

Flood Resilient Arlington News

August 2021

In response to escalating inland flooding and flood risk, the County has been working on several fronts to improve flood resilience. Here are some updates:

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT



- **Risk Assessment and Management Plan (RAMP)** is on schedule to be completed in Feb 2022. Progress includes updated climate projections, mapped critical assets and facilities, and modeling of current and future flood patterns (with factors for climate change). It now moves into vulnerability and risk assessments.
- **Land Disturbing Activity/Stormwater Permit (LDA) 2.0** – The County will expand options for greater on-site detention of stormwater in single-family property development, and provide optional engineering templates for use by developers. Takes effect September 13, 2021.
- **FEMA Floodplain Map Update and Risk Rating 2.0** - The County's Floodplain Administrator continues intensive work with FEMA, to ensure the floodplain maps are updated in an equitable and technically-accurate manner. FEMA is also updating the risk rating methodology that affects flood insurance rates so they will better reflect a property's flood risk. Takes effect October, 2021.

CAPITAL PROJECTS



- New strategy to co-locate stormwater anchor projects under fields and parks
 - First stormwater detention vault on public land will begin construction in Fall 2021 at Cardinal Elementary School.
- Approval to acquire properties. Property acquisition provides much-needed overland relief and offers a cost-effective resource in a blended-engineering approach to system upgrades. First property acquired in June 2021.
- System capacity improvements are underway in 5 critical watersheds.
- Four Mile Run flood channel dredging to preserve the flood channel's capacity and reduce flood risk in neighborhoods surrounding Lower Long Branch and South Four Mile Run.
- Dumbarton St. Culvert replacement project is in engineering design.

FUNDING



- First ever stormwater bond approved by voters in November 2020
- Increased grant funding available from the State
- Increased stormwater investment in FY22-FY24 CIP