



Regarding the Braddock Road Multimodal Improvement Project

July 26, 2023, public meeting -

Comments of the Friends of Accotink Creek

Danbury Forest Drive Intersection:

- Thank you for preserving woods and wetlands by maintaining the R-turn at the Danbury Forest Drive intersection.

Retaining Walls:

- Thank you for employing retaining walls to limit wooded habitat loss.
- The retaining walls should be designed for civic aesthetics, rather than being blank concrete expanses.
- The preferred way for the walls to achieve an aesthetic effect is to be managed as “cliff habitat”, i.e. employing plantable blocks and planted with natives, including climbing native vines.

[\[https://www.rcpblock.com/walls-plantable.html\]](https://www.rcpblock.com/walls-plantable.html)



Crosswalks:

- All intersections should have crosswalks in all four quadrants, especially at Burke Lake Road, where the nearby Kings Park Drive crossing is to be taken away.

Stormwater ponds:

- As a group we are not able to effectively evaluate the pros and cons of the proposed stormwater ponds vs. the more linear stormwater control features previously considered. However, in the interest of maximum habitat preservation, we ask:

- That the impact on wooded habitat fragmentation be considered as well as the simple calculation of acres required.
- That any ponds be vegetated and wooded with native plant and tree species.

Our previous comments of [December 21, 2022](#) , are still applicable

Friends of Accotink Creek Comments in [Annandale Today](#):

According to the Federal Highway Administration, "*in North Carolina, there was a 17-percent decrease in total crashes*" and "*up to a 30-percent increase in throughput*" may be achieved. (<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/research/safety/09059/>) The R-cut is unfamiliar, but once we give it a chance, we drivers on Braddock Road may grow to appreciate it.

As the Friends of Accotink Creek, our outlook is toward preservation of the watershed, its woods, and its wetlands. A realignment of Danbury Forest Drive with Wakefield Chapel Drive would sacrifice all of these as it crossed the wooded wetlands of the Long Branch tributary of Accotink Creek. There is little expectation that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would approve this sacrifice when alternatives exist.

Both Accotink Creek and the Long Branch tributary are designated impaired waters which Fairfax County is obliged to spend many millions of dollars to rectify. A standard intersection realignment here would create a setback in that work, obliging even more spending in mitigation.

More about Long Branch - <https://www.accotink.org/2020/LongBranchCentralProject2020.htm>

Friends of Accotink Creek

><(((°>`·,·,·~·,·,·><(((°> "*Find just one other person who cares.*" ><(((°>`·,·,·~·,·,·><(((°>·,·,·~·,·,· ><(((°>