

October 1, 2024

Ms. D'Andrea Walker Baltimore County Administrative Officer 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Piney Run at Butler Road Stream and Riparian Restoration

Fee Waiver Request

Dear Ms. Walker:

On behalf of the applicant, Watershed Environmental, LLC is requesting an exemption from the Development Management Phase 2 grading review fee and grading permit review fees for the above referenced project. The proposed activity is aimed to restore Piney Run and its riparian corridor on the Horneffer and Shaffer properties, which are situated at 3328 and 3334 Butler Road in the Butler area of Baltimore County, Maryland.

The project proposes to restore approximately 5,800 linear feet of Piney Run, 0.5 acres of nontidal wetland, and plant a total of 9.5 acres of riparian forest. The applicant is the Land Preservation Trust, a non-profit. Funding for design of the proposed stream restoration was provided by Baltimore County through the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (DEPS). The stream channel restoration will consist of multiple practices for bank stabilization, provide greater floodplain access, increase floodplain roughness, provide habitat enhancement for the natural reproducing trout population, and greatly improve water quality. Funding for the construction of the project will be through Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Atlantic and Coastal Bays Trust Fund. The restoration project will result in significant nutrient reduction to the Chesapeake Bay and will generate Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) credits. Baltimore County will be the beneficiary of the TMDL credits from this project which will aid in meeting the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) goals for carrying out the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program implemented by the Federal Clean Water Act.

This project is part of a larger effort to reduce and eliminate significant soil erosion which ultimately deposits nutrients and pollutants into the Chesapeake Bay. The restoration project and resulting nutrient and pollutant reductions benefit Baltimore County as the recipient of TMDL credit to be used towards meeting the MS4 goals. In addition, the restoration project benefits the greater community in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

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This Fee Waiver Request is being requested primarily due to the source of the funding for the design of the project. The design of the project is being funded by a grant funded by Baltimore County through DEPS. In addition, the construction of the project will be funded by MD DNR. At the direction of the Deputy Director of DEPS, we are requesting this waiver since the project is funded by Baltimore County and the County will be the beneficiary of the TMDL credit.

Please accept this letter as the official request for a Fee Waiver for Phase 2 grading review and grading permit review fees.

Sincerely,

Sean McDonough

Environmental Scientist

Cc: Mr. C. Peter Gutwald