

Additional Environmental Consultation Participants Concerns

concerns about transportation's effect on environmental resources

Stormwater Impacts

- Stream channel instability and degradation due to poorly managed stormwater runoff
- Storm water be managed onsite & water quality BMPs be incorporated into transportation projects
- Ecological relevance be considered when considering storm water management
- The quality and quantity of stormwater runoff be adequately addressed and effects be mitigated (or offset, if not improved) as land is being developed (from agricultural or wooded or greenspace areas)
- Control of sediment runoff
- Combined sewer overflows be reduced

Wildlife Impacts

- Areas of concentrated biological diversity remain intact
- Continuity and connection of open space for wildlife movement

Additional Concerns identified in survey responses

- Hillside with sensitive/slide prone soils need to be protected
- High pollutant levels near heavily travelled roadways (particulates 2.5 parts per million)
- Loss of wetlands
- Maybe not a major concern, but viewshed and soundshed concerns.
- Not only protect streams, but need more stream corridor restoration

Additional Concerns identified in discussion

- Effects of the new Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule on development patterns in areas with steep terrain (concerns about protecting ephemeral streams in ravines vs. providing for roadway connectivity and walkability)
- Need for greater consideration of the secondary development impacts of transportation improvements to major arterials
- Occurrence of fill and development in flood hazard areas
- Need to account for the greater ecological value of older forested area with larger trees and greater canopy

The need to address the major environmental concerns is increasingly important given the potential impacts of climate change. U.S. EPA recommendations for adapting ecosystems to climate change include three measures that overlap with the Major Environmental Concerns:

- Protect and increase wildlife corridors to allow species to migrate as the climate changes,
- Plant trees and expand green spaces in urban settings to moderate heat increases and
- Protect and restore stream and river banks to ensure good water quality and safe guard water quantity.