



ANACOSTIA WATERSHED CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Anacostia River and its tributaries

January 4, 2018

STATEMENT OF GOALS FOR 2017-2018

The following is a list of AWCAC goals/tasks/priorities for FY2018, with the understanding that members can add and remove tasks as new issues are identified. Support of Anacostia watershed groups is an implicit function of AWCAC and will not be specifically addressed in this document (see AWCAC Bylaws).

FOCUS: AWCAC will strive to establish a strong working relationship with the other Committees of the Partnership (AWRP) to achieve the goals of the Anacostia Restoration Plan laid out in the ANACOSTIA RIVER WATERSHED RESTORATION PLAN AND REPORT – Feb 2010. We will seek to work with and support other groups and efforts which complement our mission and goals. As a fully volunteer committee, we will undertake efforts which align with member interest and current activities, and in a manner considerate of their time.

1) Trail Systemization and Promotion:

Actions:

- a) In cooperation with the Capital Trails Coalition (CTC), work with DDOT, M-NCPPC, NPS and other landowners to install signage and to promote a unified trail system. Participate in CTC events and initiatives which support our goals.
 - **PAT JACKMAN has volunteered to represent AWCAC in the CTC. She is a resident of New Carrollton, Friend of Quincy Run Watershed, and has represented the Washington Rowing School in CTC since its inception. She is also a citizen participant in Prince George's County's Bicycle and Trails Advisory Group (BTAG).**
- b) Promote the Partnership's and CTC's new trail maps, including with watershed member groups and other relevant entities. Provide a link from member websites to appropriate trail maps. Indicate location of trails on member sub-watershed maps.
 - **AWCAC membership to undertake, with guidance from COG.**
- c) Advocate for addition of Anacostia Water Trail to appropriate maps. Identify and work with appropriate entities to post signage, visible from land and water, to identify all Anacostia tributaries.
 - **MARIAN DOMBROSKI will coordinate with appropriate groups to suggest locations for signage.**

2) Legislation:

Actions:

- a) On an ongoing basis, track and provide comments on new and existing legislation, with a focus on accountability and transparency. **Forest Conservation Act** is of particular importance.
- b) Receive regular updates at meetings from Choose Clean Water Coalition (CCWC), League of Conservation Voters (LCV), and other member organizations regarding legislation with potential impacts on the Anacostia River.
- c) Utilize the email list to get updates and action items out to members on a more frequent basis.
- d) Work with Management and Steering Committee to identify opportunities to provide comments to appropriate government documents (i.e. Clean Water Rule, NPS Ten Year Strategic Management Plan, Anacostia River Sediment Project, River Report Card).
- e) Produce and/or participate in Sign-On efforts, provide letters of support and thank you letters for relevant initiatives.

TASKS IDENTIFIED:

- **Review Anacostia Watershed Forest Management and Protection Strategy June 2005. Support Urban Tree Canopy efforts (Marian Dombroski and Dan Smith).**
- **Updates by relevant AWCAC members. (List as regular agenda item.)**
- **Letters and comments to be drafted by chair and member advocates – approval by vice chairs – distribute electronically to members.**
- **Set date for first 2018 briefing by LCV.**

3) Direct Threats to the River:

Actions:

- a) AWCAC members will receive at least semi-annual update from DDoEE regarding regional efforts to address toxic-related clean-up efforts in the Tidal River. (Jan RI and FS to be published.)
- b) Monitor development plans/activities which pose a direct threat to the River.
- c) Keep up-to-date on project timetables, comment periods, and plan proposals related to the Restoration Plan and other initiatives with potential impact on the Anacostia.
- d) Receive relevant briefing(s)/presentation(s) regarding clean water projects (e.g. Hudson River) which may provide models for restoration of the Anacostia.
- e) Investigate Colmar Manor Dredge Ponds.

TASKS IDENTIFIED:

- **COG Representative to arrange for presentations by DDoEE/PGCDoE/MoCo DER.**
- **Friends of Dueling Creek to lead effort re Dredge Ponds in Colmar Manor (Fran Tohler and Barry Stahl).**

4) Outreach/Education:

Actions

- a) Establish communications and collaboration among steward groups. Extend meeting invitations to other steward groups and communities (Watershed Stewards <http://www.anacostiaws.org/programs/education/watershed-stewards-academy/about-the-watershed-stewards-academy>, Master Gardeners, Community Groups, Municipalities).
 - **Marian Dombroski with input from membership**
- b) Outreach to Hispanic Community: Support the 2018 Festival Del Rio Anacostia and promote participation by all Anacostia watershed groups. Use local Spanish-language radio, press, and other media to reach the Hispanic community with a message to use the river and support its restoration.
 - **Trey Sherard, Aubin Maynard, Jorge Bogantes Montero**
- c) Identify educational opportunities for AWCAC members. (i.e. training with apps and other tools - WATER REPORTER: <https://medium.com/water-reports/check-out-water-reporter-mobiles-latest-release-7dc044ad09b9>; host practitioner presentations (i.e. Bio-Habitats algae scrubber at BWP); tour BMP installations – member projects; conduct field trips focused on COG efforts and activities; present films; recommend webinars and other educational opportunities. Plan a “feature presentation” for each meeting. Extend invitation to non-member groups for whom topics are of potential interest.
 - **Membership**
- d) Advocate for or implement multi-lingual education/signage related to fish consumption and swimming. Work with Anacostia Riverkeeper and COG to further this effort.
 - **Support/Partner with ARK grant (Trey Sherard, Ruby Stemmler).**
- e) Host Researchers Symposium: academics/researchers (poster presentation)
 - **Trey Sherard and Aubin Maynard to engage UMD/UDC/GWU/AU/GU.**
- f) Become an active presence on the Anacostia.net website.
 - **Request that Steering Committee add this task to Anacostia Promotional Initiative activities**
- g) Advocate for training and publications by agencies to include bi-lingual materials and presentations.
 - **TASKS IDENTIFIED: TBD**

5) Special Events:

- a) Plan an activity for “Year of the Anacostia” (“have a hand in the Anacostia” - invite members of the Anacostia Community and steward groups to join hands along the shore of the Anacostia for a “family photo”).
- b) Invite community groups to host YOA events.
- c) Form Committee around “Fishable Swimmable 2025.” Set agenda.
TASKS IDENTIFIED:
 - **Work with Partnership to produce an “invitation to participate” for municipalities and citizen groups**
 - **TBD**

Other:

- a) Form Committee around actions concerning native plants and removal of invasive species. Set agenda – DC Cooperative Weed Mgmt. Work with MNCPPC and municipalities to plant native species on public lands
 - **Liz Marshall, Mike Ellis, Antonia Bookbinder**
- b) Members will participate in a strategic planning process to review and revise the AWCAC's goal setting process and bylaws.
 - **Agenda item for May meeting.**

Upcoming presentations and tours (working list)

- CAPITAL TRAILS COALITION
- LATINO OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE: FESTIVAL DEL RIO ANACOSTIA
- 2017 MARYLAND STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
- WATERSHED GROUP DEVELOPMENT
- THE ANACOSTIA RIVER SEDIMENT PROJECT
- PORT TOWN INVENTORY OF STORMWATER RETROFIT PROJECTS
- PLAN FOR STREAM RESTORATION IN ANACOSTIA JURISDICTIONS
- HISTORY OF PARTNERSHIP
- TOUR N.E. BOUNDARY TUNNEL
- SUB-WATERSHED SPECIFIC UPDATE FROM WSSC SR3 PROGRAM
- "TOP 10 LIST OF PROJECTS" FROM EACH JURISDICTION DIRECTOR

END OF PROPOSED GOALS FOR FY2018