The Clean Rivers Project: Protecting the District’s Waterways

Capitol Riverfront BID
Annual Meeting
George Hawkins,
General Manager, DC Water
Why our rivers matter
The current state of the system

- Two sewer system types: CSS and MS4
- Average overflows/year: 3 billion gallons
- Defining water quality standards
Overview: Combined Sewer System

- 1/3 area is combined (12,478 acres)

- 53 CSO outfalls
  - 15 to Anacostia
  - 10 to Potomac
  - 28 to Rock Creek

- Three receiving waters
  - Anacostia River
  - Potomac River
  - Rock Creek
The Clean Rivers Project

• Result of a consent decree with US EPA
• Three tunnels: Anacostia, Rock Creek, Potomac
• Benefits include:
  – Overflows reduced by 96%. Anacostia will have 2 per year.
  – Near-elimination of trash
  – Lower bacteria, higher dissolved oxygen
• Concurrent with Enhanced Nitrogen Removal and Digester projects.
## Facts and Figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fact</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall timeline</td>
<td>2005-2025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total cost</td>
<td>$2.4 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anacostia tunnel length</td>
<td>13 miles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average tunnel depth</td>
<td>100 feet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average tunnel diameter</td>
<td>23 feet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dirt removed</td>
<td>1 truck every 20 minutes for 2 years</td>
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Capital Riverfront BID Impact

Additional sewershed improvements on Tingey Street and M Street (pictured below).
The future of Clean Rivers

The role of low-impact development (LID)
  – Rock Creek/Potomac implications
  – National precedents
  – LID Summit