

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 10, 2021

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR & MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER MARK JINKS

FROM: VICE MAYOR ELIZABETH BENNETT-PARKER & COUNCILMAN JOHN TAYLOR CHAPMAN

SUBJECT: STREAM RESTORATION PROJECTS AT STRAWBERRY RUN AND TAYLOR RUN

Over the past several months, city council has received public comment, emails and other communication regarding the city's stream restoration projects at Strawberry Run and Taylor Run. Some of these communications challenge the design, the need of and the process for the stream projects.

Due in part to this recent community dialogue, as well as a letter from our Environmental Policy Commission recommending against the projects, and recent trips to both Strawberry Run and Taylor Run, we would like to ask you, our colleagues, to support asking City Manager Jinks to docket updates on the stream restoration projects at Strawberry Run and Taylor Run at a legislative meeting this spring, preferably in April.

These updates would allow city council to publicly ask questions of staff, particularly questions generated by our interactions with residents and civic associations. We are also hopeful, that given resident concerns, staff would be able to discuss the challenges and opportunities posed by alternatives that resident groups that come forward with, as well as any fiscal impact.