Four Mile Run Restoration Project

JTF Meeting, February 28, 2011
Project Vision:

Four Mile Run will become a model of urban ecological restoration. Through the sensitive and sustainable integration of a restored natural stream channel with an active urban environment the Four Mile Run corridor will be a place where the communities of Arlington County and the City of Alexandria can gather, recreate and celebrate a shared waterfront legacy.
1983: Flood control project completed for lower 2.3 miles – Shirlington to Potomac River

2006: Master Plan adopted for multiple objective restoration after 6 year planning process ($1M EPA grant)

2009: Design Guidelines adopted


- Monthly meetings, since 2005
- Led by joint Arlington-Alexandria Citizen Joint Task Force with 1 main workgroup and multiple subcommittees
Demonstration Project: Tidal Corridor Restoration

- Wetland and streambank restoration, Mt. Vernon Ave to Route 1 area
- 60% designs complete
- 90% designs by March
- $7M cost estimate; ~$5M funded (~$3M EPA STAG funds)
Non-Tidal Corridor Restoration

- Alluvial stream restoration, Shirlington to Mt. Vernon Ave
- 60% designs completed by USACE 2009
- Final design within a few years
- $9M cost estimate; $1.6M local share each jurisdiction (17.5% Arlington) + (17.5% Alexandria), $6.75M USACE (65%)
Pedestrian & Cyclist Bridge

- Key linkage in vicinity of South Eads Street and Commonwealth Avenue
- VDOT grant for bridge design completed and construction funding TBD
- Design competition completed March 2010
- Formal design contract underway with winning firm (Grimshaw Arup Scape)
Open Space Acquisition - Alexandria

- City recently acquired four parcels (63,803 sq ft) adjacent to stream at Mt. Vernon Ave. for $4,800,000
- Re-use plan for public spaces connected to Four Mile Run under development
- Joint programming potential
Current and Future Funding

- Federal STAG Funds
- FED/VDOT Transportation Enhancement Grant
- USACE Cost-Share
- Jurisdictional Capital Improvement Programs
- NEA Grant
- Developer Proffers
Funding and Timing Issues

- CIP funding in place for most of stream corridor environmental restoration
- STAG funding may only be used for in-stream environmental work
- Additional funding needed for design and implementation of near stream elements
- Identification of pedestrian/bicycle and nature trail locations, design, and funding
North Potomac Yard Developer Contribution

- $8,700,000 developer contribution (adjusted annually for CPI after 2010)
- Timing of funding is tied to phases of North Potomac Yard over 20-year build out
- Further clarification to be provided upon Metro Station study completion
Future Decisions: Sequencing and Funding

- Construction synergies and efficiencies appear to exist between planned and funded in-stream improvements, and desired but not funded nature trail improvements
- Sequencing and pricing of construction
- Development of proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project plan
- Identification of additional local capital funding needed beyond grant match