



REGIONAL BLUE-GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PLANNING PROJECT (RBGI CEPP) - REGIONAL OPEN HOUSE

Thursday May 22, 2025

Time: 4:30 – 7:30 pm

Location: Marvin Gaye Recreation Center

1561st St NE, Washington, DC 20019

[Eventbrite Registration link](#)

AGENDA

FLOOD READY COMMUNITIES: FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR FUTURE PROJECTS

4:30 P.M. 1. OPEN HOUSE EXPLORATION

Participants are encouraged to arrive at any time and explore the Open House stations at their own pace. Light refreshments will be provided.

- **BGI Education Station:** Overview of BGI strategies and project types
- **“Let’s Find Your Project” Table:** Subwatershed priority maps and materials
- **Engagement Continuum Table:** Identify levels of engagement and opportunities for collaboration in future BGI implementation
- **Flood Insurance Resource Table:** Hosted by the District of Columbia Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking (DISB), this station will offer personal flood insurance information and guidance on protecting your home

5:00 P.M. 2. WELCOME AND OPEN HOUSE OVERVIEW

Heidi Bonnafon, COG & Richa Vuppuluri, CHPlanning

Welcome and orientation remarks, including acknowledgments of key partners, an overview of the Open House goals, and guidance on how participants can engage with the stations, presentations, and discussions throughout the evening.

5:05 P.M. 3. PROJECT PRESENTATION: HIGHLIGHTS AND SUBWATERSHED PRIORITIES

Joe Arrowsmith, Straughan Environmental Inc.

The presentation will provide an overview of the planning process, summarize key findings from each watershed, and highlight priority focus areas and draft Blue-Green Infrastructure (BGI) project concepts.

5:15 P.M. 4.

Two moderated panel discussions will explore strategies for funding and implementing BGI projects, featuring insights from invited speakers across government, nonprofit, and community sectors.

5:15 P.M. Panel 1: Funding in Uncertain Times: Feasibility of BGI Project Concepts

Moderator: Joe Arrowsmith, Director of Ecosystem Restoration, Straughan Environmental Speakers:

- *Vermecia Alsop, HSEMA*
- *Stephanie Dalke, UMD Environmental Finance Center*
- *Dr. Estelle-Marie Ebele, FH Fauntery Center & Resilience Incubator*
- *Kelly Collins Choi, Casey Trees*
- *Grace Dho, Chesapeake Bay Trust*

5:50 P.M. Panel 2: Implementation Partnerships: Lessons Learned for Stakeholder and Community Engagement

Moderator: Erin Jones, Sr. Planner and Community Engagement Specialist, CHPlanning Speakers:

- *Dennis Chestnut, Ward 7 Resilience Hub Community Coalition*
- *Brenda Lee Richardson, Friends of Oxon Run*
- *Madeline Daugherty, Mount Rainier Nature Center – PG Parks and Recreation*
- *Ashley Drakeford, City of Seat Pleasant*

6:30 P.M. 5. CLOSING REMARKS

CHPlanning

The event will close by acknowledging project partners, community-based organizations, and participants for their contributions. The remarks will include a brief recap of how input gathered during the Open House will inform next steps, along with information on how to stay connected, access project resources.

6:35 P.M. 6. CONTINUED OPEN HOUSE ENGAGEMENT

Attendees are encouraged to revisit stations, network, and provide feedback. The project team will circulate a brief evaluation survey (available via QR code and printed copies). Local attendees who complete the survey will receive a \$25 gift card as a token of appreciation.

7:30 P.M. 7. OPEN HOUSE CONCLUDES