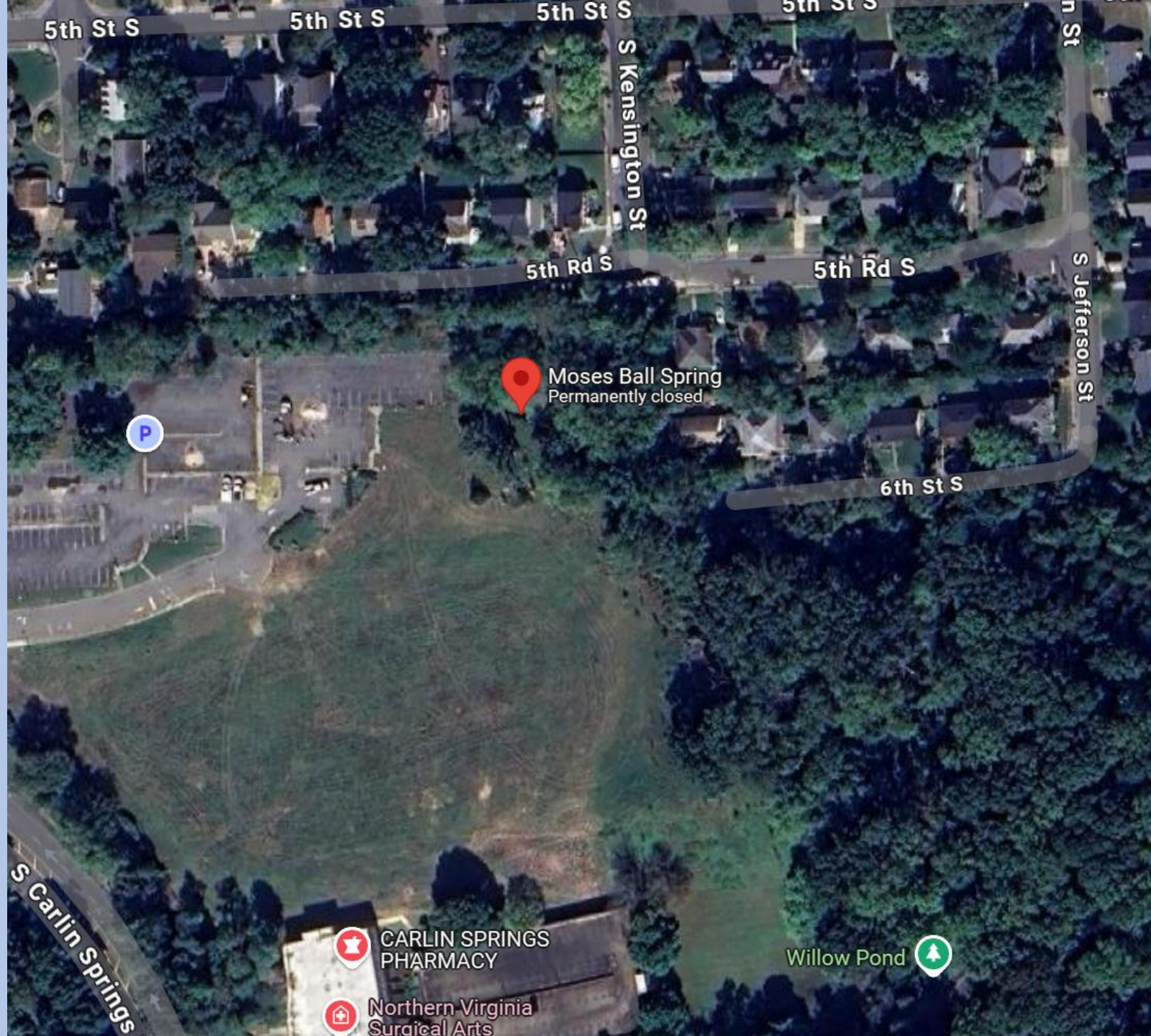
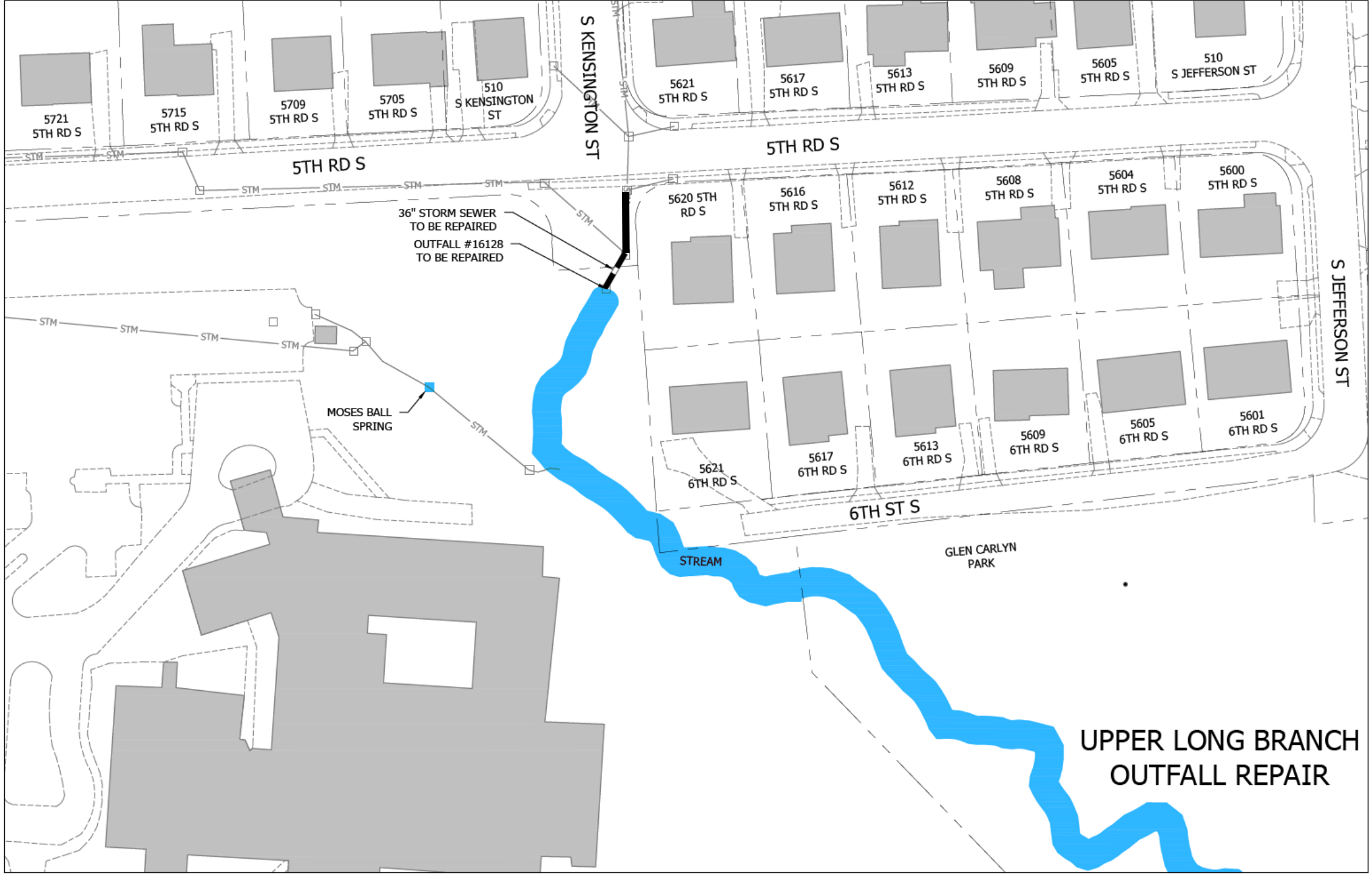
Long Branch Outfall Repair

Fall 2025

Outfall at S Kensington & 5th Rd S

Arlington County Department of Environmental Services




5721 5TH RD S
5715 5TH RD S
5709 5TH RD S
5705 5TH RD S
510 S KENSINGTON ST
S KENSINGTON ST
5621 5TH RD S
5617 5TH RD S
5613 5TH RD S
5609 5TH RD S
5605 5TH RD S
510 S JEFFERSON ST
5TH RD S
5TH RD S
STM
36" STORM SEWER TO BE REPAIRED
OUTFALL #16128 TO BE REPAIRED
5620 5TH RD S
5616 5TH RD S
5612 5TH RD S
5608 5TH RD S
5604 5TH RD S
5600 5TH RD S
S JEFFERSON ST
MOSES BALL SPRING
5621 6TH RD S
5617 6TH RD S
5613 6TH RD S
5609 6TH RD S
5605 6TH RD S
5601 6TH RD S
6TH ST S
STREAM
GLEN CARLYN PARK
UPPER LONG BRANCH OUTFALL REPAIR

Outfall Repair Project Goals

- Create a stable outfall
- Maintain the storm sewer infrastructure
- Repair downstream erosion
- Remove invasive plants and add native plants
- Minimize impacts to the stream corridor

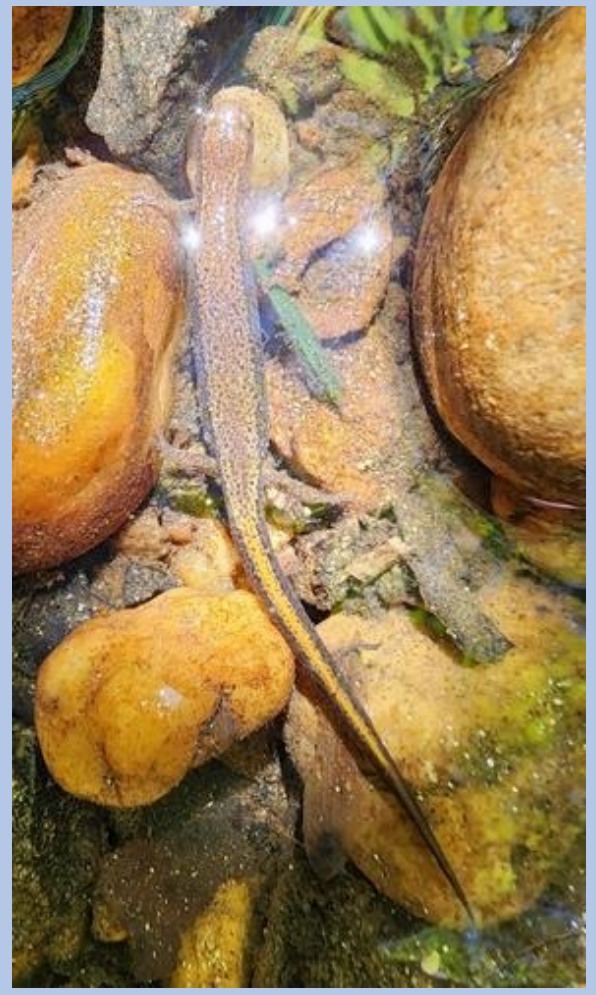
Before

(Windy Run)

After

Incorporating Community Input

- Limit tree impacts. Prioritizing high-value, good condition trees in the scope and design.
- Keep a natural look and feel in the stream work.
- Protect habitat value of water resources for salamanders and other wildlife.
- Redesign and recreate connection from Moses Ball spring to the stream.
- Remove non-native invasive plants; add native plantings.
- Coordinate with DPR Natural Resources; native wildlife rescues
- (Photo of two-lined salamander, credit Steve Young)



Key Project Approaches

- Identify existing problems, project priorities, and shared goals
- Walk the site: Identify valuable ecological resources before beginning design to help guide the scope and approach.
- Narrow scope to limit impacts to high habitat value trees (oaks, etc.) that are stable and in good condition.
- Concentrate disturbance in areas with pervasive invasive plants.
- Work with existing grade in the stream to limit earthwork and root disturbance.
- Detailed tree inventory of condition, species, and location to inform the design process.

Long Branch Outfall Repair

Origin: Outfall Repairs, Stormwater Plan

Funding: Capital Improvement Program – Stormwater Fund

Staff Contact: Lily Whitesell & Anne Guillette
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County Board Approves Funding for Outfall Repairs in Capital Improvement Plan
July 2024

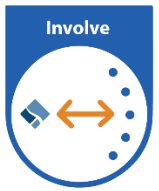
Pre-Design Stream Walk with Community Leaders
November 2023

Concept Design Meetings
Spring 2025

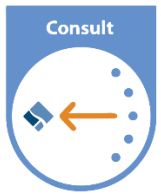
Draft Final Design Meeting
Fall 2025

Projected Start of Construction
Winter/Spring 2026

Expected Project Completion
Fall 2026



INFORMATION SHARING/ GATHERING



INFORMATION GATHERING

INFORMATION SHARING

ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

Online Feedback (e.g, questionnaire, feedback form, etc.)

In-Person Engagement and Pop-Ups (e.g, community meeting, roundtable, tabling, walking/bus tour, deliberative dialogue, etc.)

Virtual Meeting (e.g., TEAMS, TEAMS live, Zoom, etc.)

County Board Engagement (e.g, public hearing, Board work session, open door Monday, commission meeting etc.)

Key Milestone


TREE REPLACEMENT LOCATION TBD
STORMWATER STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT
RELOCATED FENCE (SUBJECT TO COMMUNITY INPUT)
STORMWATER PIPE REPLACEMENT
ENDWALL
STREAM CHANNEL
UPPER LONG BRANCH
STEP POOL
ROCK CASCADE
PROPOSED PLANTINGS
ACCESS PATH
EX. FENCE TO BE REMOVED
LIMITS OF WORK
TREE PROTECTION AREA
LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE
5TH ROAD SOUTH
STREAM BED MIX
ROCK SILL
NEW STREAM CHANNEL
EX. WETLAND
MOSES BALL SPRING TO BE PROTECTED
LEGEND
EX. CONTOUR
PROP. 1' CONTOUR
PROPERTY BOUNDARY
EX. EASEMENT
LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE
LIMITS OF WORK
ACCESS PATH
FENCE RELOCATION
NORTH
SCALE: 1"=10'


TREE REPLACEMENT LOCATION TBD
STORMWATER STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT
RELOCATED FENCE (SUBJECT TO COMMUNITY INPUT)
ACCESS PATH
EX. FENCE TO BE REMOVED
LIMITS OF WORK
TREE PROTECTION AREA
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5TH ROAD SOUTH
LEGEND
EX. CONTOUR
PROP. 1' CONTOUR
PROPERTY BOUNDARY
EX. EASEMENT
LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE
LIMITS OF WORK
ACCESS PATH
FENCE RELOCATION
TREE TO REMAIN
TREE TO BE REMOVED
DEAD/INVASIVE TREE TO REMAIN
DEAD/INVASIVE TREE TO BE REMOVED
NORTH
SCALE: 1"=10'

Planting Plan, Maintenance

- Native trees and shrubs include Red maple, River birch, Pawpaw, Am. holly, Flowering dogwood, Sassafras, Ironwood/Am. hornbeam, Witchhazel, Am. hazelnut, Smooth hydrangea, Spicebush, Viburnum spp.
- Native plants include various ferns, Jack in the pulpit, etc.
- Maintenance includes 2 years of watering (as needed) and replacement
  - 2-3 years of deer protection
  - 3 years of invasive control

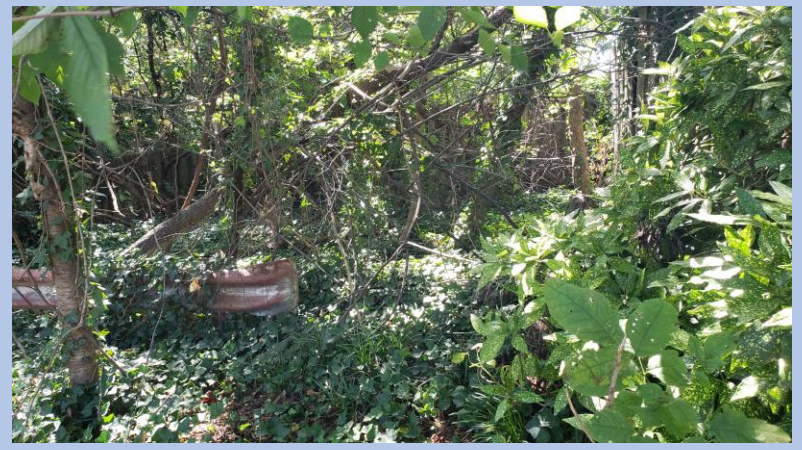
Construction Access Considerations

Construction access is planned to enter via 5th Rd S

- Storm drain infrastructure already needs replacement to the sidewalk.
- High levels of invasive plants at 5th Rd S
- Access via 5th Rd S better protects the Moses Ball Spring
- Additional large trees would likely be impacted if access were through the Moses Ball Spring area
- This option also avoids potential conflicts at the Carlin Springs site

Construction Access Safety Considerations

- The guardrail and sections of the fence near 5th Rd S & S Kensington will be removed temporarily to access stormwater pipes.
- During construction, perimeter fencing and traffic control will ensure safe conditions.
- Project will rebuild fence to restore existing conditions.
  - Currently considering modifications to exclude steep slope and yard inlet from 5th Rd S side



Anticipated Timeline

- Spring 2025: Draft Concept Design, Community Review
- November 2025
- Native Wildlife Rescue in Fall 2025
- Construction Start in Winter-Spring 2026; Duration 6 months

Visit the project page: https://bit.ly/LB-outfall

Thank you for your engagement on this project!

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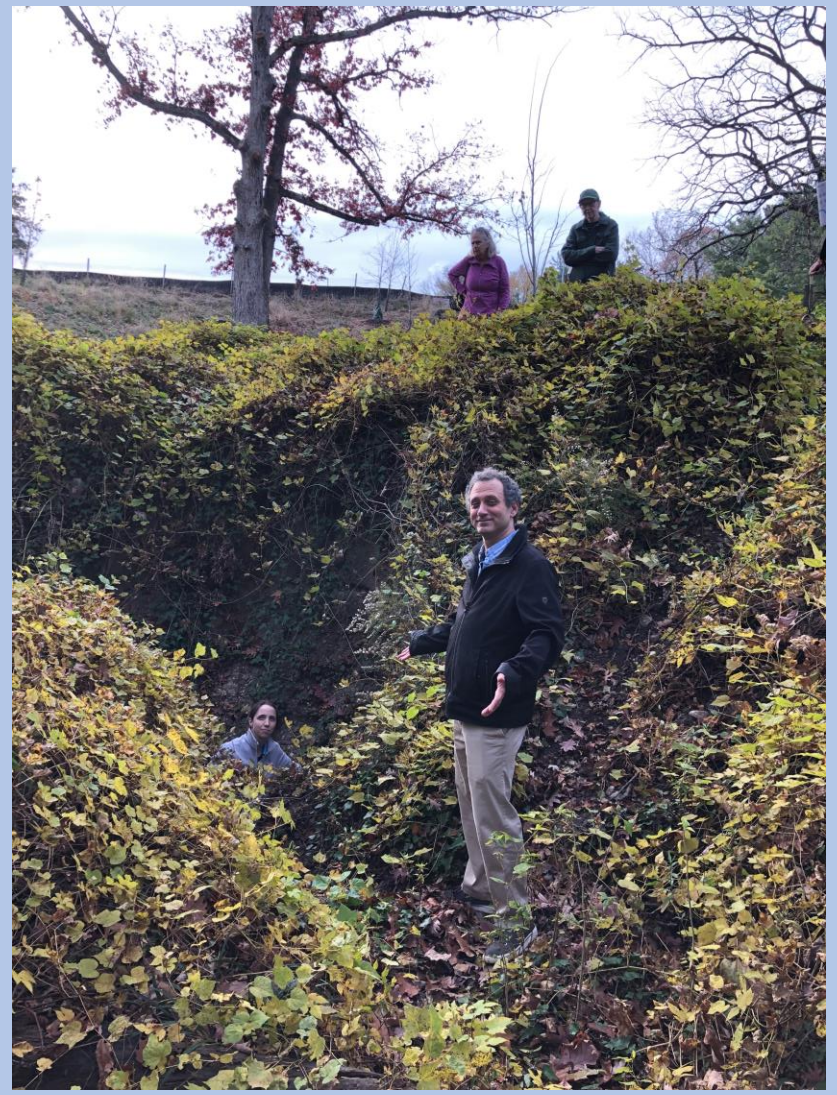

Questions & Answers from 5/5/2025 and 8/11/2025 Meetings: Water Quality, Walking Paths, Safety

Will the project improve water quality for wildlife in the stream? How?

- Yes. The rock steps will mix oxygen into the water. Connected stream banks also provide a buffer area for the stream. Preventing erosion will keep riffles (smaller rocks and cobble) free of sediment. Limiting stream bank erosion also helps protect Four Mile Run, the Potomac River & Chesapeake Bay.

Will there be walking paths along the stream?

- Walking paths will not be part of the project design, as this is a stormwater and stream project. Also, the area is very steep and would likely be too dangerous for walking paths.

Many kids live and play in the street near 5th Rd S & S Kensington. Safety will be an important priority.

- Keeping kids, families, and residents who live in the area safe is very important to the project team. Staff will work to minimize risks for the community.
- The project will include 6-foot chain link fencing during construction to ensure the site is secure.
- Neighbors expressed concern about construction equipment parked on the street outside of work hours. The staging area of the construction site will be large enough to hold construction equipment.
- During construction, the contractor will follow the transportation plan. An inspector will be on-site during all work hours and can address any concerns that arise. We will provide contact info for the construction manager (TBD) in addition to the project manager (Christin) and engagement support (Lily).

Questions & Answers from 5/5/2025 and 8/11/2025 Meetings: Fence

Will there be changes to the fence?

- During construction, portions of the fence will need to be taken down to access the outfall and stream. Temporary chain link fencing will keep the area secure during construction.
- After construction, the default will be for the project to return the fence to the current conditions. However, if there is community consensus around a change, the project team is open to incorporating that.
- There are two questions for community members on possible fence changes. Staff heard good feedback at the May and August 2025 meetings. Staff also opened a feedback form to collect additional resident input.

- 1. One fence question was posed by a community member: Would the community like to have a gate or door in the fence (that could be kept locked, for example)? At 2025 meetings, Glencarlyn community members have shown an overall strong preference *against* providing a gate or door. At least one resident expressed interest in a lock.
- 2. Currently the fence extends steeply down to just above the outfall. After the project is completed, the area will be more open, and the steep slope and yard inlet may pose a safety risk for kids and other area residents. At the August 11, 2025 meeting, community members expressed interest in realigning the fence to exclude the yard inlet and steep slope from the 5th Rd S side. County staff created a feedback form to collect additional community input.

Questions & Answers: Access

What were the factors and considerations that made access from 5th Rd S preferable?

- The stormwater pipe needs to be replaced from the stream out to the manhole just before the 5th Rd S sidewalk.
  - In the previous design iteration, the pipe replacement extended only to the yard inlet structure. Additional replacement is needed for stormwater capacity.
- There are high levels of invasive plants at the 5th Road S location that could be removed and remediated through the project.
- The access through 5th Road South limits any potential impacts to the Moses Ball Spring.
- There are several large mature trees near Moses Ball Spring that would likely be impacted if access was through that area.
- This option also avoids potential conflicts with construction at the Carlin Springs Road site.

Questions & Answers: Stormwater System

What path does the stormwater pipe take underground? How much pipe needs to be replaced and why?

- The section of pipe from the outfall to the yard inlet is damaged and needs replacement.
- The section from the inlet to the manhole is undersized. Replacing the second section will improve flow and capacity in upstream stormwater pipes throughout the neighborhood.

At right: S Kensington St & 5th Rd S intersection.

- Dark green lines show property boundaries.
- Light green lines show stormwater pipes.
- Yellow highlight shows pipe replacement.
- Blue line shows the start of the stream.