

# MIDDLE BRANCH WATERFRONT COMMUNITY INPUT MEETING NOTES

June 28, 2018, 7:00-8:30 PM  
MedStar Harbor Hospital, Baum Auditorium, 3001 S. Hanover Street, Baltimore, MD 21221

On June 28, 2018, a Middle Branch Waterfront Community Input Meeting was led by Parks & People Foundation and co-hosts Baltimore City Department of recreation & Parks, South Baltimore Gateway Partnership and SB7.

Over 90 attendees worked together to identify top priorities for access, the environment and recreation on and around the waterfront.

Here are the results...



## TOP 10 PRIORITIES FOR THE MIDDLE BRANCH WATERFRONT

1. Trash & litter/Water quality improvement
2. Affordable recreation activities, programs and events for all ages
3. Convenient public access to the waterfront from neighborhoods
4. Seamless access around the waterfront for pedestrians and bikers
5. Improved transit infrastructure (multi-modal and regional)
6. Diverse water-based recreation (paddling, fishing and crabbing, etc.)
7. Network of safe, well-lit roadways and sidewalks
8. Affordable neighborhoods (development without displacement)
9. Enhanced and well-maintained natural spaces (trees, habitat areas, public art, etc.)
10. Cultural and historic activities that tell the stories of the neighborhoods on the waterfront and the people who lived there

## COMMUNICATIONS PREFERENCE

### Dot Exercise Results

How do you prefer we communicate with you?

1. **Email/E-Newsletter - 72%**
2. Community Meeting - 15%
3. Website - 10%
4. Social Media - 3%

How do you currently obtain information in your neighborhood?

1. **Email/E-Newsletter - 73%**
2. Flyers - 8%
3. Website - 8%
4. Other - 8%
5. Social Media - 3%

**Website and E-newsletter: Coming Soon**



## BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILED RESULTS

Participants identified community priorities for the Middle Branch waterfront during a two-part facilitated break-out session based on a list of goals included in previous master plans for the area.

The activities were used to create the Top 10 Priorities listed on the reverse side of this document.

A detailed account of results is below.



**Part 1** – Each participant rated their personal priorities for the waterfront from a list of previously identified goals. Results were summarized by a small group facilitator were:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Trash & litter  | 7. Water-based recreation/<br>rowing facilities | 14. Designation of potential<br>historic landmarks |
| 2. Recreational programming<br>for all ages                              | 8. Roadway conditions                           | 15. Interpretive history along<br>the shoreline    |
| 3. Public access to the<br>waterfront                                    | 9. High quality green space                     | 15. Expanded tree cover                            |
| 3. Pedestrian & bike network/<br>connected recreational trail<br>network | 9. Public art                                   | 17. Clean, resilient energy<br>sources             |
| 5. Water quality   | 10. Sports facilities                           | 18. Freight transport                              |
| 5. Transit Infrastructure  | 11. Parks                                       | 19. Fishing/crabbing                               |
|  | 12. Habitat area                                |  |
|  | 12. Traffic & parking                           |  |

*Note: Repetitive numbers indicate a tie.*

**Part 2** – Next, groups listed their top 1-3 priorities for the waterfront. Facilitators verbally presented the results. Notes from the presentations were:

### Environmental conditions

- Trash/Litter (10)
  - Recycling (2)
  - Trash bins, more pick-up (2)
- Water quality (3)
  - Habitat, maintenance
  - Stormwater runoff reduction
- Tree coverage

### Recreation/Programming

- Connected trail network, playful features, mile markers (5)
- Affordable recreation on the waterfront for all ages (9)
- Water and land based recreational programming (field trips, etc.)
- Outdoor entertainment, concessions, amenities and user comfort
- Fishing, crabbing, etc. programming (2)
- Sporting facilities

### Access

- Equitable access to waterfront (9)
- Accessible waterfront (to local community) convenient to Locust Point, Westport Cherry Hill neighborhoods
- Affordable or free recreational programming
  - Emphasis on water-based recreation
- Bike/pedestrian trails
- Transit - hubs to transportation, better systems, safe streets/sidewalks/light rail/circulator - senior friendly (4)

### Quality of Life/Other

- Cultural/historic communities
- Affordable, high quality neighborhoods (3)
- Safety (lighting, etc.) (2)

*Suggestion - Fishing and crabbing pulled out of recreation and considered separately (tease out, safety, food source, etc.)*