

The following message from Pamela Shaw, LCA President, was posted to the Country Club Park and Burton Avenue Facebook pages on January 26, 2023.

Neighbors, the LCA is aware of flyers being circulated by Friends of Roland Run to homes in the floodplain.

The LCA has asked the County to investigate the source of these quotes attributed to county employee(s) to determine if these are accurate, in what context these statements were offered, and if there is any actual intention on cutting through Greenspring Drive to address this rare but temporary flooding.

At this we are awaiting a detailed response from the County.

The floodplain map attached shows:

In orange (0.2%) the 500 year flood plain. Once in 500 years.

In blue (1%) the 100 year flood plain. Once in 100 years.

After the most recent rehabilitation of large sections of Roland Run above and below your homes, we are not aware of any serious flooding.

In response to multiple requests to Baltimore County regarding the accuracy and source of quotes on the flyer being circulated by Friends of Roland Run the Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works & Transportation released the lengthy email from June 2022 between a County Engineer and Allen Hicks. This email is the source of the quotes on the flyer. Also released were a series of other emails of inquiry on the subject of the flyer.

First let me say that Deputy Director states in two separate emails that:

1. DPWT referring to Greenspring Dr- "The County never stated that the road will be opened".
2. Also referencing Greenspring Dr. "Again, the County/DPWT has not made any plans to open this road."

Additionally, the writer in the email being quoted on the flyer acknowledges that the community and the LCA have "always been rather staunchly opposed to the idea of opening the Greenspring Ave access due to the inherent inconvenience and dangers of opening the community to cut through traffic. That is no trivial consideration and the County understands it well."

The writer of the email being quoted also shared information on some new tools that were to be available in the Summer of 2022.

"As far as the existing drainage infrastructure and its capacity and function, we are glad to share that the County (after many years) is about to finalize (this summer) a set of tools that would allow us to execute neutral and professional grade rating of our drainage infrastructure. The entire mechanism is in its final testing stages and upon its validation, we will be able to start using it as a quite powerful tool to diagnose and identify deficient infrastructure within any specific drainage basin in the County. We know that County Estates and a few other areas in historic Lutherville have a long history of flooding and would undoubtedly benefit from such an evaluation. Regrettably, even when complete, the evaluation cannot and would not show any better way of resolving Country Estates access issues, as described above. But, it would define areas where enhancement of the existing drainage infrastructure, in tandem with the deployment of "green drainage" may help with the outcomes from less severe storms. Please be sure to follow up with us (or your Councilmanic Office, which can inquire / direct the inquiry to us), periodically, for updates on the evolution of this project."

In conclusion I'd like to thank everyone who assisted in getting this information.

UPDATE

WE'RE COMMITTED TO
PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT,
THE COMMUNITY, AND
OUR INFRASTRUCTURE.

The problem is one that is simple to understand (technically) but proved very difficult to factually address. At its core, the issue is that significant areas of the community are in the Roland Run 100-year floodplain. Unfortunately, this large area almost encompasses the only vehicular access. Indeed, we can confirm that 'almost,' in this case, means that there are certain storm events when—for short durations—Country Estate is being cutoff from terrestrial vehicular access."

BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
on flooding in Country Club Park

BALTIMORE COUNTY SUGGESTS GREENSPRING DRIVE BECOME A THROUGH STREET TO ADDRESS THE FLOODING IN COUNTRY CLUB PARK

There also exists—technically speaking one clear and certain solution: opening Greenspring Ave. vehicular access, at the northern end of the subdivision. It would be outside of the 100-year floodplain and therefore dry in most storms, except for the truly extreme ones. It would certainly guarantee significantly more resilient vehicular access to the neighborhood."

BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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You ask...

Q: Is the Roland Run polluted?

A: YES

Q: Is it safe to get in the water at Roland Run?

A: UNDETERMINED

We do know this:

Baltimore County Department of Environment and Sustainability recommends for people to not get into the Roland Run for a minimum of 72 hours after a rain, due to increased pollution.

The Friends of Roland Run wants community input into this proposed solution to the flooding at Seminary/Greenspring Drive/Morris Avenue/Riderwood