National Capital Region George Washington Memorial Parkway McLean, Virginia

Department of the Interior National Park Service

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News Release George Washington Memorial Parkway

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The National Park Service Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Alternative Concepts for Gravelly Point and Roaches Run **Enhancements**

McLean VA – George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP), a unit of the National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public comment on alternative concepts for the Gravelly Point and Roaches Run Waterfowl Sanctuary Environmental Assessment (EA). GWMP staff has prepared materials that describe alternative concepts intended to enhance visitor access, safety and education for a study area that includes: Gravelly Point, Roaches Run Waterfowl Sanctuary (Roaches Run) and a segment of the Mount Vernon Trail.

GWMP will host a Public Meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Indigo Landing Restaurant on Daingerfield Island. The meeting is being held so interested public can ask questions, and learn more about the alternative concepts for the EA and submit written comments. All are encouraged to attend.

GWMP began this planning effort in 2008, which included a public meeting and comment period. Since that time, some actions within the EA have been shifted to the ongoing 14th Street Bridge Environmental Impact Statement process, led by the Federal Highway Administration. The concept alternatives now presented look solely at proposed actions on NPS property, including revisions based on public comments and renewed internal scoping. More details about the project, including maps and descriptions of alternative concepts, will be available on the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at:

http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gprr.

The EA is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), and other applicable laws, regulations and policies. The planned completion date for the EA will be determine later this year.

The public comment period will open on Wednesday, May 23, 2012 and will conclude on Friday, June 22, 2012. During this period, the public is invited to identify concerns they may have with the proposed plan. Written comments can be submitted electronically at the NPS's PEPC website at: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gprr. (The NPS preferred method of receiving comments)

Written comments may also be mailed to: Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Turkey Run Park, McLean, VA 22101. Attn: Gravelly Point and Roaches Run EA.

Mailed comments must be postmarked by Friday, June 22, 2012 to receive consideration.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask the NPS in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, the NPS cannot guarantee it will be able to do so.