

# APPENDIX H

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- Summary of Preferred Alternate and Conceptual Mitigation (PA/CM)
- Agency Concurrences on PA/CM
- Mitigation Field Review – Meeting Minutes

**Summary Statement for the  
SHA Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation Package  
&  
Agency Correspondence**

**PACM Summary Statement**

**Project Description:**

A study conducted for the MD 175 Project Planning Study has considered various alternatives to improve traffic operations and safety on the roadway segment that provides primary access to Fort Meade and Odenton in Anne Arundel County, a distance of approximately 5.5 miles. These alternatives included the No-Build; an Enhanced Transportation Systems Management Alternative, interchange improvements at MD 175/MD 295; intersection/interchange improvements at the entrances to Fort Meade; and, the widening of existing MD 175 to four, five, or six-lanes.

**Project Purpose Statement:**

The purpose of the MD 175 Project Planning Study is to improve the existing capacity, traffic operations, intermodal connectivity, and vehicular and pedestrian safety on MD 175, while supporting existing and planned development in the area.

**Purpose of Package:**

The purpose of the package is to update the interagency review group on recent project developments related to the Maryland Department of Environment's (MDE) new stormwater management regulations and the Parkside development. These developments have made minor changes to the environmental impacts along the corridor. The package also requests concurrence on the Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation for the MD 175 Project Planning Study.

**Description of the SHA Preferred Alternative:**

In order to satisfy the different goals of the corridor, multiple alternatives have been combined to create the SHA Preferred Alternative. The SHA Preferred Alternative consists of Alternative 4 Modified from Brock Bridge Road to MD 295, Alternative 6 with the 21 ½ Street Option from MD 295 to MD 32, and Alternative 2A (Enhanced TSM) from MD 32 to MD 170. Alternative 4 Modified includes widening the existing MD 175 to two lanes in each direction separated by an 18-foot concrete median and adding a five-foot sidewalk on the north side of the roadway and an eight-foot hiker/biker trail on the south side of the roadway. Alternative 6 with the 21 ½ Street Option includes widening the existing MD 175 to six lanes and adds a five-foot sidewalk on the north side of the roadway and an eight-foot hiker/biker trail on the south side of the roadway. Alternative 2A (Enhanced TSM) in Odenton would add a five-foot sidewalk on the north side of the roadway and an eight-foot hiker/biker trail on the south side of the roadway to the existing typical section. At the MD 175/MD 295 interchange, Option F has been selected, which is a

cloverleaf interchange option that holds the existing southern edge of roadway in the interchange area and eliminates the loop ramps in northeast and northwest quadrants. Traffic movements provided by these loop ramps would be relocated onto left turns at signalized intersections with MD 175 in the southeast and southwest quadrants, respectively. This alternative best satisfies the different goals present along the corridor.

### **Description of the Conceptual Mitigation:**

#### Wetland and Stream Mitigation

SHA Preferred Alternative would impact a total of approximately 1.34 acres of wetlands. Up to 2.51 acres of wetland mitigation would be required to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts associated with the Preferred Alternative. With the exception of W4, located adjacent to southbound MD 175 and opposite Rae Road, all the impacted wetlands are small, isolated systems. This amount of required mitigation is based on wetland replacement ratios stipulated in the Maryland Compensatory Mitigation Guidance developed by the Interagency Mitigation Task Force and Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). The goals of the mitigation are to replace, to preserve, and to enhance functions within the same watershed that were lost due to the impacts associated with the project. The Preferred Alternative would impact a total of 730 linear feet of perennial streams, all of which requires 1:1 mitigation.

Rather than conducting a full scale mitigation site search for the MD 175 Project Planning Study, SHA revisited sites previously identified for the MD 32/Fort Meade/the National Security Agency (NSA) mitigation site search conducted in Summer/Fall 2000. During that time, a total of four mitigation sites were identified and reviewed by the regulatory agencies. Site visits and soil profile borings were conducted on those sites where permission was granted by the property owners to access the properties. Since the four sites identified in the MD 32/Fort Meade/NSA mitigation site search were never utilized, SHA reexamined these sites for the MD 175 Project Planning Study.

In Summer 2009, SHA reevaluated the four sites identified in the MD 32/Fort Meade/NSA mitigation site report and determined that two sites – Meyers Site and Piera Site- were still potentially feasible and met with the regulatory agencies to review these sites on August 14, 2009. The regulatory agencies conveyed a slight preference for the Piera Site, although they requested additional research be conducted at each site before a final preference is identified. In addition to the Meyers and Piera Sites, SHA is evaluating a third site, known as PR-387 (also known as Whites Landing Road/Perrie Farm) to satisfy mitigation requirements for the MD 175 Project Planning Study. Site PR-387 was originally identified as a stream and wetland mitigation opportunity for SHA planning studies in the vicinity of the MD 175 Project Planning Study. PR-387 was visited by the regulatory agencies in 2005. At that time, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) requested that SHA install groundwater monitoring wells to further evaluate viability for wetland creation. Two years of monitoring have been completed and, based upon the results of both years of monitoring, it is anticipated that the site could provide wetland creation in addition to stream restoration.

SHA has also agreed to continue researching other potential sites within the Patuxent River Watershed that will satisfy and aggregate the mitigation needs for MD 175 and other future SHA projects in the vicinity.

#### Site 1: Piera Site

The Piera Site is located within the Patuxent River Watershed in Davidsonville, Anne Arundel County. This site is bordered by Rossback Road to the north, US 50 to the south and Patuxent River Road to the west. The site currently consists of a commercial turf field with a forested area to the east, which contains an irrigation pond. The site is located adjacent to a Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Green Infrastructure hub. This site has the potential to provide approximately 3 acres of wetland creation/mitigation on the east side of the property adjacent to the forested area and irrigation pond.

#### Site 2: Meyers Site

The Meyers Site is located within the Patuxent River Watershed at 1416 Meyers Station Road in Odenton, Anne Arundel County. The site currently consists of fallow field with an existing farm pond and a stream that bisects the pasture from north to south. Forested areas occur to the north and south of the open field. The upper portion of the site is located within a DNR Green Infrastructure gap. Additionally, the stream within the open field is a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) targeted stream segment. This site has the potential to provide approximately 2 to 3 acres of wetland creation/mitigation along the northern portion of the property on either side of the stream.

#### Site 3: PR-387 Site

PR-387, known as the former Perrie Farm Property, is located within the Patuxent River Watershed in Westwood, Prince George's County. The site is located toward the end of Whites Landing Road on the south side, within Patuxent River Park, and is owned by Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). The site currently consists of active agricultural fields, diverse meadows and drainage corridors with modest riparian communities. Patuxent River borders the property to the east, Full Mill Branch borders the property to the south and a small stream valley is located on the north side of the property. Based on two years of groundwater monitoring, this site has the potential to provide approximately nine to 13 acres of wetland creation/mitigation on the east side of the property, adjacent to Patuxent River.

#### Cultural Resources and Section 4(f) Mitigation

SHA, in consultation with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and other consulting parties, conducted an identification and evaluation of historic architectural and archeological resources in accordance with federal and state laws, which protect significant cultural resources. Background research and field surveys were conducted to facilitate identification of cultural resources. An Area of Potential Effect (APE) was delineated to identify resources and evaluate the potential impacts to those resources.

All cultural resources identified during the architectural and archeological surveys were evaluated for their eligibility to be included on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). All identified cultural resources were documented and submitted to MHT for eligibility

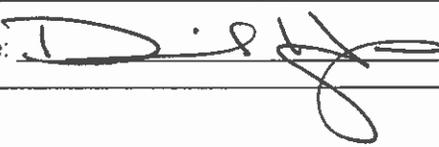
determinations or to comment on the need for further evaluation. The MHT has determined that there are four historic resources eligible or listed on the NRHP within the project area- Odenton Historic District (AA-869), the Jones House (AA-743), the Trusty Friend (AA-123) and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway (AA-5) and are considered Section 4(f) resources under the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303(c)). .

In addition to being listed on the NRHP, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway south of MD 175 is owned by the National Park Service (NPS), and is considered a Section 4(f) park resource. The Preferred Alternative would impact a total of 1.4 acres of NPS property. The right-of-way required from the NPS would use land to provide proposed interchange ramps improvements including additional lanes and the necessary grading and supporting slopes. However, because the NPS property is currently used for highway access as part of the existing MD 175/MD 295 interchange, the proposed improvements would not affect its functionality.

#### Woodland Mitigation

The SHA Preferred Alternative would impact 27.6 acres of forested land. The woodland impacts primarily would occur along the edges of existing roadways (Annapolis Road), as opposed to forest interior or other undisturbed habitats. Reforestation would be provided at a 1:1 ratio, as consistent with the Maryland Reforestation Law.

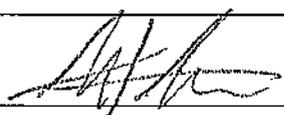
## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

<b>Project Name &amp; Limits:</b> MD 175: From MD 295 to MD 170		
<b>Having reviewed the attached SHA Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation concurrence/comment package and the summary presented above, the following agency (by signing this document):</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Highway Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Wildlife Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of Natural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers		
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (without comments)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (w/ <u>minor</u> comments)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does Not Concur</b>		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence:		
 <i>Note: Do <u>not</u> provide "conditional" concurrence. You should either concur with the information as provided (without <u>comments</u> or with <u>minor</u> comments) or not concur until revisions are made or additional information is provided.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade		
 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Provides Comments (below or attached)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Has No Comments</b>		
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: 		Date: <u>22 Jan 2010</u>

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(f) 410-209-5004

SHA's PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE  
AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

<b>Project Name &amp; Limits: MD 175: From MD 295 to MD 170</b>		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers	<input type="checkbox"/> National Marine Fisheries Service	
<input type="checkbox"/> Concurrs (without comments) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concurrs (w/ <u>minor</u> comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Does Not Concur		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence: With the potential that neither the Meyers nor Piera Sites may prove suitable for mitigation the Service recommends that SHA continue conducting a mitigation site search. The Service also recommends combining the mitigation needs of MD 175, MD 198 and MD 3.		
<i>Note: Do <u>not</u> provide "conditional" concurrence. You should either concur with the information as provided (without comments or with <u>minor</u> comments) or not concur until revisions are made or additional information is provided.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Provides Comments (below or attached) <input type="checkbox"/> Has No Comments		
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: 	Date: <u>1/25/10</u>	



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chesapeake Bay Field Office  
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
<http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay>

January 26, 2010

Mr. Bruce Grey, Deputy Director  
Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
707 North Calvert Street, Mailstop C-301  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: *PACM - MD 175 (Fort Meade Road) from MD 295 to MD 170, Anne Arundel County, Maryland*

Dear Mr. Grey:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has been engaged in the MD 175 Project Planning Study that has considered various alternatives to improve traffic operations and safety on the roadway segment that provides primary access to Fort Meade and Odenton in Anne Arundel County. The Service concurs with the preferred alternative. The State Highway Administration's (SHA) preferred alternative meets the project objectives and satisfies the condition of avoidance and minimization of impacts to natural resources.

The Service is concerned with the proposed mitigation for this project and believes several issues may warrant further investigation (as outlined below). The Service also recommends that the SHA continue researching other potential sites within the Patuxent River watershed. As part of this recommendation, we encourage SHA to look for sites that may satisfy and aggregate the mitigation needs for MD 175, MD 198 and MD 3 because they are in the same general vicinity.

Only two of the four sites identified in the mitigation site search conducted in the Summer/Fall of 2000 for MD 175 were found to have potential. The Service is providing specific recommendations for each of these two sites (Meyers and Pierra).

### Meyers

The Meyers project site sits on an abandoned terrace of the Patuxent River. The soils are primarily composed of Sassafras fine sandy loam. This area of the Patuxent watershed has a long history of sand and gravel mining. The hydrology for the proposed wetland mitigation is primarily from an ephemeral/intermittent stream that has been diverted to an existing farm pond. The review agencies have requested that piezometer(s) be installed to determine the amount of excavation required to intercept groundwater. It appears that a combination of grading and

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IN AMERICA** 

rerouting of the stream channel into and through the created wetland may be necessary to assure adequate hydrology.

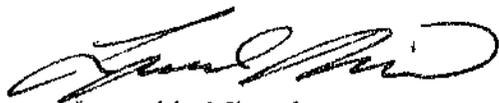
The size of the drainage area and its current land use directly relate to the project's feasibility. The Service has observed that the supporting watershed above the proposed project site is being considered for residential zoning by Anne Arundel County Department of Planning. The proposed land use change in this small watershed will have a direct effect on the hydrology for the project site. The Service recommends that SHA reevaluate this site during residential construction on the adjacent property. SHA may have to depend on groundwater for creating wetlands at this site. We would recommend that you search for a more viable mitigation site.

#### Piera

The hydric soil mapping unit for the Piera site is Donlonville (DnA) which is derived from parent material of glauconitic loamy fluviomarine deposits. The Service is concerned that these soils are strongly acid to very strongly acid. The presence of glauconitic soil would limit the potential of this site for mitigation. We would recommend the elimination of this site from further consideration if it contains glauconitic soils. Furthermore, adjoining the proposed mitigation site (east side) is a tract of drained palustrine forested wetlands. The Service recommends investigating the potential to receive enhancement credit by restoring the hydrology to these wetlands.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations for the MD 175 Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Mitch Keiler at (410) 573-4554.

Sincerely,

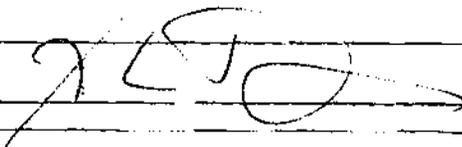


Leopoldo Miranda  
Supervisor

Attachment

cc: Jack Dinne, Baltimore Corps of Engineers, Baltimore, MD  
Barbara Rednick, EPA, Philadelphia, PA  
Greg Golden, DNR, Annapolis, MD  
Steve Hurt, MDE, Baltimore, MD  
Bradley Smith, SHA, Baltimore, MD  
Allison Townshend, SHA, Baltimore, MD

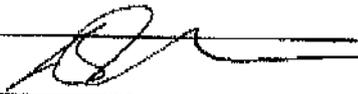
## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

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<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers		
<input type="checkbox"/> Concurs (without comments) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concurs (w/ <u>minor</u> comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Does Not Concur		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence:		
<i>Note: Do <u>not</u> provide "conditional" concurrence. You should either concur with the information as provided (without comments or with <u>minor</u> comments) or not concur until revisions are made or additional information is provided.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade		
<input type="checkbox"/> Provides Comments (below or attached) <input type="checkbox"/> Has No Comments		
Comments: <i>The Corps requests SHA continue to evaluate the conceptual mitigation sites for suitability and continue to investigate additional locations in case these sites prove inadequate.</i>		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: 	Date: <u>2/24/10</u>	

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
 707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
 Baltimore, MD 21202  
 (f) 410-209-5004

## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

<b>Project Name &amp; Limits:</b> MD 175: From MD 295 to MD 170		
<b>Having reviewed the attached SHA Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation concurrence/comment package and the summary presented above, the following agency (by signing this document):</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Highway Administration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Wildlife Service <input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of Natural Resources <input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Concur (without comments) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concur (w/ <u>minor</u> comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Does Not Concur		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence: <i>Any additional resource avoidance/minimization which can be achieved through design should be implemented. Appropriate mitigation will need to be identified with input of interagency team, and incorporated in 404 permit conditions.</i>		
<b>Note: Do <u>not</u> provide "conditional" concurrence. You should either concur with the information as provided (without comments or with <u>minor</u> comments) or not concur until revisions are made or additional information is provided.</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Provides Comments (below or attached) <input type="checkbox"/> Has No Comments		
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: 		Date: <u>4/26/10</u>

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
 707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
 Baltimore, MD 21202  
 (f) 410-209-5004

## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

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<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers		
<input type="checkbox"/> Concur (without comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Concur (w/ <u>minor</u> comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Does Not Concur		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence:		
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade		
<input type="checkbox"/> Provides Comments (below or attached) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has No Comments		
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: <u>Jim Talbot</u>		Date: <u>1/20/2010</u>

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
 707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
 Baltimore, MD 21202  
 (f) 410-209-5004

200905112  
2pe JT 1/20/2010

## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

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<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers		
<input type="checkbox"/> Concur (without comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Concur (w/ <u>minor</u> comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Does Not Concur		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence:		
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<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides Comments (below or attached) <input type="checkbox"/> Has No Comments		
Comments:		
<i>Attached is the comment letter.</i>		
Additional Information Needed: <i>Will the proposed hiker/biker trail be connected to nearby activity centers, a.g. <sup>the</sup> Jessup MARC station, and existing and</i>		
Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>	<i>Xu</i>	Date: <i>3/22/2010</i>

*planned trails along the MD175 corridor?*

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
 707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
 Baltimore, MD 21202  
 (f) 410-209-5004



*Maryland Department of Planning*

*Martin O'Malley*  
Governor

*Anthony G. Brown*  
Lt. Governor

*Richard Eberhart Hall*  
Secretary

*Matthew J. Power*  
Deputy Secretary

RECEIVED MARCH 21 2010

March 21, 2010

Mr. Dennis M. Atkins, Assistant Division Chief  
Environmental Planning Division  
Office of Planning & Preliminary Engineering  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
707 North Calvert Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

ATTN: Mr. Bradley Smith

Re: The Preferred Alternative & Conceptual Mitigation, the MD 175 Project Planning Study,  
Anne Arundel County, Maryland

Dear Mr. Atkins,

This letter is in response to your agency's request for the Maryland Department of Planning's comments on the Preferred Alternative & Conceptual Mitigation for the MD 175 Project Planning Study. We view that the Preferred Alternative would significantly improve transportation accessibility including pedestrian and bicycle access on MD 175 to support the BRAC installation at Fort Meade. The Alternative would also support the proposed transit-oriented development in the Odenton Station area and other planned development along the MD 175 corridor. The project is consistent with the Maryland's Smart Growth Policies.

The MD 175 corridor, as a major growing corridor and a Priority Funding Area in the County, presents a good opportunity for the State, the Federal/Fort Meade, and Anne Arundel County to work together in implementing a comprehensive transportation and land use approach in improving transportation mobility and supporting planned growth in the corridor. While the project would provide significant mainline improvements on MD 175, the State should continue to engage with the County and Fort Meade to encourage orderly land use planning and developments, provide a well-connected local roadway network (including pedestrian, bicycle and transit access), access management measures, and Transportation Demand Management strategies along MD 175 so as to reduce the traffic burden on the MD 175 mainline and improve overall transportation mobility in the corridor.

**Mr. Dennis M. Atkins**

**Page 2**

Thank you for providing MDP the opportunity to review the Preferred Alternative & Conceptual Mitigation for the MD 175 Project Planning Study. Should you have any questions with regard to the above comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-767-4567 or by email at [bxu@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:bxu@mdp.state.md.us).

Sincerely,



Bihui Xu, AICP

Manager, Transportation Planning

Cc: Mr. Joseph Kresslein, SHA - EPLD  
Ms. Michelle Martins, MDOT - OPCP  
Mr. Ian Cavanaugh, FHWA  
Ms. Pat Goucher, Infrastructure Planning, MDP  
Mr. George Cardwell, OPZ, Anne Arundel County

## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concur (without comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Concur (w/ <u>minor</u> comments) <input type="checkbox"/> Does Not Concur		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence:		
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<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization (BRAD)
<input type="checkbox"/> Provides Comments (below or attached)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has No Comments
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: <u>BRADLEY</u>		Date: <u>5.10.10</u>

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
 707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
 Baltimore, MD 21202  
 (f) 410-209-5004

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<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (without comments)</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (w/ <u>minor</u> comments)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does Not Concur</b>
<p><b>Comments</b> <del>Reasons for Non-Concurrence:</del> DNR deferred much of our mitigation review for this project to the other resource agencies. It is our understanding that several issues of discussion and analysis still exist for proposed mitigation. (continued below)</p>		
<p><b>Note: Do <u>not</u> provide "conditional" concurrence. You should either concur with the information as provided (without comments or with <u>minor</u> comments) or not concur until revisions are made or additional information is provided.</b></p>		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Provides Comments (below or attached)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Has No Comments</b>	
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: <u>Gregory Holden</u>		Date: <u>5/17/10</u>

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(f) 410-209-5004

if the currently considered mitigation sites cannot reach full agency concurrence after further study, we do not object to additional consideration of alternate mitigation sites. Our preference is for sites within the project's watershed, when feasible. Additionally, due to the developed

nature of the project's study area, stormwater management retrofits can, and should, be considered if further mitigation alternatives are explored. Also, because of current watershed development, we ask that further planning for project stormwater management (SWM) also include consideration of watershed condition to determine whether innovative SWM measures for the project can also help address, or even help retrofit, current negative conditions.

**From:** Redman, Tony [mailto:TRedman@dnr.state.md.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 8:44 AM  
**To:** Bradley Smith  
**Cc:** ' '; "Jack Dinne"; "Elder Ghigiarelli"; "Steve Hurt"  
**Subject:** RE: Final MD 175 PACM- approval requested

Bradley:

Please accept this email as notice of Maryland DNR's concurrence with the MD 175 Project Planning Study PACM as well as the recent revisions to the PACM regarding the impact numbers and the inclusion of the third wetland mitigation site. If you have any questions, or require a more formal letter of concurrence, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Tony

[Tony Redman](#)  
[Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#)  
[Environmental Review](#)  
Phone: 410-260-8336  
Fax: 410-260-833

From: T Tamburrino [mailto:TTamburrino@mdp.state.md.us]  
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 11:03 AM  
To: Bradley Smith  
Subject: RE: Final MD 175 PACM- approval requested

Brad,

The Maryland Historical Trust has reviewed the updated PACM for the MD 175 Project Planning Study. We are writing to confirm that our original concurrence with the document remains valid. Thank you for the opportunity to review the updated report.

Tim

Tim Tamburrino  
Maryland Historical Trust / MDP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
410-514-7637 p  
410-987-4071 f  
[ttamburrino@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:ttamburrino@mdp.state.md.us)  
[mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)

**From:** Regina Aris [mailto:raris@baltometro.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 22, 2010 12:19 PM  
**To:** Bradley Smith  
**Cc:** stomlinson@baltometro.org  
**Subject:** MD 175 PACM

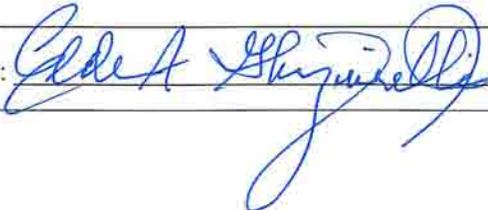
Good Morning Mr. Smith:  
BMC staff has reviewed the changes to the PACM for MD 175 that we previously approved. Based on the scope of the recent changes we agree that it is not necessary for a formal re-concurrence, therefore our original concurrence is still valid.

Thank you for the opportunity to review. Regina

Regina Aris, Assistant Director &  
Manager of Policy Development  
Transportation Division  
Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Offices @ McHenry Row  
1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
V 410-732-9572 // F 410-732-8248

## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

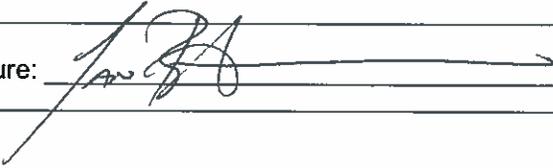
8 10DEC27 PM 1 41 DTP

<b>Project Name &amp; Limits:</b> MD 175: From MD 295 to MD 170		
<b>Having reviewed the attached SHA Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation concurrence/comment package and the summary presented above, the following agency (by signing this document):</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Highway Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Wildlife Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of Natural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (without comments)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (w/ <u>minor</u> comments)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does Not Concur</b>		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence:		
<i>Note: Do <u>not</u> provide "conditional" concurrence. You should either concur with the information as provided (without comments or with <u>minor</u> comments) or not concur until revisions are made or additional information is provided.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Provides Comments (below or attached)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Has No Comments</b>		
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: 		Date: <u>12/20/10</u>

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
 707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
 Baltimore, MD 21202  
 (f) 410-209-5004

## SHA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION

<b>Project Name &amp; Limits:</b> MD 175: From MD 295 to MD 170		
<b>Having reviewed the attached SHA Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation concurrence/comment package and the summary presented above, the following agency (by signing this document):</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Highway Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Wildlife Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of Natural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Dept. of the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corps of Engineers		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (without comments)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs (w/ <u>minor</u> comments)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does Not Concur</b>		
Comments / Reasons for Non-Concurrence:		
<i>Note: Do <u>not</u> provide "conditional" concurrence. You should either concur with the information as provided (without comments or with <u>minor</u> comments) or not concur until revisions are made or additional information is provided.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> MD Historical Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> MD Department of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Planning Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Meade		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Provides Comments (below or attached)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Has No Comments</b>		
Comments:		
Additional Information Needed:		
Signature: 	Date: <u>2.24.2011</u>	

Please return to:

Mr. Bradley Smith  
 707 N. Calvert Street, C-301  
 Baltimore, MD 21202  
 (f) 410-209-5004



Martin O'Malley, Governor  
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary  
Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mr. Todd Nichols, Chief *TN*  
Environmental Programs Division

**FROM:** Allison Townshend  
Environmental Programs Division

**DATE:** September 11, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Project No. AA436B11  
MD 175 from MD 295 to MD 170  
Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
Wetland Mitigation Site Tour Meeting Minutes

On August 14, 2009 a field meeting was conducted for the subject project to present potential wetland mitigation sites to the regulatory agencies. The individuals and organizations represented at the field meeting included the following:

- Mr. Jack Dinne - COE – Regulatory Branch
- Ms. Jennifer Hannum - MDE – Wetlands and Waterways Program
- Mr. Mitch Keiler - US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Ms. Veronica Piskor - SHA – Environmental Programs Division
- Mr. Bradley Smith - SHA – Environmental Planning Division
- Ms. Allison Townshend - SHA – Environmental Programs Division
- Mr. Bob Bull - The Wilson T. Ballard Company

Attendees met on-site to briefly discuss the wetland mitigation sites that would be visited. Ms. Allison Townshend initiated the meeting by explaining that a mitigation site search was not conducted for the MD 175 Planning Study. Rather, sites previously identified and prioritized as part of the MD 32/Fort Meade/NSA mitigation site search efforts conducted in Summer/Fall 2000 would be visited. Ms. Townshend also mentioned that it was SHA's intention to combine mitigation site search efforts for the MD 175 Planning Study and the MD 198 Planning Study and pursue sites that would satisfy mitigation needs for both projects. Per the Preferred Alternate, the MD 175 Planning Study will require approximately 3.5 acres of wetland mitigation and approximately 700 linear feet of stream mitigation. The MD 198 Planning Study is currently at the Alternates Retained for Detailed Study (ARDS) stage and is approximately one year behind the MD 175 Planning Study in the NEPA process. However, it is anticipated that the MD 198 Planning Study may require approximately 10 to 15 acres of wetland mitigation.

Ms. Townshend indicated that only two of the four sites presented in the MD 32 wetland mitigation site search report would be reviewed with the agencies, as a field visit conducted earlier in the week showed that two of the sites were no longer viable due to issues with hydrology, hazardous waste, and extensive excavation. As such, only the Meyers Site and the Piera Site would be reviewed with the agencies at this time. Additionally, the mitigation potential at both the Meyers and Piera Sites are much less than previously anticipated. Therefore, the MD 175 and MD 198 Planning Studies would not be able to combine efforts as intended, and the field review with the agencies would be conducted for MD 175 mitigation needs only. Lastly, Ms. Townshend briefly presented the results of GIS desktop research for the Meyers and Piera Sites, which included USGS topo mapping, FEMA mapping and soils mapping as well as mapping indicating the locations of green infrastructure hubs and gaps as well as CREP targeted stream segments.

The field meeting then proceeded to the potential mitigation sites. Discussions at each reviewed site consisted of the following:

#### Meyers Site

The Meyers Site is located within the Patuxent River Watershed at 1416 Meyers Station Road in Odenton, Anne Arundel County. This potential wetland mitigation site was identified as part of the MD 32/Fort Meade/NSA mitigation site search efforts conducted in Summer/Fall 2000. The site currently consists of fallow field with an existing farm pond and a stream that bisects the field from north to south. Forested areas occur to the north and south of the open field. Hunting is currently permitted on-site. Ms. Townshend briefly noted that the upper portion of the Meyers Site is located within a gap of a green infrastructure hub. Additionally, the stream within the open field is a CREP targeted stream segment.

Mr. Bob Bull indicated that the mitigation potential at the Meyers Site is much less than previously anticipated. Original estimates for wetland mitigation included approximately 16 acres of creation/restoration. Mr. Bull stated that, at most, there is the potential for 4 to 6 acres of wetland mitigation and these areas appear to be south of the existing farm pond along either side of the stream. Although upcoming development upstream could increase surface flow volumes, the stream currently has little flow, and Mr. Bull expressed concern regarding adequate hydrology to support a wetland system once the site is planted and vegetation is established. Mr. Bull also noted that a good amount of excavation would be required; however, any excavated material could potentially be wasted on site and perhaps create terrain for hunting.

Mr. Bull proceeded to dig a soil pit on the east side of the stream, within an area of mitigation potential. No groundwater was encountered and at approximately 4 to 5 inches below the surface, a gravel-dominated layer was detected. Mr. Bull noted that it appears the top soil had been harvested in the past. Mr. Bull also anticipated that precipitation-fed hydrology supports the existing wetland pockets found in the open field as opposed to drainage supplied from the adjacent stream. Mr. Mitch Keiler noted that the adjacent stream also appeared

excavated due to the presence of young growth. Mr. Bull anticipated that the adjacent fields were most likely excavated in the past, possibly down to the current stream level. It is possible that the topographic features were "scraped" for hunting purposes and excavated material was used to create berms along the stream.

Approximately 300 feet south of the existing farm pond on the west side of the stream, a ditch was observed. This ditch flows in an easterly direction into the stream, with evidence of beaver activity at the confluence. Mr. Jack Dinne and Mr. Keiler indicated that the ditch may be intercepting seepage from the pond, and this area between the ditch and the pond may warrant further investigation. Plugging the ditch was also briefly discussed; however, it was questioned by the agencies if ditch plugging would adequately raise the groundwater to support a wetland system versus groundwater merely concentrating in localized areas.

Overall, Mr. Dinne and Mr. Keiler indicated that the upper portions of the Meyers Site appear to have some potential. On the east side of the stream, a wet area could potentially be established with excavation and provide approximately 1 to 1.5 acres of wetland mitigation. Mr. Keiler also indicated that the stream could be re-routed through the created wet area and re-connected at a downstream location. Re-routing the stream could provide additional hydrology as well as satisfy stream mitigation needs. It was also noted that the stream should be sized to accommodate increased flow volumes from development build-out upstream. On the west side of the stream, between the pond and the ditch, a wet area could also potentially be established with excavation and ditch plugging and provide approximately 1 to 1.5 acres of wetland mitigation. However, hydrology is still questionable for both areas. Mr. Keiler recommended installing piezometers to monitor and establish groundwater levels as well as researching soil profiles to determine porosity and the presence of any confining layers. Mr. Keiler also recommended researching NRCS photos to ascertain the history of the site with respect to topography.

### **Piera Site**

The Piera Site is located within the Patuxent River Watershed in Davidsonville, Anne Arundel County. This site is bordered by Rossback Road to the north, US 50 to the south and Patuxent River Road to the west. This potential wetland mitigation site was identified as part of the MD 32/Fort Meade/NSA mitigation site search efforts conducted in Summer/Fall 2000. The site consists of a commercial turf field with a forested area to the east, which contains an irrigation pond. Ms. Townshend briefly noted that, per the Anne Arundel County Soil Survey, the eastern portion of the Piera Site is dominated by Donlonton fine sandy loam (DnA), which is rated as partially hydric and characterized by a depth to groundwater of approximately 0 to 2 feet.

Mr. Bull indicated that the mitigation potential at the Piera Site is less than previously anticipated. Original estimates for wetland mitigation included approximately 7 acres of creation/restoration. Mr. Bull stated that, at most, there is the potential for 3 acres of wetland

mitigation on the east side of the property adjacent to the forested area and irrigation pond. The elevation of the property rises to the west and continues to climb past the vegetation line.

Mr. Bull proceeded to dig a soil pit on the east side of the property, within an area of mitigation potential. At approximately 2 feet below the surface, a clay layer was encountered. This clay layer appeared at least 10 inches thick. Mr. Bull noted that the soils may indicate a buried A Horizon or a clay fragipan. Additionally, within the clay layer, a sheen was noticeable possibly indicating the presence of interstitial water.

Mr. Dinne and Ms. Jennifer Hannum both stated that the Piera Site is preferred over the Meyers Site. Mr. Dinne further stated that SHA should investigate stormwater management potential in the southwest corner of the potential mitigation area. Stormwater runoff from US 50 could be treated at the site, which would also provide a source of hydrology. Mr. Keiler further stated that treating stormwater runoff would address a recent Executive Order targeting transportation agencies to provide better stormwater management in an effort to restore Chesapeake Bay water quality.

The east side of the irrigation pond, within the forested area, was also briefly investigated. Mr. Bull dug a soil pit, and found a clay layer at approximately 1 foot below the surface. It was noted that the area was a mix of forested wetland and upland. The elevation was also noted as lower than the adjacent potential mitigation area. There were also two ditches observed. One ditch originated at the roadway and flowed south into the irrigation pond. The second ditch originated from within the forested area and flowed west into the above mentioned ditch. Mr. Dinne suggested investigating and delineating the forested area to determine if there is any wetland preservation or enhancement potential.

Overall, the agencies preferred the Piera Site over the Meyers Site. Mr. Dinne indicated that it would be more cost effective to pursue the Piera Site. However, hydrology would need to be investigated and confirmed. Mr. Keiler recommended installing piezometers to monitor and establish groundwater levels as well as installing nested iris tubes to determine the occurrence of reduction in the soils.

### Summary

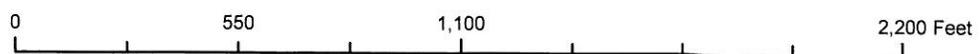
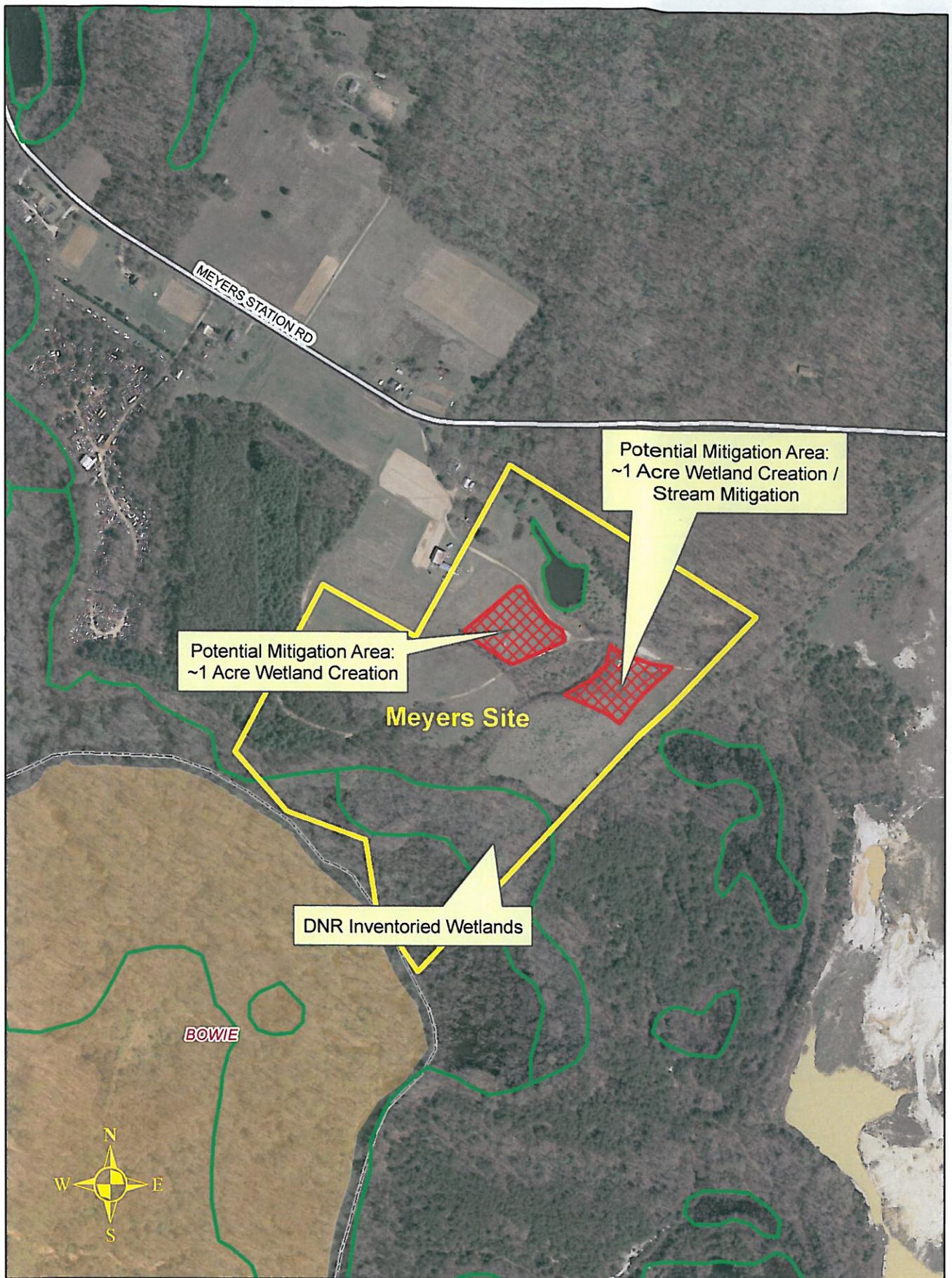
The field tour convened at the Piera Site to briefly discuss the presented sites as well as any preferences or additional recommendations. Although neither site was optimal, the agencies preferred the Piera Site over the Meyers Site. Hydrology needs to be further investigated and confirmed at both sites. Additionally, it is uncertain as to whether the Piera Site could provide the required wetland mitigation acreage. Stream mitigation must also be addressed. As such, the Meyers Site may need to be pursued, in addition to the Piera Site, to provide stream mitigation as well as the balance of wetland mitigation acreage. Ms. Townshend mentioned, if needed, there are stream mitigation sites that were reviewed as part of the MD 3 Planning Study within the Patuxent River Watershed that could be further investigated. Ms. Veronica Piskor also

mentioned that SHA will continue to search for potential wetland and stream mitigation sites within the watershed to find more acceptable sites as well as those that would satisfy mitigation needs for both the MD 175 Planning Study and the MD 198 Planning Study. Mr. Keiler suggested contacting Mr. Ron Bowen, Director of Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works, and/or Mr. Fred Tutman, Patuxent Riverkeeper, for potential sites in need of restoration within the Patuxent River Watershed.

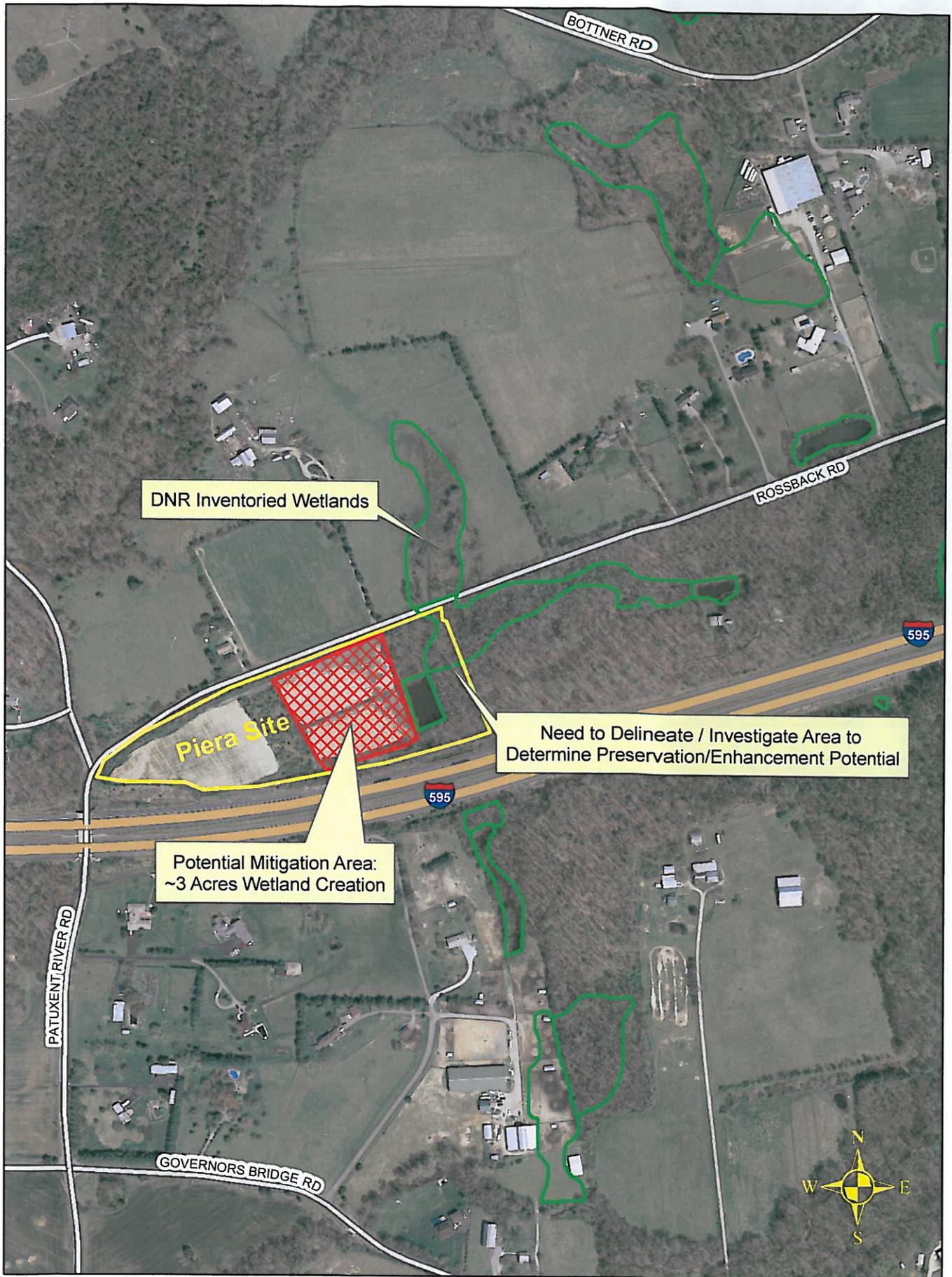
The above is an account of the events that took place on August 14, 2009. Should your understanding differ from those presented here or if you detect omissions, please contact Ms. Allison Townshend at (410) 545-8593 and the text will be amended.

cc: Attendees  
Ms. Danielle Edmonds, SHA – Project Management Division

# MD 175 Planning Study Mitigation Site Search: Meyers Site



# MD 175 Planning Study Mitigation Site Search: Piera Site



DNR Inventoried Wetlands

Piera Site

Need to Delineate / Investigate Area to Determine Preservation/Enhancement Potential

Potential Mitigation Area:  
~3 Acres Wetland Creation

0 550 1,100 2,200 Feet