



Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission  
Report to the County Board

FY 2023-2032 Proposed Capital Improvement Plan

Budget Area:	Stormwater
FAAC Reviewers:	Peter Robertson, Thelma Askey, Claire Noakes, John Tuohy
Date of FAAC Action:	16 June 2022
Presented By:	Peter Robertson, FAAC Chairman

**FAAC Opinion:**

FAAC Recommendation #1			
FAAC recommends that the County Board adopt the County Manager’s proposed CIP for stormwater investments			
Vote	Yes: 8	No: 0	Abstain: 0
Comments			

**Future Considerations**

1. The FAAC applauds the progress made by the County in meeting water quality requirements under its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (“MS4”) permit. The pollution reductions required in the next MS4 permit cycle (2026-2031) for nutrients and sediment are significantly greater – Arlington must reduce its share of these pollutants by an additional 60 percent. The FAAC urges the County Board and staff to consider whether the planned investments and others actions being taken on water quality issues are sufficient to meet these stringent goals, or whether more money and additional steps may be necessary.

2. The FAAC applauds the County for the useful information available on the County’s website describing the CIP’s stormwater investments. We believe, however, that more could be done to help educate County residents about these investments. The FAAC suggests that the County make available simple maps and charts outlining key watersheds and drainage infrastructure, as well as investments and expenditures, historically reflected in annual budgets and CIPs. This information should be posted on the County’s website and perhaps distributed in short pamphlet form to residents. The information should include how flood control and drainage maintenance has been integrated into County Parks, maintaining to the greatest degree possible a natural state for citizens to enjoy as well effective water/drainage management.

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3. The move from a Sanitary District Tax to a Stormwater Utility funding system will be a fundamental change in the way the County funds these programs. One of the important changes will be the effects on many non-profits, some of which pay no Sanitary District tax currently. These non-profits include many places of worship. The FAAC encourages the County staff and County Board to continue its communication with the non-profit community through the Stormwater Utility Advisory Group as well as through other means and forums. The Board should carefully consider rate design criteria and credit programs that can mitigate some of the impacts on non-profits.