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November 20, 2025

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

VALENTINE CREEK PARK WATER ACCESS – Project# P567418

ATTENDEES: Erica Matthews (AACo), Bruce Bruchey (AACo), Melissa Harlinski (AACo), Joseph Battley (AACo), Alison Woodfield (AACo), Megan Barniea (BayLand), Barbara Tymkiw (Guest), Tania Lamaestra (Guest), Dan Smigal (Guest), Erin Smigal (Guest), Mac McCandless (Guest), Steven Matsumoto (Guest), Soma Saner (Guest), Jordan Cicolla (Guest), Bradley Smith (Guest), Julie Smith (Guest), Rachel Coyle (Guest), Terri Morrison (Guest), Frank Morrison (Guest), Caroline Thompson (Guest), Kathleen Cooke (Guest), Stacy Henderson (Guest), Jeff Sanders (Guest), Meredith Sanders (Guest), Amy Levitt (Guest), Ben Levitt (Guest), Judy Palisak (Guest), Katie Parmentier (Guest), Jessica Angle (Guest), Lisa Arrasmith (Guest), Glenn Pollard (Guest), Julia Pollard (Guest), Ted Sensenbrenner (Guest), Jacqueline Lopatz (Guest), Steve Wilding (Guest), Cathy Gallagher (Guest), Jim Gallagher (Guest), Alex Mann (Guest), Irene Sotiropoulos (Guest), Reese Scoggins (Guest), Georgia Cox (Guest), Chandler Metzler (Guest), Gary Simoncic (Guest), Tom Rohrbaugh (Guest), Linda Rohrbaugh (Guest), Donna DeRoo (Guest), Paul DeRoo (Guest), J. Falkner (Guest), Valerie Wampler (Guest), Kathryn Handy (Guest), Annie Medford (Guest), John Hoffman (Guest), Duane Wilding (Guest), Yvonne Scoggins (Guest), Lisa Lisko (Guest), Rebecca Cagle (Guest), Geoffrey Parker (Guest), Marie M. Laliberte (Guest), Christine Falknor (Guest), Gregory Wampler (Guest), Alex Lopata (Guest), Joni Clough (Guest), Janet Holbrook (Guest), Suzan Giralddi (Guest), Anabel Miller (Guest), David Lissauer (Guest), Willa Coenen (Guest), Frank Sullivan (Guest), Ryan Metzler (Guest), Lisa Snyder (Guest), Maria Stanley (Guest), Rosana Gilmore (Guest), Michael Fletcher (Guest), Perry Koons (Guest), Jeff Pincos (Guest), Grerarn Miller (Guest), Sara Prigoclich (Guest), Sue Stevens (Guest), Rich Stevens (Guest), Trevor Simm (Guest), Leanne Simm (Guest), Zach Kennedy (Guest), Ana Bayo (Guest), Jerry Weinstein (Guest), Sarah Findling (Guest), Robert Arias (Guest), Kurt Riefner (Guest), Amanda Lukacs (Guest), Michal Stefamelli (Guest), Joan Hurban (Guest), Gary Hurban (Guest), Dawn Wallis (Guest), Jeff Metzger (Guest), Chandler Parrish (Guest), Mark Kalber (Guest), Brian Kovalski (Guest), and Joan Shank (Guest).

This public meeting was held at South Shore Elementary School (1376 Fairfield Loop Road, Crownsville, Maryland) and started at approximately 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2025.

Melissa Harlinski, Department of Public Works (DPW) Project Manager, began by introducing herself and the project team and stating the purpose of the meeting. The Project Team includes Erica Jackson, Department of Recreation and Parks (DRP) Deputy Director, Bruce Bruchey, DRP Chief of Planning and Construction; Alison Woodfield DRP Chief of Natural & Cultural Resources, and Megan Barniea, BayLand Consultants & Designers, Inc. Project Manager.

Erica then discussed project background and purpose, and the goal to expand public water access on the Severn River. Erica reviewed the concepts that were developed and presented during spring 2022, a revised concept that was presented in 2023 based on comments solicited in 2022, and then explained the revised concept was used as a starting point for the current design.

Erica reviewed anticipated utilization for the proposed water access park and then summarized stakeholder feedback from the current concept that was presented in September 2025. Erica then turned the meeting over to BayLand to present the Concept Design for the Valentine Creek Park Water Access project. Megan Barniea presented the existing conditions for the project site and then described the changes from the 2023 concept to the current concept design.

Megan continued the presentation with a discussion of the proposed park elements, including access road improvements, the parking lot and stormwater management, minimization of environmental impacts, connectivity to existing trail system, and water access improvements. Megan followed with the Community Meeting points per required per Code § 17-2-107 and the required permits and approvals for the project.

Megan then turned the meeting over to Erica Jackson to discuss the potential water access amenity options and anticipated operations plan. Erica then turned the meeting back over to Megan Barniea to discuss the potential alternative access points for a public water access facility and summarize why they are not feasible. Megan then turned the meeting over to Melissa Harlinski to review the traffic concerns that have been raised by stakeholders and the County's discussions with the Bureau of Highways (BOH). Melissa then turned the meeting back over to Megan to summarize how the proposed concept addresses comments and concerns raised by stakeholders. Megan then turned the meeting back over to Melissa Harlinski to facilitate the questions and answers period of the meeting.

The PowerPoint presentation is available at: <https://www.aacounty.org/recreation-parks/capital-projects/valentine-creek-park>. The recorded copy of the October 23, 2025 Public Meeting is available to view on the County's website at <https://www.aacounty.org/planning-and-zoning/development/community-meetings/community-meeting-calendar/past-meetings-closed>.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Over a hundred questions were asked during the meeting with several hundred comments in total received during the public comment period. Please see the attached summary of questions posed and synopses of the answers that address the overarching themes of questions posed before, during, and after the meeting.