

FRANKLIN AREA CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Supervisor John Foust
Dranesville District
McLean Government Center
1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA 22101

September 17, 2017

Dear John:

On behalf of the more than 1,400 families in the Franklin Area, we respectfully request your assistance, as a matter of urgent importance, regarding the repair and maintenance of a footbridge, stairway and footpath in a wooded area in the back of Chesterbrook Elementary School. Because of the extraordinary environmental circumstances and heavy storm water in the area, it is vital to mitigate further damage by whatever means in this wooded environmentally sensitive floodplain bisected by two streams which ultimately flow into the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.

One storm water stream flows from the Patton Terrace Drainage Area. The other flows from a large drainage area in the vicinity of Virginia Ave and continues into an ever deepening and rapidly eroding creek along the side property line of 1870 Virginia Ave. Storm water flow is increasingly damaging private property and the wooded areas in the back of Chesterbrook School. The pathways and numerous large trees many of 100 feet are being undermined by erosion and fall into an ever widening waterway as it joins forces with the other flowing from the floodplain in the Patton Terrace Area. The combined force of these two waterways threatens to carry away and destroy a vital footbridge which provides the only access from the back of Chesterbrook School, its playground and playing fields. Therefore, we are requesting your assistance for vital repair and floodwater mitigating measures.

As you know, the Franklin Area is more than 100 years old, lacks modern sewer infrastructure and is riddled with increasing problems of storm water damage because of rapid infill development on a very high percentage of the buildable lots. The Patton Terrace Project, for which we thank you again for your leadership, highlighted this rapid infill activity as well as the need for the corrective action which was recently completed in Patton Terrace.

In summary, we respectfully request your assistance to preserve and protect the environment by mitigating storm water damage and making repairs to the vital Chesterbrook Footbridge, stairway and footpath. Should you or your staff desire to visit the areas described, I will be pleased to provide assistance.

With best wishes and many thanks for all you do,

Wallace T. Sansone
President, Franklin Area Citizens Association
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