



July 14, 2016

Honorable Isiah Leggett  
County Executive, Montgomery County  
Honorable Lisa Feldt  
Director, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection

Dear Mr. Leggett and Ms. Feldt:

Friends of Sligo Creek (FOSC) is pleased to have learned that the Montgomery Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has begun working on a plan to improve the area of Wheaton Branch between Evans Parkway Park and the stormwater ponds on the south side of Dennis Avenue. A comprehensive plan that maximizes onsite infiltration in areas upstream of the site to the extent possible has great potential to build on the success of the MNCPPC's Evans Parkway Park restoration and improve Sligo Creek downstream. This would include areas adjoining the Glenhaven Branch, Bucknell Branch, and Evans Branch, As you may know, the Friends of Sligo Creek ([fosc.org](http://fosc.org)) is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to protecting, enhancing, and enjoying Sligo Creek Park and the wider watershed. For more than 14 years, we have spent thousands of hours on litter clean-up, invasive plant control, stormwater education and retrofits, and stream health, among other watershed issues.

FOSC members have frequently observed mallard ducks, tree frogs, song birds, pollinating insects, and other wildlife make use of the wetlands in the Glenhaven Parkway median or Glenhaven Branch. We therefore encourage the MCDEP to use this opportunity to preserve and expand wildlife habitat in the areas they survey.

Taking place in direct proximity to the future headquarters of the MCDEP, these Wheaton neighborhoods can potentially serve as a model for urban watershed restoration and showcase the forward-thinking efforts of Montgomery County. Friends of Sligo Creek looks forward to seeing the future MCDEP plan and working with the Department in its efforts to restore the Wheaton Branch. Thank you for your efforts to improve Sligo Creek.

Sincerely yours,

Kit Gage  
President  
Friends of Sligo Creek  
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