

**Sayers, Margery**

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**From:** no-reply@howardcountymd.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, October 4, 2021 5:42 PM  
**To:** rdavis11@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Council - dunloggin stream restoration tonights agenda

**First Name:** roger  
**Last Name:** davis  
**Email:** [rdavis11@comcast.net](mailto:rdavis11@comcast.net)  
**Street Address:** 9316 ROCK MEADOW DRIVE  
**City:** ELLICOTT CITY  
**Subject:** dunloggin stream restoration tonights agenda

**Message:**

Dear Mr. Ball and Members of the Council, I am writing in opposition to tonights Legislation # TA02-FY2022, Capital Project D1176. It concerns the stream restoration behind Dunloggin Middle School. I beleive it would be a big mistake to proceed with this project. I have many arguments to make about this but I will start with the one that I think will concern you most. There are many people who love the woods that this stream goes through because of the path going through it. The few people who saw the cryptic sign at the entrance to the schools probably were not alarmed because stream restoration sounds like a wonderful thing. When these people see how many trees are cut down they will rightfully raise hell. Your public works people talking about natural channel design, and connecting with the floodplain will fall on deaf ears because people will not beleive what they see is good. If you google criticism of stream restoration and read the articles you will find that stream restoration is being done on a large scale and is certainly big money, but their is very little science behind it. Unfortunately I think your public works people are on that bandwagon. I don't really understand the EPA and MDE regulations concerning TMDL but I assume Howard County will get credit towards reducing TMDL just by doing the work, wether it actually works or not. There doesn't appear to be much followup on these projects to see if they really work. The real way to stop sediment from getting to the bay is to prevent stormwater from getting to the streams, not engineering the streams to handle more water. Unfortunately your publec works people would have to do many small projects with all that annoying public feedback. I can think of three possible projects for this stream. The swale in the middle of mcalpine might be converted to a stormwater retention pond. The fields at the schools, any schools for that matter, could have management ponds added, and I beleive north chatham road in Valley Mede has a swale lined with concrete! There is a sewer main running under the stream. Twenty years ago there was an sewage overflow into the stream and some kids were hospitalized and one of them lost a kidney. I hope the sewer has been evaluated and is not going to need repairs in the near future. During big storms the houses on Spring meadow are threatened with flooding. The publicly stated reason for this stream restoration is to slow the flow of the water. I hope you can assure the people on spring meadow that slower water downstream will not increase their chance of flooding. The south end of Chatham road is also underwater during big floods. I dont know if there are any elderly people living down there. Your public works people have even gone into the stream to remove trees at the request of the people concerned about flooding. When I thought I would have time to prepare a proper argument against this project I was going to research the health of the stream and the diversity of the woods surrounding it. This woods has an enormous population of spring peepers that are as loud as the cicadas. It will be very sad next spring when they are gone. The woods have screech owls, barred owls, pileated woodpeckers, and heron. This project will destroy a significant amount of their habitat. Have you ever seen an owl in the wild? My family has raised orphaned ducks from the stream. Do you think ducks will lay eggs in the middle of an open field with a few pathetic saplings in plastic tubes as their only cover. I have seen snapping turtles, box turtles, red eared sliders, garter snakes, ring necked snakes, water snakes, bull frogs, leopard frogs, toads and a group of probably one hundred tiny frogs I couldn't identify. Do you really think they will survive a year of bulldozers and backhoes? This project is 1.6 million dollars. The length of the project is over 3,000 feet, I think that is 30 football fields. I hope you know what you are doing, because its your job. Don't tell me later you trusted a bureacrat stuck in an impossible job, who is just doing what everybody else is doing. If you have any questions my number is 410-627-6033. Thanks. Roger S. Davis.

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** roger davis <rdavis11@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 4, 2021 5:31 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** urgent tonights business, dunloggin stream restoration

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Mr. Ball and Members of the Council,

I am writing in opposition to tonight's Legislation # TA02-FY2022, Capital Project D1176. It concerns the stream restoration behind Dunloggin Middle School. I believe it would be a big mistake to proceed with this project. I have many arguments to make about this but I will start with the one that I think will concern you most. There are many people who love the woods that this stream goes through because of the path going through it. The few people who saw the cryptic sign at the entrance to the schools probably were not alarmed because stream restoration sounds like a wonderful thing. When these people see how many trees are cut down they will rightfully raise hell. Your public works people talking about natural channel design, and connecting with the floodplain will fall on deaf ears because people will not believe what they see is good. If you google criticism of stream restoration and read the articles you will find that stream restoration is being done on a large scale and is certainly big money, but there is very little science behind it. Unfortunately I think your public works people are on that bandwagon. I don't really understand the EPA and MDE regulations concerning TMDL but I assume Howard County will get credit towards reducing TMDL just by doing the work, whether it actually works or not. There doesn't appear to be much followup on these projects to see if they really work. The real way to stop sediment from getting to the bay is to prevent stormwater from getting to the streams, not engineering the streams to handle more water. Unfortunately your public works people would have to do many small projects with all that annoying public feedback. I can think of three possible projects for this stream. The swale in the middle of McAlpine might be converted to a stormwater retention pond. The fields at the schools, any schools for that matter, could have management ponds added, and I believe north Chatham road in Valley Mede has a swale lined with concrete!

There is a sewer main running under the stream. Twenty years ago there was a sewage overflow into the stream and some kids were hospitalized and one of them lost a kidney. I hope the sewer has been evaluated and is not going to need repairs in the near future. During big storms the houses on Spring meadow are threatened with flooding. The publicly stated reason for this stream restoration is to slow the flow of the water. I hope you can assure the people on Spring meadow that slower water downstream will not increase their chance of flooding. The south end of Chatham road is also underwater during big floods. I don't know if there are any elderly people living down there. Your public works people have even gone into the stream to remove trees at the request of the people concerned about flooding.

When I thought I would have time to prepare a proper argument against this project I was going to research the health of the stream and the diversity of the woods surrounding it. This woods has an enormous population of spring peepers that are as loud as the cicadas. It will be very sad next spring when they are gone. The woods have screech owls, barred owls, pileated woodpeckers, and heron. This project will destroy a significant amount of their habitat. Have you ever seen an owl in the wild? My family has raised orphaned ducks from the stream. Do you think ducks will lay eggs in the middle of an open field with a few pathetic saplings in plastic tubes as their only cover. I have seen snapping turtles, box turtles, red eared sliders, garter snakes, ring necked snakes, water snakes, bull frogs,

leopard frogs, toads and a group of probably one hundred tiny frogs I couldn't identify. Do you really think they will survive a year of bulldozers and backhoes? This project is 1.6 million dollars. The length of the project is over 3,000 feet, I think that is 30 football fields. I hope you know what you are doing, because its your job. Don't tell me later you trusted a bureacrat stuck in an impossible job, who is just doing what everybody else is doing. If you have any questions my number is 410-627-6033. Thanks. Roger S. Davis.

**Sayers, Margery**

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**From:** Leslie Toussaint <l2saint@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2021 5:11 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Council Bill 80-2021

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Physical harassment of public-facing employees (airlines, nurses, first responders, restaurant workers) and other citizens has indeed become a problem recently. I have no doubt that DPW and other county employees have encountered members of the public who exhibit dangerous levels of anger and frustration. As a county resident, I experienced this last Fall at Cedar Lane Park when another county resident grew angry over the fact that the tennis courts were reserved for children's lessons. The individuals in question used foul and threatening language against parents and parks and rec staff in front of the children who were there for the class. It was inappropriate, scary and stressful and we called the police. The bigger issue was the perpetrators were long gone by the time law enforcement (in this case, a county park ranger) showed up on the scene.

Which brings me to the point that we already have laws against verbal and physical assault of county employees. They are the same laws that are supposed to protect residents. Council Bill 80-2021 simply reiterates what constitutes a verbal threat and prohibits them on county property. Seems we should be adding police presence at some of these locations to discourage this behavior and enforce existing laws, rather than writing new ones.

Not saying harassment isn't an issue, just saying adding more laws isn't going to fix it. The pandemic has put everyone on edge and as stress levels rise so does people's frustrations. We need to add more security personnel to discourage and de-escalate the behavior.

Thank you,  
Leslie Toussaint  
Ellicott City, MD