

Office of the County Auditor
Auditor's Analysis

Council Resolution No. 41-2021

Introduced: March 1, 2021

Auditor: Lisa Geerman

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact of this legislation is approximately \$6.3 million in stormwater bonds which the County intends to appropriate in the Fiscal Year 2022 budget. An additional fiscal impact is \$1.3 million in debt service payments in FY 2022.

The Administration has indicated that the costs to meet the five-year impervious acre restoration goal of 10 percent (or 1,102 acres) will be approximately \$30 million. To achieve this goal, the County programmed \$6.5 million in FY 2021 and anticipates programming at least \$6.0 million annually in FY 2023, FY 2024, and FY 2025 in a number of projects. These cost estimates include the engineering design, construction, and monitoring costs associated with commencing and completing the impervious acre restoration requirement.

Purpose:

This resolution approves a Financial Assurance Plan for Howard County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit programs. An updated plan establishing an impervious acre restoration goal must be submitted every two years. The previous plan was approved by Council Resolution 45-2019.

Other Comments:

According to the Administration, the following stream construction projects that have been or are scheduled to be built in FY 2021/FY 2022 will count towards NPDES impervious service credits:

- Mellon Court Stream
- Woodcrest Drive Stream
- Pirch Way Stream
- Sucker Branch Tributary 2/5
- Old Willow Way Stream
- Cherrytree Farms Stream
- Sunnyfield Drive Stream

- Carrigan Drive Outfall
- Gwynn Park Drive Outfall

The first seven projects are programmed in Capital Project D1176 and the last two projects are in Capital Project D1178. According to the Administration, the cost of these projects is estimated to be approximately \$1.2 million to \$1.3 million per project.