

To the Montgomery County Council and all fellow citizens,

I urge removal of funding for so-called "stream restorations" from all projects in the FY25 Capital Budget's Conservation of Natural Resources category & FY25-30 Capital Improvements Program (CIP).

I am a county homeowner, a taxpayer and a parent. I have monitored some of these projects over time at close range. They usually involve massive intervention and ecological disruption. By removing established trees and natural streambeds, they stress and kill populations of riparian animals. They use heavy equipment and have large carbon footprints. They cost millions of dollars. They leave the streambanks in a compromised state that is vulnerable to invasive species and other problems. They epitomize a dangerous and foolish old mindset, increasingly discredited, of arrogant human meddling.

Sincerely, D. Travis Gallagher