

Anacostia River Explorers  
Informational Session  
July 13, 2017

Note from DOEE — Agency strives to be zero waste, including cutting back on handouts and instead passing around temporary materials to reclaim at the end of the tour

Questions and Answers

- Q1. In the past, it was an estimate of 15 people per trip, combination of 1 or 2 hour tours. If a new group was to apply, are new groups expected to follow that format of tour?
- A1. Yes, it was outlined in the application package but new ideas are also welcomed. For instance festival tours, sub-hour tours. The focus is the number of participants. The grant isn't meant to buy a new boat, but it is possible to ramp up the number of tours.
- Q2. The way the per-trip estimate is given (\$450.00/1 hr or \$525.00/2 hr trip x number of people); with a group with one or no boats, would depreciation be included or considered in the grant review process?
- A2. The grant isn't meant to be used on materials to purchase for the tours and should not be included in the budget narrative.
- Q3. In the DOEE matching portion of the grant proposal, "use of equipment" is included and could be understood as including boat maintenance, insurance and upkeep for roughly 300 trips a year/50 trips a month. Are matching funds a consideration for this grant?
- A3. Matching funds are not a requirement for this grant application.
- Q4. Regarding outreach and marketing, focus has been primarily on DC residents in the past; as this program has been reviewed, is there anything that DOEE would like to see more consistently?
- A4. Conversations with BIDs and businesses; consistent social media shout-outs, work with OCR to form partnerships; reach out to MOCRs to build support throughout communities and other Wards outside of just the Anacostia watershed; farmers markets, festivals; schools; DOEE would like groups to give shout-outs on social media to assist with outreach (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) and incorporate DOEE accounts and related hashtags (#trashfreedc).
- Q5. Regarding marketing, what tools of engagement beyond social media, Signs on busses, Metro Advertising and Local newspapers.
- A5. Applicants can prioritize ANCs along the river and schools within or even outside of the Anacostia watershed, and expand from there.
- Q6. Have tours on the Potomac been considered a part of this grant?
- A6. DOEE chose not to include the Potomac in the tours for many reasons. One reason is due to the boats that are currently required to fit under the CSX Bridge, a stipulation of this grant, often have issues with stability once they hit the Potomac.
- Q7. As the Washington Channel is considered a tributary of the Anacostia River, could it be included in future tours; also, is Bladensburg still included as a launch site?
- A7. The Washington Channel would be a welcome addition to the area covered during tours, and Bladensburg is still a reasonable launch site.

- Q8. Would DOEE like to see more translated/multi-lingual trips? Including translated tours and materials, particularly in Spanish, especially for charter schools that have large ELL populations and would like to go on tours
- A8. Yes. The addition of multi-lingual trips is highly encouraged.
- Q9. For handicap accessibility there aren't any ADA regulations for water vessels, is there any requirement for using ADA acceptable docks?
- A9. The more accessible the tours are, the better, but given the nature of the boats and the launch sites we understand not all are accessible.
- Q10. Will DOEE expect to see letters of support from agencies to use private launch sites, especially those in public locations like Bladensburg?
- A10. No, those responsibilities are on the applicant to receive all applicable permissions for launching tours.
- Q11. For Diamond Teague docks, who has the primary responsibility for permits to launch?
- A11. The applicant will need to follow up with property manager to determine if a launch site is acceptable for use.
- Q13. In the last iteration of the grant, both motorized and self-propelled tours were offered. Are both accepted?
- A13. Yes both are accepted but self-propelled is no longer required.
- Q14. Can a staff member of your agency provide a letter of support for our boat tour grant proposal?
- A14. Letters of support cannot be accepted from DOEE for any DOEE funded solicitation. This would clearly represent a conflict of interest.