

FINAL DRAFT
SUMMARY OF THE COX CREEK
CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
April 11, 2018 5:30 PM
Riviera Beach Library
1130 Duvall Highway
Pasadena, MD 21222

Attendees:

Anne Arundel County Water Access Commission: Lisa Arrasmith
Anne Arundel County Executive's Office: Sara Gannon
Concerned Citizens for a Better Brooklyn (CCBB): Diane Ingram
Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee Facilitator: Angie Ashley
Greater Pasadena Council: Allan Straughan
Marine Trades Association of Maryland (MTAM): Mike Bonicker
Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA): Sergio Adantor, Chris Correale, Kristen Fidler, Katrina Jones, Kristen Keene, Shawn Kiernan
Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Dallas Henson, Robert Natarian, Chris Williams
North County Land Trust: Bill Jones, Laura Jones
Pasadena Business Association: Brian Conrad
Resident of Legislative District 31: Gary Gakenheimer
Restore Rock Creek: Paul Jendrek

Action Items:

- MDOT MPA and MES will continue to research and populate information for the potential projects from the updated draft Community Enhancement matrix and add the information to the draft fact sheets.
 - MDOT MPA will move the Ft. Smallwood Betterment (project three) under existing project six (Restoration/creation of living shorelines on public lands).
 - MDOT MPA will eliminate Ft. Armistead Park betterment from the community enhancement projects.
 - MDOT MPA will update the community enhancement project fact sheets with maps showing proposed locations for specific projects.
 - MDOT MPA will move the artificial reef creation (project nine) under existing project ten (Assist/enhance local fishing groups/community).
 - MDOT MPA will add the Furnace Creek project and the Weinberg Park project under existing project ten (Assist/enhance local fishing groups/community).
- MDOT MPA will combine the Cox Creek signage and walking trails community enhancement projects.
- MDOT MPA will contact Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) regarding signage along Ft. Smallwood Road and will develop recommendations for potential signage names.
- Ms. Arrasmith will send the full 2009 Ft. Smallwood and Weinberg Park Masterplan to Ms. Keene.

- MDOT MPA will reach out to Anne Arundel County to inquire about the living shorelines design at Ft. Smallwood Park.
- MDOT MPA will contact Anne Arundel County on the status of the DNR grant application for dredging, and inquire if the placement of Cox Creek waterway dredged material at Cox Creek DMCF would help the process.
- Mr. Jendrek will provide MDOT MPA with the contact information for the Maryland Reef Foundation in Ocean City.
- Ms. Arrasmith will update the committee on the Anne Arundel County Water Access Committee meeting discussions and decisions.
- Ms. Ashley will connect with members not in attendance to update them on the MDOT MPA community enhancement process for the CCE project and solicit input. (*complete*)

1.0 Welcome & Introductions

Ms. Angie Ashley

Ms. Ashley convened the meeting and welcomed the committee members, asking all in attendance to introduce themselves and the organization they are representing. The previous meeting's summary was reviewed, and Ms. Ashley requested a motion to approve, which was made by Mr. Jendrek and seconded by Mr. Gakenheimer.

2.0 Cox Creek Expanded Update

Mr. Sergio Adantor, MDOT MPA

Overview

Mr. Adantor provided an update on the Cox Creek Expanded (CCE) project. Mr. Adantor highlighted the areas of Cox Creek, including the existing Cox Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF), the MDOT MPA-owned property (known as the Upland area), Building 201, the Swan Creek Mitigation area, and the future dike expansion.

An overview of the three phases of the CCE project was provided. The first phase is building demolition. To date, 25 buildings have been demolished, with only Building 201 remaining. The second phase is the construction of the dike to +60' Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) on the Upland area. The third phase is to elevate the existing DMCF dike to +60' MLLW. A base dike will need to be constructed before phase three can begin. Future plans include raising the entire dike to +80' MLLW.

Dike Design & Construction

Clay excavated from the Upland area will be used to construct the base dike on the interior of the existing DMCF dike. Construction of the base dike was advertised on March 22, with bids due by the end of April 2018. If all required permits are received on time, base dike construction should begin in summer 2018. The base dike construction is anticipated to be complete by summer 2019.

Demolition of Building 201

MDOT MPA has been working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a strategy for safely remediating and demolishing Building 201 due to the high levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) found in the structural material of the building. EPA approved the overall remediation strategy in November 2017. MDOT MPA's remedial work plan was submitted to EPA on April 10. Once final EPA approval is

received, remediation and demolition work on Building 201 can begin. There is an expected 30-day turnaround on EPA's response. MDOT MPA estimates that Building 201 remediation and demolition should start in the summer 2018.

Mr. Shawn Kiernan added that there is approximately 425,000 cubic yards (CY) of clay that could be used for borrow material under Building 201. There is 1.3 million cubic yards (MCY) currently available on-site for the construction of the base dike and eventually the +60' dike raising. It is essential to the project that Building 201 be demolished. Mr. Allan Straughan asked why the EPA is involved in the Cox Creek DMCF site. Mr. Adantor explained that MDOT MPA was required to develop a full remediation plan for the PCB impacts in compliance with the federal Toxic Substances Control Act, before the building could be demolished.

Operations & Maintenance Complex (O&M)

The O&M Complex design has been accepted and a contract has been awarded for its construction. The construction is expected to take approximately 18 months. The O&M Complex will feature a lab, office space, meeting room, and vehicle maintenance garage.

Upland Site Remediation

Phase I of the Upland soil remediation is complete. Phase I soil remediation resulted in removal of approximately 33,350 tons of metals and/or oil impacted soil from the Upland.

Phase II of the Upland soil remediation is expected to begin in fall 2018. Phase II remediation includes areas impacted for metals and PCBs in the northwest corner of site. MDOT MPA has three areas (SW19, SW28, and Area B) in the northwest corner of the site that require further characterization to delineate the remediation areas for soil removal. Remediation must be complete before excavation of the borrow area can begin.

MDOT MPA submitted the Joint Permit Application (JPA) for the construction of the base dike widening to Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) on March 1. The existing Cox Creek DMCF National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge permit required a modification to include discharge of water from the Upland borrow area through the existing DMCF. MDE issued a public notice for the permit modification, which was open for public comments until March 12, 2018; once public notification ends, the modified permit will be approved. The Critical Area Commission (CAC) approved a mitigation plan for the expected impacts to existing trees and on-site mitigated areas that will occur as part of the initial borrow area for the base dike widening. Future coordination with the CAC on additional mitigation will occur when the final borrow area and +60 dike designs are finalized.

3.0 Community Enhancements Planning Discussion

**Kristen Keene,
MDOT MPA**

Community Enhancements

Ms. Kristen Keene led the group through a discussion to review each of the 12 proposed community enhancement projects from a list created by the Cox Creek COC at previous meetings. The objectives were to review new and old significant language, review each

fact sheet and determine what details are still needed, and decide whether to keep the project moving forward. MDOT MPA will continue to gather information, including the necessary permits associated with each project. Ms. Keene also explained the difference between a cost sharing partner and a potential partner. A cost sharing partner is an entity that will help share the financial burden associated with the project with MDOT MPA. A potential partner is an entity that MDOT MPA anticipates will work in coordination with, or consult with, the committee throughout the process.

Proposed CCE Mitigation & Community Enhancements Workshop Project Ideas discussed:

1. Creation of walking trails and associated onsite trail signage.
2. Cox Creek signage along Ft. Smallwood Road.
3. Betterment of Ft. Smallwood Park - installation of living shorelines and breakwaters.
4. Betterment of Ft. Armistead Park.
5. Osprey platform installations.
6. Living shorelines on public lands.
7. Dredging and installation of navigation aids in (real) Cox Creek channels.
8. Reserving capacity in the Cox Creek DMCF for Anne Arundel County DPW projects.
9. Installation of artificial reef to enhance fishing in the area.
10. Assistance/enhancement with local fishing groups.
11. Public water access including boat launch or boat launch retrofit.
12. Bio-filtration installations (i.e. algal scrubber and/or Biohut) in local waterways.

1. Creation of walking trails and associated on-site trail signage: This project involves the creation of a walking trail within the existing Cox Creek Forest Conservation Easement Area. The trailhead would begin at the new Cox Creek O&M building. The trail would be open to the public during site operating hours. The project will also include the installation of interpretive signs to be placed on-site along the pathway. The trails would be constructed and maintained per the Cox Creek Forest Conservation Easement Plan. MDOT MPA has mapped out a conceptual diagram of the trail, but the distance is unknown. The committee agreed to keep this project on the list.

2. Cox Creek signage along Ft. Smallwood Road: This project involves the installation of off-site directional signage along Fort Smallwood Road to highlight the location of Cox Creek to the community. MDOT MPA has a location identified for potential signage. Ms. Ashley expressed that it would be beneficial to add DMCF to the signage so visitors know this is not Cox Creek, but it is Cox Creek DMCF. Ms. Laura Jones asked if the signage would be a different color. Mr. Kiernan responded that the signage would most likely be brown. The county has off-site directional signage that is used for marinas, and the state can do other options, so the color would depend on which right-of-way this project falls into.

Mr. Jones asked who would maintain the signage after it was initially placed. Ms. Keene responded with information from the fact sheet that stated the installation and maintenance

of the signage would be the responsibility of the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works (DPW). The signage would need pre-approval from the Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning. Mr. Kiernan stated that for the state road signage MDOT State Highway Administration would have to complete a signage and a traffic study.

Ms. Ashley asked if the committee approved the proposed placement of the signage (referencing the figure). Mr. Straughan recommended that project number two (signage) on the community enhancements list be combined into project one (Cox Creek walking trails), since the signage would be advertising the walking trails. Mr. Conrad stated that he would like to have the walking trails in place, but if projects were combined the committee could be waiting on the state to complete a signage study before anything could move forward. Ms. Keene confirmed that the two projects could be combined into one project/fact sheet, and items in the project could be completed on separate timelines. Ms. Keene asked the committee what they recommend highlighting on the signage: the DMCF or the walking trails. Mr. Boniker pointed out that the signs are not very large and do not have a lot of space (30 characters at the most). Mr. Straughan stated that it should be a sign for the bird area and walking trails. Ms. Jones and Ms. Ingram feel it is necessary to have a sign for the Cox Creek DMCF. Ms. Keene stated that MDOT MPA can take the feedback and information and work on the best plan for signage installation. Ms. Keene asked the committee if the two community enhancement projects (one and two) should be combined. The committee recommended combining the two projects. MDOT MPA will combine project two into project one, will reach out to MDOT SHA, and will develop recommendations for potential signage names.

Mr. Gakenheimer added that with discussion and attention towards the bird enthusiasts, the facility should have amenities for the bird enthusiast; he suggested benches for bird watching. Mr. Natarian stated that birders currently use the observation deck. Mr. Kiernan reminded those in attendance that all additions and changes must adhere to the Cox Creek Forest Conservation Easement Management Plan.

3. Betterment of Ft. Smallwood Park - installation of living shorelines and breakwaters: This project includes improving Ft. Smallwood Park through the installation of living shorelines and breakwaters, which would provide erosion protection and habitat improvements. In December 2017, Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks submitted a Joint Permit Application (JPA) to MDE for three phases of shoreline restoration in Fort Smallwood Park. Anne Arundel County has begun work on Phase 1. Phase 1 is currently funded for design, and needs funding for construction (estimated cost for construction is \$1.3 - \$1.6 million). Phase 2 will need partial funding for design and full funding for construction (estimated cost for construction is \$1.1 - \$1.3 million). Phase 3 will need funding for design and construction (estimated cost for construction is \$1.3 million). This project presents a potential cost sharing opportunity with Anne Arundel County.

MDOT MPA asked if there were other types of improvements at Ft. Smallwood that the committee would be interested in that do not currently involve Anne Arundel County. Ms. Arrasmith suggested Weinberg Park located less than one mile from Ft. Smallwood Park,

off Fairview Beach Road in Pasadena (just before the Maryland Yacht Club). Weinberg Park is 235 acres and has not received improvements in some time; in the past year Anne Arundel County put in a crushed rock parking lot. A master plan of Ft. Smallwood and Weinberg Park was completed in 2009. Ms. Arrasmith will send the 2009 Ft. Smallwood and Weinberg Park Master Plan to Ms. Keene. Anne Arundel County has almost completed Phase 1 of the master plan, which included a boat ramp, restoration of historic buildings, and swimming and recreational areas at Ft. Smallwood Park. Phase 4 of the master plan includes improvement items at Weinberg Park. Ms. Arrasmith believes that those items may not be completed without outside funding. One of those items is to build a nature viewing platform for Yates Pond (which is an inland tidal pond) to facilitate catch and release fishing. There is no cost estimation for this project within Phase 4.

The committee would like more information on the Weinberg Park project before making a determination of whether to add this as a potential new project under community enhancements. Mr. Conrad commented that Ft. Smallwood has a pier and fishing platform and a boat ramp, so the question becomes where more people are served. Ms. Arrasmith stated that Phase 4 of the master plan also included a hiker/biker trail connecting Ft. Smallwood and Weinberg Park, however, Anne Arundel County does not own all the necessary lands.

Ms. Keene asked the committee if there were any other betterment activities besides the county's plan, for the living shorelines, at the park. Mr. Jones commented that Phase 2 of the Anne Arundel County's plan for Ft. Smallwood involves installing living shorelines. Some people come to Ft. Smallwood to fish and the living shorelines may make it difficult to fish. Mr. Jones believes the committee should stay away from any capital improvement project. Ms. Keene reminded the committee that each phase of Anne Arundel County's plan costs over \$1 million and that would take a portion of the budget. Mr. Straughan stated that environmentally speaking it is hard to beat this project, as securing these shorelines is a very positive benefit for this area. Mr. Kiernan commented that there could be some mitigation credits that come from a project such as shoreline restoration. Mr. Conrad stated that the project will create a better shoreline, but questioned whether it improved the fishing aspect. Mr. Straughan responded that when the shoreline is healthier, there are more fish living close to shore. Mr. Jones responded that those who fish stand on the shoreline and cast their line off the bulkhead. A living shoreline would create a greater distance to cast the line and potentially lines would get caught in vegetation. Mr. Straughan replied that it depends on the design of the living shoreline how it would affect fishing. Mr. Kiernan responded that MDOT MPA will reach out to Anne Arundel County to inquire about the living shorelines design at Ft Smallwood Park. Ms. Keene directed the committee to read the draft fact sheet that stated Phase 3/Reach 3 of the Anne Arundel County plan proposed to restore the shoreline to consist of off-shore breakwaters, sand banks, and tiered vegetation. Ms. Keene continued that this project will be kept on the list.

4. Betterment of Fort Armistead Park: Baltimore City Recreation and Parks does not have plans for improvements at Fort Armistead Park in the foreseeable future. Mr. Straughan stated that it is well intentioned to improve the park, but recommended this project be eliminated. The committee unanimously agreed.

5. Osprey platform installations: This project includes recommendations from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for osprey platform installation locations in the Cox Creek DMCF and Swan Creek mitigation area, in the Fort Smallwood Park area, in the Rock Creek park area, and in the Fort Armistead Park area. The selected location(s) should be near water, with preference given to healthier waterways where ospreys have historically nested. Mr. Boniker asked what the potential cost for this project would be. Ms. Keene responded that based on preliminary research the cost is approximately \$1,500 per osprey pole. Mr. Conrad stated this is a great project that could be done quickly, and the committee agreed to keep this project.

6. Living shorelines on public lands: The project would include the creation of one or more living shorelines on lands accessible to the public. Ms. Keene asked the committee if they felt it was appropriate to combine project three (Ft. Smallwood Park betterment) with this project. Mr. Straughan commented that the title of the project should change to Shoreline Restoration or Creation of Living Shorelines. Mr. Conrad stated that if the committee agreed to add project three to project six then additional potential locations could be added to the project. Ms. Keene confirmed that project three will be added under project six. This accomplishes the goal of keeping the creation of living shorelines on the list, adds the potential cost sharing opportunity with Anne Arundel County, and the potential for mitigation credits.

7. Dredging and installation of navigation aids in (the real) Cox Creek channels & 8. Reserving capacity in the Cox Creek DMCF for Anne Arundel County DPW projects: Anne Arundel County has a list identifying local dredging projects. The county receives 50% of their funding from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) through the Waterways Improvement Fund and provides the remaining 50% of the necessary funds from the County budget. Dredging projects are prioritized based on the number of beneficiaries (i.e. number of boaters). Cox Creek is listed as priority #8 (with 3,000 cubic yards total volume) on the Anne Arundel County Dredging Projects Priority List. The Cox Creek channel is included in the Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) grant application to DNR. However, being included in the grant application to DNR does not guarantee future dredging. Cox Creek, if qualified by DNR as a dredging candidate, will be competing with other dredging projects statewide for limited Waterway Improvement Funds. The fund comes from a tax on the sale and registration of any boats in the state of Maryland. The fund is a competitive fund application process and distributed in the form of a grant. As of June 2017, \$10.5 million had been allocated to the fund for projects across the state of Maryland. Navigation aids would be determined based on need in consultation with the county. This is a cost sharing opportunity with Anne Arundel County and DNR.

Placement capacity for dredged material at Cox Creek DMCF is a great value as it is difficult to find locations for new placement sites due to development and densely populated property adjacent to the Port.

Ms. Laura Jones asked if MDOT MPA would accept the dredged material from Cox Creek at the Cox Creek DMCF. Mr. Kiernan responded that there is a possibility that MDOT

MPA would accept the dredged material from Anne Arundel County. Mr. Conrad asked if this is a small volume for the Cox Creek DMCF to accept. Mr. Kiernan replied that it is a very small volume, a typical in-flow volume for a United States Army Corps of Engineers project is 400,000 - 500,000 CY. One of the large costs for Anne Arundel County is the cost of dredged material placement. Mr. Gakenheimer stated that the County has a DPW facility next to Cox Creek DMCF, the Cox Creek Water Reclamation Facility, which recently received a \$170 million renovation. Mr. Gakenheimer stated that Cox Creek Water Reclamation Facility and Wagner Generating Station could be possible cost sharing partners with this project.

Ms. Keene asked the committee if there is any additional information needed or missing on this fact sheet for this project. Mr. Straughan stated this is clearly a community enhancement project, but it is not a project with any mitigation associated with it to help the environment. Ms. Keene responded that it would be beneficial if the projects selected included potential for mitigation credits; however, MDOT MPA understands that some projects will not have associated mitigation credits.

Mr. Kiernan asked if the committee is more interested in the dredging or the dredged material placement. Ms. Ashley responded that when the conversation started Anne Arundel County employees requested to hold capacity at Cox Creek DMCF for the material to be placed. Mr. Conrad and Mr. Straughan commented that the residents want more access to Cox Creek and to get access, the waterway needs to be dredged. Mr. Jones stated that if Cox Creek DMCF accepted the dredged material then the county should take care of the dredging, because placing the material would be a great cost saving for the county. Ms. Ashley asked MDOT MPA to clarify if material placed at Cox Creek DMCF would be free of charge or if MDOT MPA would just reserve capacity in the DMCF for county material. Mr. Kiernan stated that MDOT MPA would have to review and develop the structure of this process. Mr. Jones asked would this include all of Anne Arundel County's dredged material or only dredged material from a specific radius (Cox Creek). Ms. Chris Correale responded that MDOT MPA is looking at north Anne Arundel County dredging projects and the County's placement plan. Mr. Conrad asked at what volume is too much for Cox Creek DMCF to accept from this project. Ms. Fidler stated that MDOT MPA looks at dredged material placement on an average annual 20-year plan, and average annual amounts fluctuate, but every cubic yard is spoken for in current and future planning.

Mr. Kiernan stated that the real issue is Anne Arundel County receiving the funds to dredge due to high costs for mobilization, equipment, and transportation of the material. Mr. Boniker asked how MDOT MPA quantifies the cost to maintain the DMCF facility; is it by cubic yard and why does it cost to take the placement material. Ms. Correale responded that every cubic yard has to pay its way towards the construction and maintenance of the facility, and every inch of space in the facility is extremely valuable because once it is full, it is full. MDOT MPA annually adds up all the cumulative costs spent on the Cox Creek DMCF and divides those costs against the number of cubic yards to determine the tipping fee (fee to place material in the facility). The current Cox Creek DMCF tipping fee is about \$20/cubic yard. Ms. Laura Jones stated that this project should stay because it would show the community that MDOT MPA is supporting the community.

Ms. Keene asked the committee to summarize the path forward for these two projects. Mr. Boniker stated that the committee has no decision authority on what is dredged. It was decided that more research is needed on the dredging plans in project seven, but it will stay on the potential project list. Ms. Keene responded that MDOT MPA could reach out to Anne Arundel County on the status of the DNR grant application. Ms. Ashley asked if MDOT MPA guaranteed the placement of material at Cox Creek DMCF, would that help Anne Arundel County's grant application and move the Cox Creek dredging higher on Anne Arundel's prioritization list. Mr. Kiernan responded that it is uncertain if guaranteeing placement would assist Anne Arundel County, but acknowledged it was a question that could be asked of Anne Arundel County. The committee agreed that both potential community enhancement project ideas stay on the list.

9. Installation of artificial reefs to enhance fishing in the area: This project initially proposed installation of artificial reefs at the mouth of the Magothy River in Anne Arundel County. The selected location of installation must include communication with the boating community to ensure the reef structures would not impede boat passage and/or access to areas. One of the committee's prior recommendations was for MDOT MPA to review the Maryland Reef Project in Ocean City and gather information from their lessons learned. The outcome of MDOT MPA's review found that the Ocean City Reef Project used ships, boats, concrete rubble, vehicles, tires, scrap steel, abandoned under water cables, and specially designed concrete reef balls. The Reef Project noted that when funding is available that it is best to use a specially designed concrete reef structure. Ms. Ashley suggested coordination with state or county agencies to help the committee determine an appropriate location. Mr. Jendrek recommended Seven Foot Knoll area where the channel goes both ways. Mr. Straughan suggested that the location be a large area, out of the shipping lanes, where the water is deep. Mr. Jendrek stated that he could provide MDOT MPA with the contact information for the Ocean City, Maryland Reef Foundation. Mr. Straughan commented that if the committee could come up with a plan to build a reef at the mouth of the Patapsco River, it could probably work well with the Marylanders Grow Oysters (MGO) Program and other oyster recovery programs. This project will remain on the list. MDOT MPA will update the fact sheet with a map showing proposed locations for placement of reefs.

10. Assistance/enhancement with local fishing groups: This project would keep a focus on opportunities to involve youth in local fishing groups. As an alternative to a donation to a particular fishing group or event, MDOT MPA may consider hosting on-site fishing events similar to the current on-site birding events. Ms. Keene asked the committee what type of assistance is of interest; is it financial, administrative or some other type of assistance. Ms. Ashley added that this project idea stemmed from committee member Mr. Heinbuch's concern with the ability to reach beyond the current capacity that the fishing groups have reached. Mr. Conrad recommended that this project become the lead project and add project nine (artificial reef installation) as one of the ways the local fishing community receives assistance. Ms. Keene made note move project nine under this project per committee recommendations.

11. Public water access including boat launch or boat launch retrofit: Anne Arundel County is currently working on a boat launch installation at Solley Cove, which is in need of design and construction funding. Ms. Arrasmith, a member of the Anne Arundel County Water Access Committee, expressed that Anne Arundel County in coordination with Anne Arundel County Water Access Committee, is investigating the feasibility of a boat launch facility at Sullivan Park, Stoney Creek Park, Beachwood Park, Spriggs Farm Park, Quiet Waters Park, South River Farm Park, and Carrs Wharf. Ms. Keene asked the committee if there is any interest in expanding the fact sheet to include non-motorized access (kayaks or paddleboards). Mr. Boniker responded that there are soft launch areas for small vessels throughout the county and when installing launch areas for trailer boats, there are usually areas included for soft launch.

Ms. Arrasmith stated that Solley Cove and Stoney Creek Park are the two potential boat ramps that are within the Cox Creek surrounding area, and these projects could be a cost sharing opportunity with Anne Arundel County. Ms. Arrasmith asked if the radius from the Cox Creek site for consideration of potential projects is 2-3 miles, and Mr. Kiernan responded that there is not a set radius for projects. Ms. Arrasmith added that there is an Anne Arundel County-owned property on Furnace Creek that might be a suitable location for a small public fishing pier (located near Oakland Burning Landfill). Mr. Kiernan suggested that the building of a small fishing pier could be combined with project ten (assist the fishing community). Ms. Keene recommended that the Furnace Creek project and the Weinberg Park (from project three) be added to project ten. Mr. Straughan requested that the updated fact sheet include a map showing the specific proposed locations for the projects. Ms. Arrasmith will continue to update the committee on the Anne Arundel County Water Access Committee meeting discussions and decisions.

12. Bio-filtration installations (i.e. algal scrubber and/or Biohut) in local waterways: This project includes installation of an algal turf scrubber or a Biohut in local waterways. An algal turf scrubber is a structure that uses surface water to grow algae, which will capture nutrients from the water. The algal scrubber requires maintenance to remove the algae weekly. A Biohut is an artificial fish nursery meant to be installed on port infrastructures, such as docks, pontoons or dikes, and provide food and shelter to juvenile fish. The following potential placement locations were identified for the Biohut: Marley Creek, Stoney Creek, Rock Creek, and Bodkin Creek in Anne Arundel County. The Biohut is a two-cage system, normally filled with recycled substrate material or oyster shells. It has a dual purpose; to give shelter and food source to juvenile fish, and if there is oyster spat attached/put on the Biohut, to filter water. The Biohut is usually attached to a pier or situated in a shoreline setting and requires little attention. A responsible party would need to be selected to provide maintenance over the lifespan of the selected device. To ensure proper maintenance continues, a funding source would need to be identified. Mr. Kiernan added that a few years ago an algal scrubber was on-site at Cox Creek DMCF and it collected 300 pounds of algae per week.

Ms. Ingram asked what kind of water or tidal flow each device needed to function. Ms. Ashley replied that the algal scrubber has water pumped into it; the flow is man-made, so it is not dependent on tides or water flow. Mr. Gakenheimer asked if there were any current

operational devices. Mr. Kiernan responded that there is an algal scrubber at the Dundalk Marine Terminal (DMT). Ms. Keene shared that a similar algal flow-way system is to be constructed at the MDOT MPA Hawkins Point facility. The MDOT MPA Safety, Environmental and Risk Management (SERM) Office will construct the algal flow-way after grading and filling of the Hawkins Point south cell is complete. Water will be pumped from the Patapsco River, the nutrients will be filtered from the water by the algae, and then the “clean” water will get pumped back into the Patapsco River. The committee would like to schedule a visit Hawkins Point once the flow-way is installed, to learn more. The committee suggested the potential that the Hawkins Point algal flow-way could be an educational learning stop in the future, associated with Cox Creek DMCF tours.

4.0 Innovative Reuse Demonstration Project **Ms. Kristen Keene, MDOT MPA**
This section was not presented or discussed during the meeting due to time constraints. This section was tabled until the July 2018 Cox Creek COC meeting.

5.0 Outreach Update **Ms. Katrina Jones, MDOT MPA**
MDOT MPA asked the committee for assistance in identifying events or activities that MDOT MPA can participate in to expand their presence in the community. During March and April 2018, MDOT MPA provided updates on the Cox Creek DMCF project at the Poplar Ridge, Brooklyn Heights, Bar Harbor, and Riviera Beach communities.

MDOT MPA invited the committee to follow the Port of Baltimore on social media. The GreenPort newsletter was recently sent out to subscribers. Ms. Katrina Jones encouraged attendees to sign up for the newsletter if they had not already. MDOT MPA is participating in the GreenPort Congress, an international conference coming to Baltimore May 16 – May 18. During the conference, there will be scheduled field trips to the Masonville DMCF and Poplar Island. Additionally, Captain Trash Wheel will soon be floating to its home at Masonville Cove, and MDOT MPA is planning a reveal event.

Upcoming Community Events with MDOT MPA involvement:

- BenFest2018 - April 14, 2018 from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm at Benjamin Franklin High School
- Arlington Echo 50th Anniversary - April 21, 2018 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- Point Pleasant Community Festival - May 12, 2018
- Masonville Cove Festival - June 4 through June 7, 2018
- Curtis Bay Community Festival - June 9, 2018

6.0 Committee Administration & Open Discussion **Ms. Angie Ashley**
The next COC meeting is scheduled for July 11; location is to be determined. Ms. Ashley reminded the committee if they cannot attend a meeting to please notify her. Ms. Ashley will make sure comments and opinions of any committee member absent will be represented, heard and shared. Meeting minutes, committee news, public comment periods, and MDOT MPA updates are sent out regularly; to receive emails please contact Ms. Ashley.

7.0 Adjournment **Ms. Angie Ashley**

Ms. Ashley thanked the committee for their time and reminded them to contact Ms. Ashley or MDOT MPA staff with any questions.