



Comments of the Friends of Accotink Creek Regarding the Northfax West Project

June 17, 2020

The age of the Northfax West project concept is said to go back 17 years – yet the age of Accotink Creek and the generations of life within it can be measured in eons.

There is no way to make up for losing the living headwaters of Accotink Creek. The North Fork of Accotink Creek possesses an inherent value of its own, regardless of ownership or access.

The “pave it and pipe it” solutions of the past should be left in the past as the City moves to the vision of the future in its small area plans. How much more appealing is the option to incorporate the North Fork of Accotink Creek as the living heart of a lively environmentally focused area that will be a shining green gem facing and interacting with the creek, creating interesting spaces that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

[Carroll Creek Park](#) in Frederick Maryland or [Creek Walk](#) in San Luis Obispo, California, offer alternate visions of incorporating streams into public places. A beneficial continuum from forest to amenities can happen here, creating an attractive destination without the loss of irreplaceable natural heritage.

You may find it useful to review our video presentations of the existing conditions , as well as alternative futures. [BIRDS](#) [FISH](#) [FUTURES](#)

We ask that the City should:

- Postpone the decision to rezone Northfax West
- Work with an ecologist to better understand the ecology of the creek and forest, and
- Seek alternatives to better accomplish both the City’s land use and environmental goals.

The [comments submitted in May](#) by the Friends of Accotink Creek are also attached for your reference.

"All these things are ours as long as we cherish them and guard them against destruction." - Mark Trail

Friends of Accotink Creek

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