

## **Summary - Quarter One 2023 Issue – Spring Update**

### **Hazen and Sawyer – Jones Falls Sewershed Comprehensive Evaluation Report**

*Written by Patty Mochel, Chair, Sewer Committee*

The Hazen Report is compiled by the Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation and is based on analysis by the engineering firm Hazen and Sawyer of the future capacity of the Jones Falls Sewer system. Among other actions, Hazen and Sawyer did an analysis which shows the current hydraulic model, constructed more than ten years ago, does not accurately predict sewer system flows during wet weather, when rainfall can infiltrate into the sewer system and could cause sewer system overflows. Baltimore County has deployed 26 additional flow monitors and will gather data from these monitors for dry weather, wet weather and high groundwater flow. In addition, the County has added a Consequence of Failure risk analysis feature to calculate the safety of the sewer system during storms. Things to note in this report: The County reports it has launched environmental investigations in and near “all large water features within the sewershed”, which began in the Fall of 2021 and will continue on an as needed basis. The report mentions Lake Roland and the Jones Falls, but isn’t specific on what large water features are included in these investigations. The report also says the county is assessing the potential impact of climate change on rainfall, an issue in which some citizens in the RRLRAIA have voiced concerns. As far as stakeholder engagement, the County reports meetings with residential and employment populations at GBMC, St. Joseph Medical Center, Sheppard Pratt, and Towson University; but reports no stakeholder meetings with citizens. The County developed future population estimates to the year 2070, and is planning a Capital Improvement program to address the needs and challenges of the Jones Falls Sewer system at year 2025, and at 20 and 50-year planning horizons.