

Christina Elkins

From: Bonnie Bick <bonniebick@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2023 4:23 PM
To: Carol DeSoto
Subject: Fwd: For the record BR Sub-area Plan - Charles county power point on the WCD - back ground info improtant to Bryans Road
Attachments: airport - rural legacy Mattawoman cut off by airport (1) (1).JPG; airport - RLA & Rail trail (7) (1).JPG

[External Content Warning] This message is from an external sender. Please exercise caution when opening attachments and hover over any links before clicking.

Carol, I am resending this MES comment - my address was missing from the first email on this subject. Thank you for submitting those comments to the County Commissioners. bonnie bick

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bonnie Bick** <bonniebick@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Jul 28, 2023 at 4:15 PM

Subject: For the record BR Sub-area Plan - Charles county power point on the WCD - back ground info improtant to Bryans Road

To: Carol DeSoto <DeSotoC@charlescountymd.gov>

Mattawoman Watershed Society comments for the record: BR Sub-area Plan

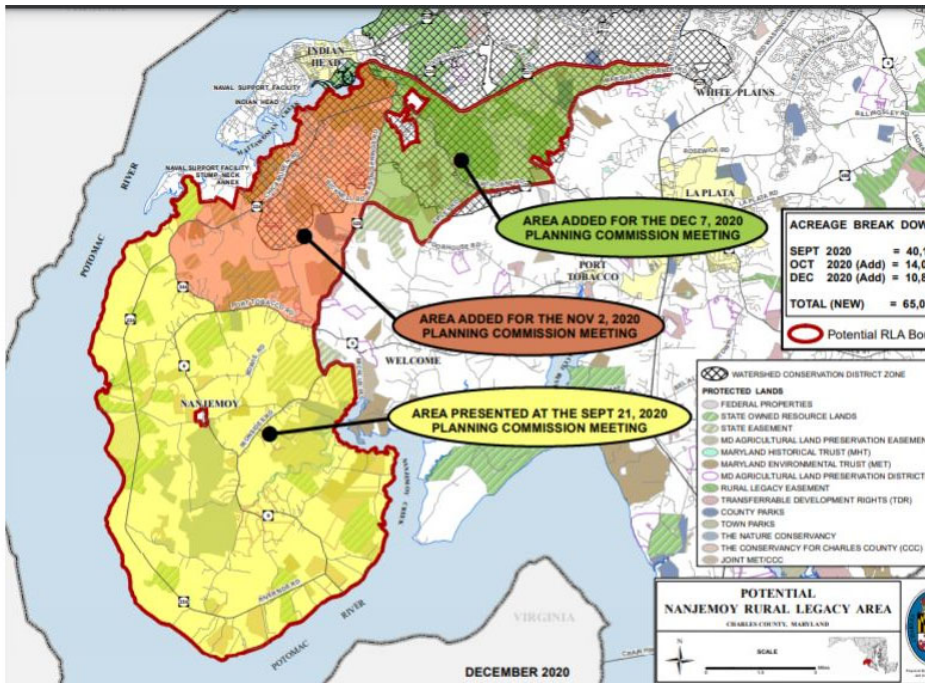
Nanjemoy-Mattawoman Forest Rural Legacy Area.

Without going into too much detail, it should be understood that the Rural Legacy Area <https://dnr.maryland.gov/land/pages/rurallegacy/all-rural-legacy-areas.aspx> is a program that helps an area by fostering less forest loss and higher quality of life. (*the state buys the development rights and the people get to keep their land, give it to their children and even sell it but sells without any development rights.*) Rural Legacy was part of the historic 1997 MD Smart Growth Legislation, the protection of Chapman Forest was the catalyst for RLA.

When doing the CC Western Rural Legacy Area, which is in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan, the County totally excluded Mattawoman, altogether. Then after three public hearings, 25 thousand acres of Mattawoman Creek Watershed were included. But - an additional 16 thousand eligible acres were NOT included in the Rural Legacy nomination because of the county **plans** to develop Bryans Road and expand the Maryland Airport. (In the hearing, the County Commissioners said, that they would come back to include those 16 thousand eligible areas of the Mattawoman watershed, later.

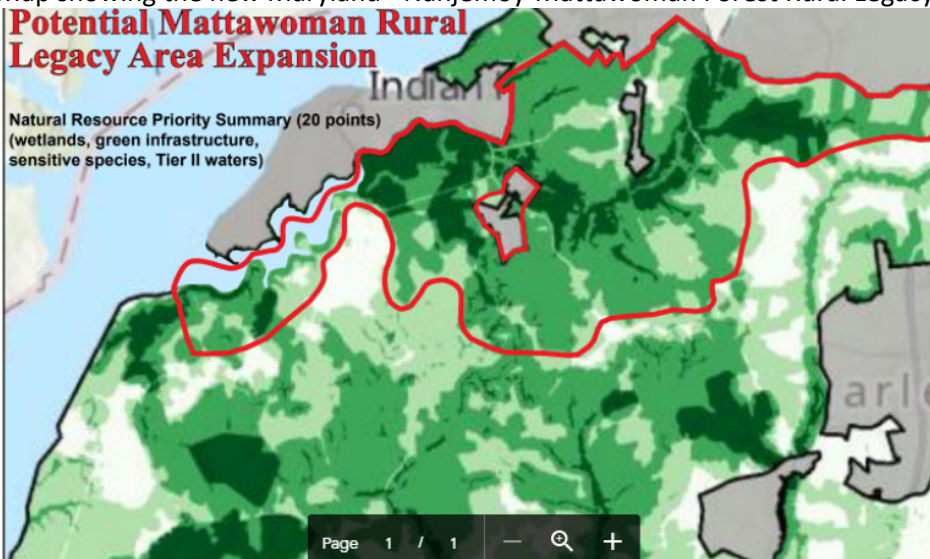
Though, they actually know that after the airport expansion and their Growth Plan for Bryans Road, those areas that they plan to develop around the airport and in Bryans Road - would never be included, because they would no longer be eligible or qualify to be included in the RLA plan.

attached is a map of the Rural Legacy eligible area.



Here is the state-adopted RLA - 16 K Mattawoman eligible acres were excluded because they are located above the MD Airport see maps..

Map showing the new Maryland - Nanjemoy-Mattawoman Forest Rural Legacy Area.



Mattawoman watershed land map that shows what is eligible for designation as a Rural Legacy Area This is an article that approves money for RLA and mentions the new designation of the Nanjemoy- Mattawoman Forest RLA

(BTW - the word **forest** added to the nomination was a gift from the state, certainly, not Charles County.)

<https://news.maryland.gov/dnr/2021/12/01/board-of-public-works-approves-26-million-in-rural-legacy-program-grants/>

Here is a map of all of Charles Counties RLA's. <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management/mapping-services/rural-legacy-map>

The Airport - RLA -& rail-trail attachment map was made to show how the county cut off the RLA at the Rail Trail - the rest of the Watershed Conservation District should have also been included. Also - see Pomonkey Forest and the 50 acres for the airport that the county chopped off Pomonkey Forest.

Mattawoman Watershed Society comments for the record: BR Sub-area Plan

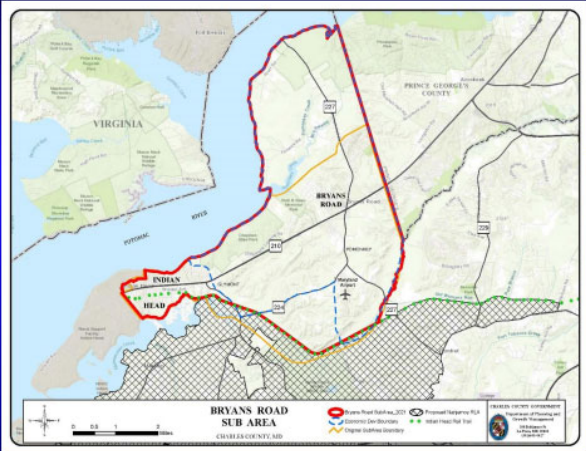
Charles County PowerPoint: WATERSHED CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Here is a county PowerPoint that shows information about the Watershed Conservation District - there is a slide here that is good to see regarding the Bryans Road Sub-Area Plan.

It shows the airport as part of the Plan area - possibly the airplane- lead pollution issue caused the county to remove the airport from the Sub-area Plan. UNFORTUNATELY - THIS CHARLES COUNTY LINK NEEDS TO BE CUT AND PASTED IN ORDER FOR IT TO WORK - but that works. Please review the County Commissioners Watershed Conservation District link.

[https://go.boarddocs.com/md/chrlsco/Board.nsf/files/BYWGHW43F343/\\$file/WCD%20Briefing%20March%209%202021.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/md/chrlsco/Board.nsf/files/BYWGHW43F343/$file/WCD%20Briefing%20March%209%202021.pdf)

New Bryans Road/Indian Head Sub-Area Plan



- Commissioners authorized new Sub-Area Plan
- Final Draft Scope of Work under Review
- RFP to hire a consultant planned for release in April 2021

Bonnie Bick
7601 Oxon Hill Road
Oxon Hill - MD
20745