# Webinar on 2021 Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Planning Grant RFA

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#### Today's Agenda



- I. Introductions
- II. Background on the RFA
- III. Questions and Answer Period

Photo by Dan Rauch, DOEE Fish & Wildlife Division



#### Introductions

- This project is being managed by the Partnering & Environmental Conservation Branch (PEC Branch), DOEE Watershed Protection Division (WPD)
- Mission of the WPD: To protect and restore the environmental health of the District's waterways
- Key Staff
  - Matt Robinson, Environmental Protection Specialist, PEC Branch, Project Manager
  - Emily Rice, Branch Chief, PEC Branch
  - Steve Saari, Associate Director, WPD
- \$350,000 is available for a two-year grant for a nonprofit, for-profit, or academic partner to develop a comprehensive restoration plan for the Anacostia River corridor.
- Funding for this project is being provided by DC stream and wetland restoration funding and through a National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grant



Photo by Dan Rauch, DOEE Fish & Wildlife Division

#### Examples of WPD's Work



- Stream and Wetland Restoration
- Education/Outreach Programs
- Green Infrastructure Programs
- Trash Reduction Initiatives



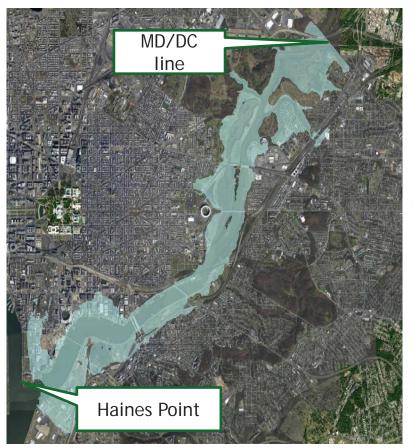
Photos courtesy of DOEE WPD and Anacostia Riverkeeper







#### What is the Anacostia River Corridor?



500-year flood zone delineated by the area blue above. Copies of the District's flood plain maps can be found at:

https://doee.dc.gov/floodplainmap

- The Anacostia River is a tidal, urban estuary and tributary to the Potomac River.
- DOEE defines the Anacostia River "Corridor" as the Anacostia River within the District's boundaries stretching from the mouth of the river at Haines Point to the DC/MD line. The corridor also includes the area extending from the river channel to the upland edge of the 500-year flood plain.
- This area includes:
  - River
  - Shoreline
  - Habitat
  - Public Access Points
  - Parks
  - Floodplain

## Why Now?



Photo by John Sanderman

- The Anacostia River corridor has suffered over 300 years of human development and is facing multiple future pressures.
- Much of the river's valuable habitat has been diminished by stormwater pollution, straightening and armoring the waterway, and dredging and removing wetlands, among other harmful human activities.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimates that sea level rise will increase by 3.4 feet in the District by 2080. Coastal storm surge from future severe storms induced by climate change will only exacerbate these effects.
- DOEE desires a plan that will focus on four main priorities:
  - Enhancing resiliency
  - Restoring fish and wildlife habitat
  - Improving water quality
  - Enhancing public recreation and access.

#### Great Need to Engage Stakeholders

- DOEE desires a plan that will engage heavily with a multitude of stakeholders found a long the Anacostia River corridor.
- Two major project outcomes include:
  - 1. Consensus among the District and federal government agencies, and key non-government organizations, on a vision for a restored and accessible Anacostia River.
  - 2. Increased public understanding among District residents about the history of human impacts to the Anacostia River corridor, future threats, and potential solutions to restoring the waterway.



Photo by Kara Pennino, DOEE WPD



### Scoring Criteria

Scoring Criteria	Points
Demonstrates in-depth knowledge of the Anacostia River, including past impacts to the waterway's habitat and water quality, current barriers to access, and future threats such as climate change, sea level rise, and urban development.	10
Demonstrates extensive knowledge of restoration planning, including how to quantify benefits of individual restoration projects.	5
Provides a detailed explanation for how the data needed to quantify the environmental and social benefits of projects will be collected and analyzed.	15
Provides a detailed explanation for how the data collected will be used to develop the restoration plan that includes multiple goals such as habitat restoration, enhancing ecosystem resiliency, pollution reduction, and inclusive and equitable access to nature and recreation amenities.	20
Provides a strong plan for public for outreach and engagement that seeks to soliciting input from diverse stakeholders including hard to reach communities.	20
Demonstrates extensive experience conducting education, outreach and engagement with communities in the District of Columbia.	5
Demonstrates mastery in meeting facilitation especially with disparate stakeholders with vested interests in the project outcome.	5
A detailed line-item numeric budget and budget justification to reflect the requested funds.	20



#### Final Details on the RFA

- All applications in <u>PDF format</u> must be submitted via email to <u>2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov</u> by 11:59 pm on Friday, January 15, 2021. Faxes or copies send by mail will not be accepted.
- Applications must include all required documents stipulated in the RFA. Please read the RFA and its attachments <u>very carefully</u>.
- Additional information may become available before the application is due. It is the responsibility of all applicants to stay up-to-date on the status and requirements of the grant.
- Beyond the discussion today, DOEE welcomes questions seeking clarification of matters in this RFA. Questions about the RFA should be sent to <u>2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov</u> with "RE: #2021-2022-WPD" in the subject line.
- DOEE will publish updates and Questions and Answers (Q&A) regarding the RFA at doee.dc.gov. DOEE will
  also create an email list to send updates and information regarding the RFA. A person can be put on the
  email list by immediately emailing <u>2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov</u> with the subject
  line "RE: RFA #2021-2022-WPD Add me to the email list."
- DOEE will provide the information to those on the email list at the same time the information is uploaded to the DOEE website. DOEE will not mail out updates or Q&A materials.
- The cut-off date for receipt of any questions is one week before the RFA deadline.



#### **Question and Answer Period**

- Please type your questions into the chat box and we will respond to them in the order they are received.
- This powerpoint and all questions and answers discussed during the webinar will be posted to the DOEE website at doee.dc.gov.
- If we do not get to your question today please resubmit it to 2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov

## THANKS! BEST OF LUCK IN PUTTING TOGETHER YOUR APPLICATIONS!

