

Purpose and Need

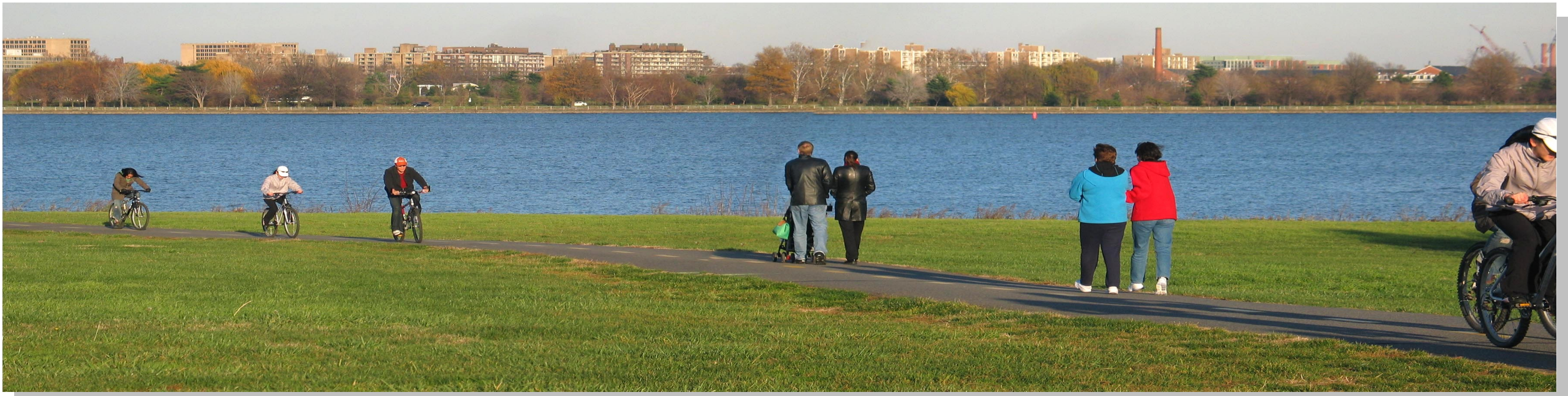
The purpose of this project is to provide a seamless park experience and park improvements (including access and circulation, multi-use trails, interpretation, natural and cultural resource awareness) to accommodate current and planned demand for parking; to improve traffic operations; and to enhance the safety of pedestrians, motorists, and cyclists in the vicinity of George Washington Memorial Parkway, Gravelly Point, Roaches Run Waterfowl Sanctuary (Roaches Run), Mount Vernon Trail, and Arlington County’s Long Bridge Park.



Aerial photo of Gravelly Point and Roaches Run Waterfowl Sanctuary

There is a need to accommodate the current and planned future facilities of Long Bridge Park, Gravelly Point, Roaches Run, Mount Vernon Trail, and George Washington Memorial Parkway. This need is based on several cumulative factors, including:

- Existing conditions show a deficiency for access to and throughout the Gravelly Point and Roaches Run areas of George Washington Memorial Parkway.
- Safety issues presented by pedestrians and bicyclists crossing George Washington Memorial Parkway and CSX railroad to use park facilities.
- Long Bridge Park, a multiuse facility, will lead to changes in visitor and pedestrian patterns, including increases in parking demand, pedestrian circulation, and impact to natural and cultural resources.
- Insufficient interpretation of existing environmental and historic features of Gravelly Point and Roaches Run as an ecological and historic amenity in the Arlington County area



View of Gravelly Point, Mount Vernon Trail and the Potomac River