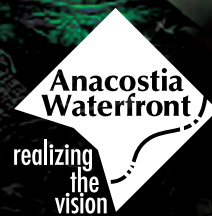


# WATERFRONT WATCH

## Anacostia Waterfront News Digest



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February 2009

### **“Standing Room Only” Crowd for First Anacostia Waterfront Forum**

On February 17th, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) sponsored the first Anacostia Waterfront Forum at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. A standing-room-only crowd of over 200 people filled the east wing of the library’s Great Hall for the 90-minute forum. The topic was “Sustainable Development Infrastructure and the Future of the District of Columbia.”

Following welcoming remarks from acting DDOT Director Gabe Klein, a three-member panel responded to a presentation by Kathleen Linehan Penney, Chief Engineer of the District’s Department of Transportation. Penney’s presentation focused on how investments in Anacostia Waterfront infrastructure should provide the foundation for social, economic and environmental progress in District and waterfront neighborhoods, especially those east of the Anacostia River.

“To be sure, infrastructure problems in the District are not limited to the Anacostia Waterfront,” Penney said. “But I contend that more than any other place, it is the infrastructure problems and lack of investment on the Anacostia Waterfront that most severely decrease the likelihood that the District will become a more inclusive and sustainable city in the 21st century. It is time to invest our resources and time in the waterfront and the surrounding neighborhoods.”

The invited respondents to Penney’s presentation were Charles Wilson, President, Historic Anacostia Block Association; Uwe Brandes, Vice President for Innovation, Urban Land Institute; and Walter Smith, Executive Director, DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice.

The Anacostia Waterfront Forum is a series of monthly public presentations to be held every third Tuesday through June 2009, designed to bring voices from different neighborhoods together to receive accurate and timely information about the waterfront and its current state of transformation and revitalization.

The forum series is an activity of the Anacostia Waterfront Civic Engagement Program, a multi-agency program responsible for building a constituency to achieve the goals of the Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan.

Click here for the full story: [www.theanacostiawaterfront.com](http://www.theanacostiawaterfront.com)

#### **WAMU Airs Story about the Forum on “Morning Edition” Show**

The first Anacostia Waterfront Forum did receive media attention, including a story that aired Feb. 18 on Morning Edition, the popular news program on WAMU – AM.

Click here to hear the report:

<http://www.wamu.org/news/09/02/18.php#25205>

## The Next Anacostia Waterfront Forum: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

### Alice Rivlin Champions Stimulus Funds for DC Infrastructure Projects

Alice Rivlin of the Brookings Institution and Walter Smith of the DC Applesseed Center for Law and Justice are among the influential voices in Washington urging President Obama to “seize the opportunity to transform the nation’s capital into a truly great capital city” with his infrastructure-focused stimulus plan. In a *Washington Post* commentary that appeared on February 1st, Rivlin and Smith pointed to the immediate benefit of much-needed jobs for District residents. In a new study, “*Building the Best Capital City in the World*”, they make the case for the District’s ailing transportation system, citing the 11th Street bridges project as ‘shovel ready’ and integral to shuttling the city’s federal workforce across the Anacostia River. Smith, who is the executive director of the Applesseed Center for Law and Justice, was a panelist at the first Anacostia Waterfront Forum on Feb. 17.

Read the commentary here:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/01/30/AR2009013003435.html?referrer=emailarticle>

### District’s Chief Engineer Kathleen Penney Highlights Benefits of Moving Ahead on 11th Street Bridges

Now is not the time for public discussion to stall over replacing the 11th Street Bridges, according to Kathleen Linehan Penney, the Chief Engineer for the District Department of Transportation. In a letter to the editor published in the February *Hill Rag*, Penney highlights the benefits of going forward with this crucial project, which will provide the vital infrastructure to enhance the development of the Anacostia Waterfront and throughout the city.

Read the letter to the editor at [www.theanacostiawaterfront.com](http://www.theanacostiawaterfront.com)

### AW Facebook Page Launched

We need friends. Specifically, we need people near and far to sign up to become “friends” on the new Anacostia Waterfront Facebook page. Our Facebook friends will receive timely visual content – photos, video and audio clips, and text updates – that will tell the story about the revival of the Anacostia Waterfront as it unfolds. Go to the search function on your Facebook page, type in “anacostiawaterfront” and ask us to be your friend. If you are not a Facebook member, go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), open your own account and then become our friend.

For more information about how the District of Columbia is creating a world class Anacostia Waterfront, visit our web site: [www.theanacostiawaterfront.com](http://www.theanacostiawaterfront.com)

Waterfront Watch is published by the Anacostia Waterfront Civic Engagement Program.

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