know how quickly the lake will fill. We think the sediment is coming into the lake at about 46,000 cubic yards per year. As of 2016, our analysis indicated that the lake was capturing about 50% of the sediment load. It's capturing less now, according to Arcadis' analysis. As we dig deeper, it will capture a larger percentage of sediment, which will mean that the lake will fill faster.

Another variable – we know that Tropical Storm Lee, for instance, 3 years after the last dredge, probably contributed a significant percentage of material that filled the lake in. That one event was dramatic. The other thing that occurred was that 2018 to 2019 was the wettest year on record in our region. We got almost 80 inches of rain. That year probably triggered a disproportionate amount of sediment. The weather patterns

determine a lot, and so we will look at whether we do frequent, smaller dredges or do larger dredges.

Name: not provided

Affiliation: not provided

Question: Wouldn't we want the dam to accumulate as much sediment as possible so that it doesn't end up in the Chesapeake Bay?

Answer – County Staff: The issue is the frequency at which you do the exercise and there's a cost implication. We're going to try to get the most efficient balance between keeping that capacity and the cost implications of doing it. But you're correct. We're going to try and maintain that efficiency of that lake system. That efficiency also provides the best recreational aesthetic benefits for the community.

Affiliation: Save Lake Accotink

Comment: A lot of my concerns have been heard and answered. I just want to say thank you to everyone here. Everyone who has attended meetings, the Board of Supervisors, the Park Authority. The response to the calls from the community to save the lake has been inspiring, very gratifying. Just want to thank everybody who's been a part of this and who will be a part of this. People who have commented online, the comments to come – please keep them coming. Our wishes have been heard, to a large degree. I hope to see where this goes from here. Thank you.

**Lake Accotink Dredging Public Meeting Question and Answer Session
August 5, 2021
Virtual Meeting**

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Thank you for providing this forum. Please don't use Howrey Park for mud processing. As an FCPS teacher, I am aware that our county places an emphasis on equity, and I have to say that using Howrey Park for this project would NOT be consistent with equity.

1. The townhome communities bordering Howrey Park are affordable for people like me – FCPS teachers and single parents. By putting this industrial zone literally in our back yards, Fairfax County will be forcing us to tolerate more than our fair share of the burden of rejuvenating Lake Accotink.
2. Our homes are far too close to the park. This project would be literally in the back yard of New Chapel HOA, as well as some single family homes. My back yard on Overlook Park is 75 yards from the park entrance. The report didn't talk about the relative distance of homes to the proposed sites, but it's an important consideration.
3. Truck traffic is not the only impact on homes. I would have not only truck traffic, but an unobstructed view of the mud processing, 24-7. The report talked about 95 trucks per day for certain county residents, but at the end of the day, those residents don't have an industrial site in their back yard. But what about me? I would have 95 trucks per day PLUS live next to an industrial site 24-7, a site that may NEVER regain its current beauty and usage.
4. The park has a memorial that honors 5 soldiers who died there. Community members worked hard to improve and publicize the memorial, preserving a significant part of community history. Please don't use Howrey Park for mud processing!

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Using the island in Lake Accotink as a dewatering site avoids laying a pipeline and taking away land from parks. Barges and trucks would carry the dried silt away. Although this would present inconveniences, it seems the least bad option. What do you think of using the island in this way?

Answer – Charles Smith: I think that that's exactly why this was a consideration. This came from Arcadis staff as a potential solution to minimize impacts overall. Although it has potential challenges, it also simplifies some aspects of the operation. I think you're right, and that's why, as a staff, we're recommending that we continue to consider the island option as we move forward.

Affiliation: Friends of Lake Accotink Creek

Question: Can you clarify the nature and footprint of gravity dewatering?

Answer – Amanda Wood (Arcadis): As far as what the footprint of the gravity dewatering area looks like, it's pretty much a berm-lined area that would be temporary in nature. There would be an underlying stone pad. That's what it would look like in operation. Then, there would be the

geotextile tubes on top. After they're filled, the material would be removed and transported away from the dewatering location.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: I appreciate the efforts of the County and Arcadis teams to develop plans for dredging Lake Accotink. It's a complex project, as folks have noted. Why isn't residential impact (noise or truck traffic) listed as a "key challenge" for the Dominion ROW dewatering alternative? What specific analysis has been done to assess the impact of noise in Wakefield Park and in the neighborhoods on the east side of Wakefield Chapel Road? If you live in the neighborhoods on the east side of Wakefield Chapel Road, you know that noise carries through Wakefield Park. The Beltway is loud, and you can hear it more often than one might expect. The dredging project calls for 95 truckloads (round trip) per day, starting at 7 AM on weekdays and 9 AM on weekends for 2+ years of dredging activity.

Answer – County Staff: I think you're correct. This would definitely need to be part of the analysis as we move forward with the design. I think the key is that this alternative, comparatively, keeps the trucks the furthest from any residents, which is the lesser of evils in this case. We need the trucks to pull the material out, which would not be without impact. At first look, this alternative would have a much lower impact than some of the other alternatives but will require more analysis.

Affiliation: None provided

Comment: Any option that requires the least amount of tree clearing has my vote. Sounds like "keeping it in the park" is the way to go. Trail closures and such are part of the deal.

Affiliation: Friends of Accotink Creek

Question: Would the Flag Run portion of a pipeline route:

- Be underground?
- Be possible without extensive tree loss?
- Be coordinated with the planned stream restoration or have impacts on the stream restoration?

Answer – County Staff: We anticipate the need to carefully plan to minimize impacts to the stream valley. In addition, we have in our work plan, the restoration of that portion of Flag Run from the Beltway to the lake. Last year, we completed the restoration upstream of the Beltway. We hope these projects can coincide – that we can bury the pipeline while conducting the stream restoration to minimize the overall impacts. We will definitely be looking at coordinating these efforts.

Affiliation: Friends of Accotink Creek

Question: Could there be an option for a slower dredge to reduce trucks per day?

Answer – County Staff. That's certainly something we could look at to reduce impact. We'd have to balance that with costs. There's also a couple of other factors to consider, like trucks per day for a shorter duration versus trucks over a longer duration. What's the trade-off? The other thing to consider is that the lake continues to silt in. The longer we prolong the dredge, the greater the quantity of silt accumulates while we're dredging, which may increase the total

amount of material to be removed. All of these factors would have to be balanced, but they are certainly something to consider.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Is this project fully funded?

Answer – Braddock District Supervisor's Office: As you've seen from the presentation, we're still working toward finalizing the cost estimate. We've been approved for application of up to \$60.5 million worth of funds. The commitment that we've made to the Board of Supervisors is to go back to the full Board when we have something closer to a final cost estimate and get approval. I think the answer to that question right now is that we don't know, but we'll be public and transparent as we know more, and any additional funds will be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Affiliation: Friends of Accotink Creek

Comment: Fish/eel passage solutions need to become a part of the future life of the dam.

Answer – County Staff: We talked about this with the Friends of Accotink Creek a few years ago. We also talked to the State Department of Wildlife Resources, and what we determined, at this point in time, is that the consideration of fish passage is not part of this particular project. We're looking at dredging and not dam modification. We did, however, get some preliminary information from the state experts on fish passages, and it's certainly something we can discuss going forward. We will have to have the community, the Park Authority as the owner, and the State help us with the conversation.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Talk more about the relationship between the lake and the Bay. Which option manages the Bay-damaging stormwater best?

Answer – County Staff: Of the dredging options, I'm not sure any one is particularly different. Arcadis has looked into the fact that, in order to discharge the water that comes out of the dredge material, we have to treat it. So, I think that the answer is that all of the alternatives would remove a lot of sediment and continue to keep that sediment out of the system below the dam. Amanda, please talk about how you clean the water once you treat it.

Answer – Arcadis: Any of the water that gets separated would be required to meet discharge permit requirements. There are other substances coming directly from the geotextile tubes that may be able to be discharged directly. If there's other options, there may be a secondary solids removal phase prior to the water being discharged. The goal would be that the water quality being returned to the lake is at least as good as what was pulled out if not better.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Sediment keeps entering rivers from private properties – our yards. Has the county a plan/education outreach for homeowners to keep stormwater on their properties?

Answer – County Staff: We do continue to do outreach education. Probably the project that's going to help us with that conversation is also in the Braddock District. It's the Long Branch

Central Watershed Management Area project, which is now underway. It's a partnership with the Park Authority, Public Works, and many, many stakeholders in the Long Branch Central Watershed. This project is looking at, not only what can the county do to stop sediment generation within channels, but also working with the communities to look at strategies to reduce runoff from the uplands along all the private land and to improve quality of life and the natural landscape. Yes, absolutely. That's a critical need and something that, going forward, will be something that's important for all people in the community to participate in.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: What actions are being proposed to reduce the amount of sediment coming into the lake in the future?

Answer – County Staff: I think there are more projects (in Lake Accotink Watershed) than any other drainage area in the county. There are projects in the Providence District, the Mason District, and the majority of them are in the Braddock District. We have some downstream also. We have projects all the way from Nottaway Park, near Vienna, down through the mainstem over to Merrifield and Mantua neighborhood. We have projects at Annandale Community Park, Wakefield Park, Long Branch Central Management Area, and Danbury Forest. We finished Turkey Run stream restoration in Truro several years ago. We're doing a project right now on the mainstem of Lake Accotink and Wakefield Park. We have a lot of activities. We're certainly very committed to that, and as you mentioned, continuing to work with all the stakeholders and trying to cut the loads in the future in terms of runoff and sediment generation.

Affiliation: None provided

Comment: Despite the Beltway expansion, Wakefield Park is hanging on as a wonderful oasis for County residents and wildlife. The County should think carefully about selecting an alternative that further degrades Wakefield Park to save Lake Accotink ... perhaps temporarily. All Wakefield Park options involve clearing trees and vegetation, disturbing wetlands/RMAs, constructing facilities, shutting down or altering trails, and tolerating an increase of truck traffic and noise over a multiyear period. The Dominion ROW option also takes the project out of the County's control, as Dominion can alter/change requirements. I hope the County focuses on dewatering and pipeline alternatives within the Lake Accotink Park footprint, which, while presenting challenges, will not result in the degradation of Wakefield Park.

Affiliation: Friends of Accotink Creek

Question: Deterioration of the Upper Settling Basin is currently returning the 1980's dredge sediment directly to the lake. Its failure has catastrophic potential. It must be repaired as a part of this project.

Answer – County Staff: I really appreciate the Friends of Accotink Creek bringing this issue to our attention. We will work hard to consider whatever option we do – how we can address that particular issue with the plumbing in the 1980s dredge operation, its current condition, and how we can prevent it from worsening and being repaired as part of this project.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Thank you for the great presentation. For the CCT and West options, how long would the trails be closed to recreational and transportation users? What would the final trail look like – paved or something else?

Answer – Arcadis: The intent and goal are to minimize any impacts for any trail. It really depends on which option for pipeline alignment is selected. We don't know yet if the pipeline is going to be above ground or underground. We would leave that up to the contractor, but again, the goal is to minimize any impacts or closures. What the expectation would be of the actual trail itself is that the final trail will be similar to what it is existing now, so there wouldn't necessarily be a change from a gravel trail to a paved trail.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: What is the best medium to provide our "vote" for which methods we prefer based on the information provided?

Answer – County Staff: The best method is probably going to be to provide comments online through the DPWES page in the portal. We're taking comments until August 22nd. I do want to reiterate that it's not a vote, and I'm glad you put that in quotes, because we know, with the Park Authority, sometimes we get hundreds and hundreds of comments on both sides of an issue. All of this information will be taken into account based on the comments and based on the kind of input that you're giving us tonight, which is so gratifying to see people caring as much as they do.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Will the project go out for bid when ready? How many dredging companies are out there, ballpark?

Answer – County Staff: The state directs localities on how we bid projects. We'll likely use one of two methodologies. One is called construction management at risk, where we engage a contractor early, during the design phase, and they help us finish the design and they can often help us do some problem solving. The other option is to complete the design and do a design/bid/build, which is where we go to the end of the design and permitting process and then we put it out for bid.

Answer – Arcadis: There are several contractors in the area that could accomplish a project like this, and I think that this is the kind of a project that would attract interest from contractors on a nationwide basis. I think that we expect to see ample interest in a project like this and see a number of bidders respond.

County Staff: It's really gratifying to know that more people have joined this meeting. We're up to about 125 people who are participating this evening.

Affiliation: Friends of Accotink Creek

Comment: The Current Island dewatering site option presents the least negative environmental impact with least sacrifice of trees and habitat. It does present a nuisance factor for neighbors that would need to be managed.

Affiliation: None provided

Question: Could we have more than one dewatering site? This would mitigate the use trucks disturbing residential areas.

Answer – County Staff: That's absolutely something I think we should consider. Maybe the contractor will come up with some different strategies. Arcadis has been very creative in looking at strategies. I think we certainly should consider the possibility. On one hand, it could add a lot of cost and complexity and spread the impacts out and have larger impacts. On the other hand, it potentially could lower the overall community impacts. We definitely should consider it.

Affiliation: None provided

Comment: Agree with Philip that the island will have the least environmental impact, and that should be most important factor.

Affiliation: None provided

Comment: Thanks to Supervisor Walkinshaw, County staff, and Arcadis! Great presentation and well researched data.

June 14, 2021

ATTACHMENT 3

Statement Opposing Fairfax County Potentially Using Citizen-Owned Howrey Park
as a “Dewatering”/”Spoilage” Site

Associated with Lake Accotink Dredging Project AC89-0009

During Years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

By Richard A. Elliott, President

*Friends of Soldiers Memorial Fields at Howrey Park, Inc. (hereinafter “**Friends, Inc.**”)*

A Virginia Non-Profit Corporation

Submitted to Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services (PWES) and
Arcadis Corporation, Inc.

June 14, 2021

Reasons for *Friends, Inc.* Opposition to Citizen-Owned Howrey Park
as the 2022-2-25 Lake Accotink “Dewatering / Spoilage” Site

Overarching Objection:

Howrey Park is the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.

1. Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.

Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:

- (1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;
- (2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;
- (3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;
- (4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.

Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.

Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and *Braddock Road Youth Club*, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.

2. Selecting A Non-Historic Site Is More Suitable Than Choosing a Fairfax County Historic Site; Such As Howrey.

Why use a Fairfax historic site when non-historic sites are available, as listed in paragraph one above?

Howrey Park became a publicly-known historic site the moment Fairfax County officially dedicated the three memorial athletic fields in the name of the six perished soldiers.

The Ft. Belvoir soldiers’ tragic sacrifice – and inspiring idealism -- represents a valued and instructive part of Fairfax County’s robust heritage and history. Three soldiers were only 17 years old when they perished. Please see attachment. Age information furnished by United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Washington, D.C.

3. Selecting Howrey Park Curtails *Friends, Inc.’s* April 5, 2021 Existing Howrey Park Memorial Enhancement Plan Now; and Also For 2022-2025. Howrey Park, as a currently listed, potential “dewatering” site, has prevented us from implementing our FCPA favorably-reviewed, four-page architectural site plan. See attachment, please.

The plan enhances the existing flagpole and memorial plaque at a cost of about \$15,000, in privately-raised funds. Source of written April 5, 2021 favorable approval: Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA), Division of Planning and Development.

On May 11, FCPA retrospectively “deferred” its April 5 favorable review on permitting *Friends, Inc.* to enhance the existing soldiers’ memorial. *Annandale North Springfield Little League* and the FCPA worked jointly on creating the existing memorial plaques and flagpole in the mid-1990s.

4. **Selecting Howrey Park As A “Dewatering/Spoilage” Site Stops *Friends, Inc.*’s Long-Term Vision For Honoring The Fallen Soldiers Throughout The Park’s Infrastructure.** This choice prevents, for 2022-2025, *Friends, Inc.* implementing its draft February 10, 2021 long-term working plan.

The plan would transform the infrastructure of the entire Howrey youth athletic complex from an arguably uninspiring one to an uplifting one, as an honored, dignified, in-perpetuity tribute to the fallen soldiers.

In a March 12, 2021 meeting at the park, *Friends, Inc.* orally advised four FCPA managers of the existence of its working long-term vision for the entire Howrey Park complex; and offered to furnish a copy.

5. **Selecting Howrey Park May Cause The Current Howrey Family to Oppose This Choice.** The family has no claim to this public land. But we doubt that Mr. Howrey, a President Eisenhower appointee and former head of the United States Federal Trade Commission, intended Fairfax County to use the site essentially for processing mud for four years. We believe he intended Howrey for the youngsters. *Friends, Inc.* also believes that, more likely than not, the current family would share their patriarch’s view regarding the Park’s youth/recreational mission.

Respectfully Submitted,



Richard A. Elliott
June 11, 2021

***Friends, Inc.* Mission, as quoted from December 7, 2020 Articles of Incorporation:**

... to support, enhance, and preserve the athletic facilities, infrastructure, and Soldiers Memorial consisting of a flagpole, monument, and immediately surrounding landscaping at Howrey Park, part of the Fairfax County Park Authority located at 5100 Glen Park Road Annandale, Virginia, 22003, in order to create for the citizenry and youth of Fairfax County, an uplifting park setting – and enduring memorial tribute – to the six Fort Belvoir Soldiers who perished there on June 1, 1967.

Attachments:

Names of the six, inspiring Ft. Belvoir soldiers who perished at Howrey Park on June 1, 1967 while serving Fairfax County youth

***Friends, Inc.* site plan for enhancing existing memorial** that FCPA division of planning and development recommended for approval on April 5, 2021; and then stopped on May 11 when PWES named Howrey as a potential “dewatering/spoilage” site

**SOLDIERS
MEMORIAL FIELDS**
at Howrey Park

PVT PAUL D. BRIGGS, AGE 17

PVT ANTHONY EVANS, AGE 18

PFC MARVIN D. HARRISON, AGE 17

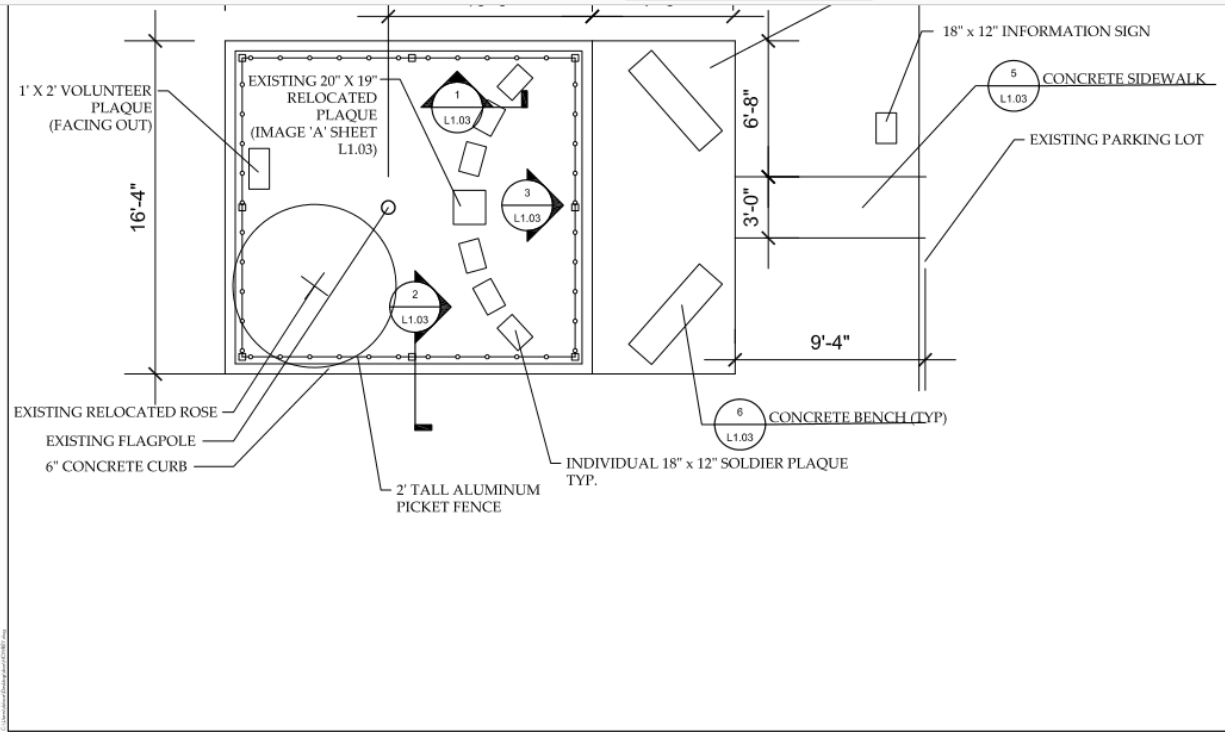
SPC 4 KENNETH G. STEINER, AGE 20

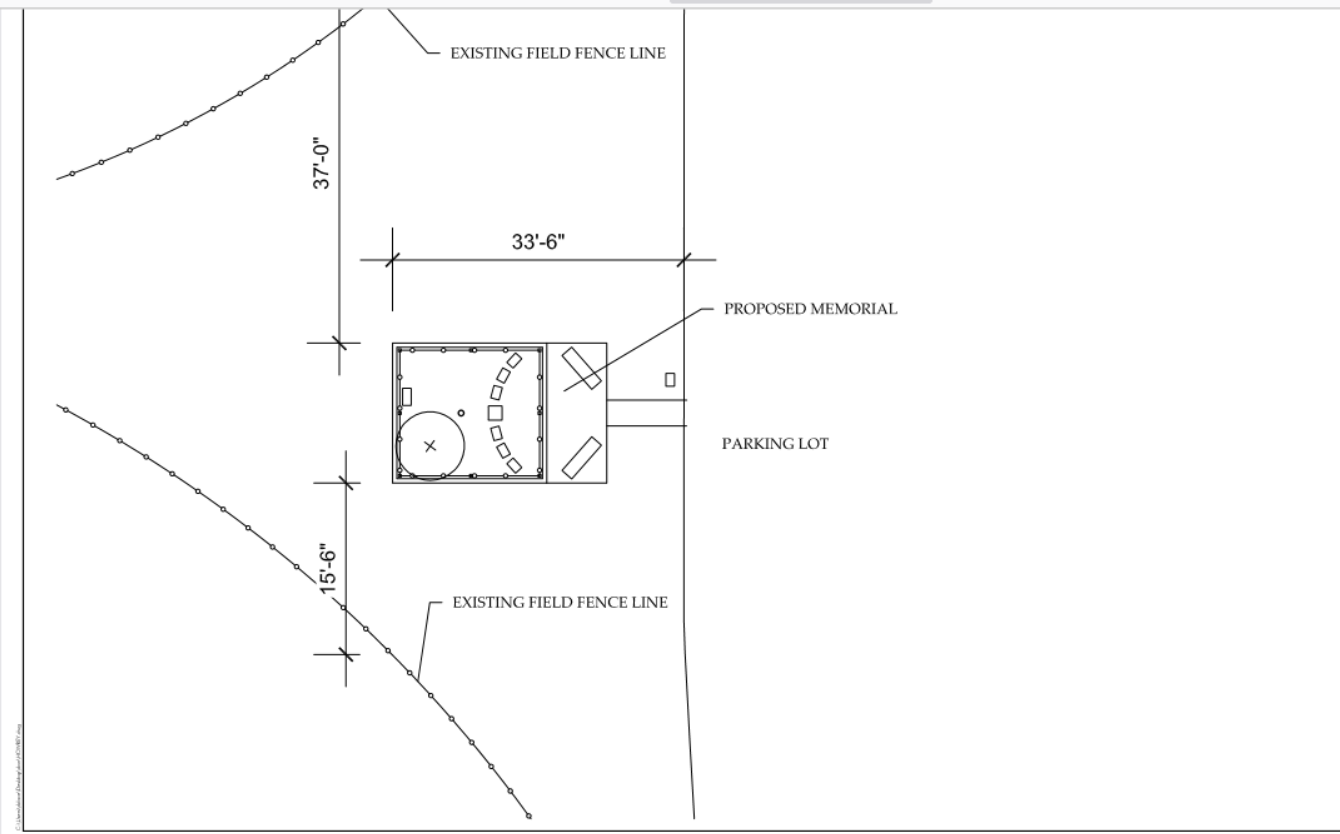
PVT CHARLES P. OLIVER, AGE 17

PVT CHARLES M. WHALEY, AGE 19

Ultimate Sacrifice

JUNE 1, 1967





SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL at HOWREY FIELD PARK
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

REVISIONS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

LAYOUT PLAN

DESIGN	CG
DRAWN	DB
CHECKED	DB

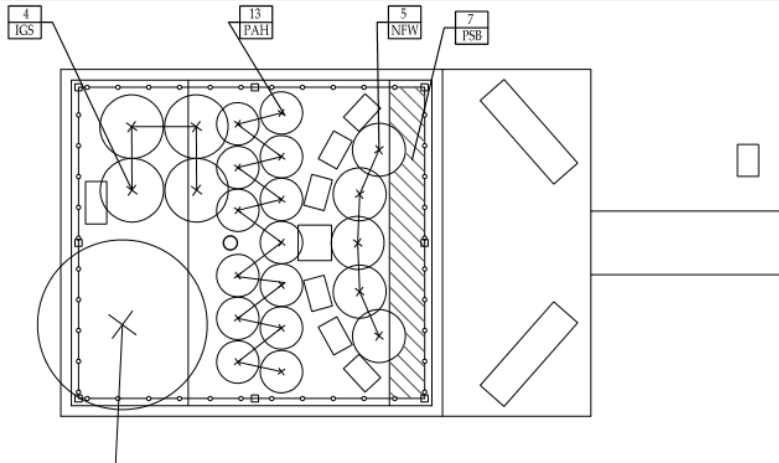
DATE: 07/20/10

PROJECT NO: 2000

DATE: 03/20/10

L1.01A

LANDSCAPE SET



EXISTING RELOCATED ROSE

1 MEMORIAL LANDSCAPE PLAN
Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

PLAN

SHRUBS

QTY	KEY	GENUS	SPECIES	VARIETY	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	SPREAD	REMARKS
4	IGS	Ilex	glabra	'Strongbox'	Strongbox Inkberry	15' - 18'	15' - 18'	#3 cont. healthy, vigorous, well-rooted & established

PERENNIALS/ ORNAMENTAL GRASSES/ GROUNDCOVERS

QTY	KEY	GENUS	SPECIES	VARIETY	COMMON NAME	SIZE	COLOR	REMARKS
5	NFW	Nepeta	racemosa	'Walker's Low'	Walker's Low Catmint	#1 cont.		24" o.c., full specimen, healthy, vigorous, well-rooted and established
13	PAH	Pennisetum	alopecuroides	'Hameln'	Hameln Pennisetum	#2 cont.		18" o.c., full specimen, healthy, vigorous, well-rooted and established
7	PSB	Phlox	stolonifera	'Blue Ridge'	Creeping Phlox	quart.		15" o.c., full specimen, healthy, vigorous, well-rooted and established

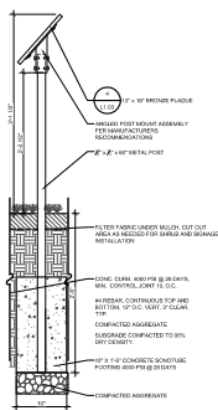
SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL at HOWREY FIELD PARK
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

REVISIONS

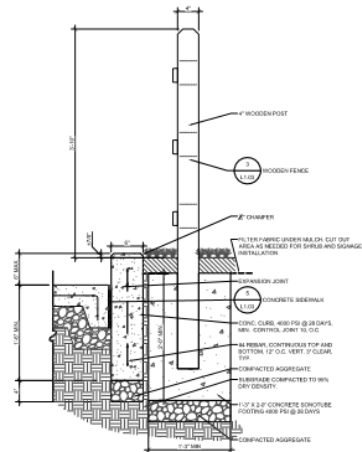
LANDSCAPE PLAN



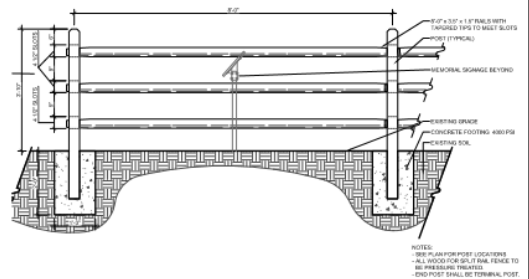
L1.02
LANDSCAPE SET



1 MEMORIAL SIGNAGE SECTION
Scale: 3/4"=1'-0"



2 FENCE AND CURB SECTION
Scale: 3/4"=1'-0"



3 FENCE ELEVATION
Scale: 3/8"=1'-0"

SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL at HOWREY FIELD PARK
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

REVISIONS

CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS



L1.03
LANDSCAPE SET

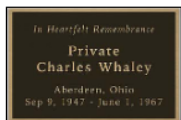
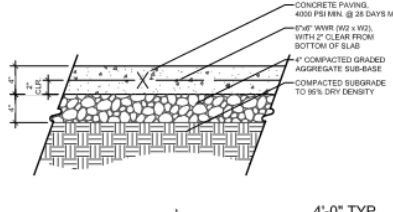


IMAGE A: EXISTING PLAQUE



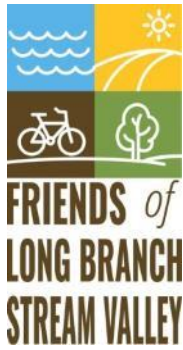
5 CONCRETE SIDEWALK SECTION
Scale: 1"=1'-0"



MODEL: RAW MODERN LIGHTWEIGHT OUTDOOR CONCRETE BENCH (OR APPROVED EQUAL)
SIZE: 5'-6" WIDTH
QUANTITY: 2
MANUFACTURER: TEAK WAREHOUSE SALES@TEAKWAREHOUSE.COM 800.343.7707
NOTES: INSTALL PER MANUFACTURERS SPECIFICATIONS.

6 CONCRETE BENCH PRODUCT INFO
Scale: N.T.S.

4 PROPOSED PLAQUES IMAGERY
Scale: N.T.S.



August 25, 2021

Fairfax Department of Public Works and Environmental Services
c/o Mr. Charles Smith, Project Manager
 12000 Government Center Parkway Suite 448
 Fairfax, VA 22035:

Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley (FLBSV) appreciate all of the efforts that have been made to ensure a thoughtful and transparent process was developed to evaluate alternative spoil locations and pipeline corridors associated with the Lake Accotink Dredging Project. Additionally, we would like to thank staff for the opportunity to provide comment on the analysis and offer the following comments below for consideration of the project.

1. Comment: Desktop analysis for determining potential wetland and utility impacts when considering alternatives is not adequate. Using GIS applications to identify sensitive areas will not be as accurate as field reconnaissance. Many linear transportation and utility entities (private and public) have gone away from desktop GIS analysis in alternative analysis due to the inaccuracies of GIS analysis versus when field surveys are performed to identify existing resources. Not including field studies in your alternative analysis will inevitably increase the cost of the project as the contractor's cost will be inflated higher than estimated due to increased risk of having to mitigate impacts to unknown resources. Preliminary field studies to field map potential resources is more appropriate to more accurately assess the presence of potential natural and utilities and will ultimately reduce the cost of design and construction of the project.

Question: If additional field studies is not feasible at this point for the alternative analysis, would the County consider performing these supplemental studies as an addendum to the RFP package prior to advertising the project for interested design/build teams to reduce risk to the teams which should translate to a more economical competitive bidding and ultimately less money spent by the County?

2. Comment: Not weighting or assessing the magnitude of impacts such as natural resource, utility and noise will present an inadequate comparison of the prioritization of the alternatives. Noise levels from construction or frequent passing of construction vehicles by a school versus a residential community during school/business hours has a different level of impact. A school in session will have

more people present and present more of a distraction versus a residential community which during standard construction hours will have a diminished presence of homeowners to be impacted by construction noise. Alternatives that will transect through a wetland or forest have a higher impact over clipping the edge of a wetland or forest. Alternatives that will parallel a stream system such as Flag Run have a higher impact level over alternatives that will transect perpendicular through the stream channel. Amount of potentially impacted utilities, type of utilities impacted, cost of mitigation utility impact would affect prioritization of alternatives. Size of a waterline, sewer line or gas line to be impacted affects cost of mitigation or relocation and should be a consideration in the alternative analysis. An adequate alternative analysis should go further than presence/absence in an assessment and measure the preliminary or approximate level of impact to each category to provide potential bidding design/build teams sufficient information for competitive bidding and ultimately advancing a design.

Question: If weighting the level of impact for each category of each alternative is not feasible at this point in the alternative analysis, would the County consider as part of the next stage in the project to more appropriately evaluate and prioritize the alternative considerations in lieu of letting the design/build team conduct these assessments?

3. It's understood that the County doesn't have ROW authority, but consideration of parcel acquisition, easement dedication, land leasing at locations not zoned for residential or recreational use if adequate space is available would greatly reduce impacts to park, residential and other resources as well as reduce cost in materials if these parcels/locations are situated in more favorable alignments and areas. This approach still results in impacts to other resources. However, during an economic environment where landowners of commercial/industrial-zoned parcels are seeing a decrease in demand, utilizing a mechanism to purchase, lease, or dedicate easements on available parcels would be more advantageous to both the County and landowner rather than imposing impacts to natural resources and residential communities because of its construction easement convenience factor.

Question: Aside from the concrete plant, did the County consider other undeveloped commercial/industrial zoned parcels such as along Southern Drive (Parcel 0792 01 0019 and 0794 01 0003) downstream of the Lake or an alignment along the Southern Railroad line to the Washington Gas or Dominion facilities (Parcel 0791 01 0002 and 0791 01 0005) to reduce and minimize impacts to residential communities?

4. Comment: As is with most infrastructure projects, the less of a footprint the project has, the less impact it causes, which translates to a more cost effective and efficient project. Second to minimizing the footprint of a project, prioritization of alternatives should to the greatest extent practical avoid bisecting intact natural resources with higher ecological value such as mature forest, forested wetlands, floodplains. Instead, alternatives need to demonstrate that limits of disturbance maximize within practical reason the existence within predisturbed corridors (such as existing trails, utility easements, transportation easements) or are immediately adjacent to aforementioned areas prior to disturbing higher valued resources such as mature forest, wetland and floodplain areas.

The innovation and valued engineering that is proclaimed to be a “benefit” of the design/build project delivery method has proven to more costly to projects and not as beneficial to the environment or community members. The primary objective of private design consultants and construction contractors is not modeled around selecting an alternative that will be the most cost effective for the County or will be the least impactful to the human and natural environment. The primary goal will be to maximize profit in the least amount of time and materials. This project delivery method also tends to put a higher risk on the consultant, which translates to a higher cost to the County. If this project delivery method approach is preferred, the County needs to heavily scrutinize the methodology, data and analysis presented in the alternative and preferred alternative by any selected design/build team to ensure the County’s best interests are protected. Prescriptive elements build into the contract for a project may appear counterintuitive in a design/build project delivery approach that valued engineering opportunity to a design/build team. However, it establishes boundaries and protections to ensure the valued engineering is focused towards benefitting the County’s and community’s interest as well as the environment. Since private industry focuses on profit, fiscal incentives for least impactful alternatives may be a way to incentivize a design/build team to prioritize low impact design.

Question: Would the County consider including prescriptive items such as thresholds for wetland and forest impacts for the selected alternative to ensure protecting the County’s human and natural environment is at the forefront of the design/construction considerations. Or Would the County consider including fiscal incentives for a design and construction implementation that demonstrates a reduction in overall impacts compared to the selected alternatives provided by the County?

To summarize, the project team has done a fantastic job with their considerations with the scope of work performed to date, but there may be additional considerations and opportunities to the analysis that may better ensure a more favorable compromise for the project’s goals, the Community and the natural environmental.

Very Respectfully,



Bryan Campbell
Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley
President

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

ATTACHMENT 5

Comment	CommentDate	Source
I am interested in seeing that a couple of mud-banks are NOT destroyed during dredging, as these provide spring and fall feeding/resting areas for many shorebirds. I have mentioned this at earlier public meetings. I would like the opportunity to point out where these are, before planning gets too far along.	12/4/2020 2:11 PM	via Public Input
Save Lake Accotink! Filter the trash and input from homes and highways!	12/4/2020 7:48 PM	via Public Input
I'm happy to see thought about how to make this less burdensome and expensive each time the lake needs dredging. However, I am very concerned about the proposed drying site and the number of trees that would need to come down. This is not good for the environment or for future water issues with no trees to help absorb. I'm also concerned about a 'pipeline' that might impact the local critters who would not be able to get past the pipeline--perhaps it could be raised some for creatures like box turtles, salamanders, toads, etc.	12/7/2020 2:05 PM	via Public Input
I still think that dredging the lake is not a good idea nor a good use of taxpayer money, but thank you very much for smoothing and putting gravel down on that section of the Lake Accotink trail near the base of the Carrleigh Parkway intersecting trail. It is now a much safer section. Thank you for letting me comment.	12/10/2020 2:03 PM	via Public Input
Thank you. I thought the meeting went well.	12/11/2020 9:11 AM	via Public Input
Would it not be more efficient to simply drain the lake? You could then send in bulldozers and backhoes and contour the lake bed for a longer "lifecycle" and at the same time inspect and repair the dam. One could better prepare for the proposed trail bridge by actually seeing the lake bed.	2/27/2021 2:04 PM	via Public Input
Please consider a short term field test to determine whether safe bacillus bacteria generators can remove sludge. Especially if the sediment is organic sludge. If the current levels of pollutants are too high we can also create diatom blooms to convert pollutants and carbon dioxide to Oxygen. Our probiotic aquatic systems are new to this area and deserve at least a one season test. USDA and other government agencies will Fund this research so no reason to even spend local taxpayer money. NO CHEMICALS ARE EVER USED.		
Please contact me for more information. Best Regards, Matt Rainoff President 571-436-6327 matt@CleanStreamsRiversandLakes.org Clean Streams Rivers and Lakes - A new Virginia nonprofit corporation http://CleanStreamsRiversandLakes.org	3/12/2021 10:33 AM	via Public Input
Written comments submitted via US Mail by the Friends of Soldiers Memorial Fields at Howrey Park, Inc.	6/14/2021	Friends of Soldiers Memorial Fields at Howrey Park, Inc.

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Howrey Park is not the only potential "dewatering/spoilage" site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as "dewatering/spoilage" sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to 'make due' fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>		
Please do not choose Howery Park. It is an historic site and the place where my children play baseball.	6/30/2021 3:49 PM	via Public Input
Please do not use Howery field as the "Spoils Holding". This would be a huge blow to the community as we would lose multiple fields used by youth programs ANSL and Braddock Road Football.	6/30/2021 4:00 PM	via Public Input
The Annandale community is one of the most diverse in NoVA. Please don't take Little League away from these kids. Don't use Howery Park.	6/30/2021 4:02 PM	via Public Input
Howrey Park is not the only potential "dewatering/spoilage" site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.	6/30/2021 4:02 PM	via Public Input
I am opposed to using Howrey field as the location of the spoils site for the dredging of Lake Accotink. It seems there are many more viable options that don't require the re-location of local youth athletic fields and/or the disturbance of a historical site. Please consider other alternatives	6/30/2021 4:07 PM	via Public Input
We strongly oppose the use of Howery Park as a spoils dredging holding site. We frequently utilize the park as part of ANSL little league baseball and it would negatively impact our childrens' ability to play baseball locally.	6/30/2021 4:11 PM	via Public Input
The Howery spoils site is expected to effect 1500 players (many disadvantaged youth) over the course of five years and there are many other choices that will not impact youth sports. Please consider an alternate site.	6/30/2021 4:12 PM	via Public Input
Please don't use Howery Field as the Spoils Holding area. It's used by hundreds of area kids every year to play Little League. Please consider a site that won't displace a longstanding and much beloved children's sporting organization.	6/30/2021 4:14 PM	via Public Input
It makes no sense at all that Howrey Park is even being considered as a "spoils holding" site for the Lake Accotink dredging operation. As a neighboring resident I can assure you that Howery is a beloved and very frequently enjoyed park that is especially relied on by hundreds of children yearly for Little League games and practices. My son and countless other kids look forward to using that park for years to come, and it would be a real shame for it to be taken away for this hazardous work, especially when other sites are certainly more suited. And as Supervisor Walkinshaw is well aware, Howery Park is itself a memorial to the young U.S. servicemen who died accidentally there.	6/30/2021 4:15 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Howrey Park is the starting point for many young T ball players who advance over the years thru the ANSL program. My sons started there and I cannot imagine not having a launching pad for future kids. Too many kids are indoors glued to screens. Please keep this place for them to be kids outdoors. More comments below.</p> <p>Amy Rivera</p> <p>Howrey Park is not the only potential "dewatering/spoilage" site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as "dewatering/spoilage" sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p>	6/30/2021 4:16 PM	via Public Input
<p>Hello! While I love the idea of Saving Lake Accotink, I think it is a bit intrusive to the immediate community to eliminate Howrey Fields as a place for Spolis Holding.</p> <p>It is difficult enough for parents and other stakeholders to find a place for their kids to play. Howrey is a critical location for the sports group in the Springfield area.</p> <p>I do not know the whole story behind not using other areas in the community, but not Howrey Field, please.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>	6/30/2021 4:16 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>I object to using Howrey as a spoils site. My son played little league baseball there this spring/summer and it is a wonderful site for kids to play.</p> <p>I have additional objections, but the below sums it up nicely:</p> <p>Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	6/30/2021 4:18 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please consider another location than Howery Field, the final resting place of six soldiers serving the community. I would hate to see this sacred ground. Additionally, the space is used for youth sports. In the years following the pandemic, children need places to play organized sports and get re-acclimated to be with each other. Thank you for honoring this sacred ground connecting the past with the children of the present (needing space to play) and keeping it for our children in the future (next 3-6 years) by finding another location for the Lake Accotink Dredging Project and all that it involves.</p>	6/30/2021 4:18 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annapdale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>		
Please don't select Howery baseball field for the spoils holding location. It's historic and a great youth sports location. Thanks.	6/30/2021 4:18 PM	via Public Input
Please do not put dredged materials on Howery Field - it is so important to the community of Wakefield Forest and others to have the space for Little League. Our 6-year old son just began his baseball career and we look forward to many more years of gathering and practice at Howery Field during the next decade.	6/30/2021 4:19 PM	via Public Input
	6/30/2021 4:20 PM	via Public Input
As a mother of a baseball player who spent hours of time using the Howery Park field area, I urge to the county to reconsider their use of this field for the disposal of dredging from Lake Accotink. It would adversely affect the ANSLL Little League by limiting their field practice and play for a considerable amount of time. If there are other sites being considered, please consider them instead of Howery! Thanks!		
	6/30/2021 4:20 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p>	6/30/2021 4:21 PM	via Public Input
<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	6/30/2021 4:22 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Please don't choose Howrey Park for the Lake Accotink dredging Dewatering/Spoilage site. Over 1500 players over the course of five years would be impacted. Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Any of these other proposed sites would be a better choice:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Thank you! Cathy Thomas</p>	6/30/2021 4:24 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please do not use Howry Park as the spoils collection site of this project. Howry Park is a beloved site for children of Annandale and Springfield. It is a historical site where Vets gave their lives to providing our children a safe place to play and sense of community. It would be a horrible loss for our community.</p>	6/30/2021 4:27 PM	via Public Input
<p>I've lived here for 53 years in Fairfax county. The use of howery fields as a holding area may be the single worst idea i have heard of from this county. Why would you choose an area that will directly impact youth activities when the other choices wouldn't. Howery is a great location that has been the site of my sons growth as both a baseball player and as I person. He played his first t- ball game there and also upped his first game. Please use some common sense .</p>	6/30/2021 4:29 PM	via Public Input
<p>While I recognize the importance and financial implications of the dredging project, I also appreciate what these fields mean and could mean to our youth and ultimately our nation. Our greatest global contribution to society is pop culture, and sports/athleticism is a foundational element to that. We have witnessed an erosion in our status across the world and are seeing a degradation internally with our youth in terms of fitness, athletic interest, and abilities. As the saying goes there is nothing more permanent than a temporary solution. I am concerned over the lasting impacts on the generations to come with the albeit temporary closure and repurposing of these fields. I am concerned also of potential lasting impacts to our health as a result of the proposed sludge storage on these fields. I find it shocking that a site of historical non-partisan sacrifice could even be considered an option.</p>	6/30/2021 4:29 PM	via Public Input
<p>Don't place the spoils at Howery Park. Doing so would desecrate the historic site that lays as a memorial to six soldiers who died while trying to make the fields possible and, worse for those who vote to approve this site, the angry parents of approximately 1,500 children will mobilize against you for dumping waste on a central location that has been used for youth sports for decades. Pick a different spot.</p>	6/30/2021 4:30 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

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<p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annapdale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	6/30/2021 4:31 PM	via Public Input
<p>I appreciate the need to have a Spoils Holding site. But I sincerely hope you are not considering using Howery Field just north of Braddock Road. How about carving out an area just east of Glen Park Rd.</p> <p>Jim Cilke</p>	6/30/2021 4:40 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please do not dump the spoilage on howrey park. Doing so would prevent thousands of kids the opportunity for exercise and fun.</p> <p>Please choose one of the other sites that does not prevent this.</p>	6/30/2021 4:44 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please choose a site other than Howery.</p>	6/30/2021 4:45 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please do not use Howery Park as the place for the dredging spoils. This is an active and beloved park for youth sports, that should not be turned into a dump. Thank you.</p>	6/30/2021 4:48 PM	via Public Input
<p>I am writing this to express my very strong opposition to using Howery Park as a "spoils holding" area. For the love of God - four soldiers died in that park volunteering their time to see that young children have a safe place to play and learn with their families. Howery Park is sacred ground and to desecrate it would disrespect the sacrifice these men made.</p>	6/30/2021 4:48 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Hi. My name is Mark Hite, I played ANSLL baseball in the 70's and 80's and my son played ANSLL in the 2010s. I chose Fairfax County to raise my Family and 3 kids because of the schools and extracurricular available, a big part of which is County infrastructure.</p> <p>I coached and played at Howery Field aaS a boy and man.</p> <p>Surely there is a better place to store the spoils from Lake Accotink (thank u for saving that Great Community Resource) than Howery Park where countless kids stay out of trouble through Sport and 6 United States Military Men lost there lives constructing a Public Use Athletics field that has served and is on course to serve thousands of youth in a safe and productive environment outside of the school day.</p> <p>Please please please SAVE Howery Park.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Mark Hite Current President, Woodson Athletic Boosters</p>	6/30/2021 5:00 PM	via Public Input
<p>Dumping waste of any sort, particularly possibly toxic waste, on the memorial site of six members of the armed forces at Howery Park is, to say the least, offensive. Look forward to significant negative media coverage on this if this site is selected.</p>	6/30/2021 5:02 PM	via Public Input
<p>I encourage Fairfax County to not select Howrey Park as the site for dewatering/spoilage due the community losing the ability to use the Park for an extended period of time if it selected for this project. Among other things, the park is a hub for youth sports activities in the community and would negatively impact the sports teams / league that use the park. So I encourage the county to use one of the other four proposed sites that wouldn't impact youth sports.</p> <p>Dale Nellor Annandale, VA</p>	6/30/2021 5:16 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>that is farther away and will not affect our youth or poison our groundwater...</p> <p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	6/30/2021 5:17 PM	via Public Input
<p>This sounds like an important, and much-needed project. Please DO NOT use Howery Park as a dredging spoils site. Howery Park is home to the Annandale-North Springfield Little League, and using these 3 baseball fields as a spoils site will kill an entire generation of little leaguers in the area. The fields are used by kids from ages 5-10, and by at least 4 levels of little league. Without use of these fields, ANSLI will be required to cut their league in half, or worse, eliminating baseball for dozens if not hundreds of kids over multiple years. There are plenty of non-recreational sites to use for this material that doesn't include a year-round park used for baseball, football, hiking, among other things. Please choose wisely for our kids.</p>	6/30/2021 5:17 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please leave Howery Park alone. Not only is it a great place where my kids play baseball -but moreover, it is hallowed ground -where the 6 soldiers gave their lives when volunteering to build this field for our community. Please honor their memory and leave Howery Field to the intended purpose that those service members gave their lives to advance. Thank-you for you consideration, David Brown, Annandale, VA</p>	6/30/2021 5:19 PM	via Public Input
<p>Some of the sites are historic, some used for recreation purposes. We need more respect and more parks. Please look for other locations.</p>	6/30/2021 5:19 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p> <p>Selecting A Non-Historic Site Is More Suitable Than Choosing a Fairfax County Historic Site; Such As Howrey.</p>	6/30/2021 5:27 PM	via Public Input
<p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p>	6/30/2021 5:32 PM	via Public Input
<p>I understand the importance of this project, and I would like to request Howery Field remain playable for youth sports in this area. The ANSL community provides both the exploration of sport and the development of young athletes. Additionally it provides social connections that extend beyond the ball fields. The network of people my family made through this organization helped us feel a part of the community, despite not growing up here nor having family close by. The youngest children begin playing ball on Howery, and often look with pride while driving past it on Braddock Road.</p> <p>Please select a different location that will be less impactful to young families establishing roots here.</p>	6/30/2021 5:37 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
I oppose using Howery Park as the "Spoils Holding" site for material dredged from Lake Accotink. Howery Park is actively used in both the Fall and Spring for youth sports in the local area (ANSLL and BRYC). There are already a limited number of youth sports fields in the area. Additionally, Howery Park is a Fairfax County historic site memorializing soldiers who lost their lives while bettering the park. Please choose a location for the dredging spoils that is not being actively used for youth sports and is not a dedicated historic site.	6/30/2021 5:41 PM	via Public Input
I am opposed to storing the dredge at Howery Field. That would displace 1500 kids per year. While I support the dredging project, I oppose displacing thousands of children with their activities that keep them out of trouble.	6/30/2021 5:49 PM	via Public Input
Writing in opposition to the use of Howery Park as a possible Spoils Holding location. Must be some other location to use other than three ball fields and a county historic park honoring the deaths of three soldiers. I'm sure their families won't appreciate either. Thanks and good luck with the Lake Accotink dredging process.	6/30/2021 5:52 PM	via Public Input
Howry Park is an unacceptable place for spoils. As a historical site first and foremost it is unacceptable to basically 'condemn' it for years. As well as the significant effect it would have to one of our major, and long standing youth organizations.	6/30/2021 5:54 PM	via Public Input
I believe the most appropriate "spoils holding" site for the Lake Accotink dredging project is the Danbury Forest area or the Wakefield Power line area. Howery Fields is an inappropriate location as it already has longstanding developed recreation facilities and lies too close to Accotink Creek - much of the materials would find their way back into the creek and Lake.	6/30/2021 5:54 PM	via Public Input
Please remove Howery fields from consideration as a dewatering/spoilage site.	6/30/2021 6:23 PM	via Public Input
Please find a soils site so you do not disrupt Howery fields which are important to Fairfax families. Little league fields should not be considered for these types of projects.	6/30/2021 6:43 PM	via Public Input
When I saw that Howery Field was one of the locations under consideration for the spoils holding location, I was disappointed, but when I saw that there were other options that don't serve such a vital role to our community, I was horrified that Howery would be considered at all. Certainly any of the alternate options are more suitable for the spoils location than Howery, where memories are made and the community comes together to teach and celebrate our children. I can't say how much of a positive impact Howery Field has had on my child's life. This spring was his first year playing tee ball with Annandale North Springfield Little League, and after a year of staying home with two distracted and exhausted parents, he desperately needed time out in the fresh air with his peers, practicing a new skill and learning how to be a teammate. Little League and Howery Field provided that for him, and for many other children in our community. It's there he met the kids that he'll be going to school with and continuing on through youth sports with for years to come. Even his coach played little league at the very same field when he was a child. Howery holds a very special place in the heart of this community across several generations, and taking it out of service when there are other options would be a huge failure on the part of Fairfax County. The people it fails the most would be our children.	6/30/2021 6:53 PM	via Public Input
As a Fairfax County tax payer and supporter of ANSLL, I would like to register my opposition for using the historic Howrey Park as a Spoils Holding site for this project. Please, choose another non-youth sports and non-historic site for the Spoils Holding site.	6/30/2021 6:59 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

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<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as "dewatering/spoilage" sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to 'make due' fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	6/30/2021 7:23 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please do not use Howery Park as a "Spoils Holding" site for the contemplated Lake Accotink dredging operation. The Lake Accotink operation will of course add value to our community - but depriving Fairfax County youth of the ability to use Howery Park for Little League and football activities would be extremely detrimental - with respect to Little League, this is where pre-K and kindergartner boys and girls get their first exposure to T-Ball (it has the right sized field) and introduction to the love of the American passtime, which helps build confidence and fitness in our local youth. Further, as you know the site commemorates the six brave soldiers who while performing community service improving the facility tragically lost their lives - without being able to physically see the memorial on a repeated basis during their formative years, our county's youth will miss out on an important growth opportunity. Please take all of this into consideration and select an alternate site. Thank you.</p>	6/30/2021 7:29 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please don't use Howery field as an "Spoils Holding" location! The fields are so important to the development of little leaguers for ANSLL!</p>	6/30/2021 7:40 PM	via Public Input
<p>Find another place other than county athletic fields to dump the spoils from the Lake Accotink dredging project. The kids come first!</p>	7/1/2021	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
Overarching Objection: Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.		
Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports. Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as: (1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake. Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics. Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.		
Selecting A Non-Historic Site Is More Suitable Than Choosing a Fairfax County Historic Site; Such As Howrey. Why use a Fairfax historic site when non-historic sites are available, as listed in paragraph one above? Howrey Park became a publicly-known historic site the moment Fairfax County officially dedicated the three memorial athletic fields in the name of the six perished soldiers. The Ft. Belvoir soldiers’ tragic sacrifice – and inspiring idealism -- represents a valued and instructive part of Fairfax County’s robust heritage and history. Three soldiers were only 17 years old when they perished. Age information furnished by United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Washington, D.C.	6/30/2021 8:02 PM	via Public Input
Please don’t use Howrey Park as a spoils holding location. Our children adore playing baseball there. It would really negatively impact the community by changing the landscape of that area.	6/30/2021 8:05 PM	via Public Input
Anything to save Lake Accotink and the wildlife and aesthetics of the lake and surrounding areas/trails	6/30/2021 8:05 PM	via Public Input
Please don’t dump toxic waste onto a little league field that 5 and 6 year olds play t-ball on. There has to be a better option. Thank you.	6/30/2021 8:27 PM	via Public Input
Concerned about the locations of dewatering sites that will make playing fields unusable for several years. Hopefully the other sites that are on the list will be used instead of ones that would impact on the playing fields at Howrey Park and or Wakefield Park.	6/30/2021 8:30 PM	via Public Input
I am opposed to the dredging project Howrey Park as "Spoils Holding" site as it will impact well over 1500 players over the course of five years and there are many other choices that will not impact youth sports community. Please do not use the Howrey Park.	6/30/2021 8:31 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	<p>6/30/2021 8:37 PM</p>	<p>via Public Input</p>

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>a number of reasons as shown below. Please choose another location.</p> <p>Overarching Objection:</p> <p>Howery Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p>		
Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly,	6/30/2021 8:41 PM	via Public Input
Please do NOT use Howery park for the spoils - it is a very important part of youth sports in the area! Thanks.	6/30/2021 9:53 PM	via Public Input
I write to urge the consideration of a location other than Howery park. Howery is a great place for kids to play youth sports and as a relic of a tragic accident is also a historic location that helps to reminds kids and families about working for the good of others. I hope another location, other than Howery, will be chosen. Thank you.	6/30/2021 10:08 PM	via Public Input
Please do not use Howery Park for the Spoils Holding from dredging Lake Accotink. This is the only site under consideration that will impact youth sports and is a Fairfax County historical site. There are other more reasonable options that won't have the same devastating impact on Fairfax County families. After COVID closures, our kids need these outdoor sports! They need to be outside with friends enjoying sports! Please don't add to the hardship so many kids and families have already faced. Thank you for your consideration.	6/30/2021 10:13 PM	via Public Input
Do not use Howery Park as a spoils drop site for Lake Accotink dredging project.	6/30/2021 10:26 PM	via Public Input
I recently learned that the county is considering using Howrey field as a possible spoils storage place. Two of my children have played Little League Baseball there and it would be a big shame if those three fields become unusable for many years. I would much prefer that the county find another spot that would not be so disruptive to the community, and to dozens if not hundreds of	6/30/2021 10:45 PM	via Public Input
I would like to note my objection to the County using Howrey Fields for spoils storage. These fields support hundreds of young baseball players and it would be terrible to lose that, in an area where fields are not readily available. I would much prefer that the County find a different site that would not impact so many children.	6/30/2021 10:47 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. My children starting their baseball careers at Howey fields. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as "dewatering/spoilage" sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to 'make due' fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	6/30/2021 10:49 PM	via Public Input
<p>I am a resident of the Lake Accotink area and, though I understand the long-term preservation and research reasons behind the dredging project, I vehemently oppose the idea of using Howery Park to deposit the spoils of the project. This course of action will be highly disruptive to our community's youth baseball program just at a time when when it is important to have our children out on the ballfield learning teamwork and hustle.</p> <p>None of the other potential sites is dedicated to youth sports. While I'm guessing that it would cost more to transport materials the longer distances to these alternate sites, I can also guess that the County will lose more measured over years of community cohesion and societal productivity if we deny our kids the use of Howery for up to 5 years. It is estimated that this will affect about 1,500 young athletes. Annandale North Springfield Little League generates community involvement. Little League baseball teaches our kids so many of life's lessons. My three kids have learned baseball at Howery, joining thousands upon thousand of kids before them, who have enjoyed baseball and family and community at Howery Field. Please consider using an alternate site that is less impactful than the loss of Howery.</p>	6/30/2021 11:52 PM	via Public Input
Please do not use Howery's ANSLL baseball fields for this project.	7/1/2021 12:03 AM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>I live in Burke and strongly object to the potential use of Howery Park as a potential location for the "Spoils Holding" Location for the Lake Accotink Dredging Project. I feel that using this location as opposed to the other 4 potential locations (Wakefield Park Powerline easement, Wakefield Park Forested Area, Former Spoil Settling basin near Danbury Forest, middle of Lake Accotink) will have high impact for the community. I have been a little league baseball coach for ANSL (Annandale North Springfield Little League) and my son has played for the past 3 years. Using Howery field will greatly impact the athletic development and happiness of the children that utilize these fields. This 5 year process could impact up to 1,500 kids considering the registration rate for just ANSL. In addition to the impact on the kids, Howery Park is a publicly known historic site dedicated to the six soldiers who perished volunteering by putting up lighting poles for the field. In the past year there has been a strong push by the community to improve and further recognize the soldiers that gave their lives while volunteering. I hope Fairfax County does not undo the good of the past where soldiers volunteered to help install lights at Howery Park. Or the present where the community is improving the park and making the story known of who the park is dedicated to. I personally find it troublesome that Fairfax County would honor the volunteerism and subsequent death of these soldiers in this way. I hope that Fairfax County strongly recommends one of the other less impactful and historic sites for the dredging spoils.</p> <p>Thank you, Donald Vaughan</p>	7/1/2021 6:47 AM	via Public Input
<p>I came to appreciate Accotink so much During Covid and I'm so grateful for the people who want to continue to make Park improvements however it would be such a shame to displace all of those kids that so enjoyed being part of our Little League baseball locally, I support the work that is being done at Accotink for sure but could we please not put all of the clean up materials on the Braddock Road site where the baseball field is?</p>	7/1/2021 7:09 AM	via Public Input
<p>Do not dump the sediment spoils at Howrey Park</p>	7/1/2021 7:32 AM	via Public Input
<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as "dewatering/spoilage" sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to 'make due' fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p> <p>Selecting A Non-Historic Site Is More Suitable Than Choosing a Fairfax County Historic Site; Such As Howrey.</p> <p>Why use a Fairfax historic site when non-historic sites are available, as listed in paragraph one above?</p> <p>Howrey Park became a publicly-known historic site the moment Fairfax County officially dedicated the three memorial athletic fields in the name of the six perished soldiers.</p> <p>The Ft. Belvoir soldiers' tragic sacrifice -- and inspiring idealism -- represents a valued and instructive part of Fairfax County's robust heritage and history. Three soldiers were only 17 years old when they perished. Please see attachment. Age information furnished by United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Washington, D.C.</p>	7/1/2021 8:26 AM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	7/1/2021 8:47 AM	via Public Input
<p>NO to Howery Park as the dumping spoils site!! After a year of pandemic for kids they need outdoor areas more than ever. This is the only option out of several, that takes away from a kids park. The Lake Accotink Dredging Project has several others options, some that don't impact use and enjoyment, or property value to others. The other options are most certainly better suited. As owners opposite the park, we vehemently oppose!!</p>	7/1/2021 8:54 AM	via Public Input
<p>Please don't choose to use Howery Park as a spoilage site. My children play tball through ANSL, and as a family of military members, I'm sure there is a better site that doesn't commemorate the sacrifice of 6 soldiers to improve their community to use for this work. Do better.</p>	7/1/2021 9:08 AM	via Public Input
<p>Please carefully consider the significant harm that would be caused on the community through the use of the Howery Park baseball fields as a dredge spoil location for the Lake Accotink project. There are a limited number of available baseball fields for the many youth and adult leagues operating within the county, and the loss of the three youth baseball fields at Howery Park for the duration of the dredging operation would only exacerbate that issue. ANSLL is a fantastic, volunteer-run organization, offering a positive environment for young members of our community to have fun and learn important life lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, and community cooperation. The loss of the fields at Howery Park for several years would significantly harm the mission and value to the community provided by this great organization. I hope that you will find one of other potential dredge spoil locations a better alternative, when considering the significant harm that would be done to youth sports and the community at large through the use of Howery Park. Thank you.</p>	7/1/2021 9:50 AM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Overarching Objection:</p> <p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>1.Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p> <p>2.Selecting A Non-Historic Site Is More Suitable Than Choosing a Fairfax County Historic Site; Such As Howrey.</p> <p>Why use a Fairfax historic site when non-historic sites are available, as listed in paragraph one above?</p> <p>Howrey Park became a publicly-known historic site the moment Fairfax County officially dedicated the three memorial athletic fields in the name of the six perished soldiers.</p> <p>The Ft. Belvoir soldiers’ tragic sacrifice – and inspiring idealism -- represents a valued and instructive part of Fairfax County’s robust heritage and history.Three soldiers were only 17 years old when they perished.Please see attachment. Age information furnished by United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Washington, D.C.</p>	7/1/2021 11:08 AM	via Public Input
<p>I am opposed to selecting Howrey Park. By selecting howrey park, you will prevent Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	7/1/2021 1:24 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please do not use sports fields as a spoils holding location for the Lake Accotink project. This will make the fields unusable and will negatively impact so many children over the length of the Accotink project who are unable to use those sports fields. Please use locations with little to no impact to the community including: Wakefield Park powerline assessment, Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek, Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail, the Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Thank you for consideration</p>	7/1/2021 3:20 PM	via Public Input
I am opposed to using Howry as the holding place during the Lake Accotink dredging project.	7/1/2021 3:59 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as "dewatering/spoilage" sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annapdale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to 'make due' fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	7/1/2021 6:12 PM	via Public Input
I would like you to pick a site other than the one that local children use frequently and has historic significance related to the six servicemembers who died trying to do something good for the local community even though they were not originally from NoVA. Additionally, the intersection of Braddock Rd and Howrey Field is a very frequent site of car accidents. Getting onto Braddock from that location is a challenge due to the speed of oncoming traffic as well as the need to cross over multiple lanes of traffic if turning east.	7/1/2021 7:20 PM	via Public Input
I oppose this field being used for land dredging holding. Those service men that lost their lives there would not want dirt thrown on them like this.	7/1/2021 8:12 PM	via Public Input
Do NOT defile the memorial at Howrey Park for dewatering when there are alternatives! It really seems like you don't want us to be able to enjoy ANY of the amenities that we pay dearly for in property taxes. First you wanted to let lake accotink fill in and now that we convinced you to help us retain the lake you are making us pay by taking away another recreation area. Sorry we aren't the super rich outer suburbs but you can't keep treating us like shit. It makes zero sense to choose a well used recreation area over the other options that don't have a community use. What the fuck are you thinking?	7/1/2021 10:28 PM	via Public Input
Please do NOT consider Howery Park for "spoils" holding. This is a special field for lots of little leagues in the area, as well as the location where 6 soldiers lost their lives working on the field.	7/2/2021 9:15 AM	via Public Input
I am so pleased and excited for Lake Accotink to be restored and beautified. I would like to kindly submit my objection to using Howery Park as a site for collecting the dredgings. The other possible sites listed would have much less negative impact on the community. Howery Field is one of a limited number of playing fields available for organized baseball in the immediate area, and would be unusable for years and years to our Little Leagues. If I'm not mistaken, it's also a historic site named for soldiers who died there. What a tragedy it would be for it to become a dumping ground. Please, please take it off your list of potential dredging placement. Thank you for all the work being done to restore our lake!	7/2/2021 10:10 AM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>DO NOT USE Howrey Park for a dewatering/spoilage site</p> <p>Howrey Park is not the only potential “dewatering/spoilage” site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>1.Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible “Dewatering/Spoilage” Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <p>(1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as “dewatering/spoilage” sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to ‘make due’ fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	7/2/2021 3:30 PM	via Public Input
<p>As the mother of three ANSL Little Leaguers who use Howrey Park regularly, I am strongly against using Howrey Park as the dewatering/spoilage site for the Lake Accotink dredging project. I already know how hard ANSL officials work to schedule field time for all of the teams’ practices and games, and if the three fields at Howrey were unusable for the next FIVE years, their task would be nearly impossible. Also, doing this would be extremely disrespectful to the memory of the six soldiers who are honored at this historic site for losing their lives during their work to improve the fields. Please think about these soldiers and our children before making the decision to take these playing fields away.</p>	7/2/2021 11:03 PM	via Public Input
<p>Using Howery Park as the "Spoils" holding location will interfere with youth sports which are usually held there. Surely one of the other proposed "Spoils" sites would be less disruptive to organized athletics activities in this part of the county.</p>	7/3/2021 11:49 AM	via Public Input
<p>It is my understanding that one of the sites being considered for the "dewatering/spoilage" site for the dredge material from Lake Accotink is Howery Park. This is a wonderful community resource used by youth in the area for both Little League baseball and football. The fields are in regular use during the season. The parking area is also a vital connection from the Long Branch trail through the Canterbury Woods neighborhood to the larger Cross County Trail system. The value of these fields and trails was seen during the pandemic shut down when use was at an all-time high. We cannot allow the park to be closed to these youth sports and to our larger community. In addition to the recreational use, the park is a memorial to six perished soldiers. The Ft. Belvoir soldiers’ tragic sacrifice – and inspiring idealism -- represents a valued and instructive part of Fairfax County’s robust heritage and history. Three soldiers were only 17 years old when they perished. Again, there must be sites, and I understand that there are site being considered, which do not have these characteristics. Please do not use Howery Park as the spoilage site for the Lake Accotink dredging.</p>	7/4/2021 3:43 PM	via Public Input
<p>I am opposed to using Howery Park for this dredging project as my family is and will be involved in Fairfax County youth sports for at least the next 5 years, and this would interrupt one of our most popular game sites. There are a few other areas that can be used for this purpose that would not interfere with the area's youth sports, to include:</p> <p>Wakefield Park powerline assessment;</p> <p>(2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek;</p> <p>(3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail;</p> <p>(4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Amanda Chitlik</p>	7/4/2021 5:38 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
Howery Park is a much used site for little league baseball and it should not be used for the spoils of Lake Accotink Dredging project. Youth sports are an important part of the community and other sites that do not have such a negative impact on youth sports should be used. Do not dump dredge spoils at Howery Park, find somewhere else.	7/5/2021 9:57 AM	via Public Input
Please do not take Howrey Park away from the Little League baseball kids! Please store the dredged material on the south side of Braddock Road, traffic is already terrible on this road without the added trucks.	7/5/2021 11:08 AM	via Public Input
As a resident of Fairfax County whose children played in the ANSL little league, I am opposed to using their baseball field (Howery) as a Spoils Holding for this project. This field is extremely important to the little league as it is where most children start their baseball careers for ANSL. This site has a flagpole site with an historic story & landmark honoring men who were killed trying to install items at Howery. Please, please, please take Howery off this terrible list. The community needs Howery to stay Howery. The community needs this land to stay as a youth sports complex. Please find a different location that doesn't have the community's hearts & history invested in it like Howery. Thank you. The Highsmith Family, 8902 Queen Elizabeth Blvd. Annandale, VA 22003	7/5/2021 3:28 PM	via Public Input
I am opposed to use of Howrey Park as Spoils Holding location. I live 1.5 miles from park and our community accesses CCT trails through park on recently paved trail Which finally made it safer for families to avoid riding in shoulder along busy Braddock Road. Using it to dump waste from dredging will block access to trails, create an unsafe path to pass to Audrey Moore facilities and bring down property values of surrounding homes. Beth Byron	7/5/2021 4:53 PM	via Public Input
Dear Representative Cook, As we wrap up the 4th of July weekend, I always get out and about and observe the overwhelming popularity of our parks by our residents, parks are considered sacred when we approve the bond funding vote initiatives and our next elections. Baseball and Parks are as American as apple pie” and describes things that represent the best of American culture. A Park is Built for and by the community it serves; reflective of place, story and culture. A Park is Located within the neighborhood it serves—closeby. From my urban planning classes... it is political suicide to take a park away from the voters.... Parks are perceived by the public that convey permanence and can never be changed or reallocated, changing this perception is political suicide and our faith in government comes into serious question. Regarding the Lake Accotink Dredge Materials Report. I am just really surprised at the very limited solutions provided by paid government employees and the consultants paid by and with hard earned tax payer money.. There was no mention of the following: 1.Selling the dredge materials to a bidder for use as a fertilizer or rich top soil for possible use on a corporate development or farm use. 2.With all the construction on Interstate 66 and interstate 95, using the dredge materials on the highway median and approach ramps as top soil for grass and bushes. 3.With the unbuildable lots throughout Fairfax County, locating the dredge materials on those lots presents an opportunity for a Public Private Partnership. 4.Drop and pick up Points for dredge materials for use in both community garden plots and homeowner use... 5.Collecting fall leaves with grass clippings picked up by private and County trash haulers and mixed together with dredge materials to create rich mulch materials. I did not see any of these ideas noted in the reports....		via Public Input
Please do not select Howery Field as one of the spoils holding sites.	7/5/2021 11:01 PM	via Public Input
Howery park is used daily by hundreds of youth athletes and is named in honor of those lost in a tragedy. It would be an absolute travesty to choose this site over those that are far less used and not named in memory of American soldiers lost in a tragic accident.	7/6/2021 8:01 AM	via Public Input
Do not select Howery Park as a spoils holding site.	7/6/2021 2:19 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>My 7-year-old son plays baseball every season with ANSLL. He has weekly practices and games at Howery Park. My 4-year-old will play baseball starting in the next year. Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities. Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration, Joanna Edie, Annandale</p>	7/7/2021 11:00 AM	via Public Input
<p>No Mud at Howery Park! https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/baseball-fields-in-annandale-memorialize-six-men-killed-in-a-freak-accident-in-1967/2017/05/31/00b3de0c-4600-11e7-a196-a1bb629f64cb_story.html What a way to desecrate the site where 6 honorable US Army soldiers died in service to their community. Dump the mud somewhere else!</p>	7/7/2021 11:26 AM	via Public Input
<p>Hello, my name is Peter Sullivan and I'm a resident of Annandale, not far from Howrey Field Park. I recently learned from the Director of the Annandale North Springfield Little League (ANSLL) that the field was being considered as a spoils holding site for the Lake Accotink Dredging Project. If possible, I would respectfully ask that you consider a different location for this project. Both of my sons spent rich, fun-filled summers and falls playing baseball at Howrey Field. ANSLL makes great use of all of the fields at their disposal, but I know from coaching that finding practice and game locations for all of the teams is a delicate balancing act and that removing three options for the league by closing Howrey Field Park would make things difficult for the league. Please find another area for this project that is not so heavily used and enjoyed by the community. Thanks for your time.</p> <p>Sincerely, Peter Sullivan</p>	7/7/2021 2:46 PM	via Public Input
<p>has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Please see details below.</p> <p>Selecting Howrey Park Prevents Longstanding, Supervised Youth Sports Activities; Choosing One Of the Other Possible "Dewatering/Spoilage" Sites Would Not Interfere With Youth Sports.</p> <p>Public Works and Environmental Services lists non-sports sites as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Wakefield Park powerline assessment; (2) Wakefield Park forested area along Braddock Road between the park entrance and Accotink Creek; (3) Lake Accotink former spoils settling basin next to Danbury Forest along the old railroad grade trail; (4) The Lake Accotink island in the middle of the lake. <p>Surely the locations above are more feasible as "dewatering/spoilage" sites than Howrey Park/Soldiers Memorial Fields because the above four sites do not stop youth athletics.</p> <p>Annandale North Springfield Little League, founded 1956, and Braddock Road Youth Club, founded 1966, will suffer significantly, given the limited county athletic fields available. Plus, youth league officials constantly hauling athletic equipment to 'make due' fields for four years is costly and burdensome.</p>	7/8/2021 11:05 AM	via Public Input
Please reconsider using Howery Park. The kids desperately need this outlet to play the game they've grown to love on the field.	7/8/2021 11:46 AM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>As Fairfax County residents we're pleased to hear about the Lake Accotink project. However, we'd like to express concern about the possibility of using Howrey Park for the dredging spoils location. Given Howrey Park is not the only potential "dewatering/spoilage" site that Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services team has named that is both a longstanding, Fairfax County youth sports complex and longstanding tragic, historic site. None of the other four potential sites have either of these characteristics. Moreover, Howrey Park became a publicly-known historic site the moment Fairfax County officially dedicated the three memorial athletic fields in the name of the six perished soldiers.</p> <p>Please consider using another site other than Howrey for the dredging materials.</p> <p>Thank you on behalf of Fairfax County concerned residents.</p>	7/8/2021 4:13 PM	via Public Input
<p>Please take down as few trees as possible (or none!) during this project, especially when choosing a site for the dewatering. Perhaps the former settling basin in Lake Accotink Park near the Danbury Forest community would be best. The Dominion power line easement at Wakefield Park is not a good option as it has become a haven for wildlife. And definitely no forested areas that require tree cutting! Thank you for consideration of my comment.</p>	7/8/2021 5:16 PM	via Public Input
<p>I read in the Braddock Buzz that Howrey Field Park is under consideration by Fairfax County as the dewatering site for the spoils from the dredging of Lake Accotink. If the report is correct, I believe its selection would be a disaster.</p> <p>I was living in Kings Park when the 1967 tragedy took place. While not an eye witness to the electrocutions, I saw the bodies of the soldiers on the ground from my seat on a metro bus and was shaken to my core by the vision and the unfolding story over the ensuing weeks. It was a very dark time for all residents of what is now the Braddock District.</p> <p>The soldiers sacrificed their lives so that local boys and girls could play Little League Baseball. The thought that the fields would not be available to regional youth for up to five years – if all goes well – is an insult to the memory of those service members. Relatives and friends of those killed would be appalled at the callous behavior of the County in disregarding the tragedy.</p> <p>We are all aware that the lake needs to be dredged. We are also aware that the sediment that has taken decades to accumulate includes the residue of pesticides, herbicides, and many other carcinogenic chemicals. Should these chemicals accidentally leak into any of the ball fields, the bike and walking trail, or the parking area, the use of the facilities might be unavailable for their intended use for many more years than planned. The related cleanup would have to be monitored by the EPA.</p> <p>I think of myself as an environmentalist and would regret the loss of trees in Wakefield Park to this project, but common sense dictates that a location far from human habitation and use would be less likely to cause serious health problems such as childhood cancer.</p> <p>I live in Townes of Wakefield which directly abuts Howery Field Park, and one third of our house lots are in direct contact with the park. Glen Park, another townhouse community, would also be adversely impacted by siting the project in Howery. I fear both subdivisions and other nearby neighborhoods on both sides of Braddock Road could be subject to lowering of property values should the project emit foul smells, which I believe would be likely.</p> <p>I have lived near Howery for two decades and have regularly used the facility to walk the trail and to watch my grandchildren play ball. The park drains very poorly; the south side is virtually a flood plain; it and the west end of the park could qualify as wetlands. Please do not use Howery Park as a dumping ground. The children's sports are more important. There are other places to put the waste.</p> <p>There is no way I would support spoils to be processed on or near Howery Park. Our youngest will be playing t-ball on those fields come 2024. I cannot believe this requires discussion and input. The obvious answer is elsewhere.</p>	7/9/2021	via Email
	7/8/2021 10:39 PM	via Public Input
	7/9/2021 9:49 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
I heard that the county is considering placing the spoils at Howery Field. I think this is a very big mistake. I served in the military at Ft. Belvoir. I did not realize that Howery Field had a memorial to Ft. Belvoir Soldiers. I found the memorial to be significant and a source of pride for the community, making sure my son and daughters understood the sacrifices of these Soldiers. I think it would be a mistake to tarnish this Memorial Site for other families to enjoy. I used this park with my family for recreation several times a year, losing it would definitely impact my family. Please do not use this site. I assume there are other suitable sites that would not impact family recreation area and local Memorial to service members. Thanks for listening to my comments.	7/9/2021 10:20 PM	via Public Input
I am a student at Lake Braddock HS and played Little League for ANSL. Several of the seasons were played at Howery Field. I do not want that field used for dredging spoils. That would ruin the opportunity for others to enjoy playing baseball there. I'd like to have the young kids have the same experience I did.	7/9/2021 10:24 PM	via Public Input
Please do not dump dredged soil on park lands, athletic fields, or other land that is regularly used by the public. I understand there are non-invasive options available for this. One of these would be preferable.	7/11/2021 1:59 PM	via Public Input
Do NOT defile the memorial at Howrey Park for dewatering when there are alternatives! It really seems like you don't want us to be able to enjoy ANY of the amenities that we pay dearly for in property taxes. First you wanted to let lake accotink fill in and now that we convinced you to help us retain the lake you are making us pay by taking away another recreation area. Sorry we aren't the super rich outer suburbs but you can't keep treating us like this. It makes zero sense to choose a well used recreation area over the other options that don't have a community use. What are you thinking?	7/12/2021 2:19 PM	via Public Input
Please do not use Howery Park for the Spoils Holding. This will impact so many families whose children play baseball. There are other places that will not impact the youth sports community. Please consider using another location so as to not displace the little league that plays on these fields. Thank you for your consideration.	7/13/2021 10:24 PM	via Public Input
Hi Friends -- Please do not choose Howery Park as a location for dewatering the dredged material from Lake Accotink. There are hundreds of families whose children play baseball at Howery Park each spring and fall. The fields are tightly scheduled during the baseball season and it would be disastrous to have attempt to shoehorn those practices and games onto fields used by other leagues elsewhere.		
Also, the land for the park was donated to the County by Mr. Howery for the express purpose of youth sports fields. While it may not be illegal for the County to use the land for a different purpose, it certainly breaks faith with the spirit of the gift.	7/15/2021 9:35 AM	via Public Input
Howery Park is an integral part of the Fairfax County community. My children played baseball on those fields with the Annandale North Springfield league, and they would often ride down to play catch with friends over the years even after aging out of little league. Please find a different place to put Lake Accotink's mud so children in the community can continue to make friends and build leadership skills on the Howery Park fields.	7/15/2021 4:02 PM	via Public Input
I grew up just up the street from Howery Park and am dismayed and disappointed to learn that the county is considering the ball fields as a dumping ground for Lake Accotink. I have many memories not just of playing baseball on the four fields there with my teammates as a kid, but also walking down with my dad, and siblings for pickup games. Further, I love seeing how the fields are now used for little league football in addition to baseball, meaning even more community members can enjoy these fields. Having recently learned the history of the fields and the name Howery I am surprised the county would sully the sacrifice of the soldiers by dumping mud onto the fields. Please reconsider.	7/15/2021 4:07 PM	via Public Input
To consider the Little league baseball fields at Howrey Park as a potential de-mudding site for the dredging of Lake Accotink is a violation of the hallowed ground where 6 FT. Belvoir soldiers lost their lives in 1967. Here is the information on that tragedy. On June 1, 1967 — 50 years ago Thursday — the six men died at the park in a freak accident. They were part of a 14-man detail from the 77th Engineer Port Construction Company stationed at Fort Belvoir that had spent the week readying the park for baseball season, including installing light poles for night games. The view of Pfc. Marvin Harrison and Pvt. Charles Oliver Memorial Field at Howrey Park. (John Kelly/TWP) The final touch was to be a homemade 45-foot steel flagpole, the tip of which was a copper toilet float welded into place. As the men raised the pole, it fell onto overhead electric wires, sending 7,200 volts down the shaft.	7/20/2021 11:10 AM	via Public Input
Fairfax County government should either base decisions on the best available scientific information as to what is in the best interest of the entire Accotink Creek watershed or allow a general referendum to decide the future of the Accotink.	7/20/2021 2:24 PM	via Public Input
I would like to know the reason the website not show the meeting scheduled for July 29.		
I would like to have a few minutes to speak to the audience.	7/20/2021 2:29 PM	via Public Input
Please do not perform the mud processing.	7/20/2021 8:03 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>I reviewed the report. No doubt dredging is going to be a major headache. Perhaps the BOS might reconsider their decision and choose a path for the Accotink Stream valley that will provide the best environmental outcome rather than continue the current path that benefits a few well connected residents. If not then perhaps the BOS might choose the alternative with the least adverse environmental impact to the remaining wildlife habitat. I am curious as to the reason the dredging alternatives did not look at the vacant lot on Southern Drive MRN # 0792 01 0019 as a potential dewatering site. The property appears to be of sufficient size. The site is bordered by Southern Drive, Cox Communications, and the AMTRAK ROW and a railroad spur. It appears to be a poor building site because it straddles a large tunnel or culvert which channels a creek to another vacant site bordering the park. Given the right incentives the owner might be interested in selling rather than keep paying property taxes on a property that has little potential for development.</p>	7/23/2021	via Email
<p>I strongly oppose the use of Howery Fields for any use indirectly, or directly linked to the dredging project with Lake Accotink.</p> <p>I am a resident of Canterbury Woods. My 3 sons, Luke, Emmett, and Henry, all play baseball with ANSLL (Annandale North Springfield Little League). They all use Howery fields for baseball, but it's more than that. They interact with their friends, learn leadership principles, get exercise, and build cohesion with their friends and community.</p> <p>All of that notwithstanding, I am a current member of the U.S. Army, AND a combat Veteran of the Iraq War and a tour in Bosnia, post-9-11. I am most troubled that the County would even consider using this site due to it's significance in the community.</p> <p>As you're very aware, six Soldiers stationed at Fort Belvoir, VA were tragically killed there in June of 1967 while performing community service to the baseball fields. If there was ever another personal tie-in. My father was actually stationed at Fort Belvoir a year prior to this tragic accident. While unlikely, it's possible my father may have worked with, or known these brave Soldiers. Like my father, it's very likely they were headed to Vietnam shortly after they lost their lives here helping the community.</p> <p>Please give your strongest opposition to this plan to use Howery for ANY use linked to this project that would desecrate the location and prohibit thousands of young boys and girls from all over the area from enjoying the use of the field for baseball, and travelling through there due to the multi-use trail that links to the Cross-County trail too.</p>	7/26/2021	via Email
<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I strongly oppose the use of Howery Fields for any use indirectly, or directly linked to the dredging project with Lake Accotink. I am a resident of Canterbury Woods. My 3 sons, Luke, Emmett, and Henry, all play baseball with ANSLL (Annandale North Springfield Little League). They all use Howery fields for baseball, but it's more than that. They interact with their friends, learn leadership principles, get exercise, and build cohesion with their friends and community.</p> <p>All of that notwithstanding, I am a current member of the U.S. Army, AND a combat Veteran of the Iraq War and a tour in Bosnia, post-9-11. I am most troubled that the County would even consider using this site due to it's significance in the community.</p> <p>As you're very aware, six Soldiers stationed at Fort Belvoir, VA were tragically killed there in June of 1967 while performing community service to the baseball fields. If there was ever another personal tie-in. My father was actually stationed at Fort Belvoir a year prior to this tragic accident. While unlikely, it's possible my father may have worked with, or known these brave Soldiers. Like my father, it's very likely they were headed to Vietnam shortly after they lost their lives here helping the community.</p> <p>Please give your strongest opposition to this plan to use Howery for ANY use linked to this project that would desecrate the location and prohibit thousands of young boys and girls from all over the area from enjoying the use of the field for baseball, and travelling through there due to the multi-use trail that links to the Cross-County trail too.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Kevin A. Kropf 412-760-9421</p>	7/26/2021 10:19 AM	via Public Input
<p>I oppose using Howrey Park for anything other than sports. My sons and many other sons and daughters have played sports there for many years.</p>	7/27/2021	via Email

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>I am writing to express my concerns regarding the potential impact to Howrey Park from the proposed Lake Accotink Dredging Project and to seek your support in ensuring that Howrey Park remains unaffected by the project.</p> <p>I very much support community efforts currently underway to make the park a memorial site to the six soldiers who lost their lives in June 1967 while serving the youth of Fairfax County. These young soldiers, all 20 years of age or younger, were tragically electrocuted when the flagpole they were erecting on the Little League baseball field fell onto a high tension wire. They lost their lives while serving our county. It would be disrespectful to make the park a dumping site for sludge or a staging area for heavy equipment in light of the Park's sacred history.</p> <p>So, needless to say, I was pleased to hear that the County removed Howrey Park as one of the candidate sites for storing sediment deposits that will be removed from Lake Accotink. I hope this is an indication of the County's recognition and acknowledgement of the unique and historic nature of Howrey Park.</p>	7/27/2021	via Email
<p>I am writing to strongly request that Howery Park Little League fields NOT be used as a spoils site for the Lake Accotink Dredging Project. The consideration to use a children's park/little league field alone is absurd but the fact that this site is also a memorial where U.S. Soldiers were killed during the construction, is an absolute atrocity. The Analysis report published 7/22 states the facts: "Howrey Field includes three youth baseball/softball fields and one soccer/football field within the main portion of the site and wooded areas to the north and southwest of the fields. Howrey Field also includes a county-maintained trail and a memorial to community members who were killed in an accident during the construction of the fields."</p> <p>This site should most certainly not even been in consideration and to lose Howery for a number of years would have a much greater impact on our community than any of the other alternative sites selected.</p>	7/27/2021 9:57 AM	via Public Input
Please provide close captioning for this meeting.	7/28/2021 5:42 PM	via Public Input
<p>Friends of Accotink Creek - If this information had been available earlier in public discussions, we would have taken a different course. The costs of these options are high and so are the negative environmental, recreational, and community impacts. The existing island with rotation of truck traffic is not a good option, but maybe the least bad. Yes, there is the nuisance impact of park users and vagrants, but they are also the most direct beneficiaries of the lake. We suggest that we begin planning now for a longer term future. That of incorporating the dredge spoils to construct the berm that will enable us to reconnect Accotink Creek and have a smaller, deeper, cleaner, purer Lake Accotink. Further, we citizens of Fairfax County must focus on eliminating the sediment at its source, which is excessive stormwater runoff from our own roads, roofs, and parking areas.</p>	7/29/2021	Public Meeting
<p>I endorse the statement of the Friends of Accotink Creek. I was one of the 10% who was not in favor due to the financial implications. In my opinion, we should be returning the creek to its original state. The sediment problem, in my view, could be dealt with through good watershed management and water land management.</p>	7/29/2021	Public Meeting
<p>Hi. My name is Wade. I had a little campsite, a secret garden, really close to the trail. You may have seen me saying "Hi. Please be well." I love all of the people who use the trail – the parents of autistic children, the husband with wives, the toddlers running in front of their parents pushing a stroller. I was there 2008. I saw them expanding the island. I am shocked. I love all of you and I love the park, and I ask you to stand and not allow them to expand the island. Thank you. My name is Wade. Peace.</p>	7/29/2021	Public Meeting
<p>Everybody here, we all have one thing on common – we love Lake Accotink. We walk around it. Sometimes we fish in it. We kayak in it. It's a bigger thing than any politics. John Cook, over there, supported it. James Walkinshaw supported it. I love both of you guys. I love the neighborhood. I love the lake.</p>	7/29/2021	Public Meeting
Thank you to Supervisor Walkinshaw and Supervisor Cook for your efforts in preserving this lake. I am 100% behind this effort.	7/29/2021	Public Meeting
<p>Mid-Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts (MORE) - Comment: We support off road trails and natural surface trails around the county and around the region. I appreciate the coordination with the community so that we know what's going on and are standing by to help in rerouting for ground work.</p> <p>I wanted to mention that, with the north right of way dewatering concept, there are road drains off 495 that you're going to run into or they're going to run into you. That's going to be a very difficult area to work in. Plus, you've mentioned several times the difficulty of getting up and down that hill, I wanted to make sure that you try and drive the truck up and down that hill before you commit it. Thank you. We look forward to continuing working with you to make sure things at the CCT stay open for commuters and that the trails stay open for recreation.</p>	7/29/2021	Public Meeting - MORE
<p>I first want to just thank everybody for being here – from the county, from the park, from Arcadis, particularly our supervisors past and present. We appreciate you carrying the torch for us.</p>	7/29/2021	Public Meeting

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
Save Lake Accotink - A lot of my concerns have been heard and answered. I just want to say thank you to everyone here. Everyone who has attended meetings, the Board of Supervisors, the Park Authority. The response to the calls from the community to save the lake has been inspiring, very gratifying. Just want to thank everybody who's been a part of this and who will be a part of this. People who have commented online, the comments to come – please keep them coming. Our wishes have been heard, to a large degree. I hope to see where this goes from here. Thank you.	7/29/2021	Public Meeting - Save Lake Accotink
Are there any long-term plans, like 5 or 10 year projections? It seems to me that we have an every 20-year project that seems to be costing millions of dollars, which doesn't seem sustainable. Are we considering doing something different? In 20 years, are we going to sitting in this auditorium asking the same questions? Is anybody considering more sustainable options, given that climate change is real, and we should be trying to restore our natural landscapes rather than continuing to keep up manmade issues.	7/29/2021	Public Meeting
I would like a copy of the site assessment used to disqualify the parcel MRN # 0792 01 0019. The site assessment should include both a Comparative Environmental Analysis and Engineering Assessment.		
I would also like for the DPWES to require contractors like ARCADIS to provide hyperlinks for source materials referenced in their report.		
Please explain the apparent omission of the Accotink Creek Environmental Baseline Study completed in 1975.		
I would like this report added to the bibliography to provide historical context for understanding the reasons for the current condition of the watershed.		
Please reply to email at depless009@gmail.com	8/4/2021 7:54 PM	via Public Input
Please don't use Howrey Park for mud processing.		
As an FCPS teacher, I am aware that our county places an emphasis on equity, and I have to say that using Howrey Park for this project would NOT be consistent with equity.		
1. The town home communities bordering Howrey Park are affordable for people like me: FCPS teachers and single parents. By putting this industrial zone in, literally, our back yards, Fairfax County would be forcing us to tolerate more than our fair share of the burden of rejuvenating Lake Accotink.		
2. Our homes are far too close to the park. This project would be literally in the back yard of New Chapel HOA, as well as some single family homes. My back yard on Overlook Park is 75 yards from the park entrance. The report didn't talk about the relative distance of homes to the proposed sites but it's an important consideration.		
3. Truck traffic is not the only impact on homes. I would have not only truck traffic, but an unobstructed view of the mud processing, 24-7. The report talked about 95 trucks per day for certain county residents, but at the end of the day, those residents don't have an industrial site in their back yard. But what about me? I would have 95 trucks per day PLUS life next to an industrial site 24-7, a site that may NEVER regain its current beauty and usage.		
4. The park has a memorial which honors 5 soldiers who died there. Community members worked hard to improve and publicize the memorial, preserving a significant part of community history.		
Please don't use Howrey Park for mud processing!		
Wendy McMillan	8/5/2021 7:13 PM	via Public Input

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
Using the island in Lake Accotink as a dewatering site avoids laying a pipeline and taking away land from parks. Barges and trucks would carry the dried silt away. Although this would present inconveniences, it seems the least bad option. What do you think of using the island in this way?	8/5/2021 7:16 PM	Public Meeting
Can you clarify the nature and footprint of gravity dewatering?	8/5/2021 7:51 PM	Public Meeting - Friends of Accotink Creek
I appreciate the efforts of the County and Arcadis teams to develop plans for dredging Lake Accotink. It's a complex project as folks have noted. Question: Why isn't residential impact (noise or truck traffic) listed as a "key challenge" for the Dominion ROW dewatering alternative? What specific analysis has been done to assess impact of noise in Wakefield Park and in the neighborhoods on the east side of Wakefield Chapel Rd.?		
Context: If you live in the neighborhoods on the east side of Wakefield Chapel Rd. you know that noise carries through Wakefield Park. The Beltway is loud and you can hear it more often than one might expect. The dredging project calls for 95 truckloads (round trip) per day, starting at 7 am on weekdays and 9 am on weekends for 2+ years of dredging activity.	8/5/2021 7:52 PM	Public Meeting
Any option that requires the least amount of tree clearing has my vote. Sounds like "keeping it in the park" is the way to go...trail closures and such are part of the deal.	8/5/2021 7:53 PM	Public Meeting
Would the Flag Run portion of a pipeline route: •Be underground? •Be possible without extensive tree loss? •Be coordinated with the planned stream restoration or have impacts on the stream restoration?	8/5/2021 7:54 PM	Public Meeting - Friends of Accotink Creek
Could there be an option for a slower dredge to reduce trucks per day?	8/5/2021 7:57 PM	Public Meeting - Friends of Accotink Creek
Is this project fully funded?	8/5/2021 7:57 PM	Public Meeting
Fish/eel passage solutions need to become a part of the future life of the dam.	8/5/2021 7:58 PM	Public Meeting - Friends of Accotink Creek
Talk more about the relationship between the lake and the Bay. Which option manages the Bay-damaging stormwater best?	8/5/2021 8:00 PM	Public Meeting
One comment - Despite the Beltway expansion, Wakefield Park is hanging on as a wonderful oasis for County residents and wildlife. The County should think carefully about selecting an alternative that further degrades Wakefield Park to save Lake Accotink ... perhaps temporarily. All Wakefield Park options involve clearing trees and vegetation, disturbing wetlands/RMAs, constructing facilities, shutting down or altering trails, and tolerating an increase of truck traffic and noise over a multiyear period. The Dominion ROW option also takes the project out of the County's control, as Dominion can alter/change requirements. I hope the County focuses on dewatering and pipeline alternatives within the Lake Accotink Park footprint, which, while presenting challenges, will not result in the degradation of Wakefield Park.	8/5/2021 8:01 PM	Public Meeting
Sediment keeps entering rivers from private properties - our yards, Has the county a plan/education outreach for homeowners to keep storm water on their properties?	8/5/2021 8:01 PM	Public Meeting
What actions are being proposed to reduce the amount of sediment coming into the lake in the future?	8/5/2021 8:01 PM	Public Meeting
Deterioration of the Upper Settling Basin is currently returning the 1980's dredge sediment directly to the lake. Its failure has catastrophic potential. It must be repaired as a part of this project.	8/5/2021 8:01 PM	Public Meeting - Friends of Accotink Creek
Will the project go out for bid when ready? How many dredging companies are out there, ballpark?	8/5/2021 8:03 PM	Public Meeting
Thank you for the great presentation. For the CCT and West options, how long would the trails be closed to Recreational and transportation users? What would the final trail look like (paved, etc)?	8/5/2021 8:05 PM	Public Meeting
What is the best medium to provide our "vote" for which methods we prefer based on the information provided?	8/5/2021 8:06 PM	Public Meeting
Comment - The Current Island dewatering site option presents the least negative environmental impact with least sacrifice of trees and habitat. It does present a nuisance factor for neighbors that would need to be managed.	8/5/2021 8:09 PM	Public Meeting - Friends of Accotink Creek
Agree with Philip that the island will have the least environmental impact, and that should be most important factor.	8/5/2021 8:12 PM	Public Meeting
Could we have more than one dewatering site? This would mitigate the use trucks disturbing residential areas?	8/5/2021 8:12 PM	Public Meeting
Thanks to Supervisor Walkinshaw, County staff and Arcadis! Great presentation and well researched data.	8/5/2021 8:13 PM	Public Meeting
Excellent presentation. Thank you to all involved!	8/5/2021 8:15 PM	Public Meeting

Lake Accotink Dredging Alternatives Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Source
<p>Hi Fairfax County DPWES As a County resident a water resources engineer and a homeowner in the Lake Accotink watershed I have been following the Lake Accotink Project and now its dredging with much interest. I attended the virtual meeting on August 5th and was impressed by the presentation the data and recommendations. Keeping in mind the County s request for public comment I would like to provide the following comments on the options presented: - My personal preference of the options presented is Option WMF1 - Wakefield Park Maintenance Facility via Cross County trail. My rationale for this option are as follows: - Leverage existing facility with road access that does not pass through residential neighborhoods. - Apparent continued use of the Wakefield Park Maintenance Facility. - Use of the Cross County Trail to convey the sediment without passing through the residential neighborhoods. Potentially the pipe may be buried to reduce impact on trail use and protect the pipe from the elements. - There will be impact to the park use but the park will benefit from the dredging so I think it is fair to run the pipe on the trail. - But I agree with the Staff Recommendations presented by Charles Smith s on slide 45 of the presentation. I think the County and their consultants should have the freedom to use one some or all of the options presented on this specific slide. All the best with the path forward on this project. Please let me know if I may be of any assistance. Regards Vikram Shrivastava</p>	8/11/2021 4:39 PM	via Public Input
<p>\$9,000,000 in 2010 and now \$30,000,000</p> <p>Spend.a.holics !</p> <p>We attended the virtual meeting on August 5. Thank you for clear and informative presentations.</p>	8/15/2021 6:18 PM	via Public Input
<p>Of the several options, keeping the dewatering and pipeline within Lake Accotink Park make the most sense. We are especially opposed to the Wakefield Park and Dominion ROW options.</p> <p>The Wakefield Park/Dominion ROW sites all sit within one of the busiest and loveliest parks in Fairfax County. The ball fields, Audrey Moore Recreation Center, skate park, fitness center, tennis courts, pool, and other facilities are heavily used. The Park hosts special events, and Audrey Moore is home to classes, swim meets, a craft show, and a thriving senior center. Parking is often difficult. According to the Report on the Accotink dredging project, hiking trails around with park will be disrupted and several much-needed ball fields will go out of use during the project.</p> <p>Wakefield Park is also a treasured wildlife habitat, filled with fox, deer, skunk, snakes, and other creatures. It is described by the Virginia Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) as “one of the best migration spots in the state” for birds and butterflies. The area around the park has been the location of rare and uncommon bird sightings and land below the Dominion Power line power cut is described by DWR as “excellent for butterflies.” In this time of climate change, it seems very shortsighted to damage such a thriving ecosystem.</p> <p>There are additional issues are traffic and noise. All the Wakefield Park/Dominion ROW sites are located just off of Braddock Road, near the Beltway, and close to NOVA’s Annandale campus. According to the Report on the proposed project, seventy-five to ninety-five trucks would go in and out of the park throughout the day. This would severely affect not only commuters, but residents of the area going about their daily tasks. The residents of this area have already suffered through the noise and traffic congestion associated with the widening of the Beltway and the construction of bridges on Little River Turnpike and Braddock Road.</p> <p>Despite the Beltway expansion, Wakefield Park is hanging on as a wonderful oasis for County residents and wildlife. The County should avoid selecting an alternative that further degrades Wakefield Park to save Lake Accotink, perhaps only temporarily.</p> <p>We hope the County chooses the dewatering and pipeline alternatives within the Lake Accotink Park footprint, which, while</p>	8/18/2021 2:30 PM	via Public Input

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<p>along different routes is not a good option, but may be the least bad. Yes, the nuisance impact would fall on park users and neighbors, but they are also the most direct beneficiaries of dredging to maintain the full lake.</p> <p>When the decision was made to preserve the full size of Lake Accotink, a 1.5 mile pipeline in the woods and a further 5-acre loss of wooded habitat for a dewatering site were not part of the bargain citizens understood. The Current Island site avoids this sacrifice.</p> <p>With the dam remaining in place, fish/eel passage solutions to restore natural migration patterns need to become a part of the future life of the dam, Lake Accotink, and Accotink Creek.</p> <p>Repair of the Upper Settling Basin, installed as part of the 1980's dredge, should be integrated into the project regardless of the dewatering site chosen. Deterioration of the Basin is currently returning that 1980's sediment directly to the lake. Its complete failure (not unlikely given the current condition) has catastrophic potential to return immense amounts of sediment to the lake, devastate the historic railroad bed, and even flood nearby homes.</p> <p>We urge that planning begin now for a longer term future - when conditions of reduced erosion may permit, a smaller, deeper, cleaner, and even cuter Lake Accotink, which would provide all the recreational and most of the aesthetic value of the full lake, at a far lower ongoing financial burden. This new dam could be designed to be, not merely utilitarian, but an aesthetic gem, enhancing visitors' experience of the park, possibly something inspired by elements of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Carrol Creek Park in Frederick, Maryland, •Creek Walk in San Luis Obispo, California, •Historic Fourth Ward Park in Atlanta, Georgia, and •Eisenhower Avenue Park in Alexandria, Virginia. <p>Further, we citizens of Fairfax County must focus on eliminating the sediment at its source, which is excessive stormwater runoff from our roads, roofs, and parking areas.</p> <p>Again, the Friends of Accotink Creek endorse the Current Island dewatering site option as likely to present the least negative environmental impact. We do urge that the island dewatering facility be designed with an eye to maintaining the aesthetic qualities</p>	8/20/2021	Friends of Accotink Creek
<p>Good afternoon. I've reviewed the Arcadis report and listened to the August 5 community forum re: the Lake Accotink Dredging project. While I appreciate the project is complex and all options have a drawback (or more than one), I'm very concerned about the negative and long-term impact of the Wakefield Park options -- Dominion Right of Way and Wakefield Park Maintenance Facility -- on the park and surrounding neighborhoods. The options call for 95 truck round trips through the park over a multi-year period, clearing of trees, construction of support infrastructure, possible reliance on Dominion, dewatering in flood plains and other environmentally sensitive areas, and closure or re-routing of trails. The resulting noise, pollution, traffic, and altering of the landscape will degrade Wakefield Park as a resource for the community and wildlife, likely for the long-term (5+ years), which I'm not convinced the Arcadis study fully appreciates. The addition of a pipeline will serve only to magnify these harms. I recognize the Lake Accotink centric options discussed in the Arcadis report have drawback(s), but I urge the County to not harm Wakefield Park as part of the effort to improve Lake Accotink Park. The Lake Accotink options are viable and will not result in short, mid, and quite possibly long-term harm to Wakefield Park and quality of life in the adjacent neighborhoods. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>	8/20/2021	via Public Input
<p>We, Friends of Lake Accotink Park-FLAP (official MOU FCPA Friends Group). Does not agree with this option, rendered by the below community group. [Reference is to comments submitted by FACC to use Lake Accotink island to process spoils and eventually modify dam and have a smaller lake.]</p>	8/20/2021	Friends of Lake Accotink Park

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Desktop analysis for determining potential wetland and utility impacts when considering alternatives is not adequate. Using GIS applications to identify sensitive areas will not be as accurate as field reconnaissance. Many linear transportation and utility entities (private and public) have gone away from desktop GIS analysis in alternative analysis due to the inaccuracies is GIS analysis versus when field surveys are performed to identify existing resources. Not including field studies in your alternative analysis will inevitably increase the cost of the project as the contractor's cost will be inflated higher than estimated due to increased risk of having to mitigate impacts to unknown resources. Preliminary field studies to field map potential resources is more appropriate to more accurately assess the presence of potential natural and utilities and will ultimately reduce the cost of design and construction of the project. If additional field studies is not feasible at this point for the alternative analysis, would the County consider performing these supplemental studies as an addendum to the RFP package prior to advertising the project for interested design/build teams to reduce risk to the teams which should translate to a more economical competitive bidding and ultimately less money spent by the County?	8/25/2021	Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley
Not weighting or assessing the magnitude of impacts such as natural resource, utility and noise will present an inadequate comparison of the prioritization of the alternatives. Noise levels from construction or frequent passing of construction vehicles by a school versus a residential community during school/business hours has a different level of impact. A school in session will have more people present and present more of a distraction versus a residential community which during standard construction hours will have a diminished presence of homeowners to be impacted by construction noise. Alternatives that will transect through a wetland or forest have a higher impact over clipping the edge of a wetland or forest. Alternatives that will parallel a stream system such as Flag Run have a higher impact level over alternatives that will transect perpendicular through the stream channel. Amount of potentially impacted utilities, type of utilities impacted, cost of mitigation utility impact would affect prioritization of alternatives. Size of a waterline, sewer line or gas line to be impacted affects cost of mitigation or relocation and should be a consideration in the alternative analysis. An adequate alternative analysis should go further than presence/absence in an assessment and measure the preliminary or approximate level of impact to each category to provided potential bidding design/build teams sufficient information for competitive bidding and ultimately advancing a design. If weighting the level of impact for each category of each alternative is not feasible at this point in the alternative analysis, would the County consider as part of the next stage in the project to more appropriately evaluate and prioritize the alternative considerations in lieu of letting the design/build team conduct these assessments?	8/25/2021	Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley
It's understood that the County doesn't have ROW authority, but consideration of parcel acquisition, easement dedication, land leasing at locations not zoned for residential or recreational use if adequate space is available would greatly reduce impacts to park, residential and other resources as well as reduce cost in materials if these parcels/locations are situated in more favorable alignments and areas. This approach still results in impacts to other resources. However, during an economic environment where landowners of commercial/industrial-zoned parcels are seeing a decrease in demand, utilizing a mechanism to purchase, lease, or dedicate easements on available parcels would be more advantageous to both the County and landowner rather than imposing impacts to natural resources and residential communities because of its construction easement convenience factor. Aside from the concrete plant, did the County consider other undeveloped commercial/industrial zoned parcels such as along Southern Drive (Parcel 0792 01 0019 and 0794 01 0003) downstream of the Lake or an alignment along the Southern Railroad line to the Washington Gas or Dominion facilities (Parcel 0791 01 0002 and 0791 01 0005) to reduce and minimize impacts to residential communities?	8/25/2021	Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley

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<p>As is with most infrastructure projects, the less of a footprint the project has, the less impact it causes, which translates to a more cost effective and efficient project. Second to minimizing the footprint of a project, prioritization of alternatives should the greatest extent practical avoid bisecting intact natural resources with higher ecological value such as mature forest, forested wetlands, floodplains. Instead, alternatives need to demonstrate that limits of disturbance maximize within practical reason the existence within predisturbed corridors (such as existing trails, utility easements, transportation easements) or are immediately adjacent to aforementioned areas prior to disturbing higher valued resources such as mature forest, wetland and floodplain areas. The innovation and valued engineering that is proclaimed to be a "benefit" of the design/build project delivery method has proven to more costly to projects and not as beneficial to the environment or community members. The primary objective of private design consultants and construction contractors is not modeled around selecting an alternative that will be the most cost effective for the County or will be the least impactful to the human and natural environment. The primary goal will be to maximize profit in the least amount of time and materials. This project delivery method also tends to put a higher risk on the consultant, which translates to a higher cost to the County. If this project delivery method approach is preferred, the County needs to heavily scrutinize the methodology, data and analysis presented in the alternative and preferred alternative by any selected design/build team to ensure the County's best interests are protected. Prescriptive elements build into the contract for a project may appear counterintuitive in a design/build project delivery approach that valued engineering opportunity to a design/build team. However, it establishes boundaries and protections to ensure the valued engineering is focused towards benefitting the County's and community's interest as well as the environment. Since private industry focuses on profit, fiscal incentives for least impactful alternatives may be a way to incentivize a design/build team to prioritize low impact design. Would the County consider including prescriptive items such as thresholds for wetland and forest impacts for the selected alternative to ensure protecting the County's human and natural environment is at the forefront of the design/construction considerations. Or Would the County consider including fiscal incentives for a design and construction implementation that demonstrates a reduction in overall impacts compared to the selected alternatives provided by the County?</p>	8/25/2021	Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley
<p>To summarize, the project team has done a fantastic job with their considerations with the scope of work performed to date, but there may be additional considerations and opportunities to the analysis that may better ensure a more favorable compromise for the project's goals, the Community and the natural environmental.</p>	8/25/2021	Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley