Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Ben Grumbles, Secretary
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

April 10, 2018

Ms. Sonal Ram, Director
Office of Environmental Design
Maryland State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Ms. Ram:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (the Department) acknowledges the receipt of revisions to Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration's (MDOT SHA) Alternative Headwater Channel and Outfall Crediting Protocol, received on January 25, 2018. In MDE's August 30, 2017 letter, the Protocol was tentatively approved for quantifying the amount of prevented sediment loss and an equivalent amount of impervious area treatment. The Department has reviewed the revised Protocol and finds it acceptable. The Department also approves MDOT SHA's proposed monitoring plan, contingent upon addressing the following comments:

- The physical monitoring plan shall include the most typically used design variants across the predominant geological conditions where they will be implemented.
- The timing of monitoring shall be extended to at least one year prior and one year after construction as appropriate.
- The monitoring plan shall clearly indicate how it will verify that constructed designs will safely convey flow to stable areas. Additional cross sections shall be established beyond the downstream control point (base level) as appropriate.

MDE commends MDOT SHA for its commitment to improving this assessment program that will aid in restoring the State's water resources. MDE finds this Protocol and monitoring plan to be acceptable and continues to support the submittal to the Chesapeake Bay Program Urban Stormwater Workgroup for consideration as a stream restoration derivative. If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me at 410-537-3545 or Mr. Brian Cooper at 410-537-3583 or brian.cooper@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Raymond P Bahr
Deputy Program Manager
Sediment, Stormwater, and Dam Safety Program

cc: Karen Coffman, MDOT SHA