ANACOSTIA LANDING

LET'S GO!

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LANDING
Welcome to ANACOSTIA LANDING, a 25-acre park centered on the Anacostia River, gateway to historic Anacostia, and extraordinary perch from which to view the District of Columbia’s emergence as a waterfront city.

The WRT+NEXT design tackles this vision by going coordinated and exciting form in the goals set forth in the competition brief:

1. RECONNECT DIVERSE NEIGHBORHOODS
2. REENGAGE PEOPLE WITH THE RIVER
3. IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH THROUGH RECREATION AND PLAY
4. EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

We aim to spotlight the Anacostia River as a bountiful, beautiful, and exciting watercourse, a place where the juncture of human and natural ecologies “land” as a productive, fun, and life-affirming exchange.

Anacostia Landing is the operative term that encapsulates the project goals. We take it to mean A GREAT RIVER PARK WITH A STANDOUT BRIDGE, a place so distinctive that people will simply say “LET’S GO TO THE ANACOSTIA!” anticipating hours of play, relaxation, eating, boating, learning about history, ecology and health; and otherwise enjoying art, theater, music, and performances on both sides of the river, gathering above it, or floating on its waters.

To capture this potential the design proposes four distinct recreational zones:

- **The North Bank** - from M Street down to the river, including parkland upstream from the 11th Street Bridge.
- **The River Balcony** - a 1.4-acre platform spanning the river, topped by an iconic canopy.
- **The South Bank** - the Anacostia parkland between the river and the Good Hope Road underpass.
- **The Water Garden** - a 60-foot wide swath of the river adjoining the South Bank.

Each of these zones supports different recreational, cultural, environmental, and economic programs, and each promotes A UNIQUE WAY TO ENGAGE THE RIVER. The 11th Street Bridge’s multipurpose trail already provides a very adequate pedestrian and high speed bike route between Capitol Hill and Anacostia. ANACOSTIA LANDING supplements this existing connection with a different and engaging experience emphasizing congregation, education, and play.

The RIVER BALCONY stands as a singular element, seemingly floating in space and attached to the 11th Street Bridge by three narrow points of connection. Projected 30 feet above the river, the balcony contains a children’s play garden, a skim pool, a stepped amphitheater, and a two-story community and education center. The BILLOWY CANOPY above will be an eye-catcher, yet, like a noble and grand old tree, it fulfills multiple and vital needs: providing shade, funneling prevailing breezes, supporting greenery and solar panels, framing public art, and creating the setting for gatherings, Bolt, and play. As the centerpiece of the design, the River Balcony will stand as a symbol of CREATIVE SUSTAINABILITY, contributing to ANACOSTIA LANDING becoming a 21st Century model of ecological place-making.
The River Balcony is a destination that can be accessed from the newly built 11th Street Bridge. The Balcony provides important connections, both visually and physically, to the new 11th Street Bridge and will foster a dynamic environment that will attract users of all ages and abilities.

The Balcony provides strong distant image. The Balcony will function as a unique autonomous plaza, overlook, and deck above the Anacostia River, and with minimal connections, the River Balcony will stand as an independent node in the system. The new River Balcony is a destination that can be accessed from the North Bank, the Capitol Hill and Anacostia neighborhoods, as well as from the barges to the amphitheatre on the deck and the lower public space that will incorporate multiple programs and elements, including the amphitheatre that will accommodate all ages and encourage repeat visits.

The River Balcony will encourage a diverse program of art and performance from early childhood to professional and cultural space - a beacon of education, and cultural space - a beacon of art and performances.

Longitudinal Section

1. PLAY LAWNS
2. BRIDGE GARDENS
3. VEGETATIVE CHANDELIERS
4. MESH PANELS
5. GLASS PANEL GREENHOUSE
6. WILDLIFE VIEWING PLATFORM
7. SHELLFISH FILTRATION SYSTEM
8. AQUAPONICS
9. FLOATING WETLAND HABITAT
10. CONSTRUCTED ECOTOPE
11. VINE COLUMNS
12. VEGETATED CHANDELIERS
13. WETLAND WALK
14. CARGO NET VIEWING AREA
15. WOODLAND VIEWING PLATFORM
16. SCALESWORTH ESDU
17. DRIFTWOOD HABITAT
18. FLOATING WETLAND HABITAT
19. POND CYPRESS GROVE
20. Constructs ECOTOPE

The River Balcony also allows for additional areas for art installation. The design of the amphitheatre, the Community Center and the Spiral are spaces dedicated to art installations and performances. The design of the canopy also provides A/V support for shows.

Art and Performances

The River Balcony will facilitate a diverse program of art and performance from early childhood to professional and cultural space - a beacon of art and performances. The Community Center and the Spiral will provide seating for approximately 500 people. Lighting attached to the canopy structure will provide A/V support for shows.

Access from Capitol Hill and Yards Park

A spiral ramp will bring people up to the River Balcony. The spiral starts at the existing lookout point on the North Bank. The ramp is 12 feet wide and approximately 400 feet long. The slope of the ramp is 1:20 or less, meeting the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The entry route spirals around a funnel with残疾人．The entry route spirals around a funnel of 20 feet. This structure is a great location to invite artists to program the view of the river providing panoramic views of the River and it's surroundings.

The spiral ramp at the Navy Yard and a suspension spiral ramp at the Navy Yard and a catwalk from the Anacostia Hill.

A diversity of spaces and atmospheres, open and enclosed, vegetated and paved, showcasing glass over the River.

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Access from the Anacostia Neighborhood

Access from the South Bank & Potomac neighborhoods is provided by a sloping walk that extends the main walkway. The walk provides access to the River Balcony, the overlook, and the river below on the Anacostia.

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The overlook amphitheater provides a unique location for organized performances in the amphitheater. This has a 12 foot wide and approximately 400 feet long. The slope of the ramp is 1:20 or less, meeting the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The entry route spirals around a funnel of 20 feet. This structure is a great location to invite artists to program the view of the river providing panoramic views of the River and it’s surroundings.

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THE CANOPY: SHADE, ENERGY + LOTS OF FUN

Engage the Water: Curated Ecology

1. Mussels
2. Riparian Edge
3. Misting Fountain and Skim Pool
4. Water Garden
5. Amphitheater
6. Café + Gallery
7. Theater + Event Space
8. Environmental Education Center (Lower Level)
9. Grower Access

THE RESTAURANT/CAFE

The canopy covers most of the deck and will be constructed as a steel pipe grid shell. The canopy will provide areas of shade and a great place to hang out year-round. In spring and summer, the green wall will grow edible plants that can be used in the kitchen of the restaurant. The Cafe will have the atmosphere of an orangery/greenhouse, with a glass façade that opens to the amphitheater and the outdoors, and a green wall that grows edible plants. The cafe will also be a great place to eat, drink, work, perform, laugh, and learn all year round.

THE COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center answers the needs of the nearby Anacostia neighborhood in numerous ways. The building contains an indoor theater space that seats 250 people. The theater can be used for environmental education during the day and for concerts, community events, and special occasions. The theater space can also be raised to the level of the restaurant/café, which can also be used in the kitchen of the restaurant. The whole floor is divided into three levels, the Community Center is a multipurpose venue, housing a restaurant/café, theater, meeting rooms, storage, and a rooftop terrace on the level of the canopy. The main level is at the level of the Balcony, and the theater room slopes to the lower level. There are several meeting rooms, and facility rooms for the theater in relation to the restaurant. The whole floor is divided into platforms that can be raised up to 9 ft. Making it possible to bring different configurations of the theater to various levels. The whole floor can be raised to the level of the restaurant/café, which can also be raised to the level of the theater, creating an intimate setting. In this way it provides all kinds of flexible ways for future use. The big glass facade cutting through the theater deck will allow passers-by in the South Bank Park to see what is happening in the theater.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

The theater space will be a multi-use space that can be rented out for fund-raisers, weddings, or conferences, and a promising venue for special event spaces. The space could also be used for bigger or more public events. In this way it provides all sorts of flexible ways for future use.

THE WORKING WATERSCAPE

- Kayak Launch
- Boat Rental
- Floating Classroom
- Riverfront Café

THE SOCIAL EDGE

- Cafe Piers
- Observation Deck
- Restrooms
- Theater Stage
- Access to the Barges
- Education Center, Meeting Spaces

THE CANOPY: SHADE, ENERGY + LOTS OF FUN

- Canopy Overlook
- Rooftop Function Space
- Community Center - Rooftop Terrace
- Community Center - Deck Level
- Community Center - Lower Level

SEE ABOVE

ENGAGE THE WATER

- Promenade
- Sun Deck
- Cafe and Gallery
- Theater Seating
- Cafe Piers
- Observation Deck
- Restrooms
- Theater Stage
- Access to the Barges
- Education Center, Meeting Spaces

THE CANOPY: SHADE, ENERGY + LOTS OF FUN

- Canopy Overlook
- Rooftop Function Space
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DYNAMIC SOCIAL SPACES

FOUNTAIN SQUARE

PROGRAM + CONNECTIONS

WATER   ECONOMIC DRIVERS   PLAY   URBAN AGRICULTURE   ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION   PERFORMANCE + ART

ADVENTURE PARK