VISITOR STATION, OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS, & TRAILS

RIVER TERRACE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION MEETING
February 27, 2019
AGENDA

1. Project history
2. Where we left off
3. What DOEE has done since
4. SOW components
5. Contract community engagement timeline
6. Project timeline
7. Interim projects
8. Questions?
PROJECT HISTORY

• Kingman & Heritage Island Feasibility Study Act 2016 - Released July 2017

• Hickok Cole and DOEE present plan to RTCO - September 2017

• Mayor Bowser Announces $4.7 Million Investment in Kingman and Heritage Islands - January 12, 2018

• Kingman Island Community Advisory Group (Kingman CAG) First Meeting - July 2018

• DOEE Meets with River Terrace Community at Anacostia Park - August 2018

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DOEE & RIVER TERRACE AT ANACOSTIA PARK

Issues Discussed:

• Kingman Island Benning Road Access (pedestrian entrance upgrade, wider gate, visible signage, etc.)

• East Capital Street sidewalk needs upkeep

• Benning Road sidewalk on west side needs repair

• Programming on the Islands for the local community

• Coordination with local schools for environmental education programming
WHAT DOEE HAS DONE SINCE

1. Research visits to other parks for relevant features
2. Drafting the SOW
   a) Kingman and Heritage Island Feasibility Study as basis
   b) DOEE expertise consulted includes:
      - wildlife management, green building, energy, toxic substances,
      - building permit plan review, stormwater management
   c) Sister Agencies: DGS, DPR, OCTO, DDOT
3. Market Research
4. Interim Projects
5. Seeking Additional Funding
6. 2nd meeting with Kingman Advisory Group (2/5/19)
A flagship project showcasing state-of-the-art sustainability goals for the District of Columbia.

Masterplan should be developed in adherence with guiding principles of ecological restoration, biophilic design, recreation, environmental education, flexible programmable spaces, connectivity to the natural environment of the river, lake and habitats, integration of life-enhancing spaces, and universal design.

Assessment of island conditions in preparation for developing a comprehensive ecological conservation and restoration, and management plan.

Review site conditions and conduct site analysis in preparation for developing designs for a Visitor Center on Benning Road.

Develop a comprehensive ecological restoration, conservation and management plan for the site.

Design a Visitor Center at the Benning Road entrance that meets requirements of the Sustainable DC Plan.

Design 6 environmental education facilities ("outdoor classrooms"), as well as areas to encourage interaction with nature.

Design features to facilitate human connection to the Anacostia River and provide strategic views of the river.

Design pathways and boardwalks to guide visitors through the island experience, to connect the outdoor classrooms, to protect conservation areas, and to strategically direct all circulation (i.e., foot traffic, persons with disabilities, cyclists, dog walkers) to appropriate paths.

Design wayfinding signage.
PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES
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Design 6 environmental education facilities ("outdoor classrooms"), as well as areas to encourage interaction.

- Each outdoor classroom focuses on educating about a different habitat.
- Built structures and associated infrastructure must be sited and constructed in a manner that minimizes impacts to existing wildlife habitat.

To include:
- Marsh Landing Classroom
- Gateway Meadow Classroom
- Floating Lab on Anacostia Tributary (FLOAT)
- Understory Classroom
- Area of Repose
- Eagle’s Outlook Woodland Classroom
- Sculpture Areas
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- Each outdoor classroom focuses on educating about a different habitat.
- Built structures and associated infrastructure must be sited and constructed in a manner that minimizes impacts to existing wildlife habitat.
PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES

Design features to facilitate human connection to the Anacostia River and provide strategic views of the river.

To include:
- Natural-looking gazebos made to blend with the environment
- Fenced overlook decks
- Benches and other seating made of natural materials
PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES
Design pathways and boardwalks to guide visitors through the island experience, to connect the outdoor classrooms, to protect conservation areas, and to strategically direct all circulation (i.e., foot traffic, persons with disabilities, cyclists, dog walkers) to appropriate paths.

- Trail system should be designed in a way that will minimize impacts to existing wildlife habitat.

To include:

- ADA Accessible Routes (primary 8’ wide path & secondary 6’ wide paths)
- ADA Accessible platform on Heritage Island to connect the two bridges to the islands. A path or walkway to access vernal pool habitat area without disturbing it.
- All trails to have mileage markers, wayfinding and place identification signage
- Railed boardwalk encircling the designated critical conservation area and extending into the marshes to avoid foot traffic in the designated critical conservation area (or canopy walk)
PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DELIVERABLE</th>
<th>PLANNED DATE OF COMPLETION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONTRACTING (Design Only)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting for Design Firm</td>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permitted Designs and Bid-Ready Documents</td>
<td>September 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracting for Construction</td>
<td>July 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Completion</td>
<td>July 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>INTERIM PROJECTS</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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## Community Engagement for Design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Phase</th>
<th>Approximate Timeframe</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Project Kick-Off Meeting</td>
<td>Fall 2019 - Nov. 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preliminary Concept Design (30%)</td>
<td>Feb. 2020 - Apr. 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schematic Design (60%)</td>
<td>June 2020 - Aug. 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design Development (90%)</td>
<td>Sept. 2020 - Oct. 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Design (100%)</td>
<td>Dec. 2020 - Jan. 2021</td>
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INTERIM GOALS

- Benning Road/River Terrace Walkability Project (Tactical Urbanism Pilot)
- Mussels Grant
- High Water Mark
- Community Stormwater Solutions Grants
- Green Zone Environmental Program (GZEP)
- Invasive Plant Removal
- Trash Management on Kingman Lake
- Tree Planting on Heritage Island
- Vernal Pool Restoration (RiverCorps)
- Watershed Stewards Academy
PLACEMAKING

Placemaking is a planning & design approach that capitalizes on local community’s assets, inspiration, and potential, with the intention of creating public spaces that promote people’s health, happiness, and well-being.
WALKABILITY PROJECT

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