



Martin O'Malley, Governor  
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

State Highway  
Administration

John D. Porcari, Secretary  
Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

RECEIVED  
DISTRICT #6 OFFICE  
SEP 25 2007  
MD STATE HIGHWAY  
ADMINISTRATION

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mr. Robert L. Fisher  
District Engineer  
District 6

~~**ATTN:** Mr. Bill Park~~


**FROM:** Bruce M. Grey  
Deputy Director  
Office of Planning and  
Preliminary Engineering

**DATE:** September 24, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Project No. WA330A21  
Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot  
Ridesharing Facility Extension  
Washington County

The Environmental Planning Section of this Division has reviewed the proposed ridesharing facility extension in Washington County, Maryland (Attachment 1). This review is documented in the attached Environmental Assessment Form (EAF). The scope of work involves extending an existing ridesharing facility and paving the existing lot. Additional work includes landscaping, pavement marking, and installing a bike rack, three light poles, and stop signs. All work will be within the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) right-of-way.

This EAF satisfies all environmental documentation requirements for state funded projects. Should the scope of this project be expanded to require work outside of the right-of-way, or easements, further review will be required by this office. If federal funds are used in the engineering, right-of-way acquisition or construction of the project, additional documentation will be required. Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kelly Lyles at 410-545- 2874.

by:   
Donald H. Sparklin  
Deputy Division Chief  
Project Planning Division

Attachments  
cc: Ms. Kelly Lyles, SHA-PPD  
Ms. Susie Ridenour, SHA-OED

(w/attachments)

## Comments

1. The project area is not located within the 100-year floodplain according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency mapping.
3. Review of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wetland Inventory mapping and Soil Survey mapping for Washington County indicates that wetlands are not located at or near the project. The Environmental Programs Division confirmed that this project would not impact any wetlands or their buffers.
6. Sediment and erosion control plans will be prepared and filed with the Maryland Department of the Environment to reduce the potential impacts to water quality. Best Management Practices will be strictly enforced during construction to reduce potential impacts to water quality.
13. The project will not affect historic properties including standing structures and archeological resources (Attachment 2).
- 24 & 25. The proposed project will not increase through traffic capacity, therefore, air and noise analyses will not be required. This project is exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be made (US EPA Criteria and Procedures for Determining Conformity to State or Federal Implementation Plans, Programs or Projects-Final Rule). This project is exempt under the Clean Air Act pursuant to 40 CFR 93.126. No analysis of Mobile Source Air Toxins is necessary. This project is not a project of air quality concern for PM<sub>2.5</sub> as determined in the Final Rule at 40 CFR 93.123 (b)(1).
28. Coordination with the DNR indicated that there are no federal or state rare, endangered or threatened species known to exist within the project area (Attachment 3). Coordination with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service documented that no federally proposed or listed endangered or threatened species are known to exist within the project area (Attachment 4).
29. The proposed work will not impact fisheries resources, especially if sediment and erosion control methods, and other Best Management Practices typically used for protection of stream resources are utilized (Attachment 5).
37. The project is not inconsistent with the Washington County Comprehensive Plan, 2002.
47. Environmental documentation, consistent with state regulations, has been completed with completion of this EAF.

The following Environmental Assessment Form is a requirement of the Maryland Environmental Policy Act and Maryland Department of Transportation Order 11.01.06.02. Its use is in keeping with the provisions of 1500.4(k) and 1506.2 and .6 of the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations, effective July 31, 1979, which recommend that duplication of Federal, State and Local procedures be integrated into a single process.

The checklist identifies specific areas of the natural and social-economic environment which have been considered while preparing this environmental assessment. The reviewer can refer to the appropriate section of the document, as indicated in the "Comment" column of the form, for a description of specific characteristics of the natural or social-economic environment within the proposed project area. It will also highlight any potential impacts, beneficial or adverse, that the action may incur. The "No" column indicates that during the scoping and early coordination processes, that specific area of the environment was not identified to be within the project area or would not be impacted by the proposed action.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM**

A. Land Use Considerations	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
1. Will the action be within the 100 year floodplain?		X	X
2. Will the action require a permit for construction or alteration within the 50 year floodplain?		X	
3. Will the action require a permit for dredging, filling, draining or alteration of a wetland?		X	X
4. Will the action require a permit for the construction or operation of facilities for solid waste disposal including dredge and excavation spoil?		X	
5. Will the action occur on slopes exceeding 15%?		X	
6. Will the action require a grading plan or a sediment control permit?	X		X
7. Will the action require a mining permit for deep or surface mining?		X	
8. Will the action require a permit for drilling a gas or oil well?		X	



	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
16. Will the action change the overland flow of stormwater or reduce the absorption capacity of the ground?		X	
17. Will the action require a permit for the drilling of a water well?		X	
18. Will the action require a permit for water appropriation?		X	
19. Will the action require a permit for the construction and operation of facilities for treatment or distribution of water?		X	
20. Will the project require a permit for the construction and operation of facilities for sewage treatment and/or land disposal of liquid waste derivatives?		X	
21. Will the action result in any discharge into surface or sub-surface water?		X	
22. If so, will the discharge affect ambient water quality parameters and/or require a discharge permit?		X	

		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
C.	Air Use Considerations			
23.	Will the action result in any discharge into the air?		X	
24.	If so, will the discharge affect ambient air quality parameters or produce a disagreeable odor?		X	X
25.	Will the action generate additional noise which differs in character or level from present conditions?		X	X
26.	Will the action preclude future use of related air space?		X	
27.	Will the action generate any radiological, electrical, magnetic, or light influences?		X	
D.	Plants and Animals			
28.	Will the action cause the disturbance, reduction or loss of any rare, unique or valuable plant or animal?		X	X
29.	Will the action result in the significant reduction or loss of any fish or wildlife habitats?		X	X

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
--	------------	-----------	-----------------

30. Will the action require a permit for the use of pesticides, herbicides or other biological, chemical or radiological control agents?

		X	
--	--	---	--

E. Socio-Economic

31. Will the action result in a pre-emption or division of properties or impair their economic use?

		X	
--	--	---	--

32. Will the action cause relocation of activities, structures, or result in a change in the population density or distribution?

		X	
--	--	---	--

33. Will the action alter land values?

		X	
--	--	---	--

34. Will the action affect traffic flow and volume?

		X	
--	--	---	--

35. Will the action affect the production, extraction, harvest or potential use of a scarce or economically important resource?

		X	
--	--	---	--

36. Will the action require a license to construct a sawmill or other plant for the manufacture of forest products?

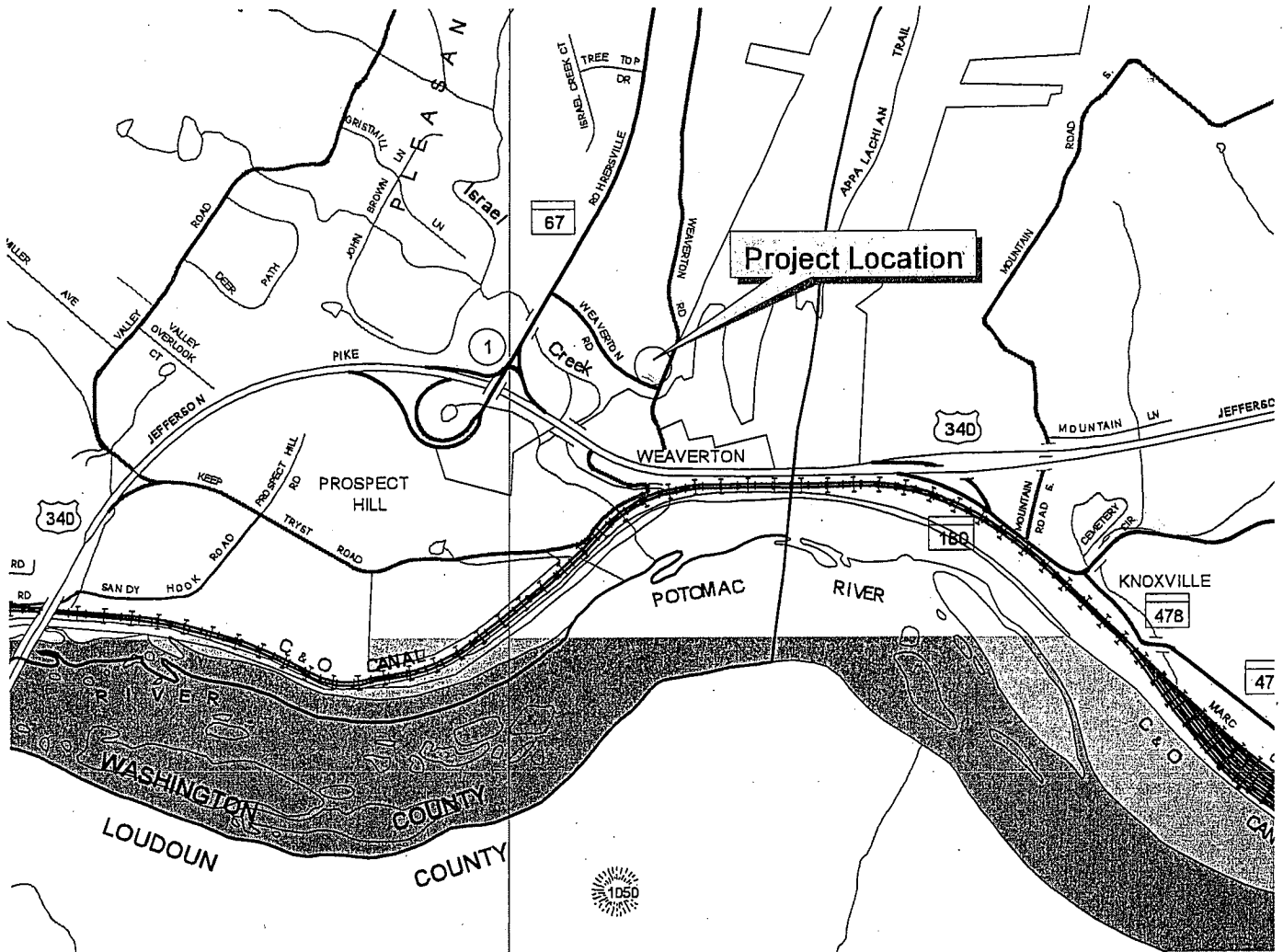
		X	
--	--	---	--

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
37. Is the action in accord with federal, state, regional and local comprehensive or functional plans-including zoning?	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>
38. Will the action affect the employment opportunities for persons in the area?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
39. Will the action affect the ability of the area to attract new sources of tax revenue?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
40. Will the action discourage present sources of tax revenue from remaining in the area, or affirmatively encourage them to relocate elsewhere?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
41. Will the action affect the ability of the area to attract tourism?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
F. Other Considerations			
42. Could the action endanger the public health, safety or welfare?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
43. Could the action be eliminated without deleterious affects to the public health, safety, welfare or the natural environment?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
44. Will the action be of statewide significance?	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
45. Are there any other plans or actions (federal, state, county or private) that, in conjunction with the subject action could result in a cumulative or synergistic impact on the public health, safety, welfare, or environment?	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
46. Will the action require additional power generation or transmission capacity?	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
47. This agency will develop a complete environmental effects report on the proposed action.	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>	<u>  X  </u>

# Project Location

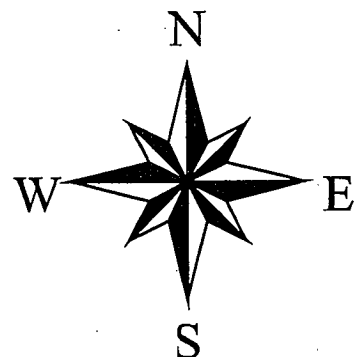
MD 67D at 200 Feet West of Weaverton Road  
Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot  
Washington County, Maryland



1:24000

Harpers Ferry

-  USGS Topo Quad Index
-  DOQQ Index
-  County





Martin O'Malley, Governor  
Anthony Brown, Lt. Governor

John D. Porcari, Secretary Designate  
Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

## Appendix 2

July 27, 2007

Mr. J. Rodney Little  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

Notification of No Effect Determination  
(under the Programmatic Agreement for Minor Projects)

Project: MD 67: MD 67D at 200 Feet West of CO 994 (Weaverton Road)

Funding Source: State

Project Number: WA330A21

### Description:

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) is proposing to construct a park and ride at the Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot. All work is within SHA right-of-way.

County: Washington

7.5" Topographic Map Name: Harpers Ferry (VA)

Project Type: 5

### Actions Taken:

SHA Architectural Historian Rebecca Crew consulted the SHA-GIS Cultural Resources database, Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Forms, Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation data, topographic maps, aerial photographs, project plans and other information, and conducted a site visit on June 14, 2007, in order to determine the impacts of the proposed parking area expansion of the existing Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot and bioretention basin. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for historic standing structures is limited to the areas of direct impact for the improvements to the existing parking lot and bioretention basin because the work to the parking lot will be at ground level, posing no viewshed issues and because the bioretention pond will involve native plantings that will blend in with the existing forested conditions. The State Highway Administration owns more than 19 acres surrounding the project area, and it is densely forested. The project area bisects the area surveyed in 1978 as the Weaverton-Garretts Mill vicinity (WA-III-031), but the closest structure to the project area (a c. 1900 house at 628 Weaverton Road) is over 300 feet to the east of the existing parking lot, beyond a thick grove of trees and outside of the APE. The house is currently not visible from the parking lot, and

My telephone number/toll-free number is (410) 545-8540

Maryland Relay Service for Impaired Hearing or Speech: 1.800.735.2258 Statewide Toll Free

Street Address: 707 North Calvert Street · Baltimore, Maryland 21202 · Phone: 410.545.0300 · www.marylandroads.com

Mr. J. Rodney Little

MD 67: MD 67D at 200 Feet West of CO 994 (Weaverton Road)

Page 2

the expansion will extend to the southwest, retaining the 300-foot buffer between the parking lot and 628 Weverton Road. The parking lot serves the Appalachian Trail (AT) and the expansion project is planned in conjunction with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the National Park Service. Parts of the AT in Maryland have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (F-IV-140 and WA-II-180), but the AT is not included in the APE for this project. The USGS Topographic Map for Harper's Ferry (dated 1969 and photo-inspected in 1988) locates the AT over 1,000 feet to the south of the project area, and the SHA map locates the AT as directly accessible from the parking lot. This discrepancy exhibits the ever-changing path of the AT and shows that the trail leaving the parking lot is not a section of the AT that would be considered historic. SHA has determined that there are no historic standing structures within the APE, and no historic structures will be impacted (directly or visually). No further architectural investigation is recommended.

SHA Archeologist April Fehr assessed the archeological potential of the APE based on review of the SHA-GIS Cultural Resources Database, aerial photography, site file data, historic maps and documents, and the county soil survey. A site visit was made on July 25, 2007. No archeological investigations have taken place within the APE and no sites are recorded there. A review of historic maps (Taggart, 1859, Lake Griffing and Stevenson 1977, Harpers Ferry USGS 1969) indicated that no historic period resources were located within the APE. The as-built plans (1971) for MD 67 suggest that the proposed park-and-ride location was disturbed during the relocation of old MD 67 and US 340. Soils in this location are mapped as Eroded Land, greenstone material (Em) and Myersville channery loam, 30 to 45 per cent slopes (MvE2). The presence of steep, eroded soils was confirmed by the site visit. This setting is considered to have a low potential to contain prehistoric archeological resources. Due to the lack of evidence of historic period use of the APE, the environmental setting, and the prior disturbances from road construction, the project is unlikely to impact significant archeological resources and no additional investigation is recommended.

Mr. J. Rodney Little

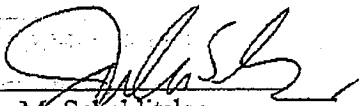
MD 67: MD 67D at 200 Feet West of CO 994 (Weaverton Road)

Page 3

Very truly yours,

Bruce M. Grey  
Deputy Director  
Office of Planning and  
Preliminary Engineering

by:

  
Julie M. Schablitsky  
Cultural Resources Team Leader  
Project Planning Division

Attachments

cc: Ms. Kelly Lyles

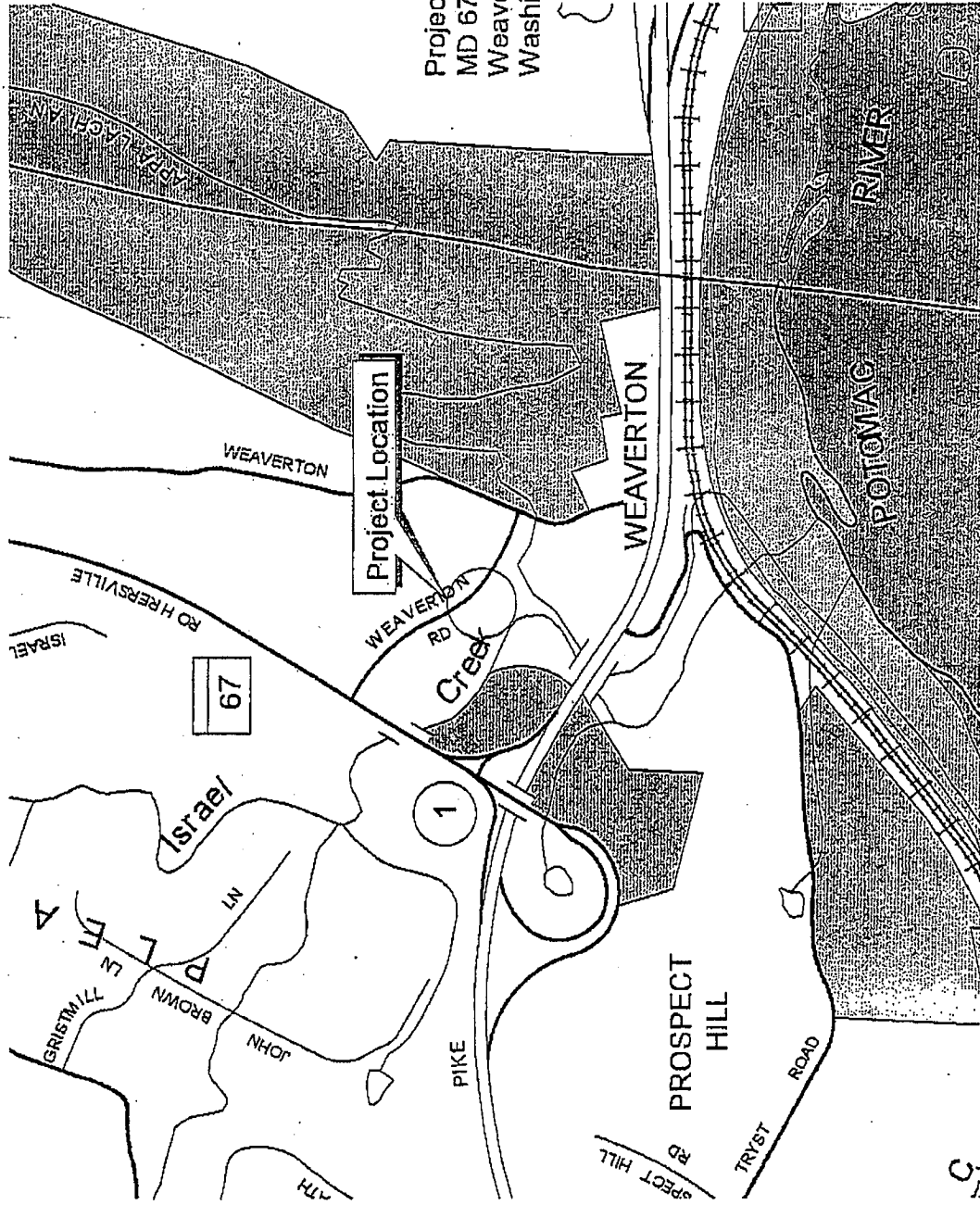
Ms. Rebecca Crew (w/ Attachments)

Ms. April Fehr (w/ Attachments)

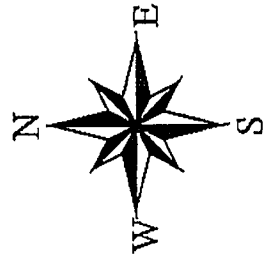
Mr. Steven Goodrich, Washington County Historic District Commission (w/ Attachments)

Dr. John F. Krowka, Washington County Historical Trust, Inc. (w/ Attachments)

# SHA - Washington



Project Location  
MD 67D at 200 Feet West of Weaverton Road  
Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot  
Washington County, Maryland



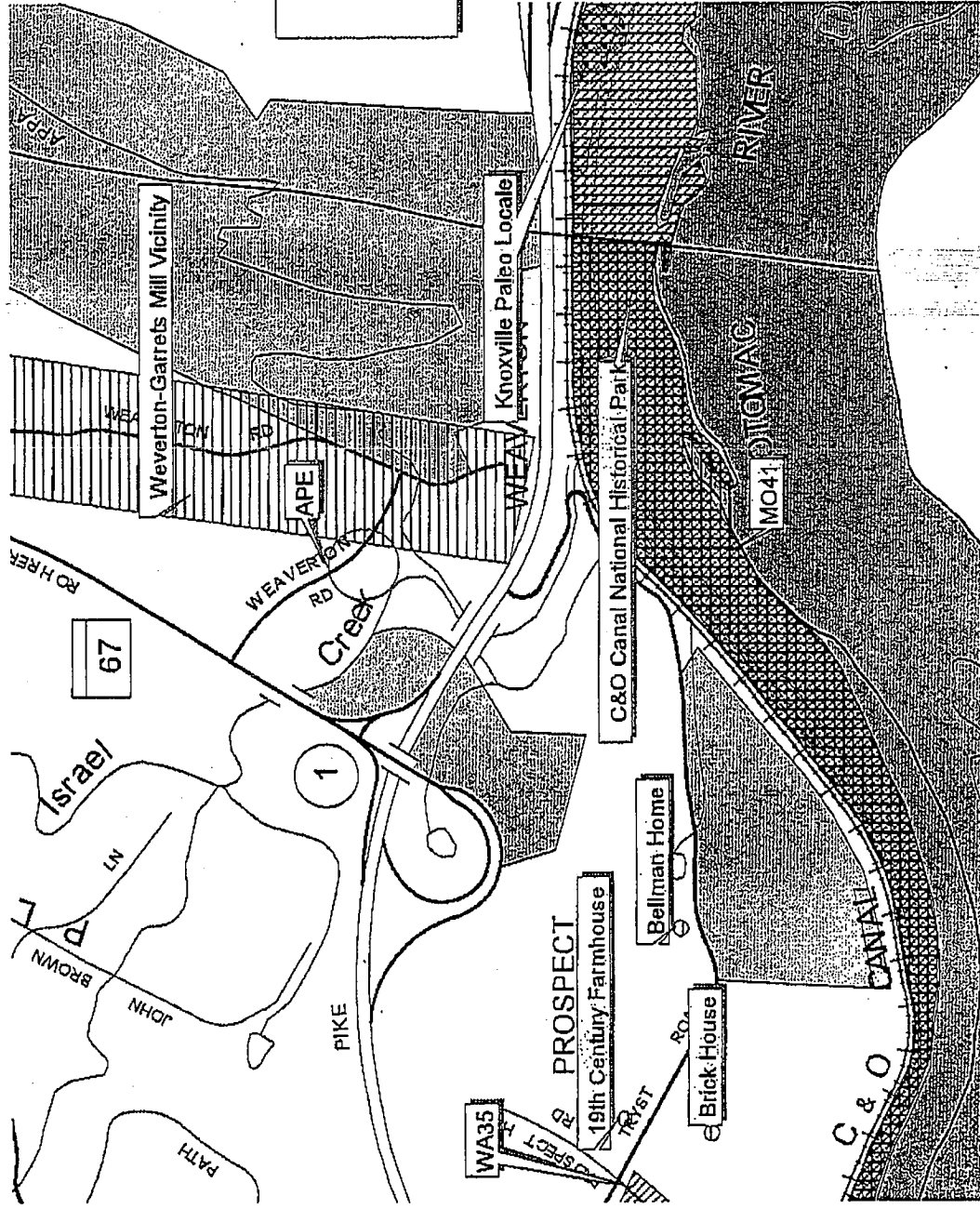
0.8 Miles

0.4

0

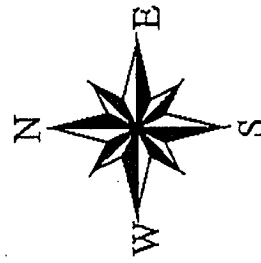
0.4

# SHA - Washington



Cultural Resources Map  
 MD 67D at 200ft. W. of Weaverton Rd.  
 Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot  
 Washington County, MD

- Swstoe3m.shp
- Newarch3.shp
- Maryland Inventory of Historic Places
- Archaeological Surveys
- National Register of Historic Places
- Maryland Historical Trust Easements
- Archaeological Sites
- County



0.8 Miles

0.4

0

0.4



*Martin O'Malley, Governor*  
*Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor*  
*John R. Griffin, Secretary*  
*Eric Schwaab, Deputy Secretary*

June 19, 2007

Mr. Bruce M. Grey  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
State Highway Administration  
707 North Calvert Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

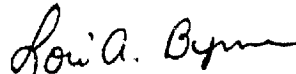
**RE: Environmental Review for Project No. WA330A21  
Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot  
Washington County, MD**

Dear Mr. Grey:

The Wildlife and Heritage Service has determined that there are no State or Federal records for rare, threatened or endangered species within the boundaries of the project site as delineated. As a result, we have no specific comments or requirements pertaining to protection measures at this time. This statement should not be interpreted however as meaning that rare, threatened or endangered species are not in fact present. If appropriate habitat is available, certain species could be present without documentation because adequate surveys have not been conducted.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to review this project. If you should have any further questions regarding this information, please contact me at (410) 260-8573.

Sincerely,



Lori A. Byrne,  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
Wildlife and Heritage Service  
MD Dept. of Natural Resources

ER# 2007.1244.wa  
Cc: R. Dintaman, ERU

2 JUN25 07 AM 12:03 CTP



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
 Chesapeake Bay Field Office  
 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive  
 Annapolis, MD 21401  
 410/573-4575



June 13, 2007

Donald Sparklin  
 State Highway Administration  
 707 North Calvert Street  
 Baltimore, MD 21202

*RE: Project No. WA330A21 Weaverton, Trailhead Parking Lot Washington County, MD*

Dear Donald Sparklin:

This responds to your letter, received May 15, 2007, requesting information on the presence of species which are federally listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened within the vicinity of the above reference project area. We have reviewed the information you enclosed and are providing comments in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Except for occasional transient individuals, no federally proposed or listed endangered or threatened species are known to exist within the project impact area. Therefore, no Biological Assessment or further section 7 Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is required. Should project plans change, or if additional information on the distribution of listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.

This response relates only to federally protected threatened or endangered species under our jurisdiction. For information on the presence of other rare species, you should contact Lori Byrne of the Maryland Wildlife and Heritage Division at (410) 260-8573.

An additional concern of the Service is wetlands protection. Federal and state partners of the Chesapeake Bay Program have adopted an interim goal of no overall net loss of the Basin's remaining wetlands, and the long term goal of increasing the quality and quantity of the Basin's wetlands resource base. Because of this policy and the functions and values wetlands perform, the Service recommends avoiding wetland impacts. All wetlands within the project area should be identified, and if construction in wetlands is proposed, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, should be contacted for permit requirements. They can be reached at (410) 962-3670.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information relative to fish and wildlife issues, and thank you for your interests in these resources. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Devin Ray at (410) 573-4531.

Sincerely,

*Mary Ratnaswamy*

Mary J. Ratnaswamy, Ph.D.  
Program Supervisor, Threatened and Endangered Species



*Martin O'Malley, Governor*  
*Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor*  
*John R. Griffin, Secretary*  
*Eric Schwaab, Deputy Secretary*

---

May 22, 2007

Mr. Donald H. Sparklin  
State Highway Administration  
707 North Calvert Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

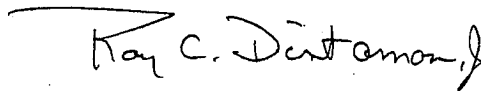
Dear Mr. Sparklin:

This letter is in response to your letter of request, dated May 18, 2007, for information on the presence of finfish species in the vicinity of State Highway Administration's **Project No. WA330A21: Weaverton Trailhead Parking Lot** in Washington County.

From a review of the information provided with your request it does not appear that the proposed work will impact fisheries resources, especially if sediment and erosion control methods, and other Best Management Practices typically used for protection of stream resources are utilized.

If you have any questions concerning these comments, you may contact me at 410-260-8331.

Sincerely,



Ray C. Dintaman, Jr., Director  
Environmental Review Unit

