



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY | 5000 OVERLOOK AVENUE, SW | WASHINGTON, DC 20032

January 13, 2015

Dear Stakeholder:

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) is proposing to construct the Potomac River Tunnel along the eastern shoreline of the Potomac River. The project area includes lands on and in the vicinity of National Park Service (NPS) property in the National Capital Region, within the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, Rock Creek Park, and the National Mall and Memorial Parks in Washington, DC (the District). The Potomac River Tunnel is a component of DC Water's Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan (LTCP), also known as the DC Clean Rivers Project. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C)), the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR § 800), and other laws, regulations and policies, DC Water and the NPS are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the effects that this proposed project may have on the natural, cultural, and human environment. DC Water and the NPS are co-lead agencies in the development of this EIS.

Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). DC Water and NPS have initiated consultation under Section 106 with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO). DC Water will coordinate Section 106 of the NHPA and the NEPA processes per implementing regulations (36 CFR § 800.8) of the NHPA.

DC Water and NPS have identified you and/or your organization as a possible consulting party under Section 106 of the NHPA. Consulting parties are invited to comment on the proposed alternatives and recommend new alternatives. In addition, consulting parties are encouraged to comment on the potential effects of the undertaking and provide input into ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects.

DC Water held a Public Scoping Meeting on July 31, 2014 to share project information with the public and receive comments in reference to the proposed project.

To initiate consultation for this proposed project, DC Water and the NPS will be holding a Consulting Parties Meeting on Thursday, January 29, 2015, from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at:

National Park Service – National Capital Region  
Classroom B  
1100 Ohio Drive SW  
Washington, DC 20242

The purpose of the proposed project is to construct a tunnel and supporting infrastructure to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into the District's waterbodies, which occur when the existing combined sewer system's capacity is exceeded during storm events. The project is required to reduce risks to human health and aquatic life, water bacteria levels, and trash in the District's receiving waterbodies through the reduction of untreated discharge from the combined sewer system. In addition, the project is required by the 2005 Federal Consent Decree entered into between DC Water, the District, US Department of Justice, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. DC Water will further explain the scope of this undertaking and will present preliminary design concepts at the meeting.

DC Water has identified a study area for the proposed Potomac River Tunnel, which is shown in Figure 1. DC Water is proposing to modify the existing LTCP to include Green Infrastructure and Sewer Separation for the CSOs west of Rock Creek in lieu of a tunnel. The study area for Green Infrastructure and Sewer Separation includes the sewersheds for CSOs 025 through 029, as shown in Figure 2.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting. If planning to attend, please RSVP to Kim Daileader at EHT Tracerics by phone at (202) 393-1199 or by email at [kimberly.daileader@tracerics.com](mailto:kimberly.daileader@tracerics.com) by Thursday, January 22, 2015. Please also contact Ms. Daileader if you are unable to attend but wish to participate as a consulting party to provide her with your name and contact information.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the project, please do not hesitate to contact DC Clean Rivers Project, Program Implementation Manager, Angela Essner, at (202) 787-4417 or by email at [Angela.Essner@dcwater.com](mailto:Angela.Essner@dcwater.com).

Sincerely,



Moussa Wone, Ph.D., PE  
Design Manager, DC Clean Rivers Project

c: Joel Gorder, National Park Service  
Carlton Ray, Director, DC Clean Rivers  
John Cassidy, DC Clean Rivers  
Angela Essner, DC Clean Rivers  
Brandon Flora, DC Clean Rivers  
Robin Griffin, Stantec



Figure 1: Potomac River Tunnel Study Area



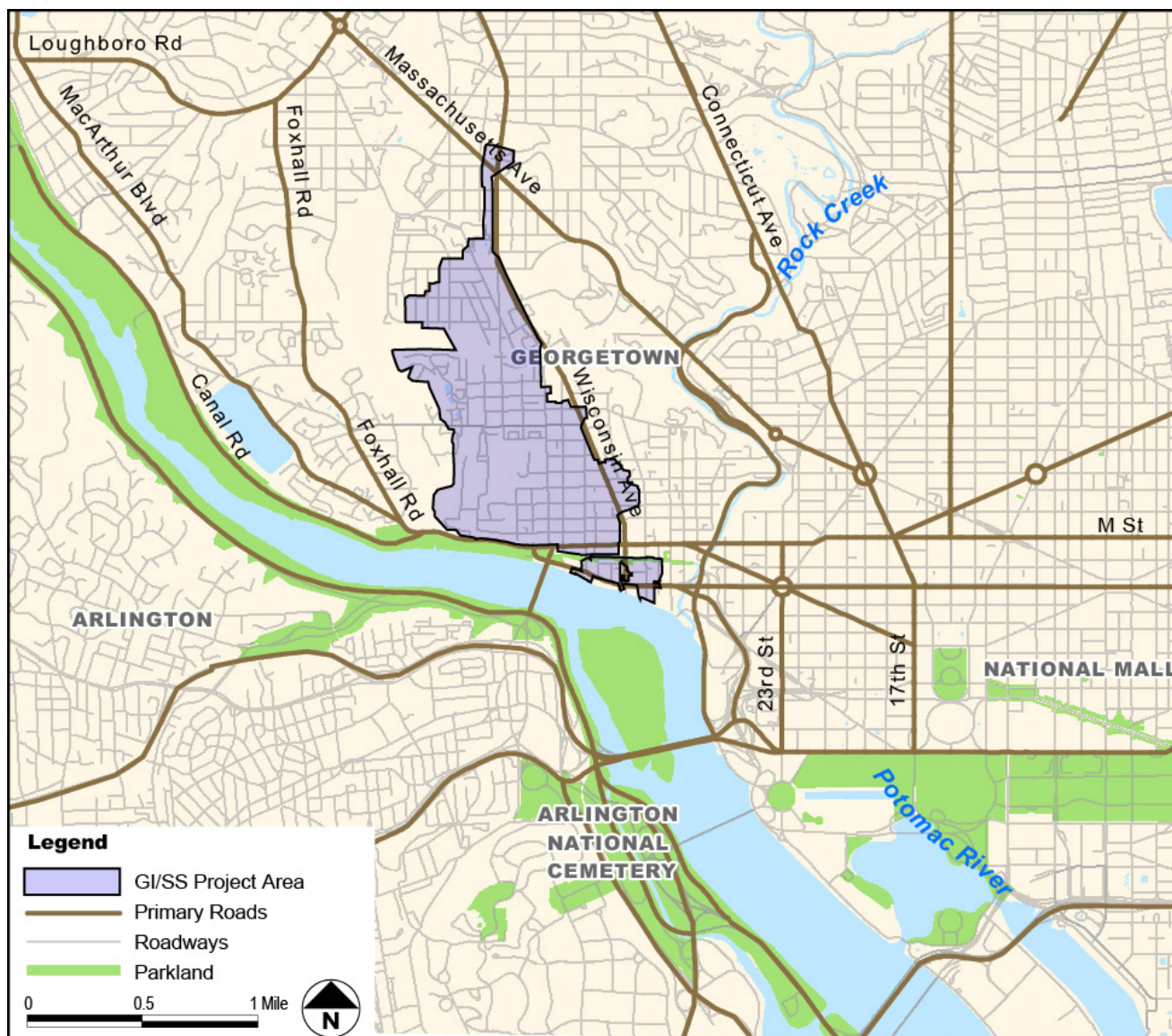


Figure 2: Green Infrastructure/Sewer Separation Study Area