



ANNE
ARUNDEL
COUNTY

MARYLAND

County Executive John R. Leopold

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
2662 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 26, 2007

Ms. Kathleen Gramp
President
Advocates for Herring Bay
404 Arundel Road
Tracys Landing, MD 20779

Re: Town Point Dredge Material Placement Facility

Dear Ms. Gramp:

I was forwarded your letter by County Executive, John Leopold, dated January 25, 2007, describing the concerns of your organization relating to the proposed capacity improvements to the Town Point Dredge Material Placement (DMP) facility. Since the recent February 7, 2007, public hearing for the associated DMP channel dredging permit, we have received similar written testimony echoing your very concerns. As well, we have received letters of support for the project from communities who have expressed concerns for their respective creeks' health should dredging be further delayed.

To balance all concerns and citizen expectations Countywide, we are committed to waterway projects that restore boating access and must be sensitive, responsive and responsible with our designs. Undoubtedly, we can improve our design coordination and outreach with those neighboring and directly affected by our Town Point DMP facility.

It is obvious that first and foremost amongst many of the stated concerns is the truck traffic associated with our material-recycling plan. As you may know, the existing facility is optimally located in close proximity to deep federally maintained navigation channels and local creeks that are in need of dredging. This proximity coupled with the proposed channel dredging into the facility, positions the County to most cost

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effectively manage, dispose and beneficially re-use the material being dredged from our waterways. Water-side access will limit the number of trucks needed to import dredged material into the facility and provides flexibility to remove and barge good sand material to one of the many beach replenishment needs along the County's shoreline.

Recognizing the inherent value this facility provides to our overall dredging program and the local area concerns with its revitalization and associated truck traffic, I have directed my staff to develop an operations plan that addresses all concerns and that reduces truck traffic. My goal is to evaluate all reasonable options that address your concerns to the extent they can be mitigated, while not impacting the deliberate and programmed viability of our dredging program. This will take a deliberate and thoughtful process over the next year to ensure it is done comprehensively, effectively and responsibly.

Anne Arundel County has a history of navigation and a need to restore access to the Chesapeake Bay. We must move forward with the Town Point DMP improvements and collectively work together to address all concerns. You have my commitment to invest the time and resources necessary to work with your organization and find a solution that meets all needs.

You will be contacted by Chris Phipps, Deputy Director for the Bureau of Engineering, to establish a working group to develop an operations plan to minimize and address the concerns articulated by your organization. If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Chris at 410-222-7540, or myself at 410-222-7092.

Sincerely,



Ronald E. Bowen, P.E.
Director

cc: John R. Leopold, County Executive, Anne Arundel County
Erik Robey, Assistant to Chief Administrative Officer, County Executive's Office
Bea Poulin, Community & Constituent Services Specialist, County Executive's Office
Christopher J. Phipps, Deputy Director, Bureau of Engineering
Keith Tate, Bayland Consultants