WHAT DO YOU LOVE

WHAT WOULD YOU TRANSFORM

THE AQUEDUCT

THE UNDERPASS

THE GARDENS

FISH MARKET SQUARE

THE WALLS

THE GROVE

THE MULE YARD & LOCKS

MILE MARKER '0'

ROCK CREEK CONFLUENCE

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL

NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

A CONCEPT PLAN FOR GEORGETOWN

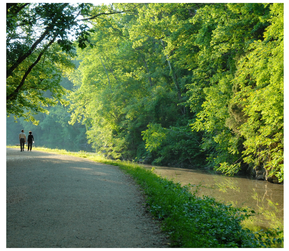
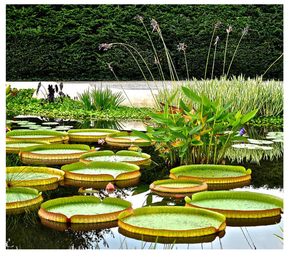
GEORGETOWN HERITAGE

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

GEORGETOWN

THEMES

WHAT WOULD MOST **ATTRACT** YOU TO THE C&O CANAL?

EDUCATION & DISCOVERY	NATURE & BIODIVERSITY	WATER	ART & GARDENS	HISTORIC PRESERVATION	PROGRESSIVE DESIGN	HEALTH & RECREATION
						
						

USES

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO **USE** THE C&O CANAL?

- JOG
- BOAT
- DINE & DRINK
- COMMUTE
- DISCOVER HISTORY (TOUR)
- APPRECIATE ART
- ATTEND EVENTS
- BIKE
- ENJOY NATURE
- SIT & LOUNGE
- PLAY
- OUTDOOR FITNESS
- STROLL & PROMENADE
- OTHER

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL
NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK
A CONCEPT PLAN FOR GEORGETOWN

GEORGETOWN HERITAGE · NATIONAL PARK SERVICE · GEORGETOWN · GO GEO

JAMES CORNER FIELD OPERATIONS

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
A CONCEPT PLAN FOR GEORGETOWN

The National Park Service, in partnership with Georgetown Heritage, the District Office of Planning (DCOP) and the Georgetown BID (GBID) is engaged in comprehensive planning and design for revitalizing the one-mile section of the C&O Canal National Historical Park (NHP) in Georgetown. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the NPS is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential impacts to the natural and human environment as a result of the action. Concurrently, the NPS is conducting consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA) to assess effects on significant cultural resources.

Purpose

The purpose of the proposed action is to develop a plan to enhance the one-mile portion of the C&O Canal NHP in Georgetown, from the Zero-mile marker to the Alexandria Aqueduct. The plan will focus on addressing deferred maintenance issues and related safety and accessibility concerns associated with the towpath; improving connections between Georgetown and the C&O Canal towpath; enhancing visitor experience through increased signage and optimizing underutilized areas. The plan will be developed in a matter that addresses the identified needs, while also preserving the historic character and cultural significance of the C&O Canal NHP and the Georgetown Historic District (DC Landmark, National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmark).

Need

The Georgetown Canal plan is needed to provide a coordinated approach to address the following concerns:

- Portions of the towpath are uneven, narrow, and poorly lit, creating potential safety hazards;
- Visitors with limited mobility can only access the towpath from Grace Street, NW (south of the canal). All other access points are not compliant with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS);
- Many access points to the towpath are not readily visible or unknown due to lack of signage;
- The park desires to expand opportunities for interpretation, education, and cultural programming;
- The park has limited amenities and facilities for visitor comfort such as seating, drinking fountains, and rest rooms; and
- Several plazas along the canal are underutilized and could be developed to provide additional recreational activities.

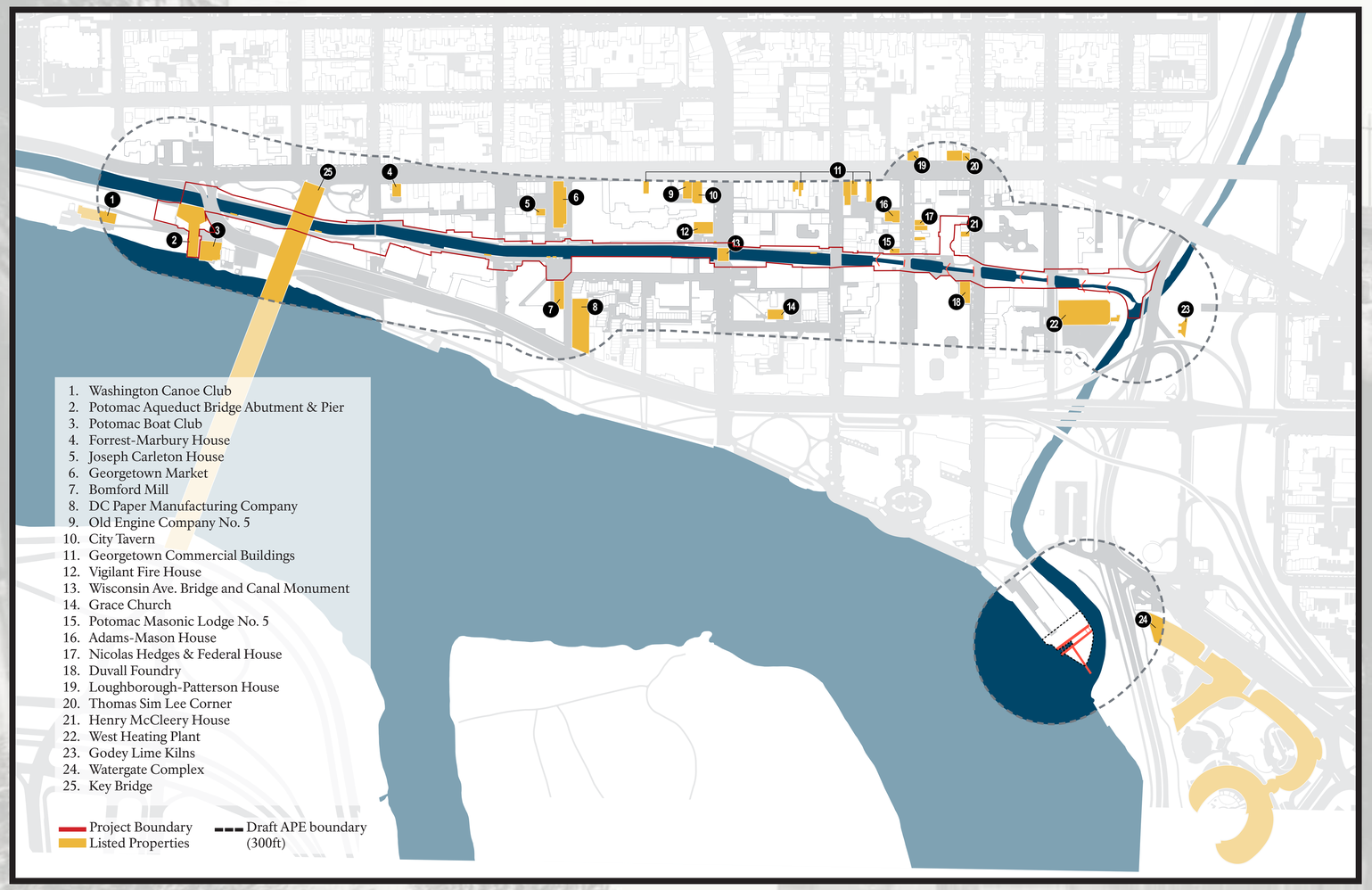
Entrances to the towpath are not well known and visitors with limited mobility can only access the towpath at one entrance (Grace Street, NW)

The Mule Yard, the open space adjacent to Lock 3 and the C&O Canal NHP Georgetown Visitor Center, has the potential for exciting programming or recreational activities

The towpath is very narrow in certain areas which creates conflicts of use

The towpath is poorly lit which creates additional hazards

Project Area and Draft Area of Potential Effect



NEPA and Section 106 Process

We Are Here!

STEP 1 — SCOPING

Initiate Section 106 Process
Identify Historic Properties
Gather Information on Existing Conditions
Scoping Period and Public Meeting

STEP 2 — DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES

Develop Viable Project Alternatives that Meet Purpose and Need
Identify and Assess Impacts on Significant Cultural Resources
Determine Environmental Impacts

STEP 3 — CONSULTING PARTIES MEETINGS

Evaluate Adverse Effects
Develop Resolution Strategies

STEP 4 — DRAFT EA

Release Draft EA to Public for a 30-Day Comment Period
EA will include Environmental and Cultural Impacts and Mitigation and Minimization Strategies

STEP 5 — CONCLUSION

Review and Respond to Public Comments
Prepare NEPA Decison Document (FONSI)
Conlcude Section 106 process (MOA or PA)

Give Us Your Feedback!

NPS welcomes comments regarding potential issues and concerns that should be considered during the planning process

Tonight

Take a moment to write down your comments on the forms provided and drop them in the comment box

Online

Submit written suggestions, comments, and concerns regarding the project online at : http://parkplanning.nps.gov/georgetowncanalplan

Mail

Mail written comments to:

C&O Canal National Historical Park Headquarters Office
1850 Dual Highway
Suite 100
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Comments are due By July 7, 2017