

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE National Capital Parks-East 1900 Anacostia Drive, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20020

September 8, 2016

Subject: Oxon Cove Multi-Use Biker Trail Environmental Assessment Available For Comment

Dear Interested Party:

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to install a hiker-biker trail at Oxon Cove Park. The Oxon Cove Multi-Use Biker Trail Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for public review and comment. This EA evaluates one alternative to construct a multi-use hiker-biker trail through the District of Columbia and Maryland section of Oxon Cove Park. The purpose of the proposed trail is to provide connections among the Oxon Hill Farm bike trail, Shepherd Parkway, and ongoing projects within the Forest Heights' community. The proposed section of trail is north of Oxon Cove in the southwest quadrant of the District and extends into Maryland (see enclosed map). The EA also evaluates a no action alternative, which would not construct a hiker-biker trail in Oxon Cove Park.

As a public waterfront property, Oxon Cove Park offers opportunities for improving public recreation. Action is needed at this time because of the current lack of connections and recreational facilities in Oxon Cove Park. This portion of the park has no existing trails or visitor facilities. The proposed trail would provide visitors the opportunity to view wildlife and enjoy the park's streams, wetlands, and forests along the scenic cove. This project also helps the NPS further its goals for increased stewardship and public engagement in its second century of service to park communities.

Public participation is very important to the success of the project. The NPS encourages you to review the EA and send us your thoughts about the proposed trail. The EA will be available for public review and comment through October 12, 2016. Please visit our online public participation site to view the document at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/oxcohikerbiker/. Comments also may be mailed to the address below:

Gopaul Noojibail, Superintendent National Capital Parks-East Attn: Oxon Cove Hiker-Biker Trail EA 1900 Anacostia Drive, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20020 Commenters should be aware that their entire comment, including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While commenters can ask that their personal identifying information be withheld from public review, the NPS cannot guarantee that this will be possible. We appreciate your input on this project. If you have any questions, please contact Robert Mocko, Environmental Protection Specialist at Robert_Mocko@nps.gov or (202) 690-5170.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this process.

Sincerely,

Gopaul Noojibail Superintendent

Enclosure



2,000 Feet

Oxon Cove Park



1:16,000