

DC Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting #2:

March 22, 2023 | 5 - 6 pm





Please **introduce yourself** in the chat!

- Name & pronouns
- Community or Organization
- Where is your favorite location on or along Anacostia River?



Please **keep your microphone on mute** during the presentation.



Please **use the chat feature to ask questions or provide comments** during presentations.

There will be opportunities for **open discussion** throughout the meeting

AGENDA

- WELCOME & TODAY'S GOALS
- REVIEW of PROJECT INTENT & GOALS
- REVIEW OF PROJECT SCHEDULE
- REVIEW OF PH1 PUBLIC FEEDBACK
- PH 2 CONCEPT MAP
- PH 2 DRAFT PUBLIC SURVEY QUESTIONS
- NEXT STEPS



Photo Credit: Krista Schlyer

Project Overview

Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan (ARCRP)

DC's Comprehensive Restoration Plan for the Anacostia River Corridor that will help achieve the following priorities:

- **Restore Habitat**
- **Improve Water Quality**
- **Enhance Resiliency**
- **Enhance Public Access and Recreation**

The final Restoration Master Plan will provide a **holistic plan** with which the **District and Sister/Federal agencies** can use to apply for **future grants and other funding** to implement **restoration and enhancement** projects along the corridor.

The planning process supports increased community understanding of the history and ecology of the Anacostia River Corridor; **building community consensus** on solutions that will improve health and resiliency, and access to the river.

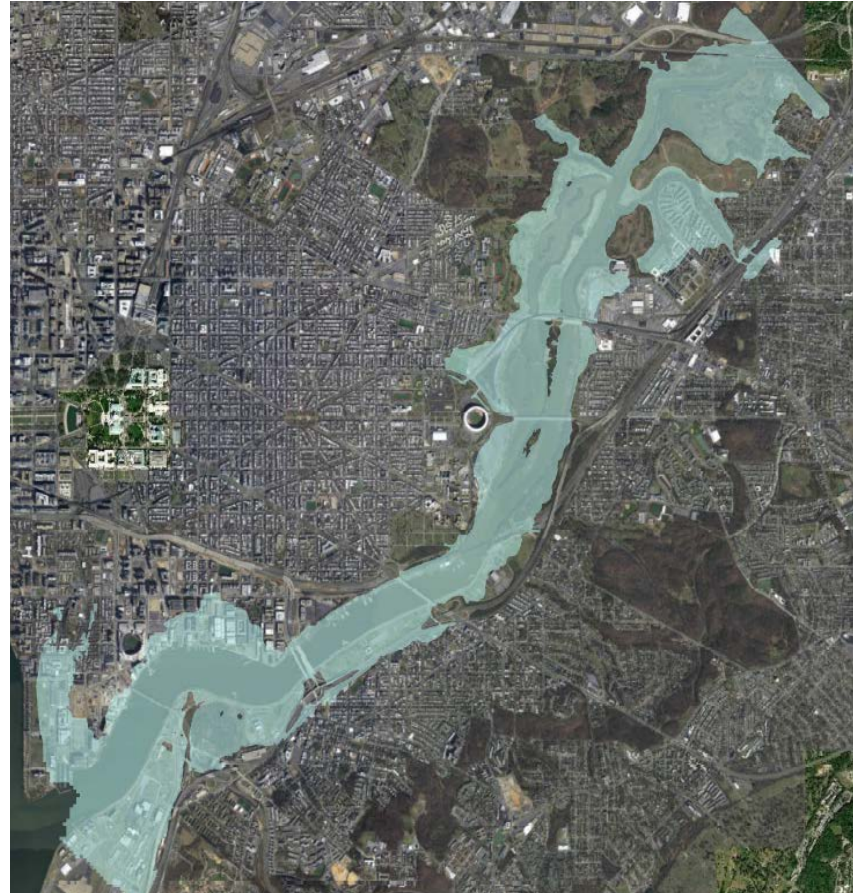


The "corridor" is defined as the tidal section of the Anacostia River in DC, reaching from the river channel to the upland edge of the 500-year flood plan.

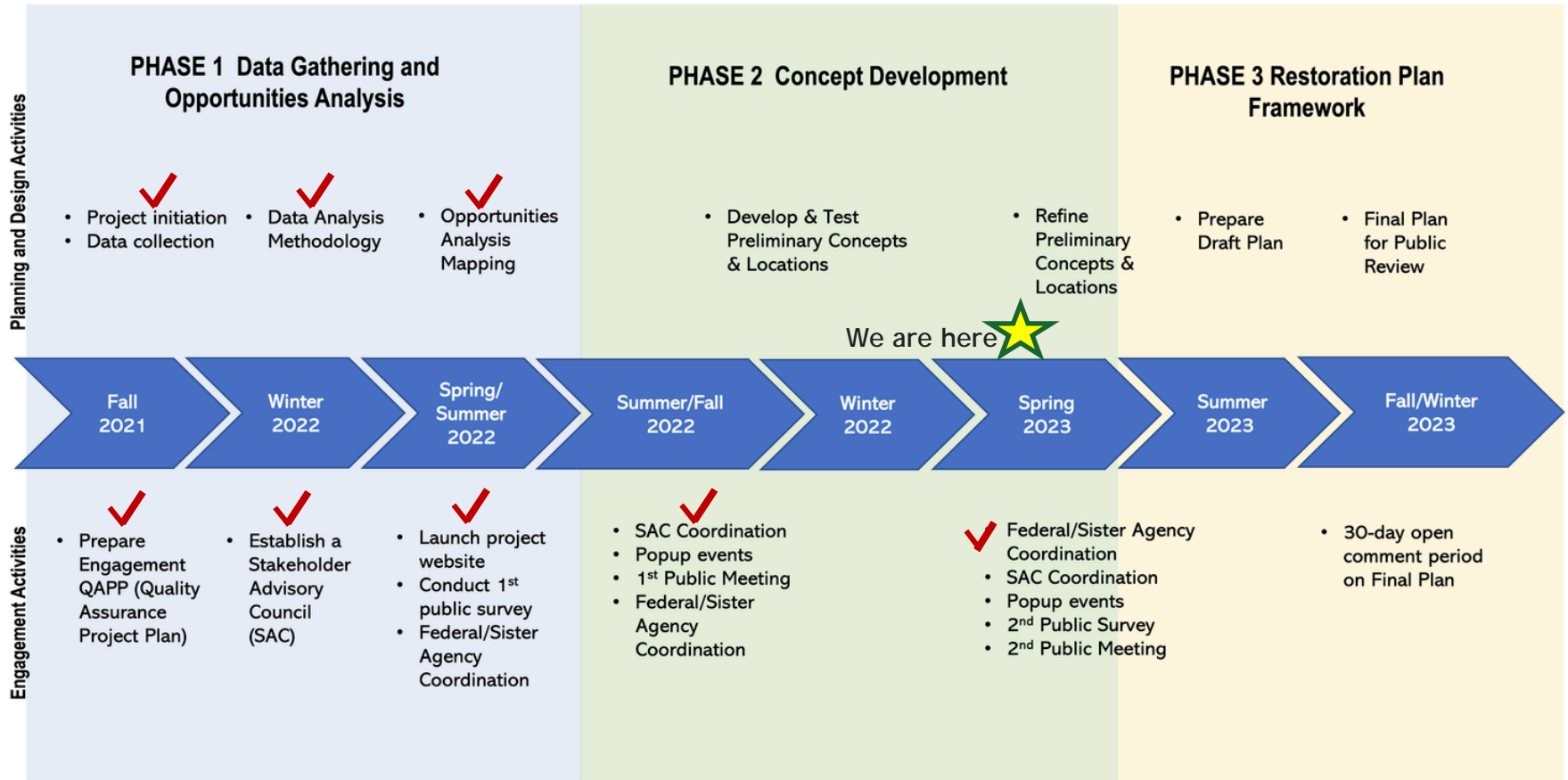
Goals for Today

Today's Review Session Goals

- **PRESENTATION:** Consultant team **presents project overview and status update**
- **PUBLIC SURVEY #2 SAMPLING:** **review sample of survey questions and get feedback**
- **DISCUSS:** **next steps for DOEE, Team, and SAC**



Project Schedule

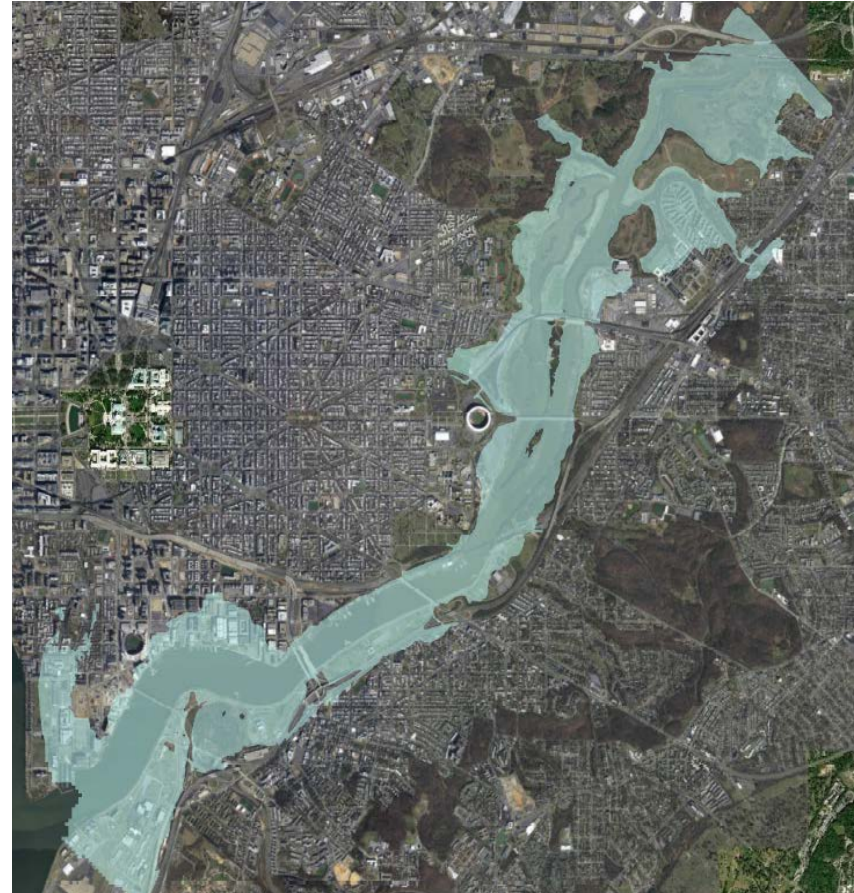


Project Overview

Phase 2 – Concept Development

- Draft **strategies & locations to address 4 goals; consider overlapping benefits of restoration and access strategies**
- Review and obtain feedback from Sister/Federal Agency group
- Review and obtain feedback from Stakeholders/Public
- Refine and Finalize Strategies and locations

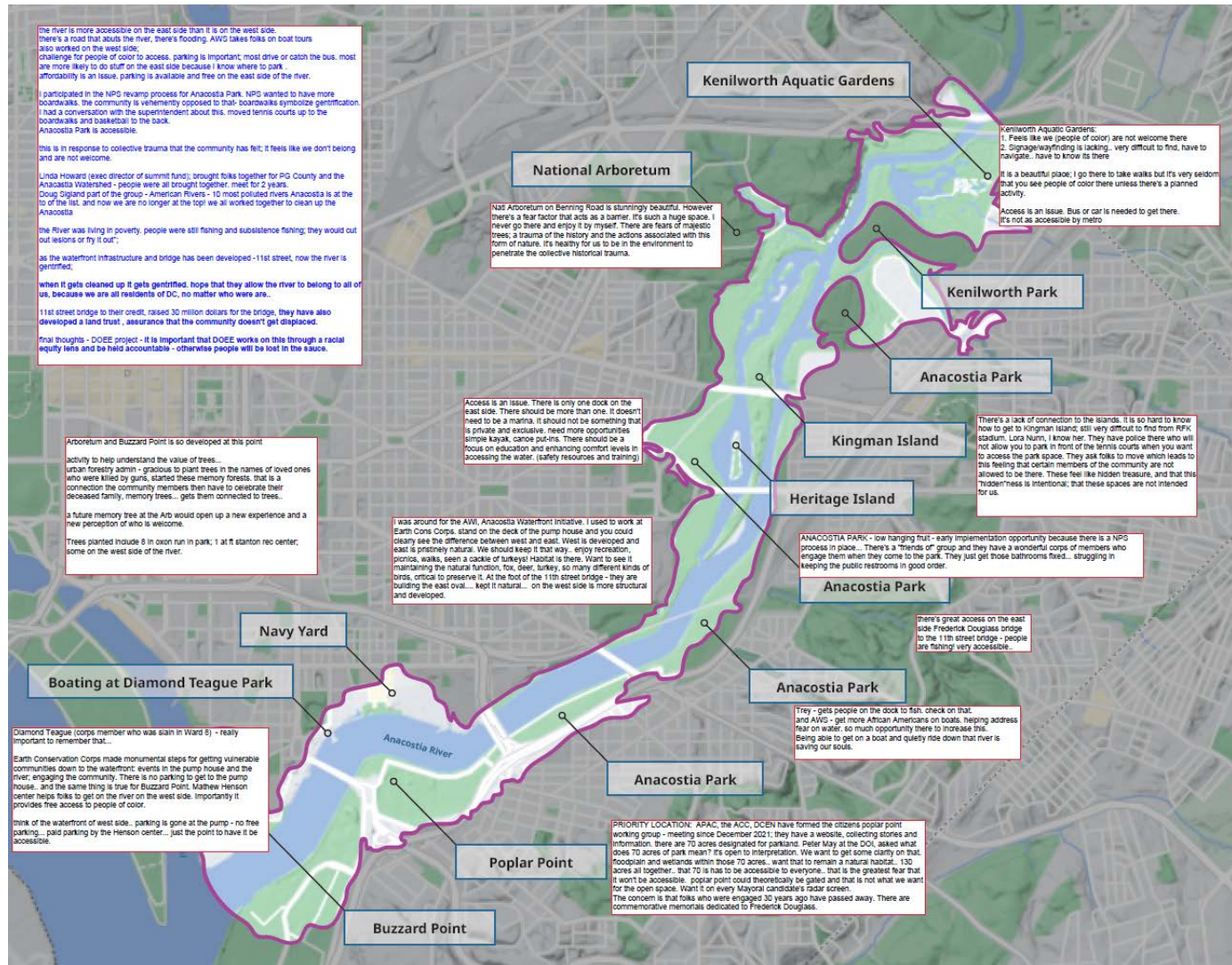
We are here



Phase 1: PUBLIC INPUT

Public Engagement

- Stakeholder Interviews (12)
- Public Meeting
- Public Survey on EngageDC.com



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[WEBLINK: Anacostia Corridor Restoration Plan — Anacostia River Sediment Project \(restoretheanacostiariver.com\)](http://restoretheanacostiariver.com)

Getting started

How do you use Mural? Please use the following exercises to facilitate discussion with participants and using Mural.

Painting around Click and drag a sticky note to move around the board. You can also hold the SPACE bar and click anything to pan around.

Zooming in and out Use your mouse wheel and scroll forward to zoom into the fullboard. What is at the center of the fullboard?

Engaging and placing objects Click and drag the icons and place them on the board.

Where would you like to see these activities and features along the Anacostia River? Drag and drop the icons on the map to place them on the board.

Getting to know how you use parks and recreational features along the Anacostia River Corridor

Where do you exercise the most? Click and drag an orange dot to the map to indicate the park to apply where you exercise the most today.

What kinds of activities and features would you like to see within parks and recreation spaces along the Anacostia River corridor? Drag and drop the icons on the map to place them on the board.

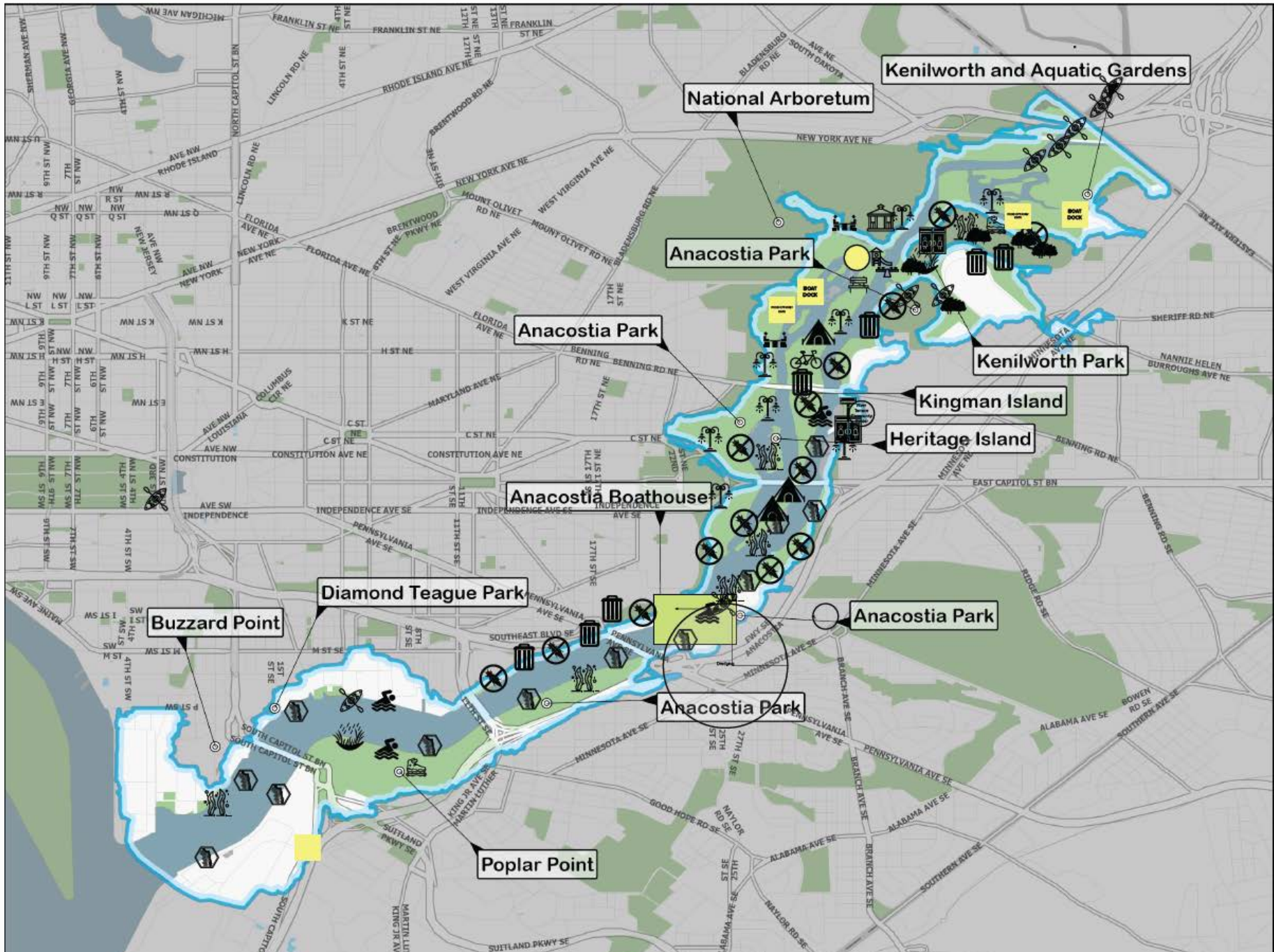
Additional thoughts and concerns

What kind of risks do you perceive about accessing the parks and recreational areas along the river? Drag and drop the icons on the map to place them on the board.

Do you have any additional comments or concerns about the Anacostia River? These thoughts may relate to facilities, water quality, or flood resilience. Drag and drop the icons on the map to place them on the board.

Any other risks the team should be aware of concerning project? Drag and drop the icons on the map to place them on the board.

The screenshot displays a web-based survey interface for the Anacostia River Corridor. It features a central map of the river area with several parks and landmarks labeled, including National Arboretum, Kenilworth and Aquatic Gardens, Anacostia Park, Kenilworth Park, Kingman Island, Heritage Island, Anacostia Boat House, Diamond Teague Park, Buzzard Point, Poplar Point, and Anacostia Park. The interface is divided into several sections: 'Getting started' with instructions on using the Mural tool; 'Getting to know how you use parks and recreational features along the Anacostia River Corridor' with questions about exercise locations and desired activities; and 'Additional thoughts and concerns' with questions about risks and other concerns. A legend on the left side lists various icons for activities like walking, biking, playing, and water quality. The right side of the interface shows a grid of sticky notes for user input, with some notes already placed on the map.



Kenilworth and Aquatic Gardens

National Arboretum

Anacostia Park

Anacostia Park

Kenilworth Park

Kingman Island

Heritage Island

Anacostia Boathouse

Diamond Teague Park

Buzzard Point

Anacostia Park

Anacostia Park

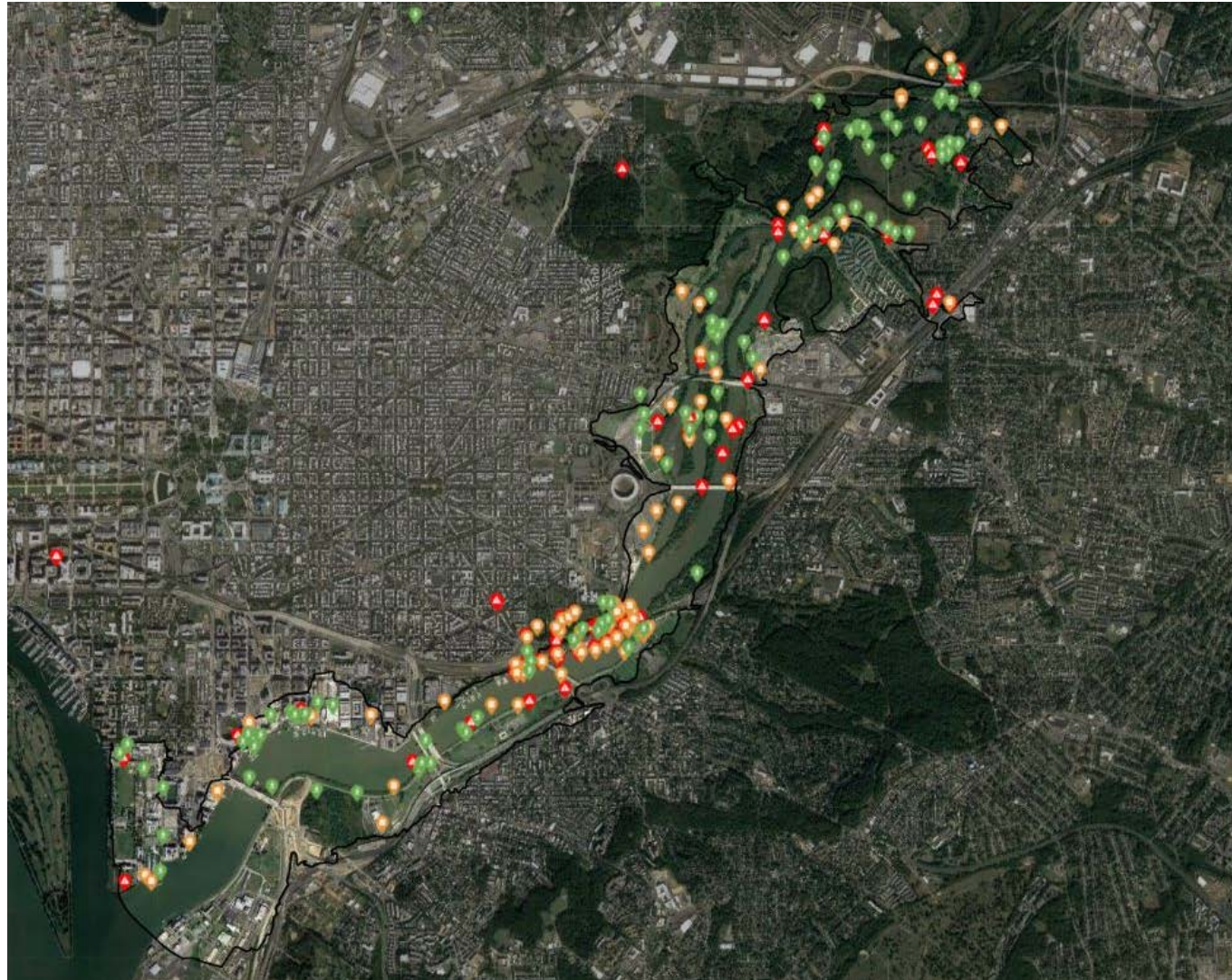
Poplar Point



Phase 1: PUBLIC INPUT

Public Engagement

- Stakeholder Interviews (12)
- Public Meeting
- **Public Survey on EngageDC.com**
(Online & at Pop-up Events)



Phase 1: Public Input Summary

Community Input Themes

Which of these activities do you think needs to be more available along the Anacostia River Corridor?	RESPONSES
Nature/wildlife appreciation	152
Using the trails along the river (walking, biking, running)	147
Kayaking/Canoeing	143
Visiting parks along the river	116
Picnic or other social gatherings	113
Other Boating (Sailing etc.)	72
Fishing	65
Rowing	65
Other	38



Phase 1: Public Input Summary

Community Input Themes

85% of respondents noted **cleanliness of the river** as the highest rank activities on the river, followed by **natural and wildlife habitat (60%)**

50% or more of all respondents noted these actions as **high priority** for immediate attention:

- Improving **fish** and **wildlife habitat**
- Reducing **litter**
- Improving **safety** and **security**
- Reducing **flood risks**

50% of all respondents noted the following a **medium priority** to make a positive impact:

- Improved **options for recreation**
- Improved ease of **access to recreational** amenities
- Improving **scenic quality**

Phase 2: Concept Development

Restoration and Stormwater Management

- Stream daylighting/restoration
- Living shoreline restoration (tidal wetlands & submerged aquatic vegetation)
- Upland wetland restoration
- Reforestation and meadow riparian plantings
- Stormwater Best Management Practices
- Mussel Restoration



Phase 2: Concept Development

Public Access and Amenities

- Put-ins for kayak/canoe/paddleboards
- Swimming / River Pools
- Fishing and Overlooks
- Birdwatching/wildlife watching
- Gathering Spaces and Picnic Areas
- Lighting & Wayfinding
- Trash Traps

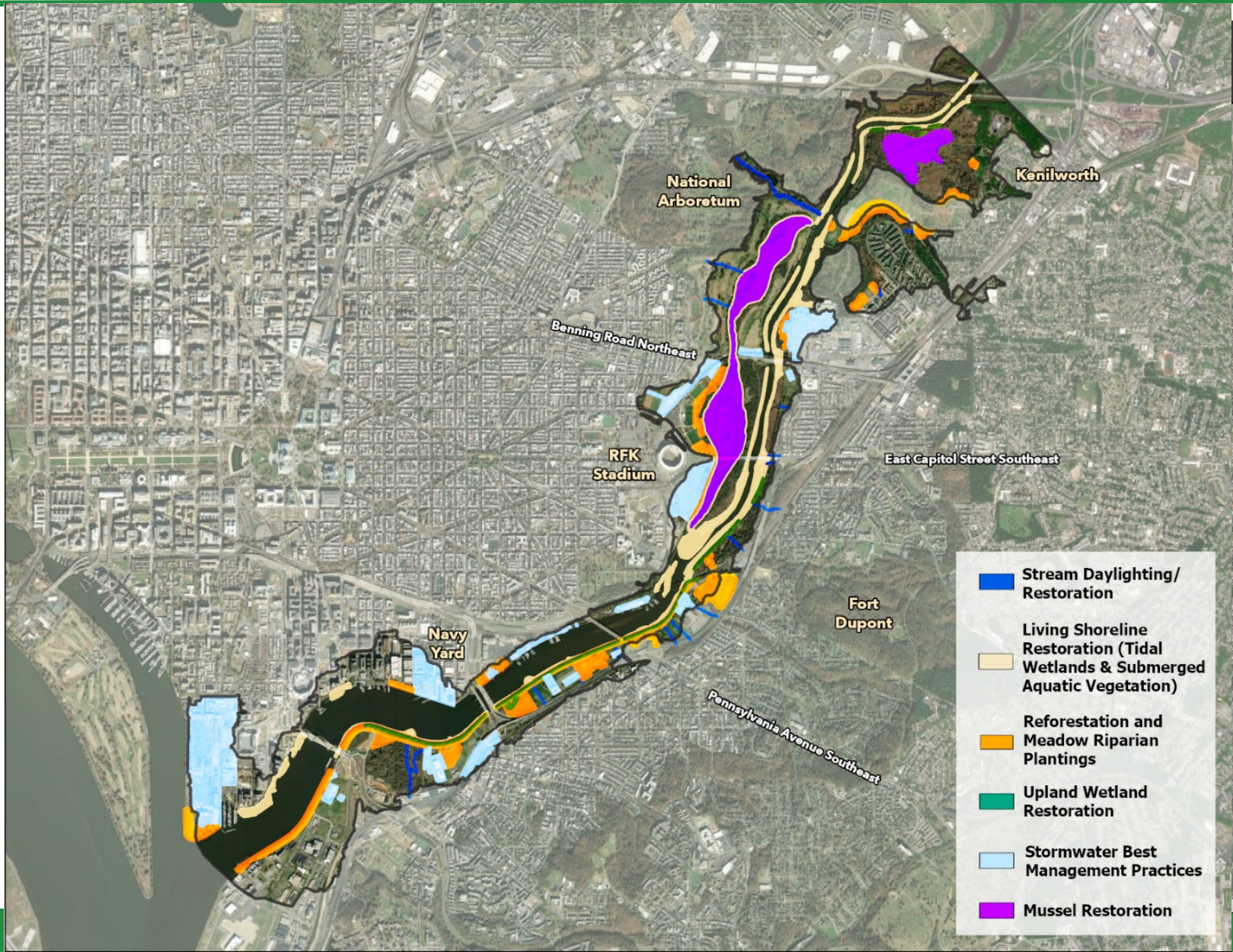


Phase 2: Concept Development

Restoration, Stormwater Management + Public Access and Amenities



Phase 2: Concept Development – Mapped Strategies



Phase 2: Concept Development

Are there other elements that you would like DOEE to consider?

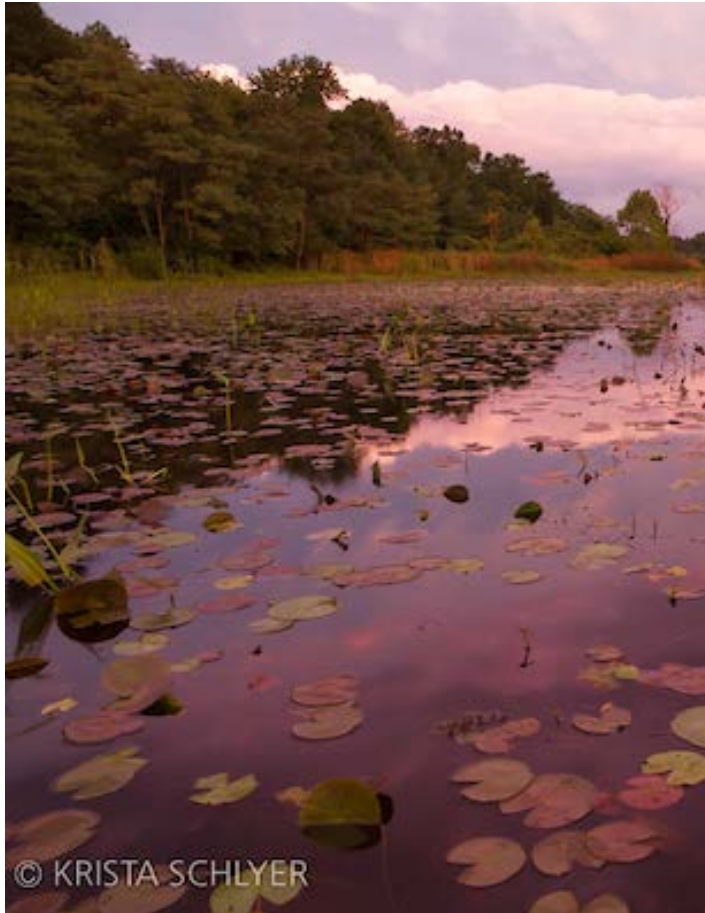
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Phase 2: Public Survey



As we go through the sample questions, please consider the following:

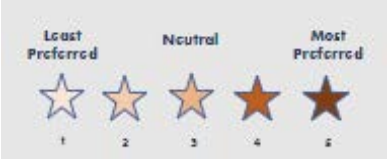
- Do you have any **general comments** on the sample questions we share?
- Are there any **concerns with language/terminology** that we should be sensitive to?
- Balance: Do you think people will be more interested in providing **feedback on the style** (look) of the amenities **or where they are located**?
- What **type of feedback** do you think the **community will provide on restoration** strategies?
- Is there **anything else** DOEE should consider asking during this final survey?

Phase 2: Public Survey Sample Question 1

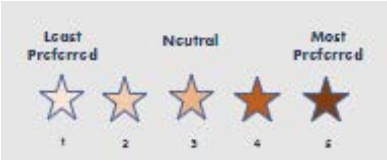
43% of survey respondents would like more opportunities for picnicking and gathering space. **Which style of gathering and picnicking space do you prefer along the corridor?**



Open along trails / boardwalks



Natural materials like logs and boulders



Phase 2: Public Survey Sample Question 1

Mapped below are proposed additional locations for picnicking & gathering. These were selected based on community feedback integrated with proposed habitat restoration strategies near existing access and open space amenities.



Please provide comments on proposed locations for picnicking and gathering.

Are there any additional locations you would like considered? Do you have concerns about suggested locations?

Open comment:

Phase 2: Public Survey Sample Question 2

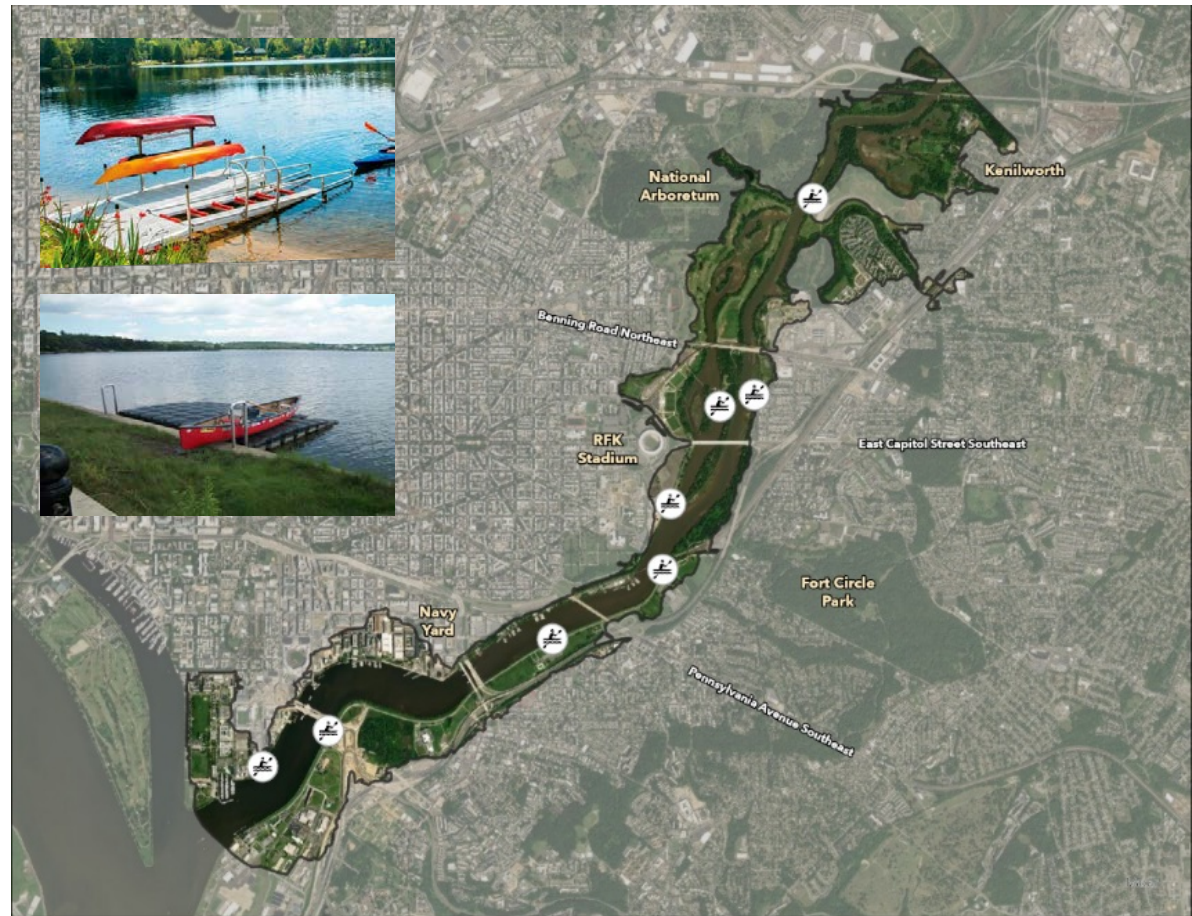
80% of survey respondents would like more **access points to put in kayaks, canoes, and paddle boards along the corridor.**

Mapped below are potential locations for kayak/canoe/paddle board access. These were selected based on public input, access to parking/drop-offs, and integration with proposed restoration strategies.

Please provide comments on suggested locations for put-ins.

Are there any additional locations you would like considered? Do you have concerns about suggested locations?

Open comment:



Phase 2: Public Survey Sample Question 3

57% of survey respondents would like more **waterside trails** for walking, biking, running, and rolling.

How do you rate each of the trail styles (boardwalk, natural, porous pavement) that could be added along the Anacostia River corridor?

Rate your preference:



Boardwalk



Natural path



Phase 2: Public Survey Sample Question 4

52% of survey respondents stated **reducing flood risks** are a **high priority** and **77%** of survey respondents stated **improved fish and wildlife habitats** are a **high priority**. The following proposed strategies can reduce flooding, increase resilience, and improve native fish and wildlife habitats.

BEFORE



AFTER



Stream daylighting is the process of taking a stream that had been previously buried in a pipe and returning it to the surface in a natural waterway. With the restoration of a stream’s natural channel, water quality is improved and habitat is reintroduced.

Please tell us what excites you about this strategy and what concerns you?

What excites me: _____

What concerns me: _____



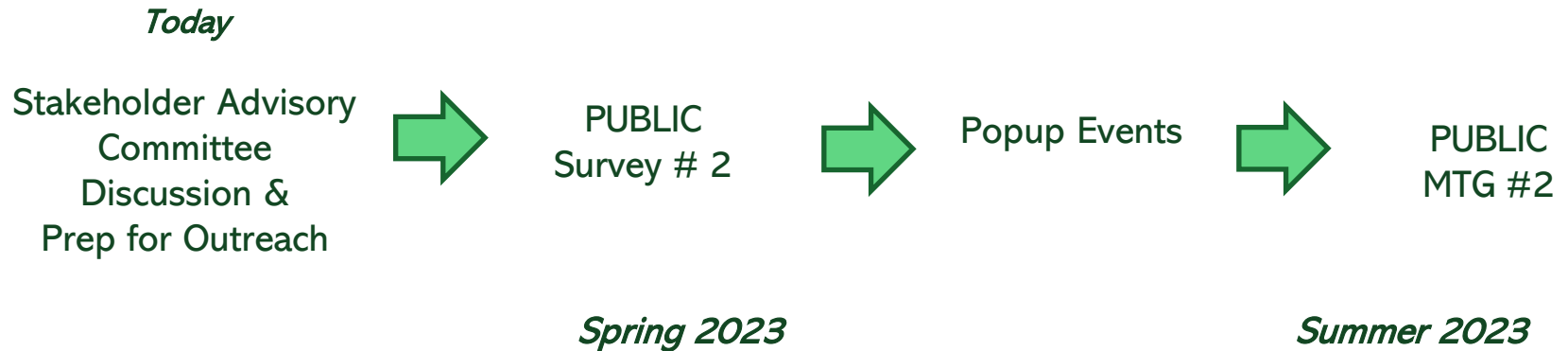
Phase 2: Public Survey

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NEXT STEPS

Your ongoing support and outreach to your network with the information DOEE provides, including links and invites, is key to this plan's success!



Community Engagement Events & Opportunities

AWS Anacostia Earth Day Cleanup Event
April 22

City Nature Challenge
April 28 - May 1

DOEE Watershed Partners Meeting
Early May

Anacostia River Env Youth Summit
May 19

Anacostia River Festival
May 20



Thank You for your participation.

To stay updated on upcoming pop-up events, final survey link, and the public meeting, please visit:

[Anacostia Corridor Restoration Plan – Anacostia River Sediment Project \(restoretheanacostiariver.com\)](http://restoretheanacostiariver.com)



Questions?

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