

**FW: Comments on draft Climate Action Plans**

Climate <Climate@montgomerycountymd.gov>

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**To:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** David L. Goldwyn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 28, 2021 3:05 PM  
**To:** Climate <Climate@montgomerycountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments on draft Climate Action Plans

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Climate Action Team,

I write to applaud the thorough and sophisticated climate analysis provided in the Climate Action Plan report and urge you to adopt more precise requirements with respect to the permitting of new homes.

I live in Chevy Chase View. Our community has experienced significant flooding due to the inability of County stormwater infrastructure to retain the rain water flows from intense storms.

The September 10, 2020 storm caused significant flooding as nearly 4 inches of rain fell in a short period of time, overwhelming the county's stormwater infrastructure and leading to the backfill of water into yards and homes and basements. It is at least the second such storm in five years. Many home experience flooding from lesser storms.

I'm the organizer of a Chevy Chase View Stormwater Management Coalition which seeks to encourage the county to remediate these problems.

Many of your recommendations address the problems we are facing. Specifically modernizing culverts, providing more current climate information, the credit trading program and requiring new construction be built for a 500 year storm.

I would specifically suggest that the Department of Permitting Services be required to update the stormwater retention standards for new construction to be able to accommodate these storms of at least 4 inches per two hour period. They also need to put permits, site remediation plans and any waivers on line so they can be easily accessed by residents.

I also suggest that the scope of new construction requiring on-site retention of water be expanded as well. Recommendation A – 11 addresses this recommendation in part but it is unclear whether the building code recommendation applies to residential properties.

There are several other excellent recommendations, such as A – 12 the stormwater retention credit-rating program and A – 13 eliminating stormwater management requirement waivers.

The green infrastructure recommendations will go a long way towards limiting the potential increase in storm water flows.

But the only way we can effectively deal with the legacy of the lack of stormwater retention planning to date, at least in neighborhoods like Chevy Chase View, is to ensure that the infrastructure built so long ago is expanded to manage current flows. At a minimum the infrastructure should be expanded to alleviate the low lying areas now subject to recurrent flooding.

I encourage you to make this infrastructure expansion, and funding to support, an urgent priority.

Thank you for your extraordinary efforts in designing this plan.

David Goldwyn



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