

Frequently Asked Questions #1

F.A.Q.

THE ANACOSTIA WATERFRONT
www.theanacostiawaterfront.com



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Is there a plan to develop the Anacostia Waterfront?

Yes. It is called the Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan. It evolved from an unprecedented partnership between 20 federal and District agencies that own or control land along the Anacostia River. They have pledged to transform the Anacostia River and its shoreline into a world class waterfront offering more options for sustainable living, work and relaxation for District residents and visitors alike.

What does the Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan call for?

The 20-year plan calls for more than \$10 billion worth of investment along the Anacostia River's shores – open spaces and new parks, biking and walking trails, bridge replacements and roadway reconstruction, housing, retail, office space and places for people simply to meet, relax, enjoy nature and the heritage of waterfront neighborhoods. Revitalizing the Anacostia Waterfront will also reconnect District residents and neighborhoods to the river.

How will the benefits along the waterfront be shared equitably?

The Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan seeks to create a waterfront where both sides of the river prosper from the social and economic benefits flowing from a revitalized waterfront. This means the Anacostia River will become a unifying force, bringing diverse communities together and connecting them to a common asset.

Where is the Anacostia Waterfront?

The District boundaries of the Anacostia Waterfront stretch from Southwest Washington to the Maryland border. This seven-mile urban waterfront weaves through Wards 6, 7, and 8 and is home to nearly 25 percent of the District's population.

What will be achieved when the waterfront is fully built-out?

The plan calls for 6,500 units of new housing and three million square feet of new office space. That adds up to thousands of new jobs. In addition, there is planned to be 32 acres of new public park space and a 20-mile network of pedestrian and bicycle trails along both sides of the river.



Frequently Asked Questions #1 Continued

Will District residents get a fair shot at waterfront construction jobs?

Yes. Many contractors abide by “First Source” hiring for District residents. For example, 51 percent of new jobs created on the Southwest Waterfront development project must be filled by District residents.

What is planned for Poplar Point?

An Environmental Impact Study is scheduled for completion in spring 2009. Poplar Point is one of the prime sites for achieving the District’s goal of becoming a world class waterfront city. The District has selected its development partner to transform Poplar Point into a \$2.5 billion waterfront attraction with potentially hundreds of units of housing, new retail, hotels, office space and a 70-acre waterfront park. The District has required that at least 51 percent of the new jobs created go to District residents and 35 percent of the contracting dollars be awarded to small and local certified businesses.

How will the Anacostia Waterfront become more accessible?

The Anacostia must be restored as a safe, accessible, public resource for all to enjoy. Its river crossings should allow pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists to easily travel among neighborhoods and the waterfront’s many attractions. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has taken the lead to upgrade the transportation network in the Anacostia Waterfront area, launching projects that will support economic development and better serve waterfront neighborhoods and the region.

When will re-construction of the 11th Street Bridges begin?

Replacing the 11th Street Bridges is an integral part of revitalizing the Anacostia Waterfront. Reconstruction of the bridges and associated interchange improvements will begin in mid-2009 and continue through 2013. When construction is completed, local traffic will be separated from commuter traffic and the new river crossing will accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists and transit.

Will the Anacostia River become safe for swimming and fishing again?

Yes. Restoration of the Anacostia River and its tributaries and improved stormwater management are central to sustainable development on the Anacostia Waterfront. Restoring the Anacostia therefore goes beyond simply reducing pollutants or meeting environmental standards—it requires returning the river to a state where it can be actively used and enjoyed by residents and visitors. Restoration work will not be accomplished all at once. Instead, it will take place gradually over time. Led by the District Department of the Environment, the District’s goal is to restore the Anacostia to a fishable and swimmable river by the year 2032.

