



VISITOR STATION,
OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS,
& TRAILS

RIVER TERRACE COMMUNITY
ORGANIZATION MEETING
February 27, 2019



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

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



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)

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES

- ❑ 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

Perspective View



Precedent Images



Glass / Wood house by Kengo Kuma



High Meadow Cabins



Zecc Architecten and Roel van Norel.



PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES

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

Proposed Site Plan

LEGEND

- EXISTING
- ADA ACCESSIBLE PRIMARY ROUTE - 8' WIDTH
- ADA ACCESSIBLE PRIMARY ROUTE - BOARDWALK
- ADA ACCESSIBLE SECONDARY ROUTE - 6' WIDTH
- SECONDARY ROUTE - 6' WIDTH
- SECONDARY ROUTE BOARDWALK
- TERTIARY ROUTE - 4' WIDTH
- TERTIARY ROUTE BOARDWALK
- OUTDOOR CLASSROOM
- BUILT STRUCTURE
- SIDEWALK / STREET
- FUTURE WORK UNDER SEPARATE ONUS



PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES

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.



PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES

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

To include:

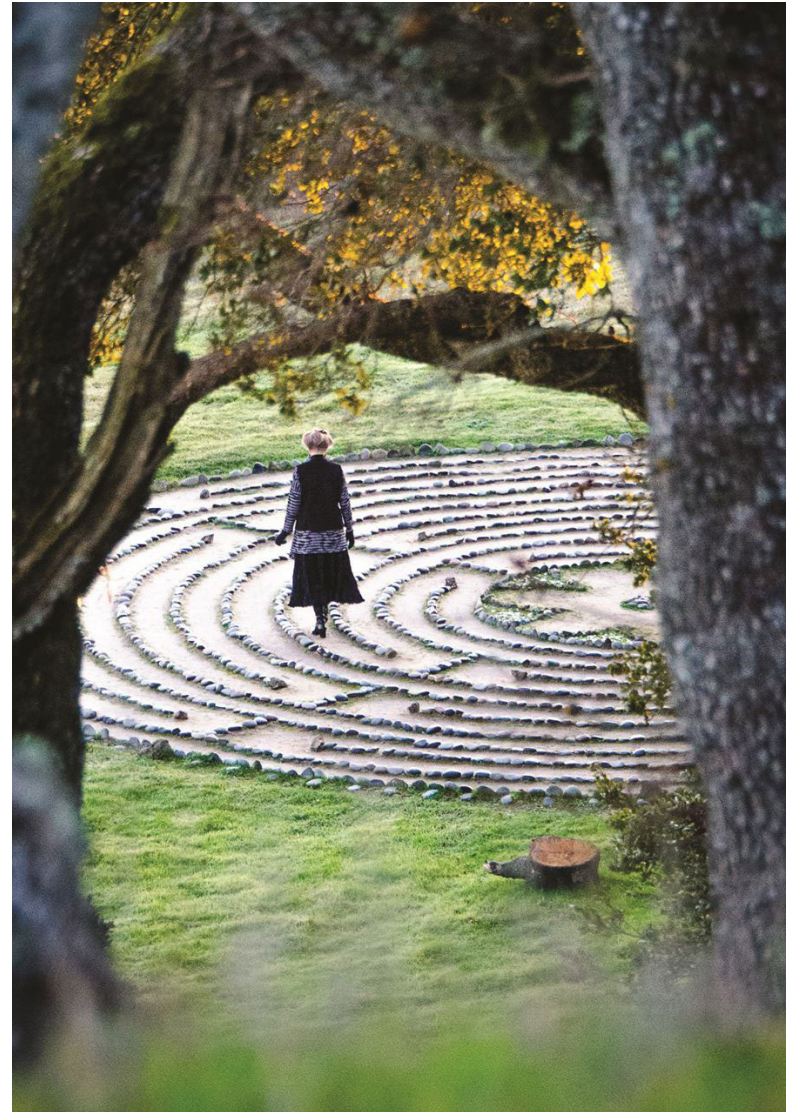
- ❑ Natural-looking gazebos made to blend with the environment
- ❑ Fenced overlook decks
- ❑ Benches and other seating made of natural materials



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PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES



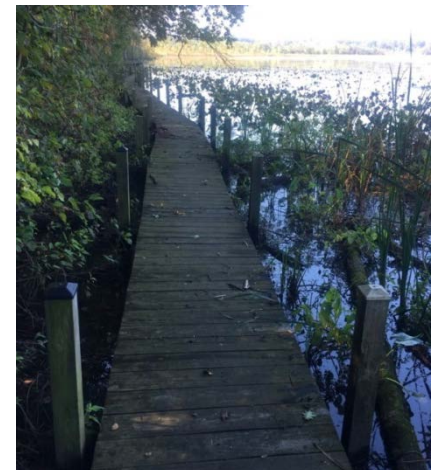
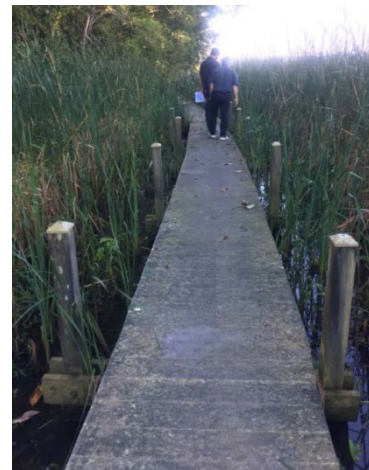
PROPOSED PROJECT GOALS & FEATURES

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



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APPROXIMATE PROJECT TIMELINE

DELIVERABLE	PLANNED DATE OF COMPLETION
CONTRACTING (Design Only)	
Contracting for Design Firm	Fall 2019
Permitted Designs and Bid-Ready Documents	September 2021
Contracting for Construction	July 2022
Project Completion	July 2024
INTERIM PROJECTS	Ongoing

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR DESIGN

DESIGN PHASE	APPROXIMATE TIMEFRAME
Community Project Kick-Off Meeting	Fall 2019-Nov. 2019
Preliminary Concept Design (30%)	Feb. 2020-Apr. 2020
Schematic Design (60%)	June 2020 -Aug.2020
Design Development (90%)	Sept.2020-Oct. 2020
Final Design (100%)	Dec.2020 - Jan.2021



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

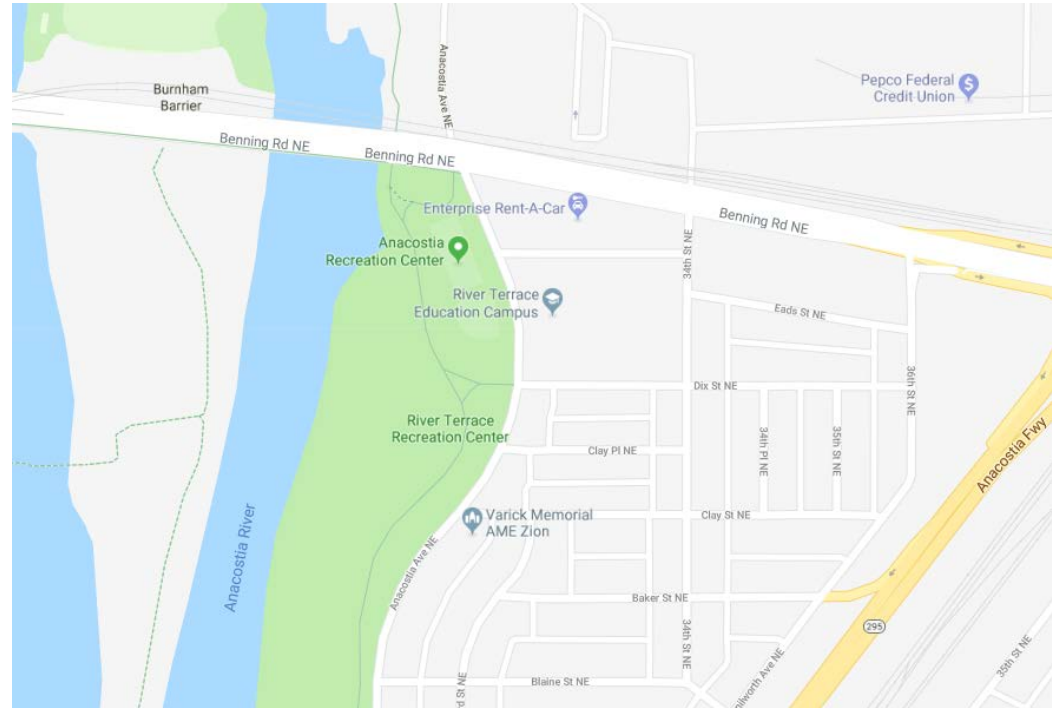
Placemaking is a planning & design approach that capitalizes on local community's assets, inspiration, and potential, with the intention of creating public spaces that promote people's health, happiness, and well-being.



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WALKABILITY PROJECT



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A photograph of a person wearing an orange jacket and blue jeans, climbing a large, dark, gnarled tree trunk. The tree is situated on a rocky, pebbly bank next to a body of water. In the background, there are more bare trees and a cloudy sky. The overall scene is in a natural, somewhat desolate setting.

DISCUSSION. QUESTIONS. CONTACTS.

Hamid Karimi, hamid.karimi@dc.gov
Asteria Hyera, asteria.hyera@dc.gov

