

Four Mile Run Restoration Project

Revised Project Scope

May 2013



Four Mile Run Master Plan Design and Capacity

- In 2008, NVRC, Arlington County and Alexandria received a Federal State and Tribal Grant (STAG) matched with local funding for the design and construction of the “Demonstration Project” for stream enhancements from Mt. Vernon Ave to Route-1. Combined, the jurisdictions have approximately \$6 million for the project.
- From 2008 to 2011 the in-stream restoration project proceeded and reached 90% design. The project would have restored in-stream habitat of Four Mile Run and re-introduced tidal wetlands, based upon newly modeled flow, in conjunction with USACE.
- Since Hurricane Katrina, the USACE began stricter implementation of policies, related to flood control structures which effects federally sponsored projects included in the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act (PL 84-99).
- Under these policies, the Four Mile Run Restoration Project, was required to meet Authorized Capacity of PL 84-99 by the USACE Baltimore District Levee Safety Section. **The USACE informed the jurisdictions of this new requirement in 2011.**

Four Mile Run Tidal Restoration Design Capacity Issues

- The Tidal Restoration project cannot carry the Authorized Capacity
- Based upon the new USACE interpretations of the regulations, if the Tidal Restoration Project were to move forward as designed, City/County would have to forego participation in the USACE Flood Control Program (PL 84-99).
- After two attempts for congressional reauthorization in 2012, it has been determined that changing the Authorized Capacity to reflect current methodology (reduced peak flows) through Congress is not feasible***.
- A meeting with the EPA in December 2012, determined that STAG grants could be used for a re-design of the project, provided that the funds are used towards ecological and water quality improvements within the Four Mile Run Watershed
- Funds must be used by September 30, 2015

Flood Protection and Tidal Restoration

- * Authorized capacity from the 1980's is greater than a 100-year flood by today's estimate
- * Intent with Tidal Restoration is to provide capacity for today's estimate of a 100-year flood
- * This approach would maintain the same level of protection from a 100-year flood as was provided when the flood control project was built
- * If reauthorization is successful, this is the approach that we will follow

New Scope of Work for STAG project presented to the EPA March 12, 2013

The inter-jurisdiction project team (ACG) is now scoping an alternative design to the Tidal Restoration Project, including bank and wetland restoration. The new scope will follow these guidelines:

- Design must meet authorized capacity
- Must minimize flood risk
- Shall include no rise in water surface elevation
- Design should improve pedestrian access to water and design trail grading
- Explore opening the channel to increase wetland benefits through the existing wetlands
- Re-plant habitat through landscape design
- The project should continue as a joint effort between Arlington and Alexandria

New Scope of Work (as of 3/22/13)

- Naturalize the banks along the corridor and improved access to the stream through overlooks and terracing
- Minimize sediment flow by capturing it in accessible area (site 1)
- Replace rip-rap with vegetation and improve access on Arlington side (site 2)
- Establish historical tidal wetland condition in Four Mile Run Park (site 3)
- “Bruce Creek” feeder system (site 4), diverting water into the Wetlands



If funds allow additional projects the scope may be expanded to include TMDL load reduction projects, including water quality improvement strategies in the Four Mile Run Watershed (both in Alexandria and Arlington)

New Timeline for STAG project (as of 3/12/13)

January – February 2013: Continue to Work with RKK to revise scope of work

March 12, 2013: Send new scope to EPA for approval

May, 2013: Inform Joint Task Force of new project scope

May 2013 – March 2014: Design and Permitting

March 2014: Complete bid documents

Summer 2014: Construction out to bid

September 2014: Begin construction

September 2015: Project complete

Questions?

Pedestrian Bridge Update



- Currently reviewing 50% design drawings
- 90% Presentation to the JTF late summer 2013
- Final Submission & review late fall 2013
- Researching funding avenues for construction