

ANACOSTIA WATERSHED RESTORATION AGREEMENT

(Phase II)

1987

WHEREAS, since the early nineteenth century, major portions of the Anacostia River and its tributaries have been troubled by accelerated rates of erosion, deteriorated water quality and physical channel conditions which have diminished its use as an aquatic life habitat and recreational resource; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the Anacostia's seriously degraded condition and ultimate resource potential, the Governor of the State of Maryland ("Maryland") and Mayor of the District of Columbia ("District") entered into an agreement in 1984 termed the "Anacostia Watershed Restoration Strategy"; and

WHEREAS, this Strategy indicated the intent of Maryland and the District to control pollution sources to the Anacostia and to endeavor to restore water quality to a level sufficient to support a balanced aquatic community; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the specific initiatives spelled out under the 1984 Restoration Strategy Agreement, the jurisdictions of Montgomery County and Prince George's County, Maryland, are committed to the implementation of a number of major projects which are expected to contribute greatly to the technical understanding of pollution sources in the Anacostia basin and to the reduction of pollutant loadings; and

WHEREAS, these as well as other local project-initiatives directed toward the restoration of the Anacostia Watershed are planned or underway but were not included in the original Restoration Strategy; and

WHEREAS, the operation and implementation of those programs and activities in conjunction with new innovative efforts to address as yet unresolved problems in the watershed are expected to result in significant water quality and aquatic life benefits; and

WHEREAS, the signatories of the Agreement recognize that the Anacostia Watershed is a regional resource and that restoration will be accelerated and enhanced through interjurisdictional coordination and cooperation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the signatories reaffirm their commitment to the Restoration of the Anacostia River system through achievement of the following goals by the turn of the century:

1. The achievement of improved water quality and the protection of aquatic life, habitat, and other beneficial ecological relationships within the Anacostia River and its tributaries.
2. Basin-wide management of erosion, sediment and other sources of pollutants.
3. Maintenance of the tidal portion of the Anacostia River as a navigable waterway for commercial and recreational activities insofar as this is practical.
4. Expansion of opportunities for public recreational access and use of the Anacostia River and its tributaries.
5. Enhancement of public interest in the Anacostia watershed and public participation in restoration activities.

THE SIGNATORIES FURTHER AGREE to undertake the following to achieve these goals:

- Allocate sufficient resources as may be necessary and available for the success of this effort.
- Form an Anacostia Restoration Committee, which shall have the following charges:
 - Develop a committee structure to determine how the goals of the agreement are to be reached.
 - Establish a process for the development of a work plan and milestones for the various restoration activities.
 - Provide a framework for the evaluation of pollution control efforts with regard to observed water quality and aquatic life benefits.
 - Institute mechanisms and measures for the tracking of progress and the reporting on such as it occurs.
- Support regional coordinated and cooperative projects related to the restoration of the Anacostia Watershed.
- Participate in the implementation and demonstration of new innovative technologies for pollution control and dredge spoil disposal.
- Designate the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments as the agency to provide administrative support and other services as requested by the signatories to facilitate the activities of the Anacostia Restoration Committee for meeting the goals of this Agreement.
- Designate the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin as the agency to:
 - (a) coordinate and implement public education and public participation activities; and
 - (b) develop a resource enhancement and restoration proposal to address issues such as dredging, river access, and biological productivity, as requested by the signatories of this Agreement.

- Designate the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin to prepare a periodic progress report on water quality and resource restoration conditions highlighting ongoing and new technical analysis of water quality and water resource conditions developed through the Anacostia Restoration Committee work program.

THIS AGREEMENT SHALL TAKE EFFECT when attested to by all of the signatories and shall remain in force as long as necessary for achievement of goals identified herein, subject to an annual evaluation by the signatories.

WITNESS THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES:

ATTEST:

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

6-13-1987
DATE

By _____
Marion S. Barry, Jr., Mayor

THE STATE OF MARYLAND

3-4-1988
DATE

By _____
William Donald Schaefer, Governor

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.

7-6-1988
DATE

By _____
Sidney M. Kramer, County Executive

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD.

8-3-1988
DATE

By _____
Parris N. Glendening, County Executive