



# **BUZZARD POINT IMPROVEMENTS**

## **Environmental Assessment**

Public Meeting, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019



An aerial photograph of a city waterfront. In the foreground, there is a large marina filled with many small boats. To the right of the marina, there are several large industrial buildings, including one with two prominent smokestacks. The city skyline extends into the background across the water.

Project Background

National Environmental Policy Act / National  
Historic Preservation Act Process

Park Design

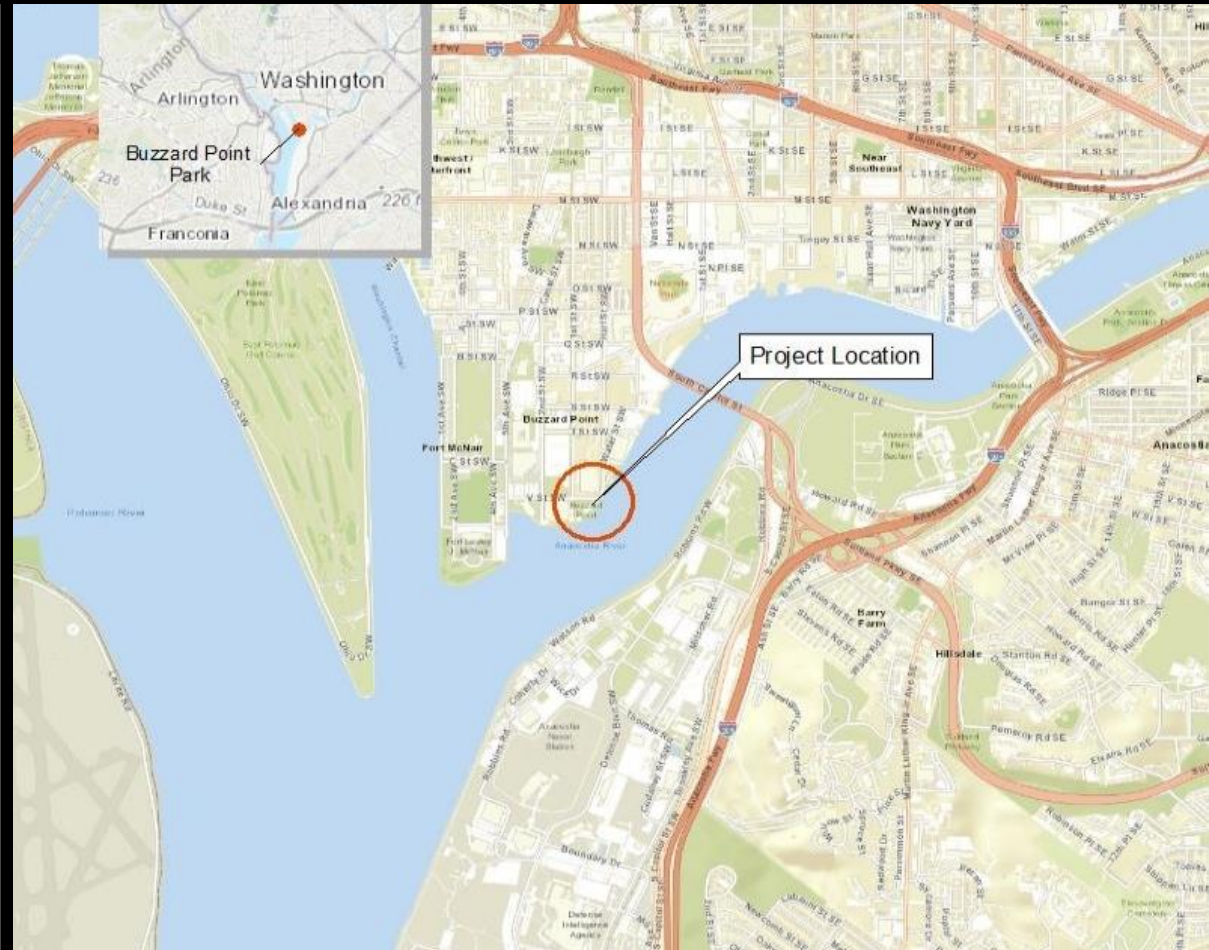
How to Comment

**Agenda**



Buzzard Point Park is located in the Buzzard Point neighborhood of Southwest DC and is bordered on the south and east by the Anacostia River.

- Collection of parcels owned by the National Park Service collectively totaling 7.75 acres- only 3.33 acres are on land;
- The site includes approximately 1,500 linear feet of shoreline along the Anacostia River.



SITE DESCRIPTION

# Background



- Tidal flows in this location are not conducive to establish a living shoreline without breakwaters or jetties in the river
- Concern over 50 / 100 / 500-year storm surges
- National Park Service will continue to work with District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment to identify additional opportunities for living shorelines on the Anacostia River

SHORELINE TREATMENT

# Background



Inconsistent shoreline treatment

Aging infrastructure remaining from former marina

Inaccessible boat dock at Matthew Henson Center

No publicly available restrooms

River views are obstructed by vegetation



EXISTING CONDITIONS

**Background**



## Baseline Studies

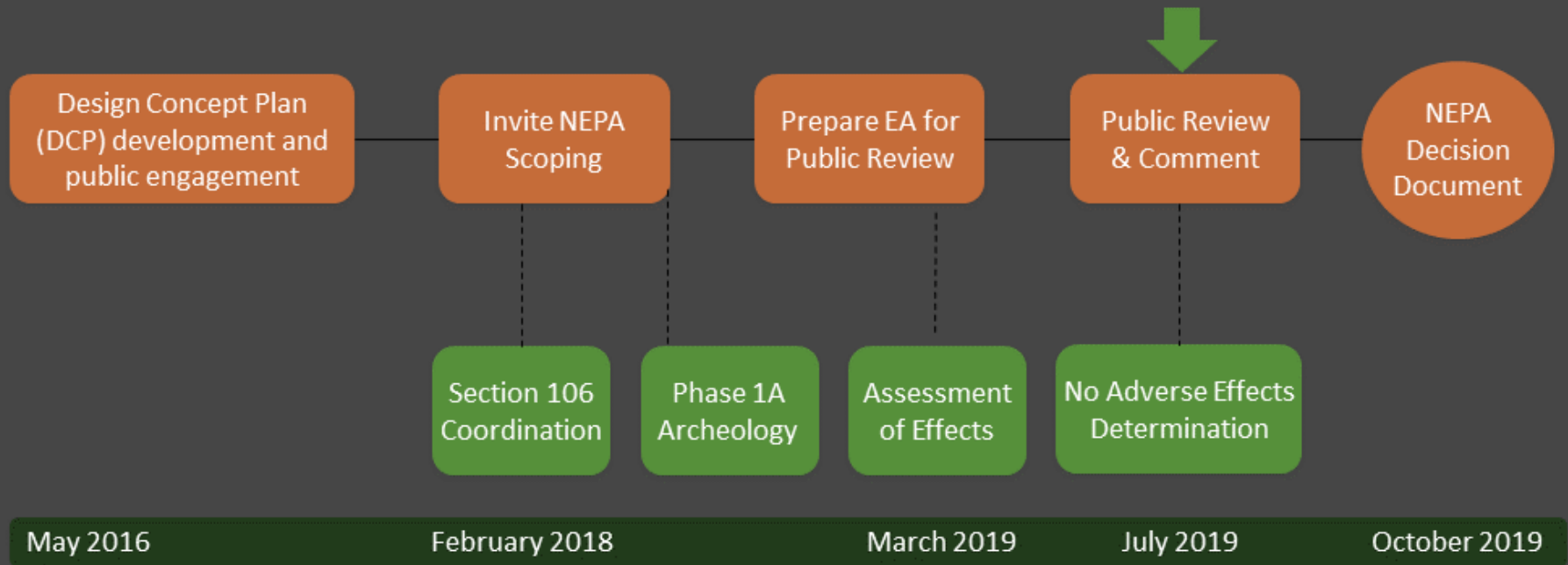
- Wetland Delineation
- Wetlands and Floodplains Statement of Findings
- Phase IA Archeological Investigation
- Section 106 Assessment of Effects
- Topographic Survey
- Boundary Survey

## Ongoing Agency Coordination

- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration / National Marine Fisheries Service
- District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office
- District of Columbia Office of Energy and Environment

AGENCY COORDINATION

# Background



NEPA & NHPA PROCESS

# Background



The National Park Service initiated a Development Concept Plan that had two (2) design options

The National Park Service conducted a series of public meetings:

July 2016 - An open-house style public meeting was held to solicit public feedback regarding the programming and uses for the Park.

September 2016 - A stakeholder meeting was held to inform key stakeholders of the results from the first public meeting and to present early concepts for discussion.

December 2016 - A second public meeting presented preliminary concepts for the design of the Park.

DESIGN CONCEPT PLAN

# Background

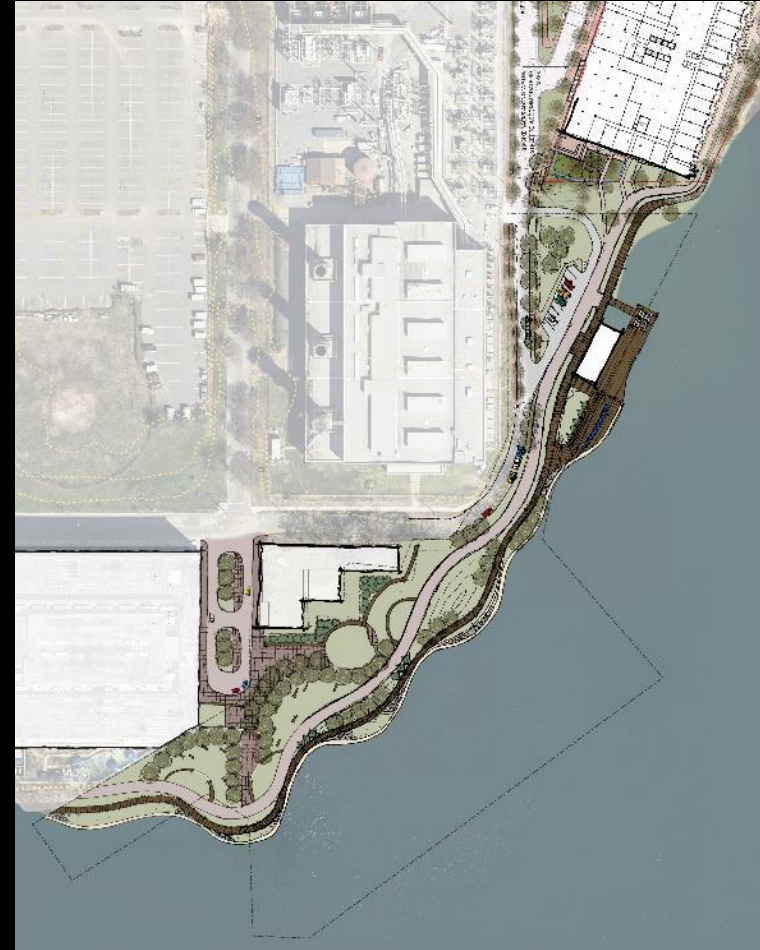


## Option 1

Anacostia Waterfront Trail remains situated on land

Connections to surrounding developments

Maximize available open space



DESIGN CONCEPT PLAN

# Background

## Option 2

Trail is located on an elevated structure over the water

Multiple walkway levels are situated on land

Maximized green space



DESIGN CONCEPT PLAN

# Background



## How Public Comments Were Considered / Addressed

1. Distinctive park setting
2. Water based activities
3. Trail connections are important
4. Naturalize the site
5. Water access with minimal infrastructure

DESIGN CONCEPT PLAN

# Background





The purpose is to transform the Park into an accessible community waterfront amenity that continues the Anacostia Riverwalk Trail. The Park would provide residents and visitors with more open space, recreational opportunities, and ways to connect with the Anacostia River, while enhancing the natural resources and visitor experience of Buzzard Point Park.

This project is needed because historically the industrial nature of the peninsula amidst large industrial buildings in Southwest DC limited the Park's ability to serve as more than a marina for the surrounding community.



## Purpose and Need



The Environmental Assessment evaluates two project alternatives: a No-Action Alternative (Alternative A) and the Proposed Action (Alternative B), which is the National Park Service preferred Alternative.

- Alternative A would result in some Park improvements to eliminate remnants of the marina and re-seed / re-grade to better accommodate visitors.
- Alternative B would redesign the Park to provide residents and visitors with more open space, recreational opportunities, and ways to connect with the Anacostia River while enhancing the natural resources and visitor experience of Buzzard Point Park.
- Alternative B is divided into two options that work to bring park visitors closer to the waterfront. The Proposed Action would have potentially adverse but short-term impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation, wetlands, and the floodplain. There would also be permanent impacts to wetlands and floodplains. Overall, however, a redesigned park would enhance visitor experience and better control stormwater runoff.

## Alternatives



- Stone revetment (riprap) with sea wall
- Passive walking trail in the central section of the Park
- The Anacostia Riverwalk Trail would be extended through the Park
- The Matthew Henson Center would be expanded to include restrooms with exterior access
- The boat dock would be rebuilt with improved public access

## **Alternative B-Option 1**





**Alternative B-Option 1**



**Alternative B-Option 1**



- Sea wall with railing
- Expanded central overlook trail/plaza
- The Anacostia Riverwalk Trail would be extended through the Park
- The Matthew Henson Center would be expanded to include restrooms with exterior access
- The boat dock would be rebuilt with improved public access

## **Alternative B-Option 2**





**Alternative B-Option 2**



**Alternative B-Option 2**



Please leave written comments with us at this meeting,  
or submit comments at:

[http://parkplanning.nps.gov/BuzzardPointPark\\_ea](http://parkplanning.nps.gov/BuzzardPointPark_ea)

Or mail by September 9, 2019 to:

Superintendent  
National Capital Parks-East  
Attn: Buzzard Point EA  
1900 Anacostia Drive SE  
Washington, DC 20020



# How to Comment