

**APPENDIX D: ALTERNATIVES DISMISSED FROM
FURTHER CONSIDERATION**

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The following design concepts were considered during project planning but were ultimately dismissed from further consideration in this EA due to unacceptable impacts, cost, or negative feedback from stakeholders. The concepts below were presented at either the November 2017 or April 2019 public meetings and their original date of presentation is noted.

Towpath Treatment

- Widening larger portions of, or the entire Towpath within the C&O Canal NHP in Georgetown (November 2017)
 - This concept would result in unacceptable impacts to historic structures and cultural landscapes.

Accessibility

- New elevator alternative locations at 30th Street, Wisconsin Avenue, 34th Street, Key Bridge, and the Potomac Aqueduct (November 2017)
 - This concept was found as not needed to provide accessibility through and across the project area. Additionally, it was determined that at Wisconsin Avenue, utilizing the existing elevator in Georgetown Park is the preferred option, if feasible.

Mile Marker Zero

- Waste Gate Pedestrian Bridge extending southeast from Mile Marker Zero (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to require an unreasonable clear-span structure and detract from the Waste Gate ruins.
- Floating Classroom at Mile Marker Zero (November 2017)
 - This concept was found unnecessary for educational programming, result in undesired operations and maintenance requirements, and impact the natural shoreline edge.
- Swing Pile Lounge at Mile Marker Zero (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be inappropriate for the industrial nature of the site.
- Relocated alternatives for the Mile Marker Zero Obelisk (April 2019)
 - This concept was found unnecessary to achieve the project goals.
- Stepped River Terrace alternative locations at Mile Marker Zero (April 2019)
 - This concept would result in undesired operations and maintenance requirements, impact the natural shoreline edge, and create an adverse impact on the Inlet Lock.

Rock Creek

- Boardwalk along Rock Creek and beneath K Street NW Overpass (November 2017)
 - This concept would result in undesired operations and maintenance requirements and unnecessarily shade Rock Creek, which could have an adverse impact on wildlife.

- New boat storage alternative locations (April 2019)
 - This concept was found unnecessary given the conditions dependent on removing the existing outdoor boat storage around Thompson's Boat Center.

Rock Creek Confluence

- New pedestrian bridge alternative locations at the Rock Creek Confluence (November 2017)
 - These concepts were found to have an adverse impact on the lower locks and Rock Creek view-sheds.
- Nature Classroom Amphitheater and Fishing Pier at the Rock Creek Confluence (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be too formalized, unnecessary, and not useful to the interpretive and educational programming.

The Locks

- Boat Launch located at The Locks (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary to the interpretive boat operations and have an adverse impact to the Towpath.
- Boat Ticket Kiosk and Public WC (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary to interpretive boat operations and would have an adverse impact to the surrounding cultural resources.
- Relocated Mule Staging (November 2017 and April 2019)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary for the visitor experience and may negatively affect the immediately adjacent residences.
- Visitor Center at the Foundry (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be financially implausible.

Obelisk Plaza

- Large Amphitheater cut-out north of the Towpath (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to have an adverse impact to the character of the place and would likely induce undesirable behaviors.
- Stone Archway and Seating Steps north of the Towpath (April 2019)
 - This concept was found to have an adverse impact to the character of the place and would likely induce undesirable behaviors.

Canal Overlook and Fish Market Square

- Terraced Seating at the Canal Overlook (November 2017 and April 2019)
 - This concept was found to have an unnecessary impact on private property, require unnecessary revisions to the upper retaining wall, and cause accessibility challenges.
- Boardwalk along the Canal House Condominiums (November 2017 and April 2019)

- This concept was found to have an adverse effect on the historic character of the space, to be unnecessary for programmatic purposes, and likely to induce undesirable behaviors.
- Lofted London Plan Trees and Seat Planters at Fish Market Square (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to limit flexible programming in the area.
- An Open-Air Canopy at Fish Market Square (April 2019)
 - This concept was found to have an adverse effect on the historic character of the space.
- Canal Water Features at Fish Market Square (April 2019)
 - This concept was found to be potentially confusing of its historical accuracy and would result in undesired operations and maintenance requirements.

Zone C

- North Towpath Ramp at 33rd Street (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary for circulation and would require unnecessary alterations to the existing retaining walls.
- Grotto Benches along the Towpath (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary for seating, would require unnecessary alterations to the existing retaining walls, and likely to induce undesirable behaviors.

Gongoozler Platform

- Garden Lounge/Boulder Lounges near 3333 Water Street (November 2017 and April 2019)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary for seating, and potentially confusing of its historical accuracy.
- Kayak Launch/Stone Yard Platform near 3333 Water Street (April 2019)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary for recreational programming, interpretive boat operations, and potentially confusing of its historical accuracy.

The Potomac Aqueduct

- Aqueduct Deck and Steps at the Potomac Aqueduct (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary for recreational programming, and likely to induce undesirable behaviors.
- Trestle structure at the Potomac Aqueduct (November 2017 and April 2019).
 - This concept was found to be potentially confusing of its historical accuracy.
- Water feature at the Potomac Aqueduct (November 2017)
 - This concept was found to be potentially confusing of its historical accuracy and would result in undesired operations and maintenance requirements.
- Aqueduct Meadow and Boardwalk (April 2019).

- This concept was found have an adverse impact on the Potomac Aqueduct, and would result in undesired operations and maintenance requirements.
- Whitehurst Freeway north Towpath ramp (April 2019)
 - This concept was found to be unnecessary for circulation and would require unnecessary alterations to the existing maintenance pathway and Whitehurst Freeway sidewalk.
- Terraced Planting within the Potomac Aqueduct (April 2019)
 - This concept was found have an adverse impact on the Potomac Aqueduct.