

APPENDIX E

***2018 Water and Sewer Plan
Glossary of Terms***

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Appendix E

GLOSSARY

Allocation -- Allotted portions set by the Plan, an agreement or legal document.

Aquifers -- Underground water supplies used for small community systems and individual wells.

Bi-County Infrastructure Working Group – A group comprised of representatives from the executive and legislative branches of Prince George’s and Montgomery counties, one WSSC commissioner from each County, and WSSC managerial and finance staff.

Category or Service Category – A designation of land to determine whether public water and sewer service is or will be available.

CBCAC, Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission – A Commission created by the 1984 Chesapeake Bay Protection Act to design the Critical Area Criteria, which are the basis of 61 local Critical Area Programs. The Commission reviews and approves local jurisdiction Critical Area Programs and amendments to those programs. While a State agency, the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission of the Department of Natural Resources reviews and comments on development proposals within the Critical Area.

CIP, Capital Improvement Program – The budget for planning, design, land acquisition and construction activities for major water and sewer facilities serving Prince George’s County, Montgomery County and the Bi-County areas through the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. WSSC’s CIP covers a six-year period and is approved by the two County Councils annually.

COG, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments – The regional planning organization for the Washington D.C. area’s major local governments and their governing officials. COG works towards solutions to regional problems such as energy shortages, traffic congestion, inadequate housing, air and water pollution, and water supply.

COMAR – Code of Maryland Regulations

Community Sewerage System – Any system, whether publicly or privately owned, serving two or more individual properties for the collection and disposal of sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature, including various devices for the treatment of the sewage and industrial wastes.

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Community Water Supply System – Any system, whether publicly or privately owned serving two or more individual properties, that provides a source of water and a distribution system, including treatment and storage facilities.

DC Water – District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (formerly DC WASA)
An agency established by Congress and the District of Columbia under the “Water and Sewer Authority Establishment and Department of Public Works Reorganization Act of 1996.” Its purpose is to provide potable water to customers in the District and wastewater collection and treatment services to the District and user jurisdictions in Maryland and Virginia.

DER – Prince George’s County Department of Environmental Resources

DoE – Prince George’s County Department of the Environment (successor name to DER)

DPIE – Prince George’s County Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement

DPW&T – Prince George’s County Department of Public Works and Transportation

Drainage basin – Watershed; the region drained by a river system.

EPA – U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

Existing Service Area – An area that is currently served by water and/or sewer; individual properties within the area are generally connected to the community or public system.

Final Plat – The recordation of subdivision in conformance with the approved preliminary plan.

Floodplain – Any land area susceptible to being inundated by floodwaters from any source.

Graywater – Recycled water from fixtures not intended for human bodily waste.

Health Department – Prince George’s County Health Department

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ICPRB, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin – Created by interstate compact and approved by Congress in 1940, ICPRB helps control and prevent pollution of the waters of the Potomac drainage area; cooperates with, supports, and coordinates activities of public and non-public entities concerned with water and associated land resources in the Potomac River basin; and promotes public awareness and understanding of issues and activities, and the need for enhancement of the basin’s resources.

Impound – To accumulate water in a reservoir.

Individual Sewerage System – A single system of sewers and piping, treatment tanks or other facilities serving only a single property and disposing of sewage or individual wastes of a liquid nature, in whole or in part, on or in the soil of the property, into any waters of the State, or by other methods.

Individual Water Supply System – A single system of piping, pumps, tanks, or other facilities utilizing a source of ground or surface water to supply only a single property.

Interim Individual Water Supply or Sewerage System – An individual system established within an existing or planned community service area for an interim period only and intended to be abandoned and replaced by community service within one year of the availability of community service.

MDE – Maryland Department of the Environment

MDP – Maryland Department of Planning

Mixed-Use Development – Development of land zoned for mixed uses to provide for a variety of compatible uses and create a particular character of development.

M-NCPPC, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission – A bi-county agency created by the General Assembly of Maryland in 1927, M-NCPPC prepares, adopts, amends and extends the General Plan for the physical development of the Maryland-Washington Regional District. It operates in Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties through a Planning Board appointed by and responsible to the county governments. All local plans, recommendations on zoning amendments, administration of subdivision regulations, and general administration of parks are responsibilities of the Planning Boards.

Multi-Use Water Supply and Sewerage Systems – Individual on-site systems, whether owned or operated by an individual or group of individuals under private or collective ownership, that serve a group of individuals, and have a treatment capacity of 1,500 gallons or more per day (gpd). Multi-use water supply systems utilize a source of ground or surface water to provide potable water, and consist of wells, piping, pumps, tanks, or other facilities.

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Network Gap – Areas where there are opportunities to make critical connections in the green infrastructure network and/or to restore areas and enhance the ecological functioning of the network.

NPDES, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System – A network of regulations to protect Maryland’s waters by insuring all industrial and municipal wastewater treatment facilities that discharge effluent meet the requirements, limitations and various restrictions so as not to degrade water quality or harm aquatic life. A permit (NPDES Permit) is issued by MDE that requires the facilities to monitor and submit data insuring compliance with the designated restrictions.

Percolation – Seepage or drainage through layers of soil.

Preliminary Plan – The first step in the Subdivision Process to review a development proposal for its compliance with County Plans, for the adequacy of public facilities, and for environmental issues.

Sewer Envelope – A boundary beyond which no community water or sewer facilities shall be approved.

Sewer Service Area – That area served, or potentially served, by a system of sanitary sewers connected to a treatment plant, or, in a very large system, sub-areas as delineated by the County.

Source Water Assessment (SWA) – To provide local leaders, water suppliers, and citizens with the information necessary to protect public drinking water sources from contamination.

TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load is the calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant allowed to enter a waterbody so that the waterbody will meet and continue to meet water quality standards for that particular pollutant. A TMDL determines a pollutant reduction target and allocates load reductions necessary to the source(s) of the pollutant.

WSSC, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – A bi-county agency established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1918. WSSC is responsible for planning, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining water and wastewater systems in order to provide potable water and sanitary sewer services to residents and businesses, and to federal, state, and local municipalities within the Washington Suburban Sanitary District. WSSC owns and operates various water treatment and wastewater treatment plants and transmission facilities within the Washington Suburban Sanitary District (WSSD) and utilizes - through an equity share - in wastewater treatment plants operated by other jurisdictions to treat sewage generated in portions of the WSSD. The WSSC has a board of six commissioners; three appointed by Prince George’s County and three appointed by Montgomery County. The commissioners serve four-year terms.

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WSSD, Washington Suburban Sanitary District – The area described in Chapter 805 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1981, which encompasses most of Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties, spanning 1,000 square miles and serving 1.5 million customers in that area.

Water Service Area – That area served, or potentially served, by a single distribution system under control of a single utility, or, in a very large system, sub-areas as delineated by the County.

Water/Sewer Connection – The portion of the service connection for a structure located between the local service main and the property line, or between the main and the sanitary easement for the main. Within the WSSD, the house connection is the responsibility of the WSSC.

Water/Sewer Hookup – The portion of the service connection for a structure located between the property line and the structure served. A single hookup may serve more than one structure on a given property.

Watershed – Drainage basin; a region where all lands slope toward the same waterbody or river system.

WIP – Watershed Implementation Plan is the roadmap for how the bay jurisdictions, in partnership with federal and local governments, will achieve the Chesapeake Bay TMDL allocations.

WWTP – Wastewater (sewage) Treatment Plant

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

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