

Overview of Conservation and Open Space CIP

The FY 21 – 26 Conservation and Open Space CIP includes funding for land preservation and water resources. Approximately \$39.3M is planned for the Agricultural Preservation Program in both the Capital and Operating budgets and is funded with a combination of dedicated Property Tax revenue, bonds, Agricultural Transfer Tax revenue, and State participation. Property Tax funding is included to allow for the acquisition of easements through Installment Purchase Agreements and for the payment of interest to landowners.

The FY 21 – 26 CIP continues funding to maintain the County's permit associated with the Federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. The 2005 – 2010 permit required a total of 10 percent of the County's impervious surface be remediated. The County and the eight municipalities entered into a memorandum of agreement combining the municipalities and County into one permit. The joint permit, issued for 2015 – 2020, required an additional 20 percent remediation of impervious surface, and was linked to the Watershed Implementation Plan of the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The Chesapeake Bay TMDL sets limits on allowable pollutants in bodies of water. The requirements for the Chesapeake Bay TMDLs are currently unknown and may require additional funding above and beyond planned levels. The County has applied for a new 5-year permit and is waiting for approval. In the interim, the current permit has been administratively extended.

To remain compliant with the NPDES permit, the Stormwater Facility Restoration project was established to keep stormwater management facilities working properly.

For additional information on these or other Conservation and Open Space projects, please refer to the individual project pages.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021 TO 2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Prior Allocation	Balance To Complete	Total Project Cost
CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE									
Agricultural Land Preservation	\$4,678,190	\$5,003,940	\$4,983,000	\$4,983,000	\$4,983,000	\$4,983,000	\$0	\$0	\$29,614,130
Stormwater Facility Renovation	325,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	0	0	1,825,000
Watershed Assessment and Improvement (NPDES)	3,350,000	3,450,000	3,550,000	3,650,000	3,750,000	3,850,000	0	0	21,600,000
CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE TOTAL	\$8,353,190	\$8,753,940	\$8,833,000	\$8,933,000	\$9,033,000	\$9,133,000	\$0	\$0	\$53,039,130
SOURCES OF FUNDING:									
Property Tax	\$2,695,190	\$3,020,940	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$17,716,130
Bonds	4,463,182	4,515,000	4,587,000	4,657,000	4,726,000	4,793,000	0	0	27,741,182
Reallocated Bonds	3,818	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,818
Ag. Preservation (MALPF)	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	0	0	3,000,000
Ag Transfer Tax	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	0	0	900,000
Municipal	541,000	568,000	596,000	626,000	657,000	690,000	0	0	3,678,000
CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE TOTAL	\$8,353,190	\$8,753,940	\$8,833,000	\$8,933,000	\$9,033,000	\$9,133,000	\$0	\$0	\$53,039,130

Agricultural Land Preservation

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This project provides ongoing funding for the Carroll County Agricultural Land Preservation program. The program provides an opportunity for landowners to make a long-term commitment to agriculture by offering financial incentives in exchange for property development rights. Preserving farmland with permanent easements helps to maintain agriculture as a viable industry and preserve the rural character of Carroll County.

The County offers two payment options to the landowners. Installment Purchase Agreement (IPA) or Lump Sum. The IPA option pays the landowner for the easement over a 20-year period. The Lump Sum option pays for the easement at the time of settlement. The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF), a lump-sum payment program, is jointly funded by the State of Maryland and Carroll County.

2.25% of the Property Tax revenue was dedicated to the Agricultural Land Preservation program, to be appropriated in the Capital Fund for easement purchases, and in the General Fund for interest payments to landowners in the Debt Service - Agricultural Preservation budget. The Capital Fund portion was reduced by \$0.5M in FY 21, and \$0.25M in FY 22, and capped at \$3.0M ongoing beginning in FY 23.

The appropriations are listed in the charts below. The Total Appropriation - IPA and Lump Sum are for easement purchases; the Projected Operating Impacts are interest payments appropriated to the General Fund; and the Total Appropriation - Ag Pres at the bottom of this page includes costs for both the Lump Sum and IPA options.

	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	Prior Allocation	Balance to Complete	Total Project Cost
Engineering/Design									0
Land Acquisition	4,678,190	5,003,940	4,983,000	4,983,000	4,983,000	4,983,000			29,614,130
Site Work									0
Construction									0
Equipment/Furnishings									0
Other									0
EXPENDITURES									

TOTAL	4,678,190	5,003,940	4,983,000	4,983,000	4,983,000	4,983,000	0	0	29,614,130
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SOURCES OF FUNDS									
Property Tax	2,695,190	3,020,940	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000			17,716,130
Bonds	1,333,000	1,333,000	1,333,000	1,333,000	1,333,000	1,333,000			7,998,000
Ag. Preservation (MALPF)	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000			3,000,000
Ag Transfer Tax	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000			900,000

PROJECTED OPERATING IMPACTS						
	1,484,069	1,539,468	1,598,530	1,659,334	1,718,761	1,693,454

Total Appropriation - IPA	1,868,544	1,994,324	2,006,904	2,026,969	2,046,580	2,038,229			11,981,550
Total Appropriation - Lump Sum	3,793,714	4,049,083	4,074,625	4,115,364	4,155,180	4,138,224			24,326,190
Total Appropriation - MALPF	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000			3,000,000
Total Appropriation - Ag Pres	6,162,260	6,543,410	6,581,530	6,642,330	6,701,760	6,676,450			39,307,740

Stormwater Facility Renovation

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This project provides ongoing funding to keep existing County-owned stormwater management facilities in working condition and in compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. Five to seven facilities per year, over a 30-year period, will be evaluated. Funding will be used for repairs and to replace pipes and filter media.

	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	Prior Allocation	Balance to Complete	Total Project Cost
Engineering/Design	10,000	35,000				10,000			55,000
Land Acquisition									0
Site Work									0
Construction	315,000	265,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	290,000			1,770,000
Equipment/Furnishings									0
Other									0
EXPENDITURES									
TOTAL	325,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	0	0	1,825,000
SOURCES OF FUNDS									
Transfer from General Fund									0
Property Tax									0
Bonds	321,182	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000			1,821,182
Reallocated Bonds	3,818								3,818
PROJECTED OPERATING IMPACTS	0	0	0	0	0	0			0

Watershed Assessment and Improvement (NPDES)

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This project provides ongoing funding to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act. The Act requires the County to secure a permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) for storm sewer systems. The permit requires the county to map and assess the condition of the storm sewer systems and of the watersheds that discharge into them. The County and the eight municipalities have entered into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) to obtain a joint five-year NPDES permit to address stormwater issues. Under the joint permit issued in FY 16, the County and municipalities are required to mitigate impervious surface runoff. As part of the MOA, the County manages the construction of the mitigation projects on behalf of the municipalities. The municipalities provide funding to the County equivalent to 20% of the construction cost of municipal impervious acres.

The current permit expires in FY 20. Estimates of Town contributions have been included in anticipation that the Towns and County will again participate in a joint permit. The estimate is based on the assumptions of the MOA signed by the Towns and County for the current permit.

	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	Prior Allocation	Balance to Complete	Total Project Cost
Engineering/Design	140,000	130,000	485,000	170,000	200,000	350,000			1,475,000
Land Acquisition									0
Site Work									0
Construction	3,210,000	3,320,000	3,065,000	3,480,000	3,550,000	3,500,000			20,125,000
Equipment/Furnishings									0
Other									0
EXPENDITURES									
TOTAL	3,350,000	3,450,000	3,550,000	3,650,000	3,750,000	3,850,000	0	0	21,600,000

SOURCES OF FUNDS									
Transfer from General Fund									0
Property Tax									0
Bonds	2,809,000	2,882,000	2,954,000	3,024,000	3,093,000	3,160,000			17,922,000
Municipal	541,000	568,000	596,000	626,000	657,000	690,000			3,678,000

PROJECTED OPERATING IMPACTS									
	0	0	0	0	0	0			0