

# SKETCH

## joining the team |

- **Mary E. Valadez, RA** brings more than 13 years of architectural experience to Samaha.

## summer interns |

- **Ben Ackerman** is currently a senior at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State
- **Cameron Lee** is starting at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University this

## service |

# Community Engagement

## Shaping the future



### Dash for Duchenne

The Samaha team works daily designing educational facilities that create the most inspiring and inclusive environments for kids with special needs. As such, we were honored to volunteer and be “Super Hero” sponsors for the Second Annual Dash for Duchenne held on

June 18th at Tilden Middle School in Rockville. This year’s fitness and fun themed event attracted approximately 200 people from DC, Maryland, and Virginia to build awareness about the disease while raising \$60,000 for research towards a cure. The action-packed day included music, activities, games, food, and all sorts of family fun.

For more information or to make a donation, visit [www.teamsajj.org](http://www.teamsajj.org).

### ACE Mentoring Program

Samaha is dedicated to building awareness of architecture in our community. F. Thomas (Tom) Lee, AIA, LEED AP, principal

of Samaha, who graduated from W.T. Woodson High School, finds the ACE Mentor Program there to be a rewarding experience. ACE is an after school program that introduces high school students to careers in architecture, construction, and engineering. Mentors work directly with students providing presentations, targeted interactive lessons, and design-build exercises that culminate in a final project for the students. Cameron Lee, a W.T. Woodson ACE program participant, is currently a summer intern at Samaha. He will enter Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University in the fall.

## career fair |

- **F. Thomas Lee, AIA, LEED AP** and **Paul H. Falkenbury, AIA, REFP**, principals at Samaha, attended the Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University Washington Alexandria Architecture Center (WAAC) Career Fair on April 8, 2016.

## ASBO |

- **Paul H. Falkenbury, AIA, REFP** and **Omari A. Davis, RA, LEED AP** attended the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) spring conference May 22-May 25, 2016 in Ocean City, Maryland on behalf of Samaha.

## design |

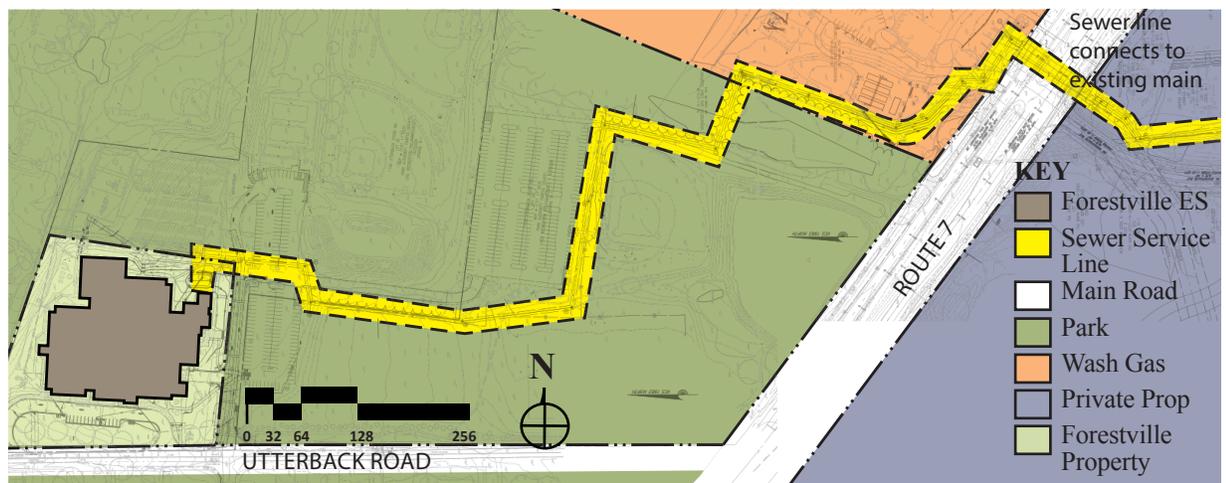
# Forestville Elementary School

## Ensuring long term operational viability

Samaha performed a sanitary assessment study on the existing septic field serving Forestville Elementary School and determined the field was beyond its serviceable life. Additional septic field locations were deemed infeasible due to subsurface conditions. Our team gained approval through the extensive Fairfax County public

facility review process ultimately allowing Fairfax County Public Schools to extend an 8” sanitary sewer to the school ensuring Forestville may operate as a viable facility for the foreseeable future. The 3,400 linear feet of gravity sewer extension was located outside of the public right of way which required easements

to cross private property, boring under a four lane highway, and open trenching through a gas distribution site and park land before reaching the school. We conducted test pits and procured all of the permits prior to bidding so subsurface conditions and review comments were incorporated into the bid package minimizing potential change orders.



| success |

# Designing the “New Work Environment”

## Innovative space planning

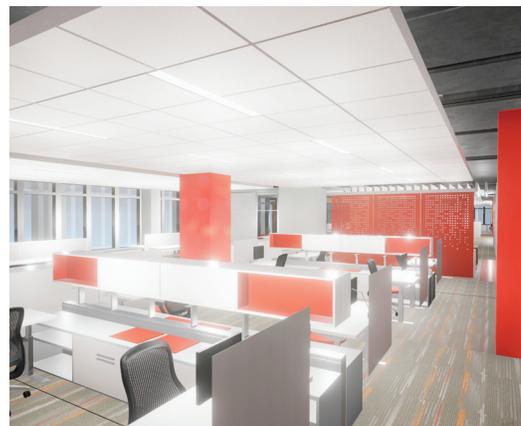
When Arlington County Department of Environmental Services decided it was time to revamp their office space they selected Samaha to conceptualize the design. The conventional organization of a permanent office or cubicle for every employee no longer fit Arlington’s dynamic work model. County employees were often working in the field

while individual offices sat empty. When in the office, staff required space for collaboration in the form of conference spaces and break out areas. The design concept needed to be appealing, collaborative, flexible, and clear.

The Samaha team analyzed the requirements for staff and concluded that breaking the space

into specialized, efficiently designed work areas leads to higher utilization and workflow. The design included acoustic considerations combined with new finishes and furniture systems creating a 21st century work environment. The entire design was presented through the use of a self-guided 3D animation, which allowed staff to dynamically explore each aspect of the design.

Please visit our website at [www.samaha-arch.com](http://www.samaha-arch.com) to see our video animations.



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