PRAB Report #2016-2

February 18, 2016

Subject: Clean Water Partnership Proposal to Dredge Two Forebays

Background: At the Park and Recreation Advisory Board's (PRAB) February 17, 2016 meeting, the Board considered the Greenbelt City Council's referral regarding forebay dredging at Buddy Attick Lake Park. A team of consultants on behalf of Prince George's County's Clean Water Partnership Program presented background information about the initiative and initial information about the proposed dredging of the two forebays at the lake. Members of Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) and other interested residents also attended.

Discussion: The consensus of the Board was that it would be mutually beneficial to the County and to the City to reduce pervious surfaces, reduce pollutants in the lake and increase the capacity of the forebays. (Green ACES will address their issues in a separate report.) The forebays are long overdue for dredging and the City has not had funding to do this work. PRAB also liked that ongoing maintenance would be a part of this initiative.

PRAB had questions and comments on timing, duration and disruption caused by the dredging. The presenters addressed some issues, but did not have many details. PRAB is concerned about tree loss, revegetation, duration of disruption, access to the lake during dredging and impact on park users. However, as more specific details of the proposal become available, PRAB would be able to pinpoint more specific concerns.

Conclusions: PRAB supports the concept of the forebay dredging project as proposed by the Clean Water Partnership group. However, PRAB recommends community involvement, as well as PRAB review of the details of the site plan prior to implementation.

Vote: 7 to 0

Respectfully submitted by:

Lola Skolnik, Chair

Park and Recreation Advisory Board