



Bureau of Engineering
 Heritage Office Complex
 2662 Riva Road, 3rd Floor
 Annapolis, MD 21401
 Phone (410) 222-7500

July 17, 2023

Public Meeting – Meeting Minutes

Odenton Library Community Park – Project # P584400

A Public Meeting was held for the Odenton Library Community Park project at the Odenton Library on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The following individuals were in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address/Affiliation</u>
Emma Pfefferkorn	Anne Arundel County Dept. of Public Works (DPW) Project Manager
Bruce Bruchey	AA CO Dept. of Recreation and Parks
Redeat Lodamo	Brudis & Associates, Inc. (BAI)
Jeremy Gipe	BAI
Jacquelyn Barry	Anne Arundel County DPW
Jason Schwier	Odenton Town Center Advisory Committee (OTCAC)
And approximately 12 members of the surrounding community	

The following describes the content of the meeting.

- Project Manager Emma Pfefferkorn from AA County DPW kicked off the meeting by introducing the name of the project and purpose. She noted that there would be a Q&A at the end of the presentation and all questions should be held off until that time. Meeting Minutes will be shared with the public and additional comments and questions can be submitted online at the County’s website for up to (2) weeks following the meeting.
- Emma went over the agenda of the project and introduced others who would also be speaking during the presentation.
- Emma noted that the purpose of the meeting was to clarify environmental impacts and discuss needed modifications.
- Jeremy Gipe, the design engineer from the design consultant, Brudis & Associates, Inc. (BAI), noted key project information. This included information regarding the project name, address, and owner. Jeremy showed the conceptual layout the project location on an aerial image which showed the proposed trail and amenities.
- The environmental features on the parcel were also discussed, which include forested area, forest conservation easements, specimen trees, waters of the US, wetlands and 25’ wetland buffers, forested area, steep slopes, and a 100-year floodplain.
- The stream and floodplain modifications necessary as part of the project were discussed. The proposed boardwalk over Picture Spring Branch will cause disturbance, and per County Code Article 17-6-402 development may not occur within a stream bed. Therefore a modification request is being pursued. A Federal / State Joint Permit

Application (JPA) has been submitted to MDE / Army Corps of Engineers for authorization.

- The existing 100-year floodplain along Picture Spring Branch will have minor impact due to the proposed improvements. A modification request will be needed to allow the impact.
- There there are seven (7) specimen trees that have been identified that have critical root zones partially within the LOD. The impact to each specimen tree critical root zone is less than 30% . Therefore modification request will not be needed for specimen trees.
- Approximately 1.89 acres of forested area will be cleared for the work, out of which 0.65 acres is within the existing Forest Conservation Easements (FCE).
- An amended plat will be needed to revise the FCEs.
- A modification to Article 17-6-303(b) will be needed to allow the needed forest clearing for the project.
- The meeting concluded with DPW contact information and a Questions and Answers session, as follows.

Questions and Answers:

Q1: Do you have any ground-level photos?

A1: No.

Q2: Can you show where the 1.89 acres of forest clearing is coming from?

A2: The 1.89 acres of clearing comes from clearing the area for the trail and amenities. The LOD shows the area limits within the forested area that is impacted.

Q3: Are we putting other specimen trees as the trees are cleared out?

A3: No specimen trees are going to be planted. The trail and typical grading with lanscaping will be provided. A literary trail will also be provided.

Q4: Is there a plan for maintenance pathways to access the Wetlands?

A4: The trail does allow for access of maintenance vehicles. But there is not a plan for wetlands to be maintained by maintenance crews.

Q5: What is the trail made of?

A5: It is made of asphalt.

Q6: The circles around the trees – those are the trees you are keeping? Everything except those trees will be removed?

A6: Yes – those are specimen trees and the critical root zone around them. The specimen trees will be preserved. Vegetation inside the limits of disturbance will be cleared with the exception of the specimen trees. The rest of the parcel outside of the limits of disturbance will remain as is.

Q7: How far away is the playground from the abandoned railroad tracks?

A7: It is not too close – there will still be some tree buffer between the two.

Q8: What does clearing mean in relation to height?

A8: clearing height inside the LOD will be done just to a height needed to get equipment in and out for construction.

Q9: What are the other amenities near the playground?

A9: There are bocce and horseshoe courts proposed.

Q10: Is there a dog park in the plans?

A10: Not for this phase. Phase 2 is anticipated to have a dog park in the northwest part of the parcel per the master plan.

Q11: How many phases are there? How long will the phases take?

A11: There are 2 phases. The timing is unknown.

Q12: What is this all costing?

A12: The estimate cost is 3.6 million dollars currently.

Q13: Where is the amphitheatre?

A13: It will be included in Phase 2 in the northwest quadrant.

Q14: Are the specimen trees not in the northwest part of the parcel?

A14: No specimen trees have been surveyed in that area.

Q15: Have you considered sound-dampening walls for the amphitheatre?

A15: Not at this time.

Q16: Is the amphitheatre 100% decided?

A16: No. It is in the next phase. Another meeting will be held when we get to Phase 2.

Q17: Are you planning to have ponds in place of the lost Wetlands?

A17: We are not impacting Wetlands. The site is challenging to provide stormwater SWM management facilities but we are providing facilities that are practical and less impactful to the surrounding environment. These include non rooftop disconnect along portion of the trail, and permeable pavement for the expanded portion of the parking lot at the south side. The playground will also be constructed with porous rubber surface for runoff to enter the stream, permeable pavement, and permeable matting at the playground.

Q18: Has the state approved the JPA?

A18: Not yet – it has been submitted and under review.

Q19: Will the playground have pullup or dip bars for calisthenics?

A19: No – the play ground is intended to serve children.