



Response to Remarks before City Council Meeting

May 14, 2020

We felt we needed to correct some information that was presented at the May 13th City Council working session on the Northfax West development proposal.

We were appalled at Mr. Rosenberger’s remarks during the meeting stating flatly that there are “No observed fish” in the North Fork of Accotink Creek in the proposed Northfax West project area. This is utterly incorrect. Even the most casual observation standing on Orchard Street and peering into the water will discover schools of fish swimming back and forth.

Mr. Rosenberger also extolled Van Dyck Park as having natural life present, specifically mentioning bird life, thus implying that this was not so in the project area. However, just a few brief visits to the site have produced this list of bird species seen or heard, with more yet to be discovered:

Barred Owl, Wilsons Warbler, Downy Woodpecker, Red bellied Woodpecker, Flicker, Towhee, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Blue Jay, Robin, Song Sparrow, Cardinal, English Sparrow, Crow
These birds would like to make their presence known, and offer you this [video serenade](#) .

We hope these statements on behalf of the developer were not a knowing attempt to mislead the Council.

“Resource Protection Area” designations for streams should not mean protection only until it becomes inconvenient. It should mean for so long as the waters flow.

The developer’s proposal to bury a portion of Accotink Creek while applying fixes to another portion is akin to offering amputation of one finger in exchange for an nice manicure on the others.

The Friends of Accotink Creek [webpage on Northfax West](#) may be of use to you.

We would be pleased to visit the site with you at any time.

Friends of Accotink Creek

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