

Virtual Public Scoping Meeting for the Piney Branch CSO 049 Storage Project

January 18, 2023

Welcome!



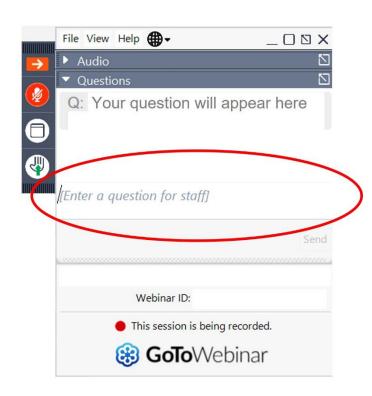


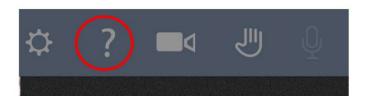






- This meeting is being recorded
- As an attendee, you will be in listen-only mode
- Type your questions at any time during the meeting
 - On computer: Expand the Questions box on the side panel
 - On mobile device: Click the Question Mark (?) at the top of your screen
- Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation, as time allows







Questions and Comments

- Questions or comments submitted as part of this meeting will <u>not</u> be considered formal comments on the project – we require written comments.
- Your comments and feedback are important to us!
- To submit comments online, visit the project website:

http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dcPineyBranch

• Send written comments by U.S. Mail to:

Superintendent

Rock Creek Park

RE: Piney Branch Sewer

3545 Williamsburg Lane NW

Washington, DC 20008

IMPORTANT!

Comments must be submitted online or postmarked by 11:59 pm EST

February 16, 2023 to receive consideration



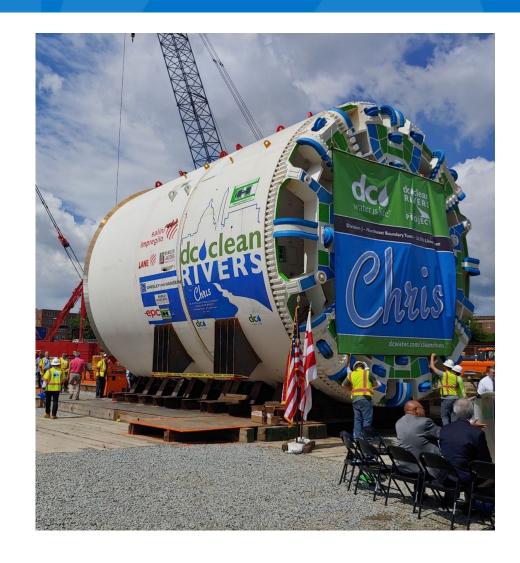
CC Meeting Purpose and Agenda

Meeting Purpose

• Inform you on the proposed Piney Branch CSO 049 Storage Project and provide you with an opportunity to ask questions

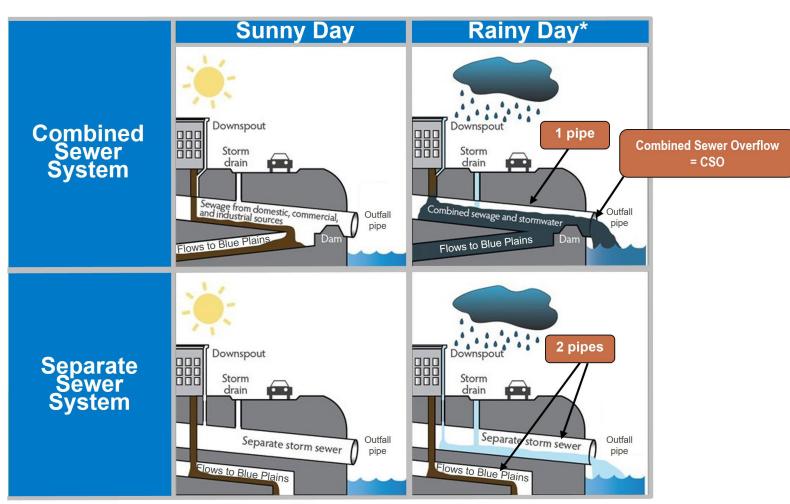
Meeting Agenda

- Project Background
- Project Overview
- National Environmental Policy Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Schedule
- How to Comment
- Questions and Answers



Project Background Sewer Systems in DC

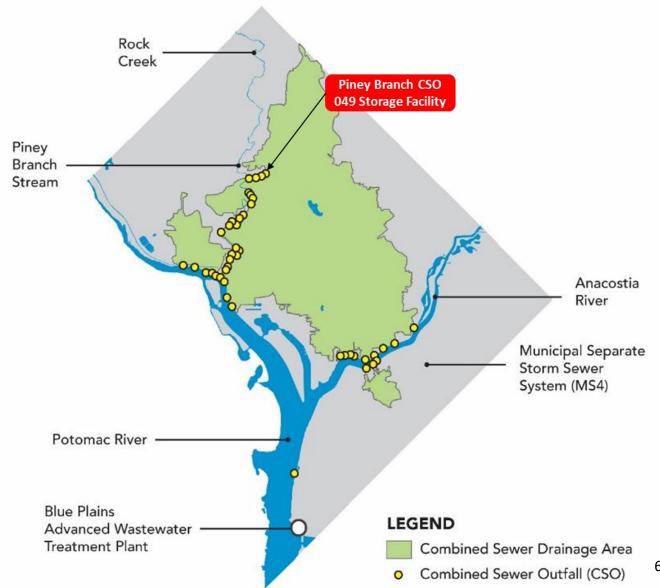
- What is a Combined
 Sewer Overflow or CSO?
 - Stormwater
 - Sewage
 - "Gray" water from showers, dishwashers, kitchens, laundry, businesses, etc.



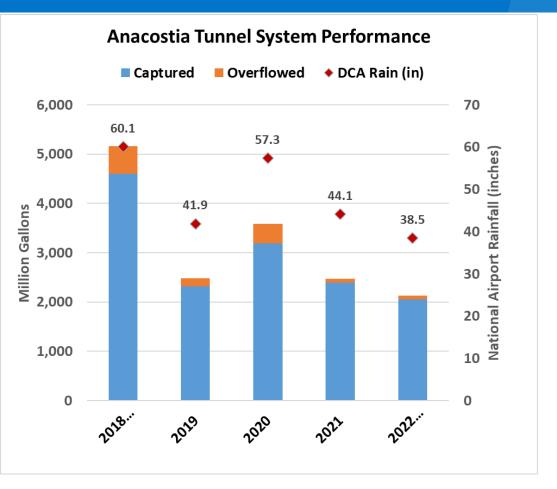
*Discharge occurs when pipe's capacity is exceeded

dcd Project Background Combined Sewer Locations

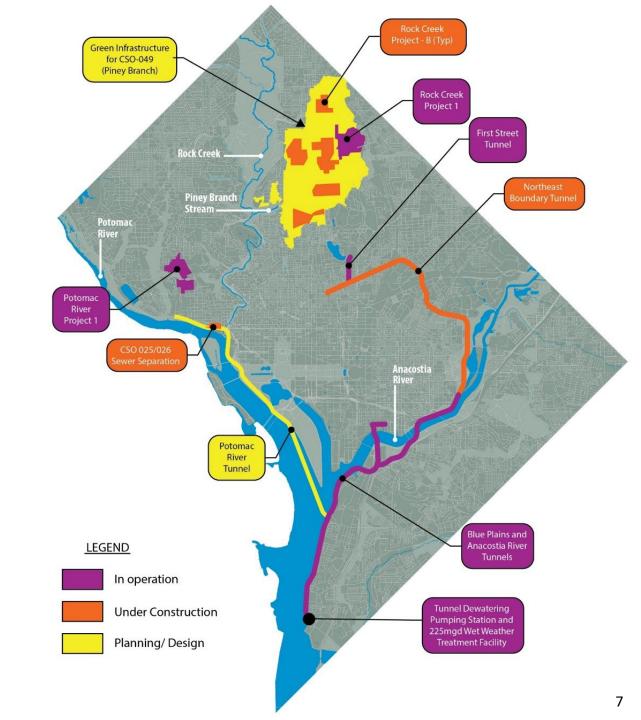
- Combined sewer system covers
 1/3 of the District (12,478 acres)
- There are 48 potentially active CSO outfalls:
 - 15 to the Anacostia River
 - 10 to the Potomac River
 - 23 to Rock Creek



Project Background DC Clean Rivers Project Status



- Over **14.5** billion gallons captured March 2018 November 2022
- Over 9,151 tons of trash, debris, and other solids captured
- Exceeding predicted capture rate (91%>80%)

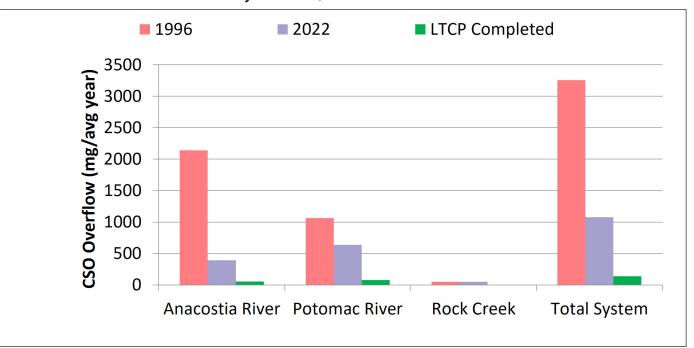


Project Background Clean Rivers Project Performance

- District government determined that project meets District Water Quality Standards for remaining overflows, subject to post construction monitoring
- EPA concurred with determination

Parameter	Phase	Anacostia River		Rock Creek	Total
CSO Volume (mg/avg yr)	DC Water Created (1996)	2,142	1,063	49	3,254
	Clean Rivers Complete	54	79	5	138
	% Reduction	98%	93%	90%	
CSO Frequency	DC Water Created (1996)	82	74	30	82
(#/avg yr)	Clean Rivers Complete	2	4	$1/4^{1}$	4

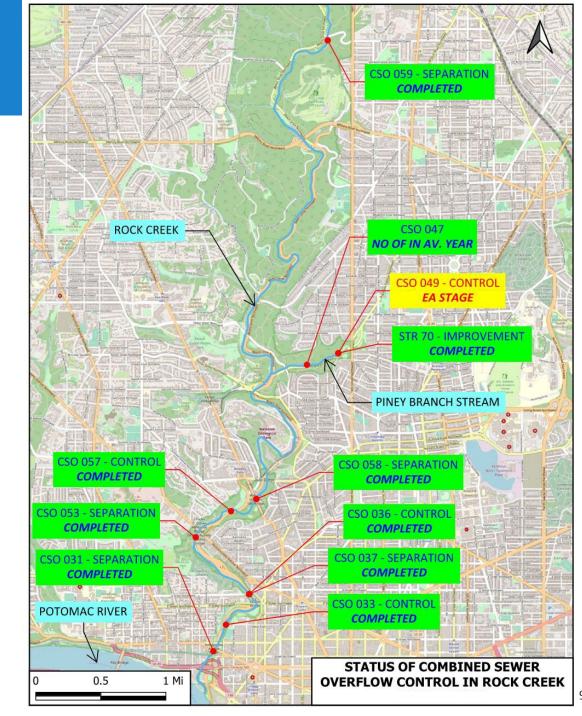
¹One at Piney Branch, four at the other Rock Creek CSOs





Project Background Status of Rock Creek CSO Control Projects

- Completed projects:
 - Sewer separation -5 outfalls ✓
 - Diversion structure improvements - 5 outfalls ✓
- Remaining projects:
 - CSO 049 storage facility in operation by November 23, 2029
 - 92 acres of Green Infrastructure (GI) in operation by March 23, 2030 (27 acres have been completed)

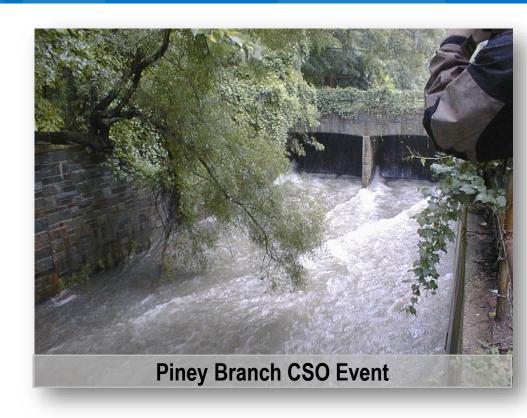




Project Overview Piney Branch CSO 049 Storage Project

- The purpose of the project is to reduce untreated discharges from the combined sewer system to Piney Branch by increasing CSO storage and conveyance capacity
- Largest CSO to Rock Creek
- Average year predictions at CSO 049:

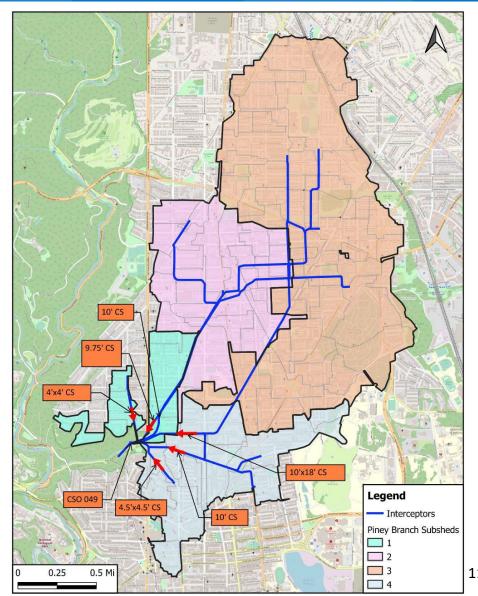
Parameter	<u>Before</u> Clean Rivers	<u>After</u> Clean Rivers
No. Overflows (#/avg yr)	25	1
Overflow Volume (mil. gal./avg yr)	39.7	1.4
% Reduction	1	96%



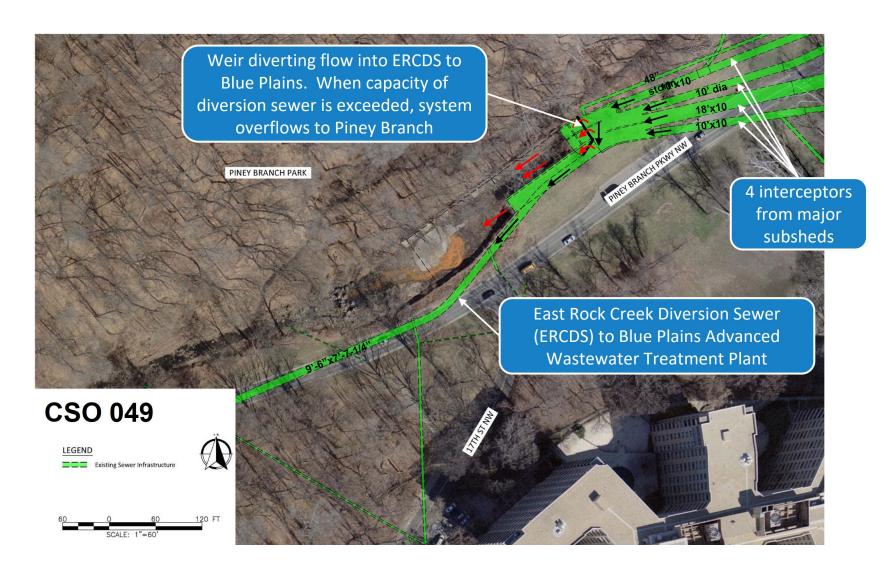
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Project Overview Existing CSO 049 Sewer System Configuration

- Drainage area of about 2,400 acres
- Federal Board of Engineer's recommended constructing separate sewers in 1890, but the government constructed combined sewers likely because of the lower cost
- Four major subdrainage areas that converge at outfall in Rock Creek Park



Project Overview Existing CSO 049 Sewer System Configuration (continued)

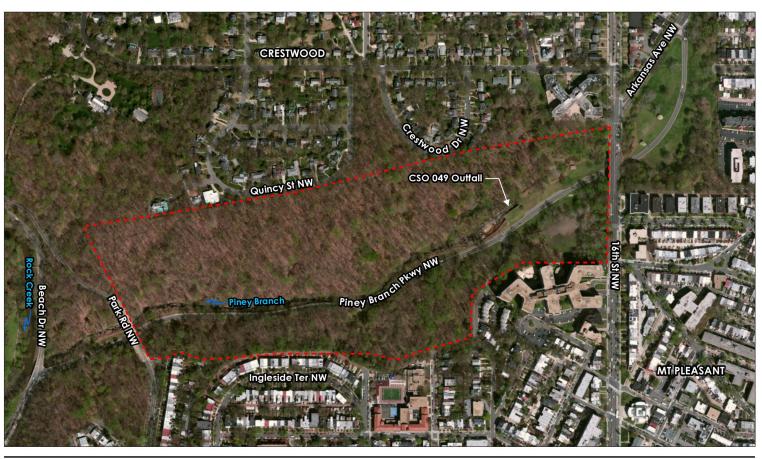






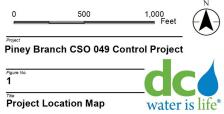
Project Overview Tunnel Corridor

- DC Water has identified a corridor within which a storage facility may be constructed
- DC Water currently conducting geotechnical investigations to identify feasible locations



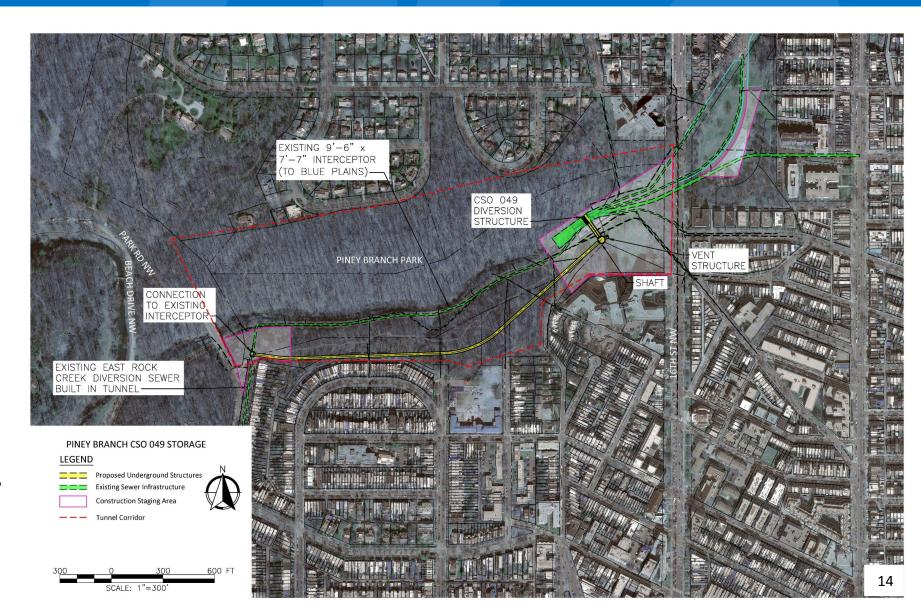






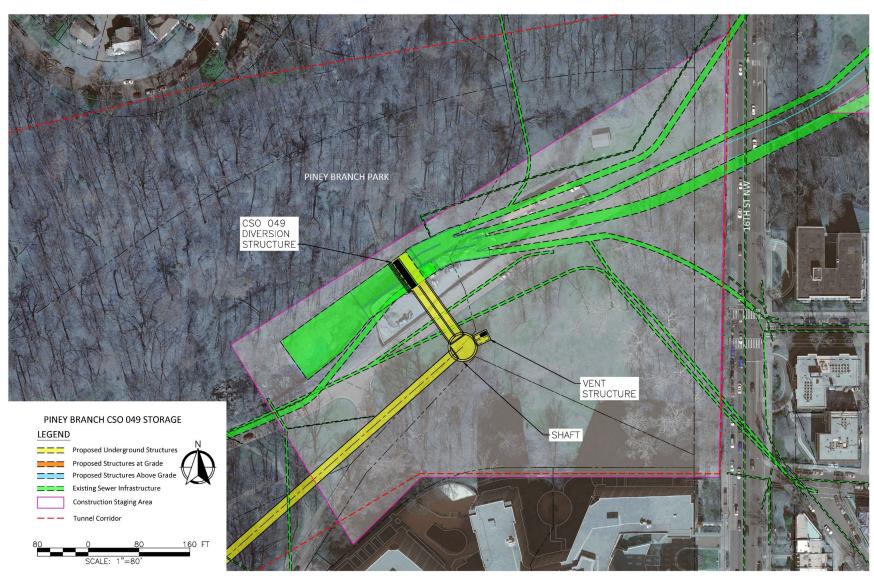
dcd Project Overview Conceptual Design Layout

- Storage options being evaluated include a tunnel to control CSO 049 (approx. location shown).
- Minimal impacts with tunnel option vs. tank, i.e., underground, gravity operation, minimal impacts to park.
- Construction would involve "drill and shoot" to excavate rock.



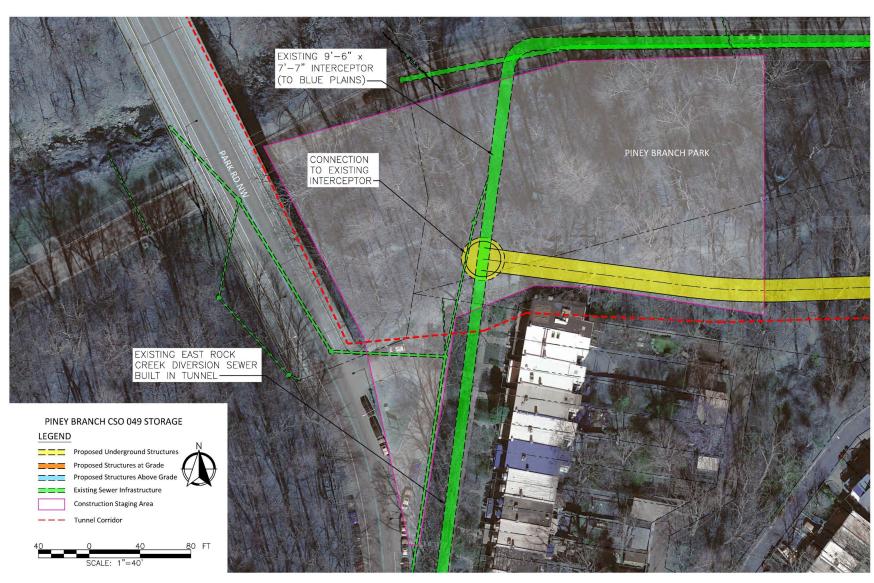
Project Overview Diversion Structure

- Diversion structure constructed at outfall to direct CSO into tunnel
- Minimal expression at surface (manholes, hatches, electrical cabinet)



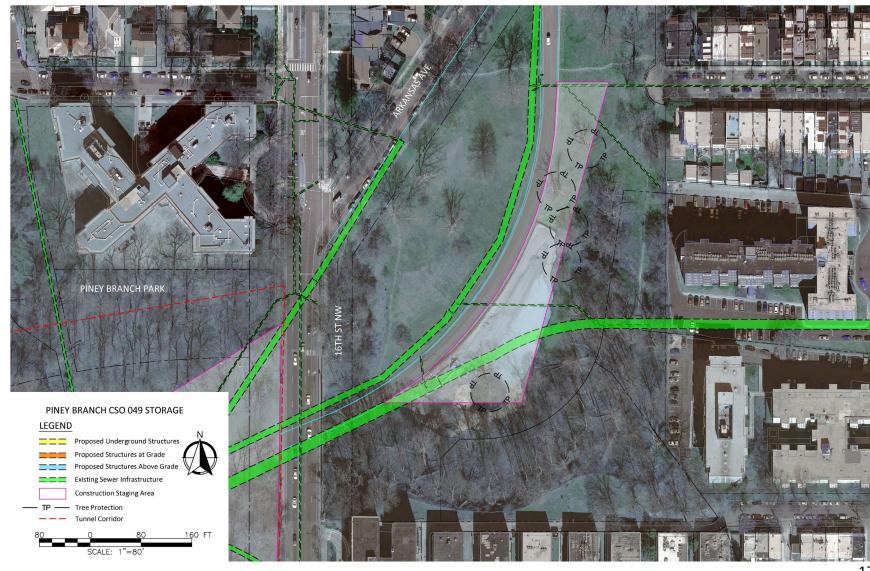
Project Overview Discharge End

- The facility would store the overflows until they can be released back into the sewer system during low flow conditions and conveyed to Blue Plains for treatment (approx. location shown)
- Minimal expression at surface (manholes, hatches, electrical cabinet)



Project Overview Additional Staging Area

 Additional temporary staging area for construction shown east of 16th St NW bridge (if needed)



What is NEPA?

- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a federal law that requires planning to ensure informed decision-making
- NEPA requires federal agencies to:
 - analyze the environmental impacts of actions, and
 - engage the public as part of project planning
- DC Water will need federal permits from NPS to construct the proposed storage facility project
- Issuance of permits by NPS is a federal action that requires NEPA compliance



NEPA Planning Process Public and Agency Scoping

- DC Water and NPS are currently in the "scoping" phase of the NEPA compliance process
- Scoping occurs early in planning and typically involves:
 - Identifying the purpose of and need for the project
 - Developing a proposed action that meets the purpose and need
 - Developing alternatives to the proposed action
 - Collecting data on existing environmental conditions
 - Identifying important issues to address in the NEPA document
 - Engaging the public as part of project planning

NEPA Planning Process Environmental Assessment

- NPS and DC Water will prepare an EA to document and disclose potential environmental impacts that would occur if the project is implemented
- Impacts related to the following subject matter may be addressed in the EA:
 - Water Quality
 - Wetlands and Waterways
 - Vegetation
 - Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species
 - Visitor / Community Use and Experience
 - Cultural Resources more on next slide





National Historic Preservation Act

- Effects to historic properties will also be assessed to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- Assessments being planned in consultation with the DC SHPO include
 - Preparing determination of eligibility for the CSO 049 outfall
 - Conducting archeological investigations as needed
 - Assessing effects to historic properties
 - Rock Creek Park Historic District
 - Mount Pleasant Historic District
 - Woodner Apartment Building
 - Archeological Resources





Mount Pleasant Historic District

Rock Creek Park Historic District

- 1 Rock Creek Park Historic District
 2 Mount Pleasant Historic District
- 3 Woodner Apartment Building

Piney Branch CSO 049 Control Project

1

Area of Potential Effects Map







CC Schedule

• Tentative NEPA Compliance Schedule

Date	Milestone / Activity
December 16, 2022	Agency Scoping Meeting
January 18 – February 16, 2023	Public Scoping (We are here)
February – August 2023	Prepare EA
September 2023	EA Public Review and Comment Period (30 days)
October 2023	NPS Reviews Public Comments on Plan/EA
October - November 2023	Finding of No Significant Impact or Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement

CSO 049 Storage Project Consent Decree Schedule

Date	Requirement
May 23, 2024	Award Contract for Design
May 23, 2026	Award Contract for Construction
November 23, 2029	Place in Operation

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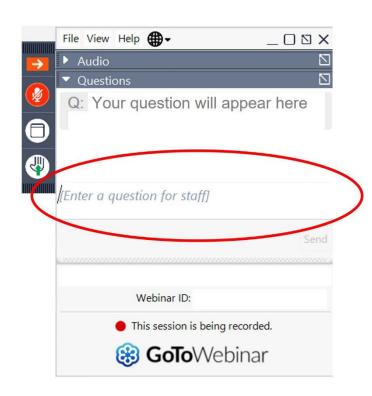
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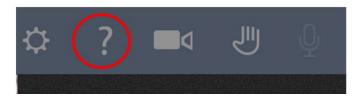
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For more information on the DC Clean Rivers Project visit:

https://dcwater.com/cleanrivers

For more information on the Piney Branch CSO 049 Storage Project visit:

https://www.dcwater.com/projects/piney-branch-storage