



S T R A U G H A N
E N V I R O N M E N T A L
S E R V I C E S , I N C .

Design Review, Environmental Permitting, and Mitigation Design Section 100

Location: Baltimore, Maryland

Client: Maryland Department of Transportation, Maryland Transportation Authority

Description: The Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA) is widening and constructing 11 miles of Express Toll Lanes (ETLs) on the John F. Kennedy Memorial Highway (I-95), one of the largest projects the Authority has undertaken in years. Construction began in November 2005 and will extend through 2011. Straughan Environmental Services, Inc. (SES) is responsible for preparing environmental permit applications and coordinating agency reviews for all phases of the highway design and construction, tracking environmental impacts, providing recommendations to designers for avoiding or minimizing impacts, and organizing and conducting public outreach efforts in support of the project. SES is also conducting environmental studies and developing designs for environmental restoration work along a 2-mile stretch of White Marsh Run. Representative SES tasks include:

- Reviewing highway design submittals for compliance with permit conditions and other environmental commitments;
- Developing alternatives to reduce impacts of existing and future roadway by combining stormwater retrofit alternatives with stream restoration and smaller footprint bioretention facilities to preserve existing forests and provide stormwater quality and quantity control;
- Obtaining forest permits from MDNR; identifying and evaluating alternative mitigation measures; and tracking and evaluating impacts;
- Performing wetland and stream mitigation site searches and coordinating evaluations with USACE and MDE;
- Reviewing mitigation site designs of others for technical soundness and coordination with highway designs;
- Designing stream and wetland mitigation at White Marsh;
- Developing a Phragmites control plan;
- Assisting in development of bid documents;
- Compiling sound barrier design data and refining sound barrier analysis as highway designs progress;
- Reviewing and analyzing sound barrier commitments for the corridor;
- Preparing specialized publications to explain complex environmental issues such as noise for the public;
- Drafting Public Outreach Plan; developing project brochures, website, and press conference materials; and
- Attending public meetings on behalf of the Authority.