

### **Update on Environmental Studies**

Phase 1 and 2 Environmental studies were conducted at the Mission Road site. The Phase 2 report thoroughly examined the site conditions and concluded that there were no ground water or carcinogenic issues, high concentrations of lead or arsenic, and no petroleum oil concentrations. The only area of concern was some soil believed to be associated with abandoned septic fields. These septic fields will be removed from the site. The county is currently conducting a second outdoor air monitoring test and we are waiting for test results.

### **Progress on Potential Elkridge Site and Community Group/Input Process**

There are 2 sites in the Elkridge area that we have investigated:

1. Harris property site:
  - Size is too small 23 acres for a high school; 46 is ideal for a 1600 student high school.
  - It's a questionable geographic location - there are 2 other high schools, Howard and Long Reach within a 4-mile radius.
  - Reforestation requirements could be triggered which requires a 2:1 mitigation for any tree removed.
  - Multiple easements exists on this site, including we believe and are researching if the parcel contains an agricultural easement. It does contain a Maryland Environmental Trust, which restricts future development.
  - It is adjacent to the Belmont Park in a historic site and the Harris site is in its "view shed", which may restrict building heights at the Harris property.
2. Landing Road and Montgomery Road – Rockburn Park site:

There has been a discussion for years over developing this location for a high school. Factual data does not support Landing Road – Rockburn Park site and includes:

  - A portion of the school site shown is located on a parcel of property that was purchased with State Program Open Space funding. There would have to be a land conversion done through the State to allow any school construction on this property.
  - The footprint is located over an existing stream and wetland area.
  - The footprint is located over an existing registered historic site with stone ruins.
  - The foot print is located over existing trails.
  - The proposed road access crosses over a stream.
  - The "Elkridge area" high school student density is not at a level to populate a high school.
  - In general, a large portion of Howard County citizens are opposed to impacting Rockburn Park in any fashion.