



# Everglades National Park

## Public Review of Shark Valley Site Plan Conceptual Alternatives

Virtual Open House  
February 2021



# Welcome!

## Meeting Agenda

- Presentation (1/2 hour)
- Questions and Answers (1 hour)

## Presentation

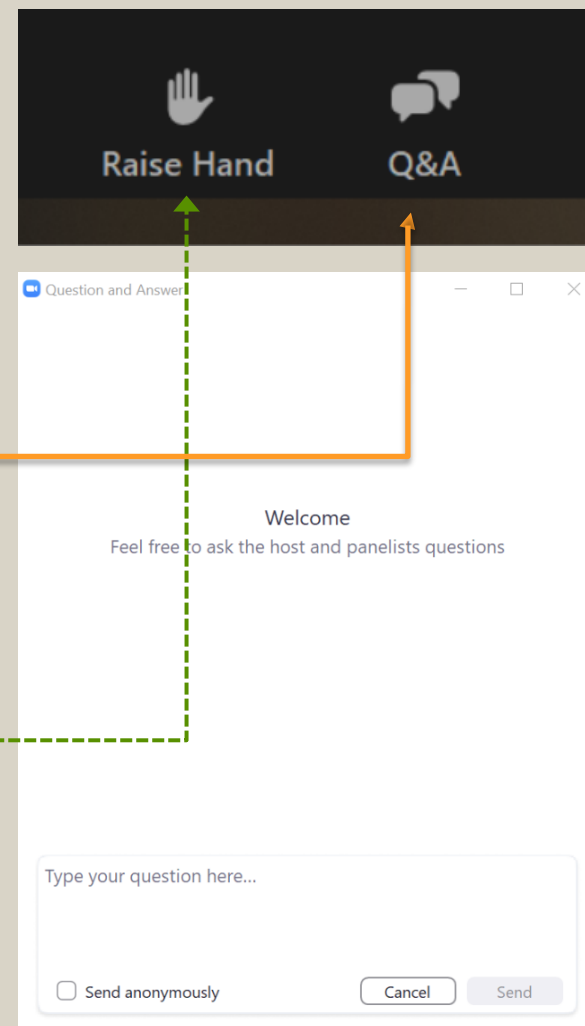
- Project Background
- Purpose for the Site Plan
- Issues to be Addressed
- Summary of Alternative Concepts
- Schedule and Next Steps





# To Ask Questions

- Attendees will be in **listen only mode** during presentation
- You can enter your questions using the **Q&A** (Question & Answer) function
- After the presentation, you can **raise your hand** to speak and we will unmute one participant at a time to answer your questions







# After this Presentation/Comments

- We intend to take your questions today and answer as many of them as possible. **Formal comments on the alternative concepts should be submitted via our website or mail.**
- At the end of this presentation, we will walk through a step-by-step process on how to submit comments.



**Website:** <https://parkplanning.gov/EVER>

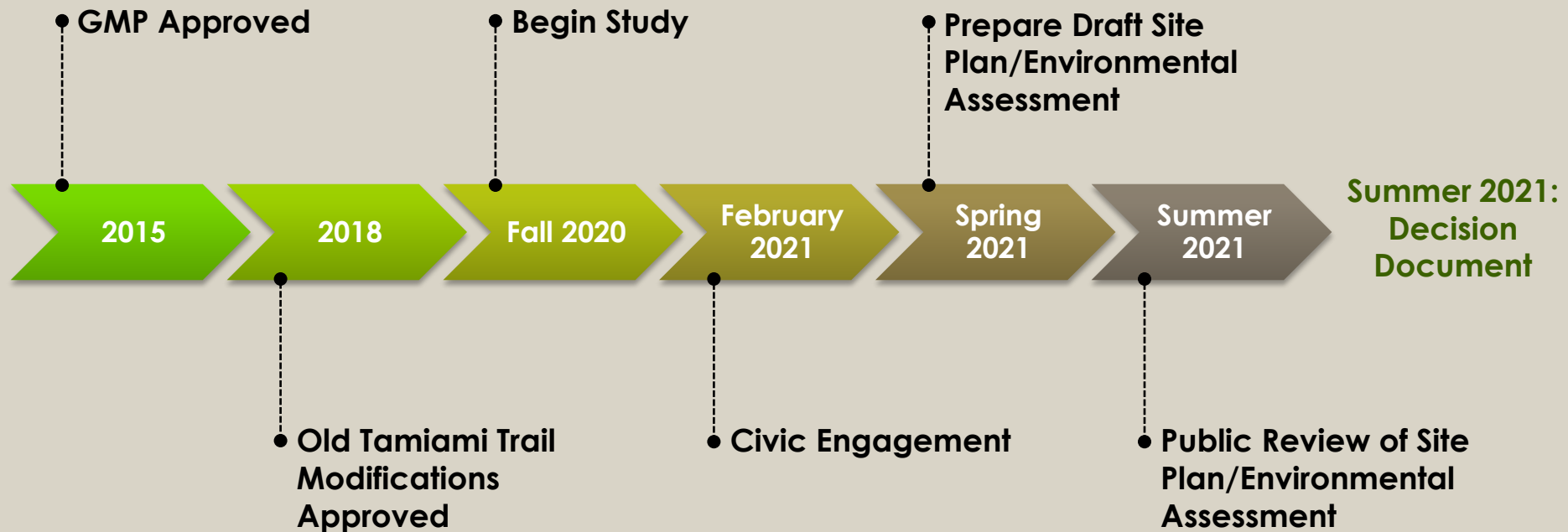


**Mail:** Pedro M. Ramos, Superintendent  
Attn: Shark Valley Site Plan  
Everglades National Park Headquarters  
40001 State Road 9336  
Homestead, FL 33034



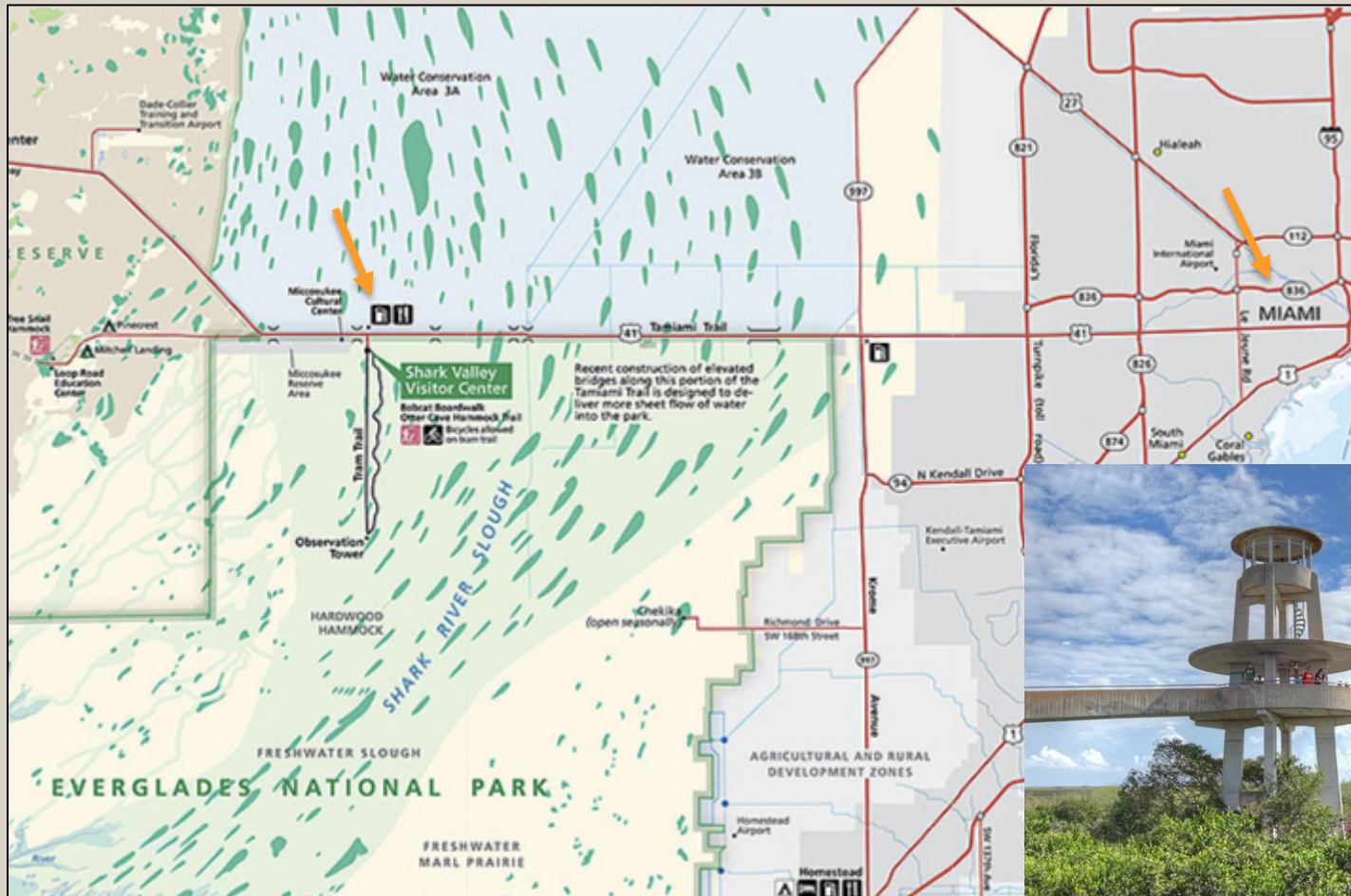


# Project Background/Timeline





# Shark Valley: A Brief Introduction





# Visitor Use at Shark Valley







# Issues: Parking and Congestion



**Aerial View - Parking Along US-41**



**Entrance Road Congestion**



**Parking Along US-41**



# Issues: Flooding



**Aerial View – Tram Road Flooded**



**Entrance Road Flooded**



**Administrative Complex Flooded**





# Purpose

- Enhance the visitor experience, safety and park operations
- Provide overflow parking consistent with Shark Valley visitor capacity identified in 2015 GMP (400-500 people at one time)
- Minimize congestion on Shark Valley Entrance Road and Visitor Center parking area
- Enhance traffic circulation during peak times
- Provide after-hours parking access







# Purpose *(continued)*

- Mitigate flooding and increase resiliency at Entrance Road, Tram Road, and Administrative Complex
- Promote long-term viability of commercial services
- Provide two pedestrian rest stops on Tram Road





# Alternative Concepts

- Four alternatives including a No Action Concept
  - Concept A: No Action
  - Concept B
  - Concept C
  - Concept D
- All alternative concepts are being evaluated for overflow parking and widening of the entrance road





## Elements Common to all Action Alternative Concepts

- **Adding a total of 105 new parking spaces**
- **Installation of parking for a canoe/kayak launch** along the Old Tamiami Trail canal
- **Improvements at Entrance Road, Tram Road, and Administrative Complex** to make these facilities more resilient to storms and flooding
- **Installation of two rest stops** on the Tram Road to enhance the visitor experience and safety



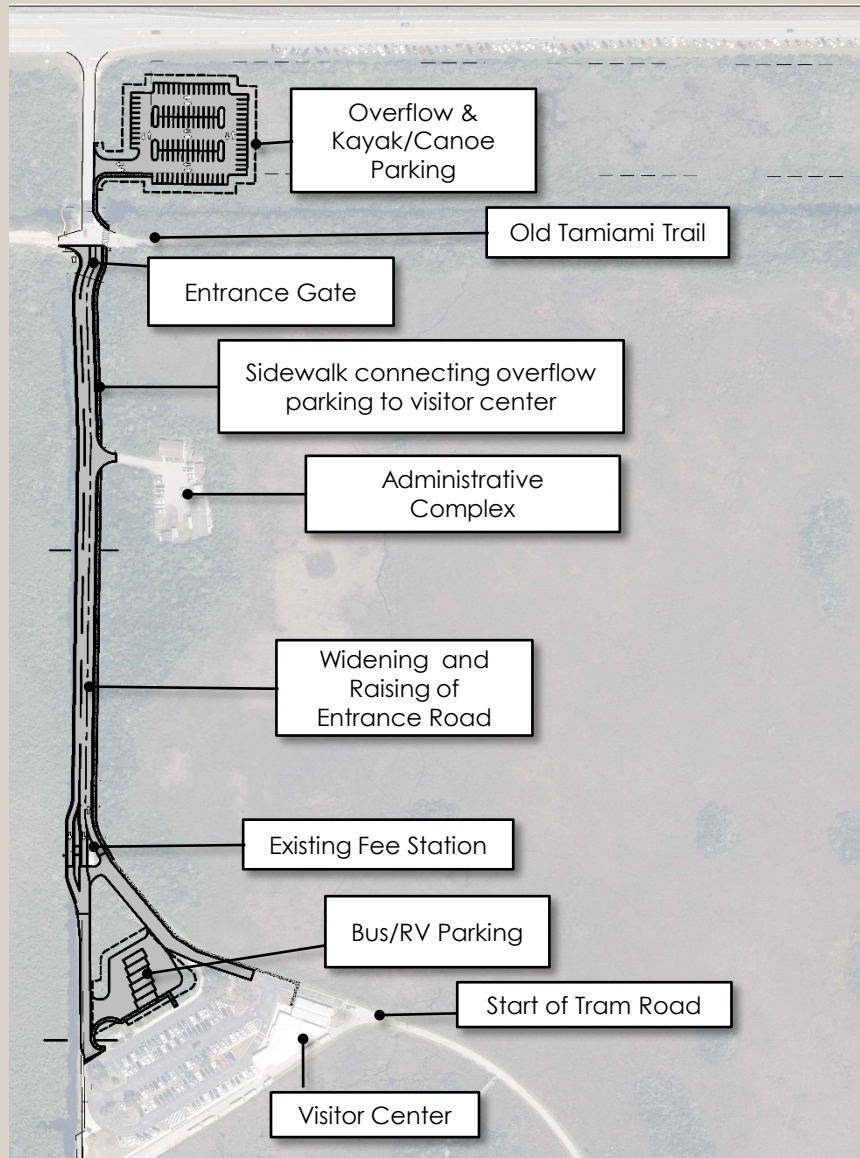


# Concept A – No Action

- Maintains current conditions
  - Existing parking capacity (120 spaces) and traffic flow
- No overflow parking would be provided
- Entrance road would not be raised or widened
- Serves as a baseline to compare to the other concepts



**Entrance Road Congestion**

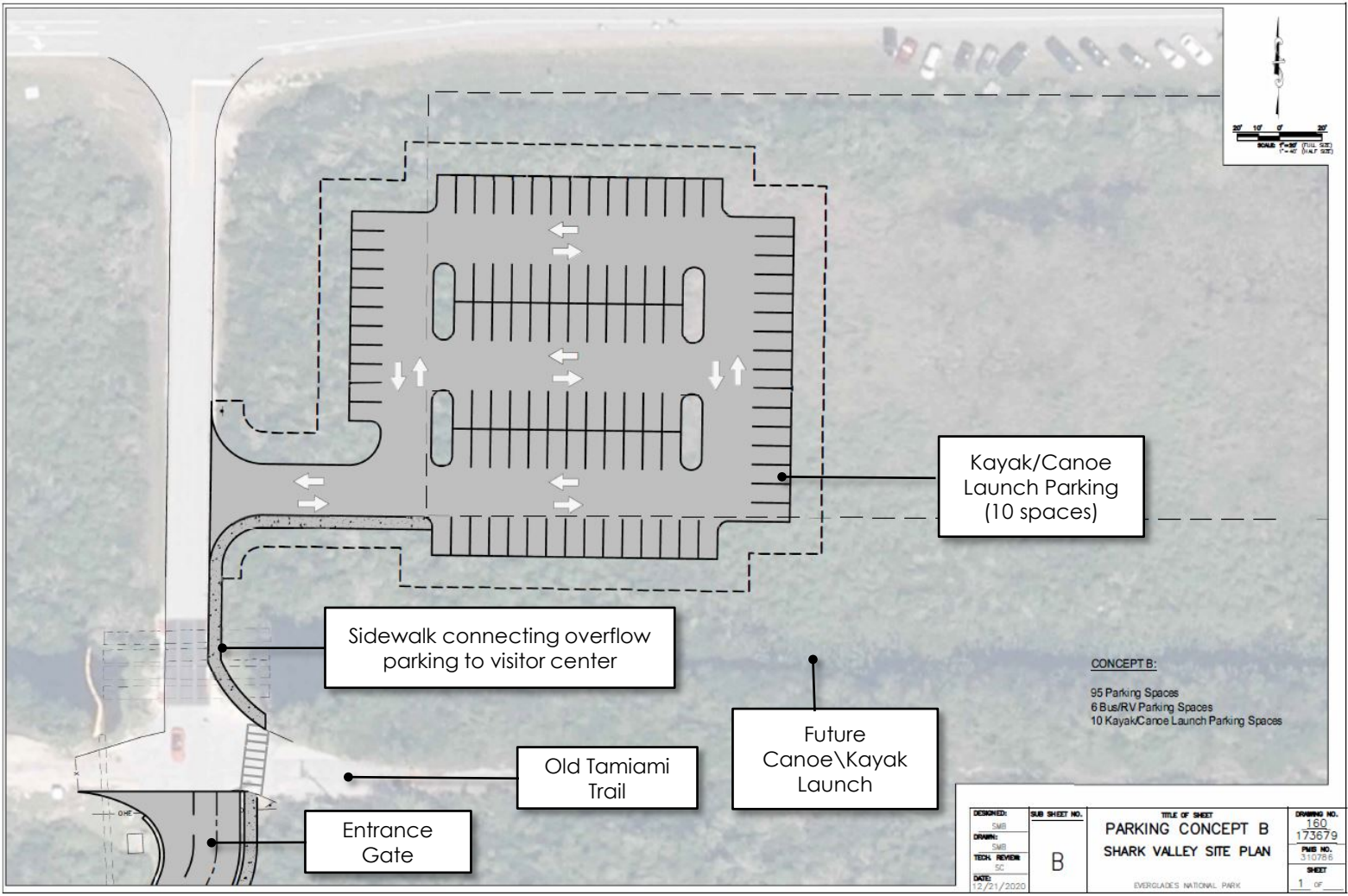


## Concept B

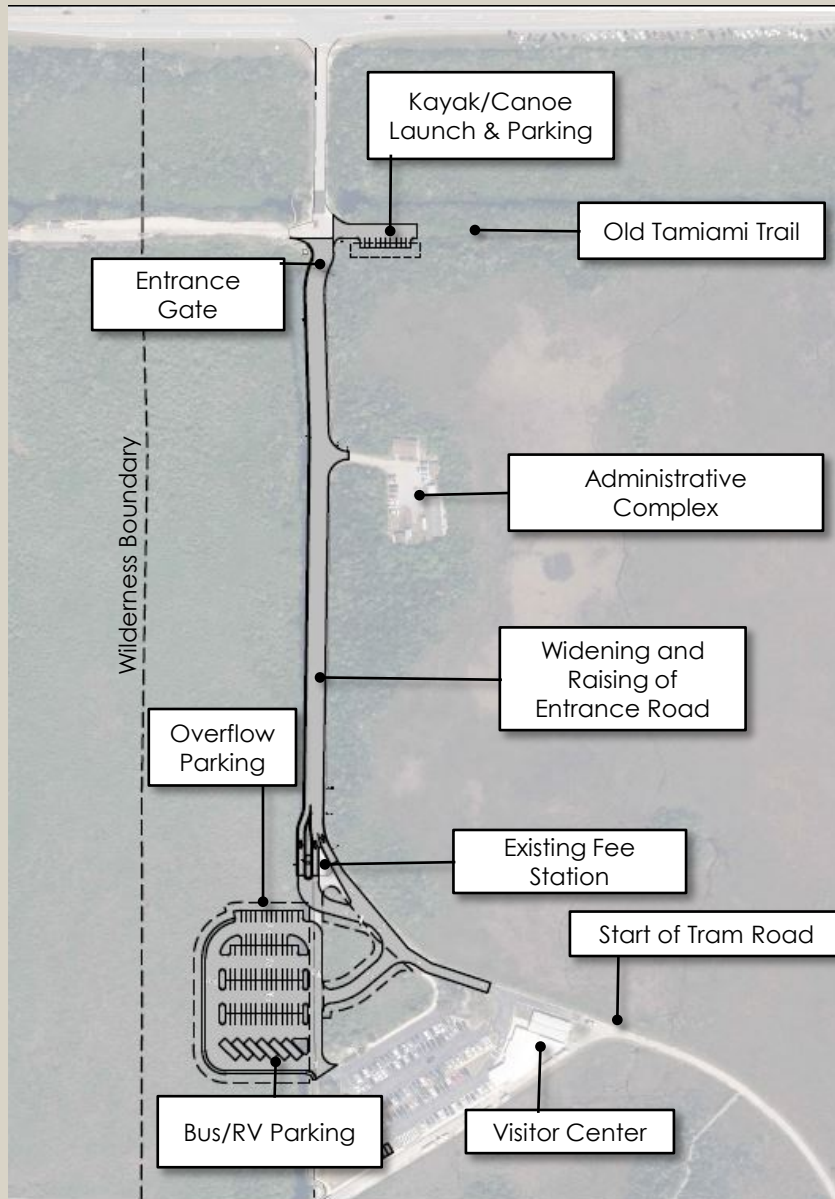
- Provides overflow parking outside the park gate with 105 parking spaces. Sidewalk along entrance road would connect overflow parking to visitor center
- Incorporates 10 parking spaces for canoe and kayak access within the overflow parking area
- Six bus/RV spaces would be installed in center island of Entrance Road near Visitor Center
- Widens entrance road to three lanes (two inbound and one outbound), raises road to avoid flooding
- Maintains existing traffic flow within visitor center parking area



# Concept B – Overflow Parking





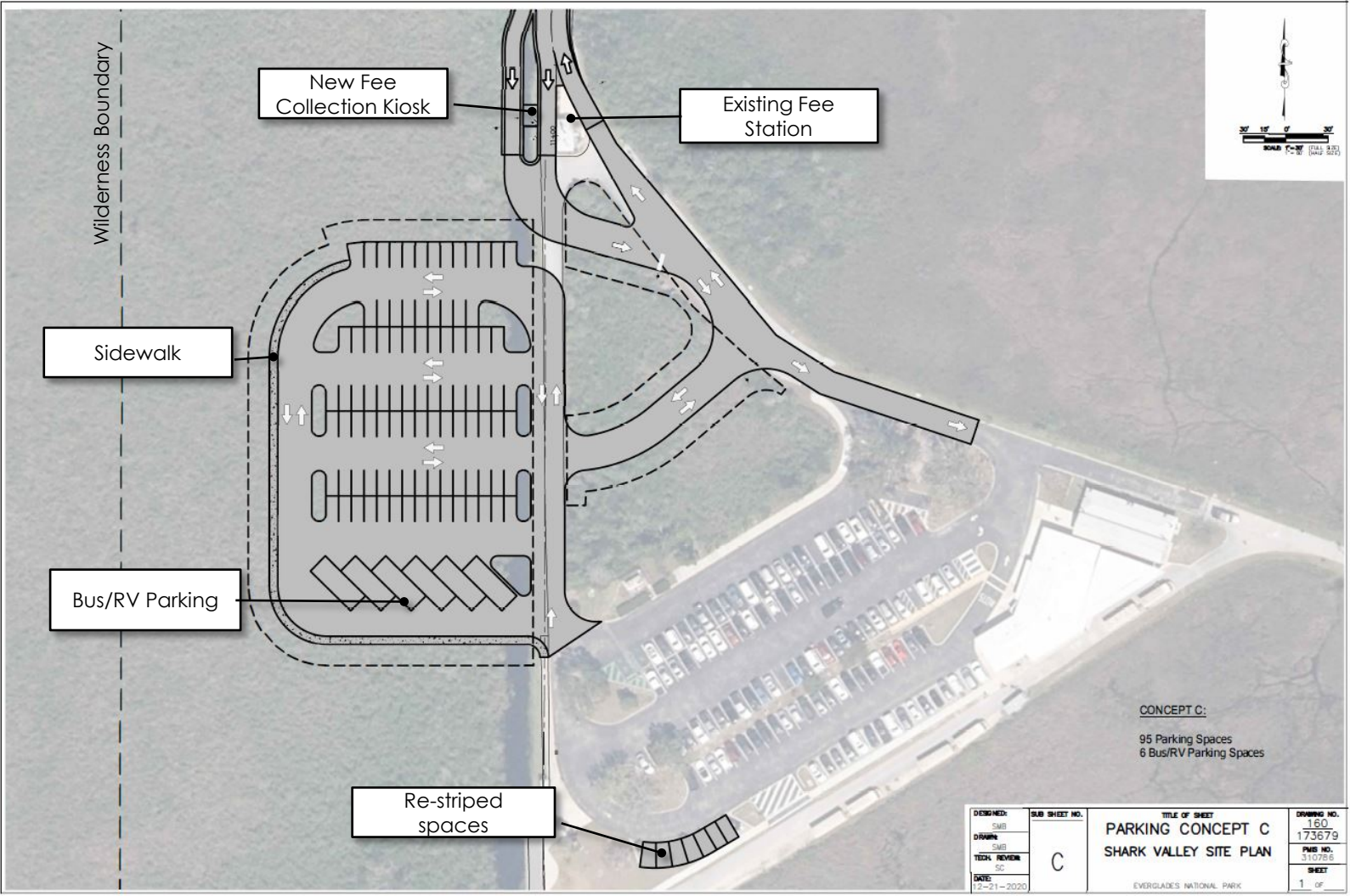


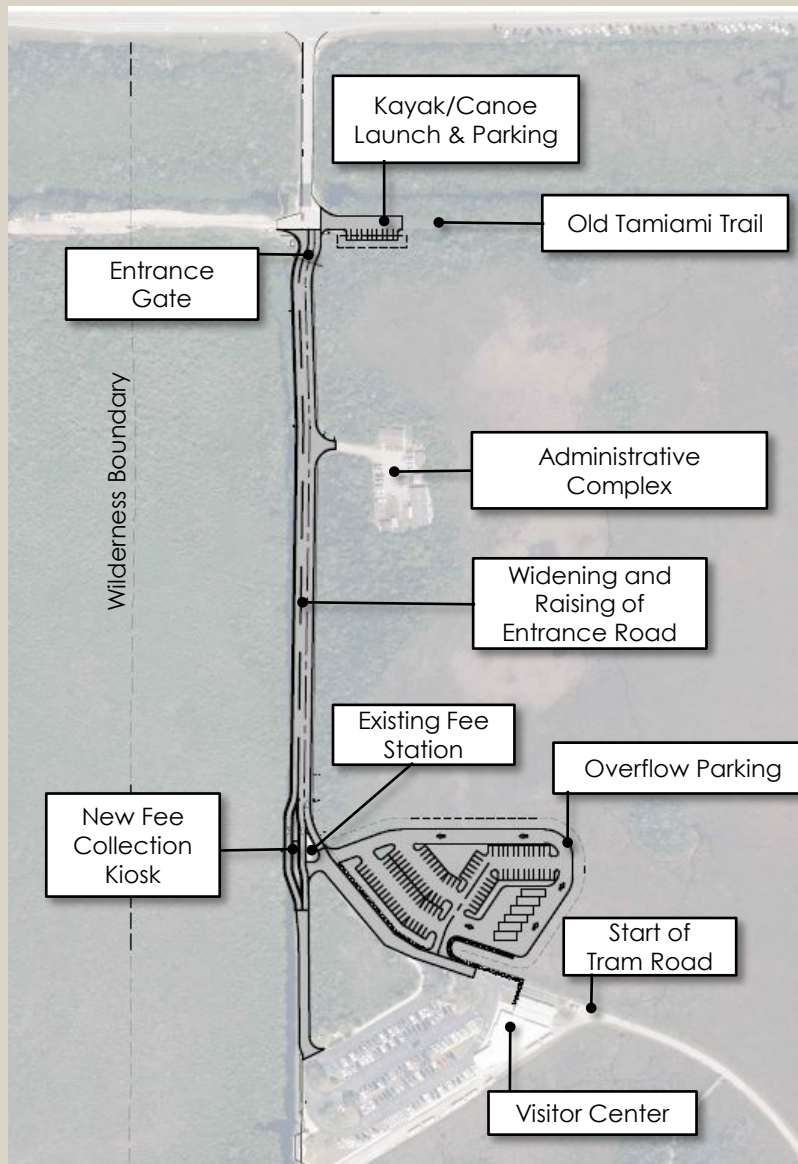
## Concept C

- Total of 105 parking spaces would be added
- Provides overflow parking inside of gate, a short walking distance from visitor center (95 parking spaces, 6 bus/RV parking spaces)
- Provides a small parking lot (10 spaces) east of entrance road to support canoe and kayak access along the Old Tamiami Trail Canal
- Widens entrance road to three lanes (two inbound and one outbound), raises road to avoid flooding
- Reconfigures traffic flow to provide a more direct approach to the visitor center



# Concept C – Overflow Parking





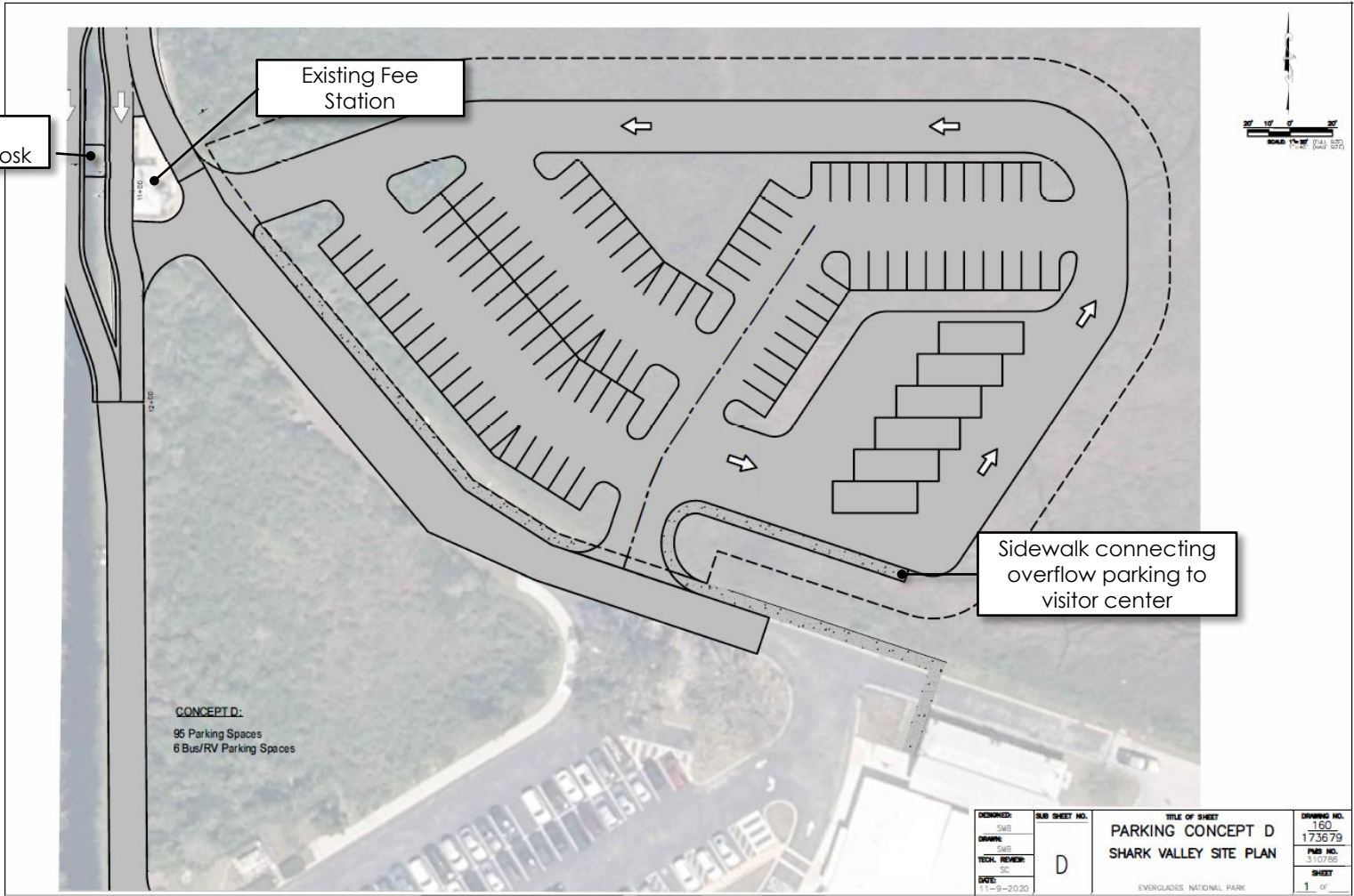
## Concept D

- A total of 105 parking spaces would be added
- Provides overflow parking inside the park gate, east of visitor center (95 parking spaces, 6 Bus/RV parking spaces)
- Provides a small parking lot (10 spaces) east of the entrance road to support canoe and kayak access along the Old Tamiami Trail Canal
- Widens entrance road to three lanes (two inbound and one outbound), raises road to avoid flooding
- Maintains existing traffic flow within visitor center parking area





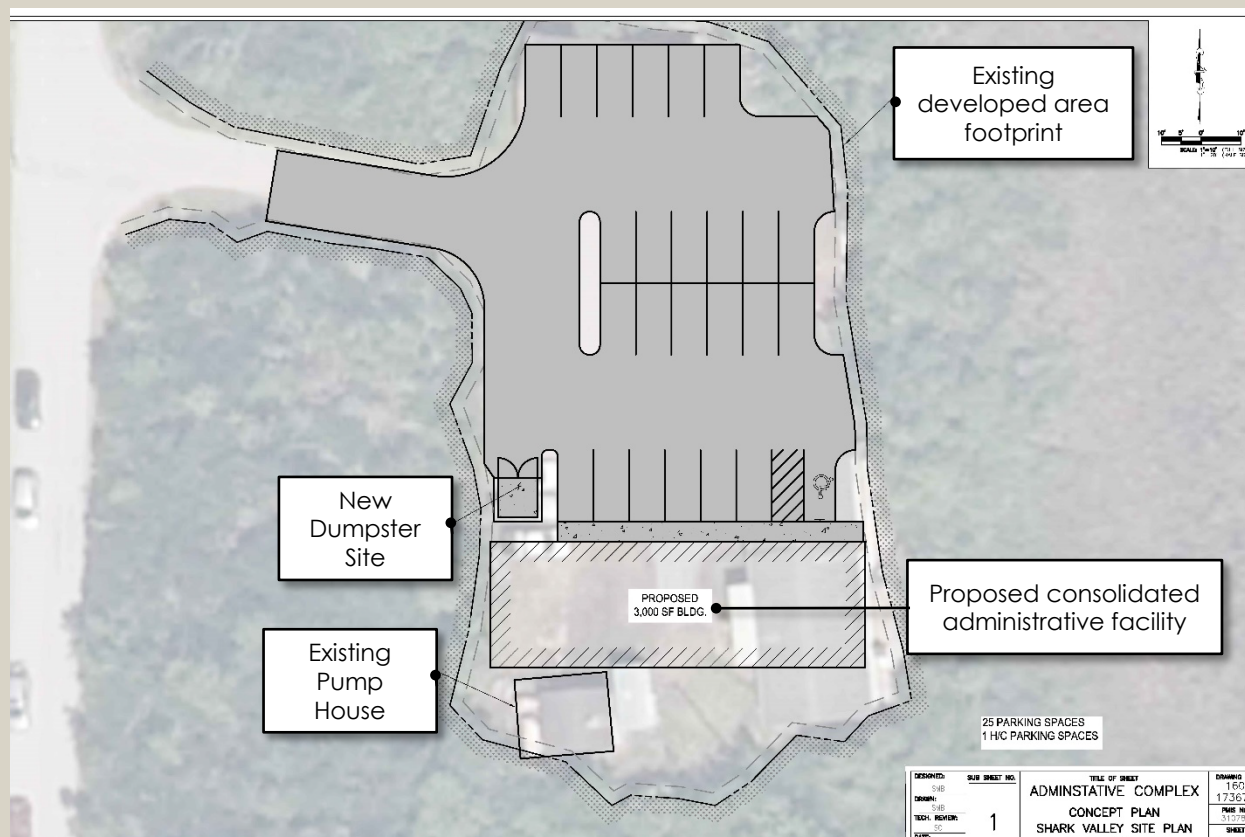
# Concept D – Overflow Parking





# Common to All Action Alternative Concepts: Administration Complex Improvements

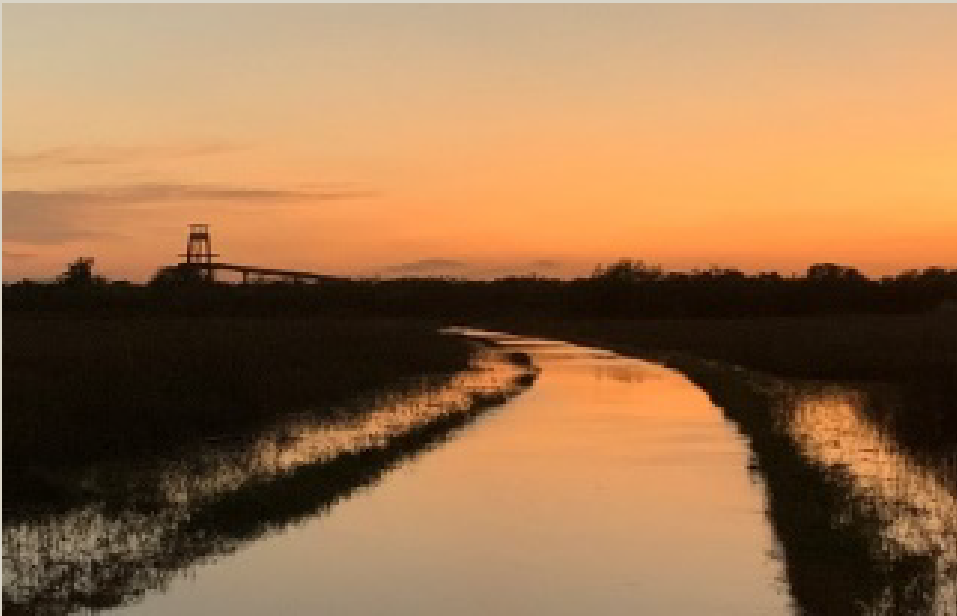
- Elevate site to minimize flooding
- Law enforcement, maintenance, and interpretive operations would be consolidated into one building





# Common to All Action Alternative Concepts: Tram Road Improvements

- Raise Tram Road to minimize flooding
- Maintain operational requirements







# Tram Road Rest Stops

Two rest stops with shade structures and benches would be provided along eastern leg of Tram Road



Example rest stop





# Ideas: Tram Carport

- Installation of a carport for the Shark Valley Trams when not in use
- Protect the Trams from weather and other elements





# Next Steps

MILESTONE	TARGETED SCHEDULE	OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INPUT
Public Input	January-February 2021	Review preliminary concepts, attend virtual open house, and provide your comments at <a href="http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ever">http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ever</a>
NPS analyzes public comments and revise concepts	March 2021	
NPS prepares draft site plan and initiates environmental compliance	Spring 2021	
Public review of site plan/Environmental Assessment	Summer 2021	Review the plan/environmental assessment and provide your comments at <a href="http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ever">http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ever</a>
Decision document	Summer 2021	See final plan and decision document at <a href="http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ever">http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ever</a>





# Ways to Comment on the Plan

- As mentioned earlier, today we are here to answer your questions on the process and the proposed plan.
- Please submit your formal comments into our PEPC website, which the next few slides will show step by step on how to submit, or via mail.



**Website:** <https://parkplanning.gov/EVER>



**Mail:** Pedro M. Ramos, Superintendent  
Attn: Shark Valley Site Plan  
Everglades National Park Headquarters  
40001 State Road 9336  
Homestead, FL 33034



# Using PEPC

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/EVER>

**PEPC Planning, Environment & Public Comment**

PEPC Home Documents by Park Policy/Links Park Planning Search Documents

**Open for Comment**

Archived Projects

Park/Unit Information

Park News

## Everglades National Park

Southeast » Florida

Listed in the table below are Everglades National Park's current plans or projects. Click on the project title for more information.

For general information, use the 'Park/Unit Information' link to the left, to go to the park's main internet page to access park information not related to park planning (for example, park brochures, lodging and campground reservations, and general park information).

**Park Projects (found total 7 )** Search This List:

Project Title	Project Type	NEPA Type
Construct Everglades City Replacement Housing Hardened to Resist Storms and Flooding	Other Maintenance Activities	EA
Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps Project/EIS	Other	EIS
Cape Sable Plugs Restoration Phase II Environmental Assessment	Resource Management	EA
Rehabilitate Flamingo Visitor Facility/Guy Bradley Visitor Center	Repair/Rehabilitation	Memo
* Shark Valley Site Plan	Implementation Plan - Other	
Old Tamiami Trail Modifications	Rehabilitation	EA
Proposed Fee Changes at Everglades National Park	Fee Collection	CE

\* Open for comment.



# Using PEPC

PEPC Planning, Environment & Public Comment

PEPC Home

Documents by Park

Policy/Links

Park Planning

Search Documents

Current Projects

Archived Projects

Park/Unit Information

Park News

Documents Open for Comment

Everglades National Park

Document Name	Project Type	Park
Shark Valley Site Plan Newsletter, January 2021	Implementation Plan - Other	Everglades NP





# Using PEPC

**National Park Service**

[Find a Park](#) [Discover History](#) [Explore Nature](#) [Get Involved](#) [Working With Communities](#) [Teachers](#) [Kids](#) [About Us](#)

**PEPC Planning, Environment & Public Comment**

[PEPC Home](#) [Documents by Park](#) [Policy/Links](#) [Park Planning](#) [Search Documents](#)

**PROJECT LINKS**


- [Project Home](#)
- [Plan Process](#)
- [Meeting Notices](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Document List](#)
- [Open For Comment \(1\)](#)
- [Comment Now »](#)

Comment period closes **Feb 28, 2021**  
at 11:59 PM Mountain Time in  
23 Days, 11 Hours, 38 Min.

**Everglades National Park » Shark Valley Site Plan » Document List » Document Contents**

## Shark Valley Site Plan Newsletter, January 2021

This newsletter provides a description of the alternative concepts for the proposed Shark Valley Site Plan.




[Comment Now »](#)

**Comment Period:** 01/29/2021 - 02/28/2021  
*Comment period closes **Feb 28, 2021**  
at 11:59 PM Mountain Time in:  
**23 Days, 11 Hours, 38 Min.***

**Topic Questions:**

1. Do you have any ideas, concerns, or questions about the alternative concepts presented in this newsletter?
2. Do you have any new ideas or changes to the proposed concepts that you think the planning team should consider?

**Document Content:**

 [Shark Valley District Site Plan - Development Concepts\\_508\\_reduced.pdf](#) (1.0 MB, PDF file)

Disclaimer: Links within the above document(s) were valid as of the date published.  
Note: Some of the files may be in PDF format and can be viewed using the Adobe Acrobat Reader software.  
You may download a free copy of [Acrobat Reader](#) from Adobe Systems.

**National Park Service**

Find a Park | Discover History | Explore Nature | Get Involved | Working With Communities | Teachers | Kids | About Us

---

**P/NP/C Planning, Environment & Public Comment**

PEPC Home | Documents by Park | Policy/Links | Park Planning | Search Documents

---

### PROJECT LINKS

- Project Home
- Plan Process
- Meeting Notices
- Links
- Document List
- Open For Comment (1)
- Print Form

Comment period closes  
**Feb 20, 2021**

at 11:59 PM Mountain Time in  
23 Days, 10 Hours, 41 Min.

---

## Submit Comments

Shuck Valley Site Plan Newsletter, January 2020

We welcome your comments on this project.

Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personally identifiable information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personally identifiable information) may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us to withhold your personally identifiable information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Comment Form	bolt® Indicator Required Fields
Country:	<input type="text" value="United States of America"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
State/Territory:	<input type="text"/>
Postal Code:	<input type="text"/>
First Name:	<input type="text"/> Middle Initial: <input type="text"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Organization:	<input type="text"/>
Address 1:	<input type="text"/>
Address 2:	<input type="text"/>
E-mail:	<input type="text"/>

**Topic Questions - Please address these questions in addition to your comments.**

**Question 1:**  
Do you have any ideas, concerns, or questions about the alternative concepts presented in this newsletter?

**Question 2:**  
Do you have any new ideas or changes to the proposed concepts that you think the planning team should consider?

Please submit any additional comments in the box provided. If you wish to send us comments, you may submit them in feedback by clicking on Print Form in the left navigation.

**Comments:**

How did you hear about the document?

How would you like to hear about NPS documents in the future?

☐ Newsletter  
 ☐ Newspaper  
 ☐ Radio  
 ☐ Blog  
 ☐ Email - NPS  
 ☐ Email - Other  
 ☐ Standard Mail  
 ☐ Public Meeting  
 ☐ Park Website  
 ☐ Other Website  
 ☐ Twitter  
 ☐ Facebook  
 ☐ Other Social Media (e.g. YouTube)  
 ☐ Other



# Today's Question and Answer Session

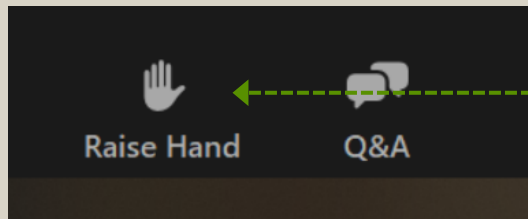
- Will respond to clarifying questions about the alternative concepts, and the planning process
- Comments about changes to the proposed alternative concepts, new ideas, or concerns are the types of comments that should be formally entered via PEPC







# Question and Answer

A white window titled "Question and Answer" with standard window controls (minimize, maximize, close). The window contains a "Welcome" message and a text input field. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for "Send anonymously", a "Cancel" button, and a "Send" button. A black dashed arrow points from the "Q&A" icon in the top image to the text input field in this window.

- To ask a question, please use the **Raise Hand** feature to speak or **enter a question** using the Q&A function
- Attendees will be in listen only mode and unmuted one person at a time

# THANK YOU!



*This project was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation.*