

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** MCWD Planning and Policy Committee  
**From:** Anna Brown, Planner-Project Manager  
**Date:** January 21, 2016  
**Re:** Six Mile Planning Process and Draft Investment Framework

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### **Purpose:**

On January 21, 2016 staff will present a briefing on the status of planning in the Six Mile subwatershed and the investment approach for the geography. This memorandum serves as background material for that presentation.

### **Background:**

In 2014, the Board of Managers established the framework *In Pursuit of a Balanced Urban Ecology*, which calls for the integration of land-use and water through partnership, flexibility and innovation, and through increased geographic focus in areas of high need and opportunity.

When, also in 2014, the Board of Managers adopted Six Mile as a priority focal geography for water resource planning and implementation, it recognized the need to approach planning in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, in line with the *Balanced Urban Ecology* framework. In particular, the approach would need to be multijurisdictional, focused on building partnerships with cities and the development community, and would need to link opportunities and projects to improve the District's ability to leverage funding.

On January 14, 2016, staff provided an update to the Board of Managers outlining the planning approach. The approach aims to bring stakeholders together and determine how watershed partners' objectives and investments align with the District's natural resource goals, generating opportunities with multiple, integrated benefits. The process as presented is as follows:

1. Convene partners
2. Understand the natural resource needs
3. Understand the work of others – plans, goals, investments
4. Synthesize natural resource needs with the work of other agencies
5. Develop a cross-agency and phased investment plan

This approach will not only lead to the implementation plan for the Six Mile geography, but also will serve as the model for focal geography planning in the *2017 Comprehensive Plan*.

The January 21<sup>st</sup> Planning and Policy Discussion will focus on the final step, developing an investment plan.

### **January 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting**

The investment framework will work to match opportunities identified through the stakeholder process to available funds at the local, regional, state, and federal level. With that in mind, the discussion will cover:

- Six Mile Planning Units
- Identified Resources
- Pierson-Wasserman Corridor Update

If there are questions in advance of the meeting, please contact: Anna Brown (952-641-4522, [abrown@minnehahacreek.org](mailto:abrown@minnehahacreek.org)).