



DC Small Parks Project
Titanic Memorial Park
REAP Analysis

Urban Heritage Project
PennPraxis / Graduate Program in Historic Preservation
University of Pennsylvania
September 2020





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1 Project Background

This Rapid Ethnographic Assessment Procedures (REAP) analysis was conducted as part of the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview and Ethnographic Assessment (aka DC Small Parks Project), a collaboration between the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation at the University of Pennsylvania and the National Capital Area office of the National Park Service.

The purpose of the DC Small Parks Project is to help the National Park Service develop a consistent approach to evaluate and manage change at small parks throughout Washington, D.C. This project builds on previous efforts to develop holistic, coordinated management strategies across the small park network, to help fulfill the NPS agenda for urban parks in the 21st century.

In the summer of 2017, the National Park Service began an analysis and evaluation of Washington, D.C.'s network of small parks under its ownership and control. Building on the Small Parks Management Strategies Report, finalized in April 2017, the analysis and evaluation used the Cultural Landscape Inventory model to assess NPS-managed small parks as a whole, and several prototype parks/groups of parks in depth:

(2018 - 2019)

- Virginia Avenue NW
- Bryce Park
- Maryland Avenue NE

(2019 - 2020)

- Marion Park
- Titanic Memorial Park
- Fort Drive, between Fort Slocum and Fort Totten

Another intention of the project was combining CLI and REAP methods to produce integrated documentation packages for groups of urban parks. This REAP analysis was conducted for the third prototype park, capturing an ethnographic understanding of the avenue's small parks to complement the objectives and findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory for Titanic Memorial Park.

In order to understand this REAP analysis in its fullest context, it should be interpreted alongside the Cultural Landscape Inventory for Titanic Memorial

Park, as well as the DC Small Parks Project's other reports, all of which were prepared by the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation at the University of Pennsylvania:

- Virginia Avenue NW: Cultural Landscape Inventory (2018)
- Bryce Park: Cultural Landscape Inventory (2019)
- Maryland Avenue NE: Cultural Landscape Inventory + REAP Analysis (2019)
- Marion Park: Cultural Landscape Inventory + REAP Analysis (2020)
- Fort Drive (Fort Slocum to Fort Totten): Cultural Landscape Inventory + REAP Analysis (2020)

The goal of the overall project, and of this REAP analysis specifically, is to provide park managers with data and strategies to help identify, evaluate, and manage change for the nearly 300 small parks within Washington, DC.

This REAP coincided with the COVID-19 global pandemic, which severely restricted the opportunities for on-site fieldwork and data collection. This situation was unusual and unfamiliar; in consultation with our NPS colleagues, we chose to respond with a deliberately experimental approach. (See page 9 for more on our methodology.)

As the coronavirus has illuminated new roles for public space in modern life, we hope that this REAP provokes new ways to understand and manage Washington, DC's universe of small parks.

2 Summary Observations

Our team has spent a year studying the Titanic Memorial Park, building an understanding of both its history and its current value for the community that surrounds it. We have conducted extensive archival research to understand the landscape as it took shape over several centuries, and we have undertaken a rapid ethnographic assessment to learn how that landscape is used and shaped by park visitors today. Based on this research, we offer some overarching observations:

People are invested in this park. We received over 350 responses to our online stakeholder survey, with very little promotion. Several respondents made extra efforts to follow up by email, sharing additional observations and, in many cases, their personal photographs of the park. It is clear that this park has a broad and loyal following; people care deeply about the past, present, and future of this space.

For some community members, the Titanic Memorial sculpture is key to their stake in this park. For others, it is incidental, irrelevant, or even a drawback. The sculpture is an obvious landmark in this park, which draws its name from the memorial in its midst. Yet, the sculpture occupies a strange place in the landscape and the public experience of this park, as its early-20th century design contrasts with the Mid-Century Modernist landscape that surrounds it (despite the fact that the Modernist landscape was designed to host the sculpture). The memorial is a destination for many stakeholders; they discovered the park by way of the sculpture, and care first and foremost about the site's association with the sinking of the *Titanic*. For many others, though, they enjoy the park independent of the memorial; the sculpture does not factor into their stake in this park at all. The crowds that it draws for tours and special commemorative events may even detract from their experience of the park.

The park has obscure boundaries and, in turn, a vague identity. The park connects with several other parks and green spaces in southwest Washington, DC. The continuity between these spaces is an asset for community members, but it does present challenges for the stewardship and identity of Titanic Memorial Park. These indeterminate boundaries introduce some conflicts over appropriate uses, which vary based on public/private ownership, and ownership is not always clear. It also means that the

Titanic Memorial Park does not have its own clear identity, independent of (and in relation to) adjacent green spaces. The name "Titanic Memorial Park" is not articulated anywhere within the landscape, and as a result, is not familiar to all park visitors.

The community considers this park to be a hidden gem. The phrase "hidden gem" was used eleven times in online survey responses, without any prompting from our survey questions. The park is nestled along the waterfront, screened by the adjacent high-rise developments, Fort McNair, and the Southeast Freeway. This screening effect can have the negative effect of isolating the park in Southwest DC. However, it does have a positive effect as well: many people consider this park to be a delightful "discovery" (another word that emerged several times in our survey), whether they stumbled on it for the first time in the past year, or first encountered it several decades ago.

This park presents a rare opportunity for full accessibility to the waterfront. The landscape design's wide walkways link the street grid's sidewalks with the waterfront, and community members value this accessibility.

The neighborhood around the park has experienced a demographic transformation in the last 20 years, becoming younger, whiter, and wealthier, and fewer households have children. The constancy of this park offers a respite from the rapid changes and frenzied development of Southwest Washington, DC (and DC overall).

The park is valued for its quiet...

...And it is used primarily for passive recreation. Based on both its location and its landscape design, the park is a calm space that encourages people-watching, leisurely walks, and rest rather than louder gatherings or activities. The park is part of a waterfront trail network, so bikes occasionally pass through the park. But the landscape design's broad walkways allow for this active recreational use without impinging on the other, quieter uses of the park.

Stakeholders value the landscape design, but desire repairs. Park visitors appreciate the character of the landscape design. However, certain aspects of the park (e.g. pavers) have suffered from deferred

maintenance, and detract from the appearance and experience of the park.

...But community members prioritize repair over a full redesign of the park. Park users expressed general support for the landscape design, and would prefer to see minor maintenance issues addressed, rather than a major redesign of the landscape.

Park visitors are generally aware that the National Park Service owns and manages this public space. Despite the fact that the park has very signage (wayfinding, regulatory, or interpretive) to orient park visitors to the identity and stewardship of this public space, stakeholders generally understood that the National Park Service manages this landscape. This means that they understand who is responsible for the maintenance issues of the park, but they also attribute their positive experiences to the National Park Service's stewardship.

The Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park (FOTM) presents an opportunity for ongoing engagement and active collaboration with community members. To begin where we started: people are invested in this park. This grassroots volunteer group has been able to harness some of that loyalty and contribute in meaningful, tangible ways to the stewardship of the park. FOTM's leaders know how to communicate and coordinate with the National Park Service (even if such collaborations present occasional challenges for both FOTM and NPS). Titanic Memorial Park has reaped the benefits of this public-private partnership, and will continue to do so for as long as FOTM and NPS remain invested in this collaboration.



3 Methodology

This analysis began with a research scan of relevant literature about analyzing public space, REAP methodologies, and other National Park Service ethnography projects. In particular, the 2002 REAP of Independence National Historical Park conducted by Dana H. Taplin, Suzanne Scheld, and Setha M. Low offered a useful model for this type of REAP analysis for urban parks (although the Titanic Memorial Park REAP analysis was conducted over a shorter period of time).

Virtual Ethnographies (COVID-19 Methodology)

For our previous REAP for the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape (as part of this same project), our team used the following methods from the National Park Service's traditional ethnographic research approaches:

- Context mapping
- Behavior mapping
- Transect walk(s)
- Intercept interviews
- Expert/Stakeholder interviews

However, in determining the appropriate scope and strategy for this REAP analysis, the project team and NPS officials grappled with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our data collection and analysis. The Titanic Memorial Park is an outdoor space, and so it continues to be used during the pandemic (arguably, it has been used even more). However, our team is based in Philadelphia, studying this landscape in Washington, DC. (It is important to note that we were familiar with the site based on pre-COVID fieldwork for the Cultural Landscape Inventory.) Due to shifting stay-at-home restrictions, social distancing protocols, and other precautions, we decided to conduct this REAP using entirely virtual methods. This precluded the use of behavior mapping and transect walk(s) in particular, requiring us to create new methods or work-arounds in order to learn from the landscape's visitors in the same way.

Our team evaluated different methodological approaches within the framework of a matrix (see pages 87-89). One axis evaluated the **Scale** of the approach, from **Site** to **Context**. The other axis evaluated the **Insight** that the approach could offer, from **Individual** to **Social / Pattern**. We brainstormed and mapped a range of options, beginning with the methods listed above from the Maryland Avenue

NE REAP, and extending into more experimental approaches that are not typically deployed in traditional REAPs. We filtered the matrix for opportunities that were available remotely (due to the pandemic), and then filtered once more based on the remote methods that were most appropriate for Titanic Memorial Park, based on the opportunity to reach targeted samples of stakeholder audiences and perspectives while building an understanding of the full spectrum of affiliations.

Titanic Memorial Park has clear boundaries, a defined identity (in name and neighborhood), and an unobstructed landscape design: these aspects of its design lend themselves to a virtual walk-through and a photo mapping analysis via hashtagged / geotagged photographs on social media. It also has a friends' group (Friends of the Titanic Memorial), which made it a strong candidate for a targeted online survey.

Thus, the project team established a REAP methodology based on these remote methods and objectives:

1. Context mapping to understand the geographic, social, and policy-making context for the small parks;
2. Virtual walk-through(s) to understand community values and neighborhood change, in site-specific terms and in context;
3. Photo mapping + analysis, to understand the park's visual identity and representation by park users
4. Stakeholder interviews, to gain first-hand perspectives about the park's community value, perception, and use;
5. Stakeholder survey, administered online, to gain broad-based perspectives about the park's community value, perception, and use.

Context mapping + Park Service Area/ WalkScore Mapping

In order to understand Titanic Memorial Park within its broader neighborhood context, the project team gathered spatial data related to demographics, land use/management, public transportation, and civic institutions nearby. Sources of the datasets include:

- District of Columbia Office of Zoning
- District of Columbia Office of Planning

- Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2000/2010, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer
- Social Explorer Tables (SE), American Community Survey (ACS) 2014-2018 (5-Year Estimates), U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Virtual walk-through

This method builds a community-centered understanding of the site, including its local meaning and the identification of significant places. Members of the project team conducted this walk in August 2020 with Corinne Irwin, a longtime resident of the neighborhood and the current chair of the Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park.

During fieldwork for the park's associated Cultural Landscape Inventory, our team recorded 7 brief videos at various points in the park. These recordings represent the only in-person, non-remote aspect of our methodology. We considered using Google Streetview from similar vantage points, but decided to find a way to record the videos on-site, to achieve higher-resolution footage and to offer better vantage points from the interior of the park.

The videos (each approximately 60 seconds in length) presented 360-degree views from the playground, lawns, walkways, and perimeter of the park. We mapped the video locations (#1 - 7), and shared the map and videos with Ms. Irwin in advance of a video conference call. On the video call, our team "walked" with Ms. Irwin through the park, using the videos, asking her to share any observations about the features, uses (and conflicts of use), users, spatial character, changes over time, and context of the park, as captured in each video. The notes from this conversation were spatially translated to annotated maps, using Adobe Illustrator.

Photo Mapping + Analysis

This method seeks to gauge public perception of the park, beyond those stakeholders who were directly involved in interviews or the online survey. It gleans a better understanding of the park's use and experience, using photographs made publicly available online on Google Maps and Instagram.

From these platforms, we culled any photographs there were geotagged with the park's location

and/or hashtagged with an identifying label (e.g. #TitanicMemorial). We found a total of 604 photographs that satisfied these conditions, spanning June 2011 through July 2020 (the conclusion of our data collection period). Our team assessed each photograph to determine its location, viewshed, subject(s), and time of day, and created a mapping strategy to represent this data in relation to park geographies and features.

Stakeholder interviews

This method solicits community members' and officials' first-hand perspective of the values, use, and perception of the park. Team members prepared a shortlist of interviewees in consultation with National Park Service officials. We identified these interviewees based on their affiliation with the park (e.g. member of the Friends of Titanic Memorial), their association with a neighboring property (e.g. adjacent condominiums, The Wharf, etc.), or their responsibility for park-related issues in a professional capacity. Stakeholder interviews were conducted by phone in July and August 2020. Our interviews focused on research themes (e.g. activity and use, stewardship, etc.), rather than pre-determined questions. A list of interviewees is included in the appendices of this report.

Stakeholder online survey

This method solicits a cross-section of community feedback from park users. In consultation with NPS officials, we prepared an online survey exploring the following areas of inquiry: identity and association, access, activity and use, and stewardship.

We distributed this survey to park users and neighbors via Corinne Irwin, chair of the Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park. Ms. Irwin circulated it to: adjacent condo/apartment buildings, the Friends of the Titanic Memorial listserv and Facebook page; and the local NextDoor channel. Based on responses, we learned that the survey was also apparently distributed via the Southwest DC Facebook page, in addition to any informal sharing among friends and neighbors. We recognize that this survey did not reach park users and neighbors who do not follow these particular communication channels. We received 355 responses overall.

A list of survey questions is included in the appendices of this report.

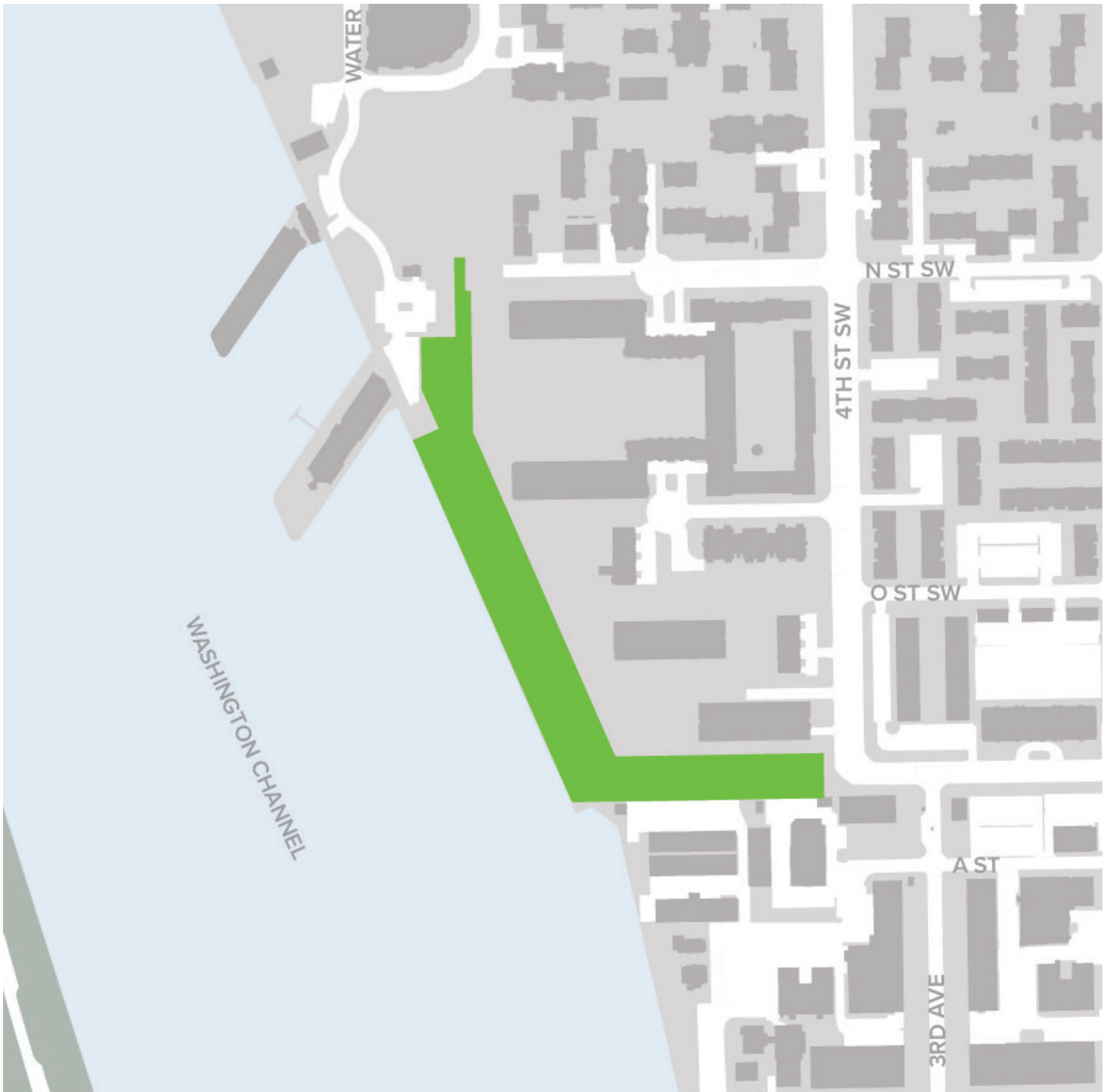


4 Context Mapping

Titanic Memorial Park

The park is located in Southwest DC, along the Washington Channel waterfront. The park begins at P Street SW, extends west toward the channel, and then continues northwest toward N Street NW. The Titanic Memorial sculpture is located at the southwest corner of the landscape, where the park turns northwest.

NOTE: In the 2000 census, the area around Titanic Memorial Park had two census tracts; the northern tract held most of the area's population. For the 2010 census, these two tracts were combined into one. These maps vary accordingly.



Site Photographs



Site sculpture



Site sculpture and views



Site boundary with Washington Channel



Site boundary with Fort McNair



Site views



Site hardscaping



Site hardscaping



Site hardscaping



Site lighting and vegetation



Site seating and lighting



Site vegetation and views

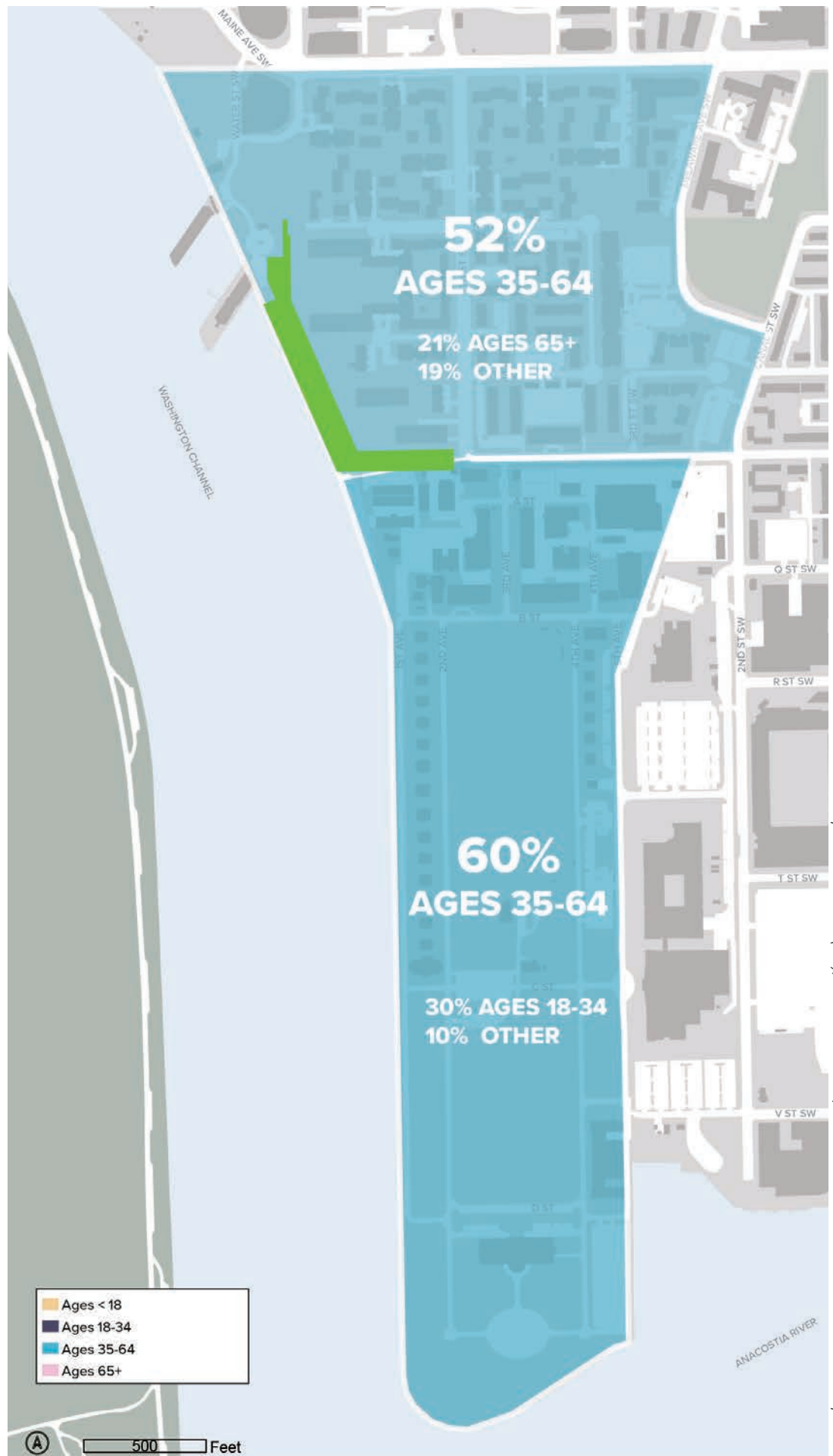


Site circulation and vegetation

Age by Census Tract, 2000

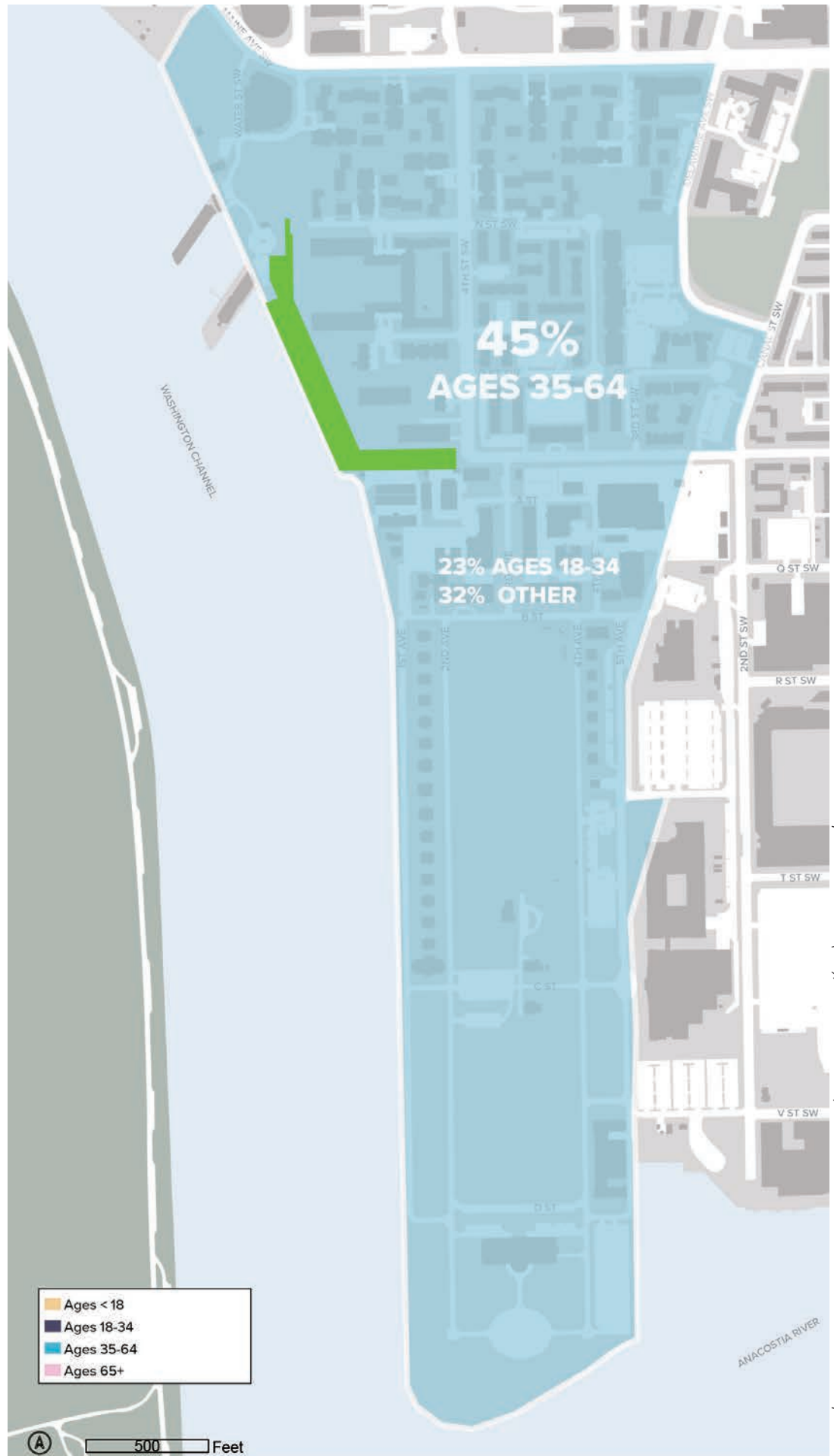
Represents dominant age group; color distinguishes between age groups. Transparency based on propensity of population.

The population around Titanic Memorial Park has gotten younger between 2000 and 2018. In 2000, the majority of residents were between 35-64 years old. By 2010, this began to shift—the 35-64 age group was still the dominant age group, but the share of residents in the 18-34 age group increased. By 2018, there were slightly more residents in the 18-34 age group than the 35-64 age group, yet there remain 32% of residents who are over 65 and under 18, indicating a diverse population.



Age by Census Tract, 2010

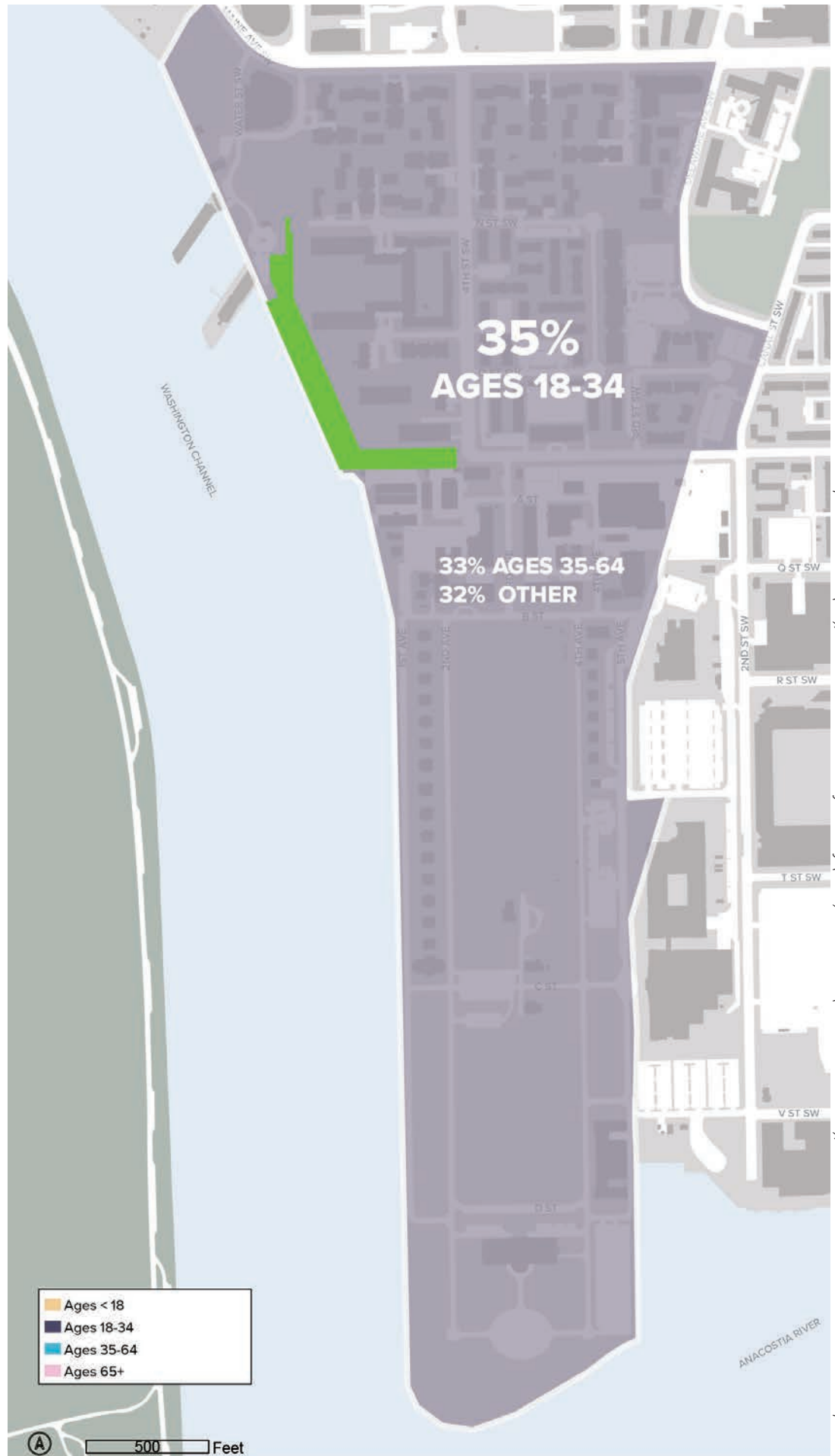
Represents dominant age group; color distinguishes between age groups. Transparency based on propensity of population.



Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Age by Census Tract, 2018

Represents dominant age group; color distinguishes between age groups. Transparency based on propensity of population.



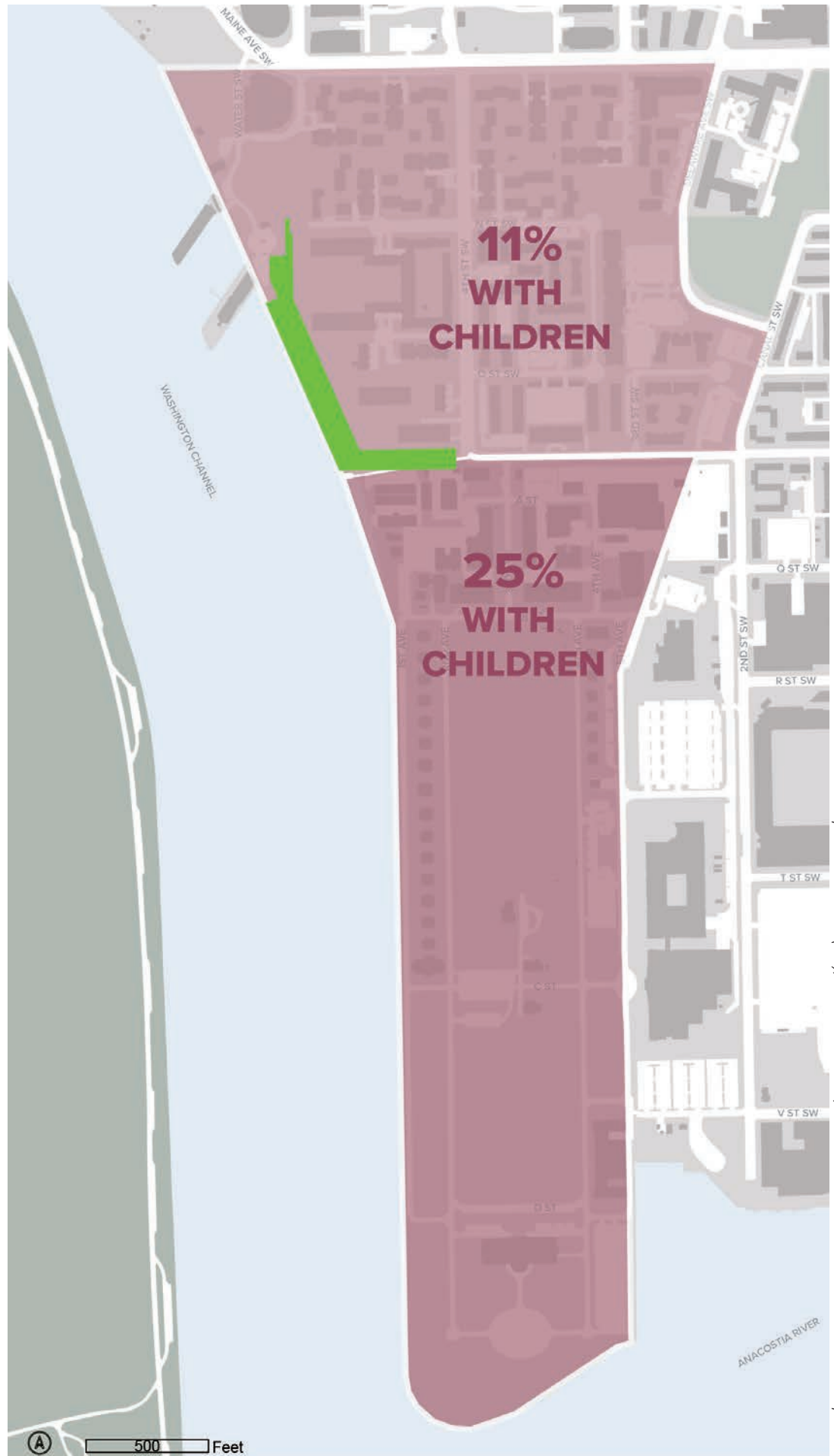
Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), American Community Survey (ACS) 2014-2018 (5-Year Estimates), U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer



Households with Children by Census Tract, 2000

Transparency based on propensity of population.

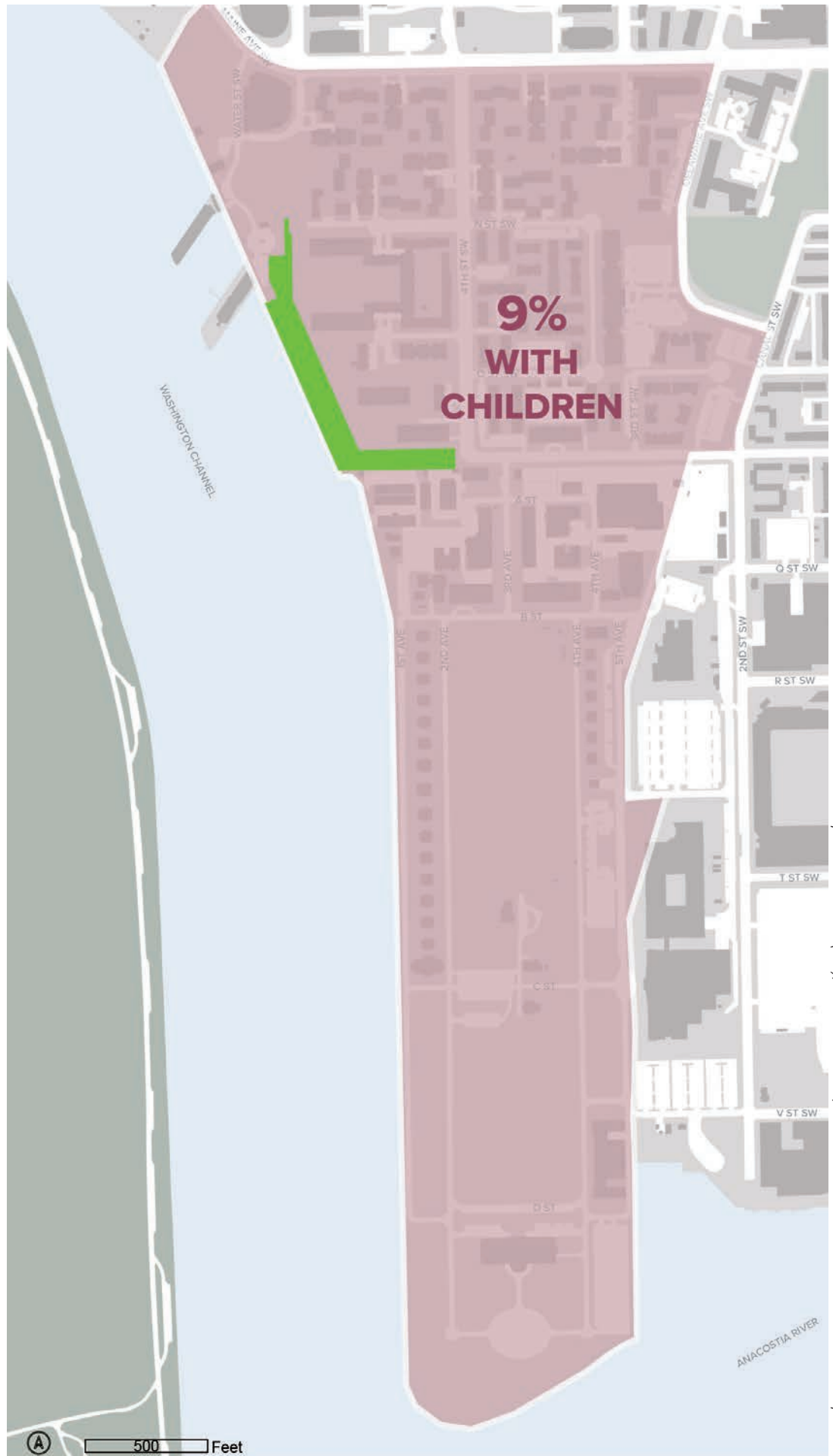
According to Decennial Census and American Community Survey data, the number of households with people under 18 has decreased steadily from 2000 to 2018, indicating that the neighborhood is serving a larger population of working adults, rather than a family-oriented one. Just 7% of households had children under 18 in 2018.



Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2000, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Households with Children by Census Tract, 2010

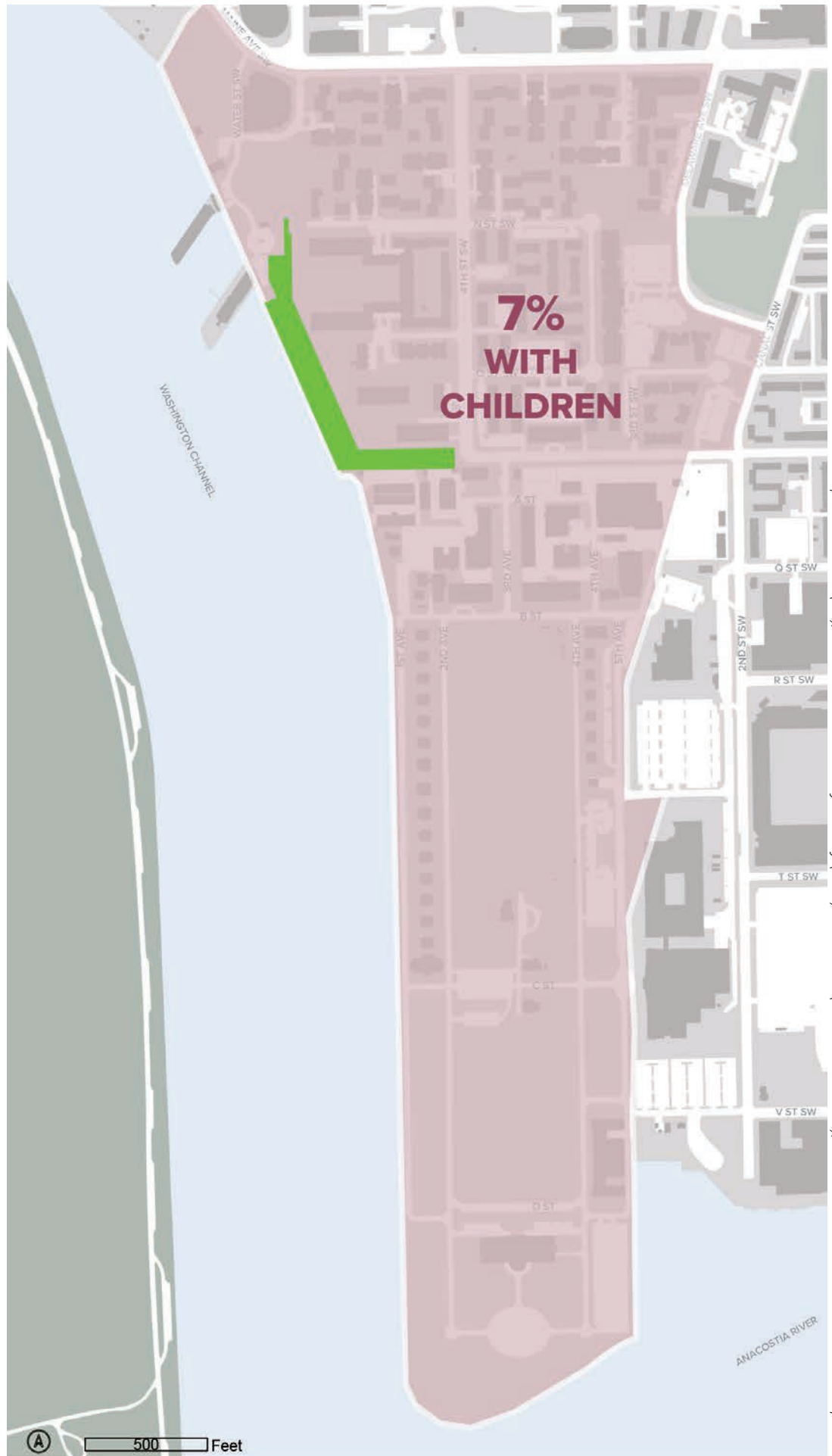
Transparency based on propensity of population.



Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Households with Children by Census Tract, 2018

Transparency based on propensity of population.



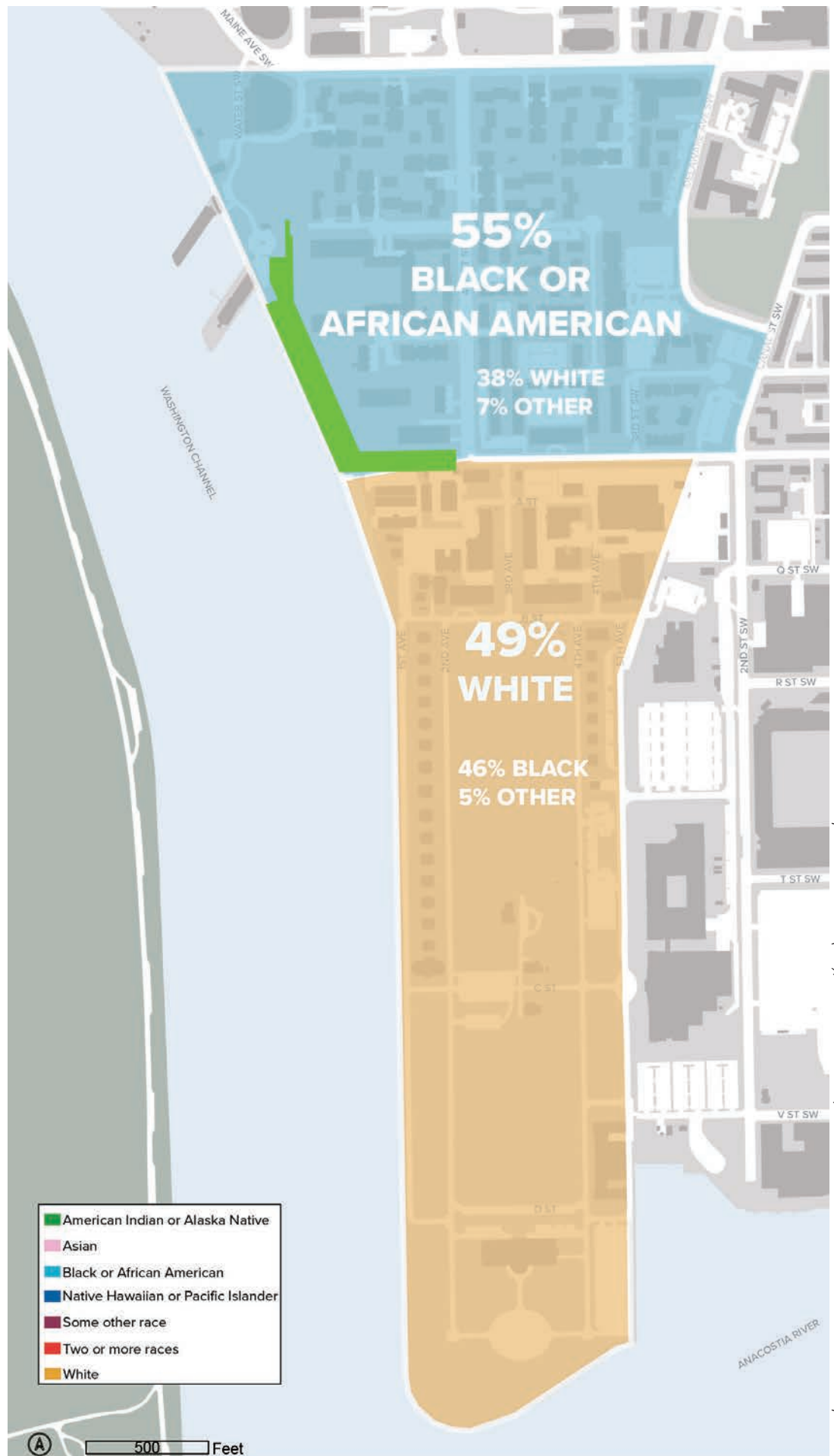
Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), American Community Survey (ACS) 2014-2018 (5-Year Estimates), U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer



Race by Census Tract, 2000

Transparency based on propensity of population.

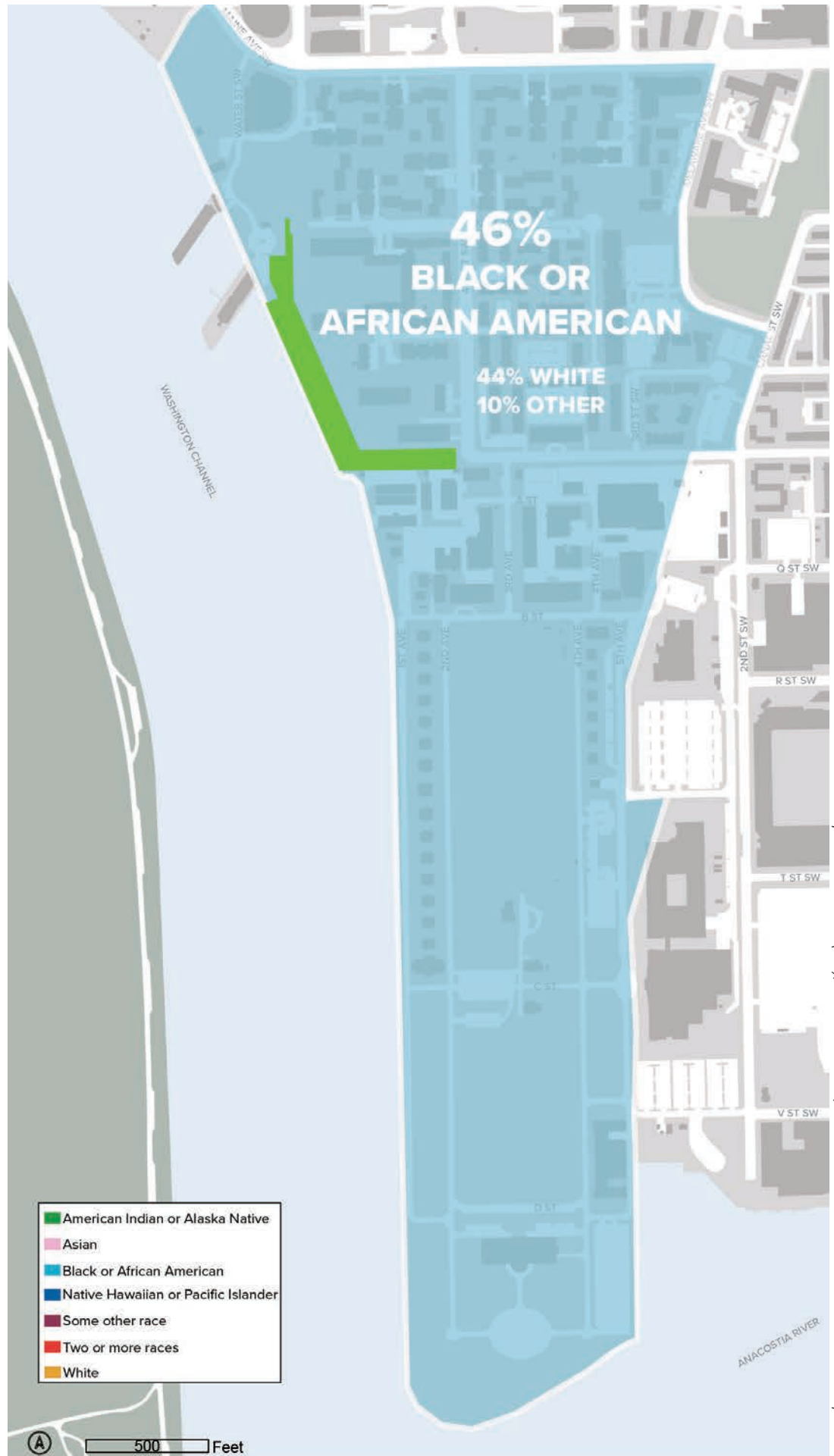
The area around Titanic Memorial Park is predominantly made up of Black/African-American and white residents. In 2000, the northern census tract was majority-Black or African American with the white residents making up roughly 40% of the total population. By 2010, the area remained majority-Black, but the share of the white population began to increase slightly. By 2018, the population was majority-white; Black residents made up less than one-third of the total population.



Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2000, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Race by Census Tract, 2010

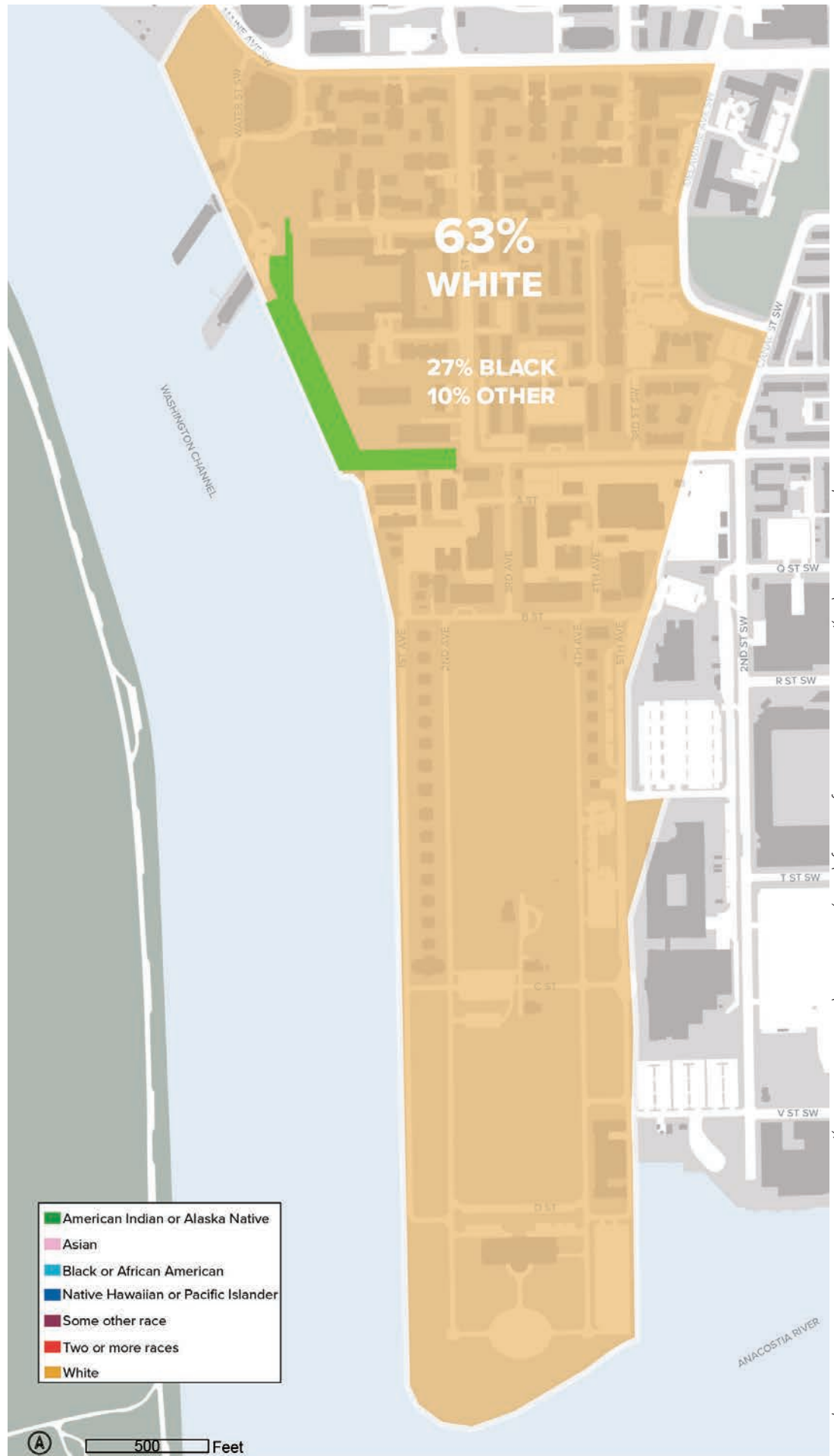
Transparency based on
propensity of population.



Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Race by Census Tract, 2018

Transparency based on propensity of population.



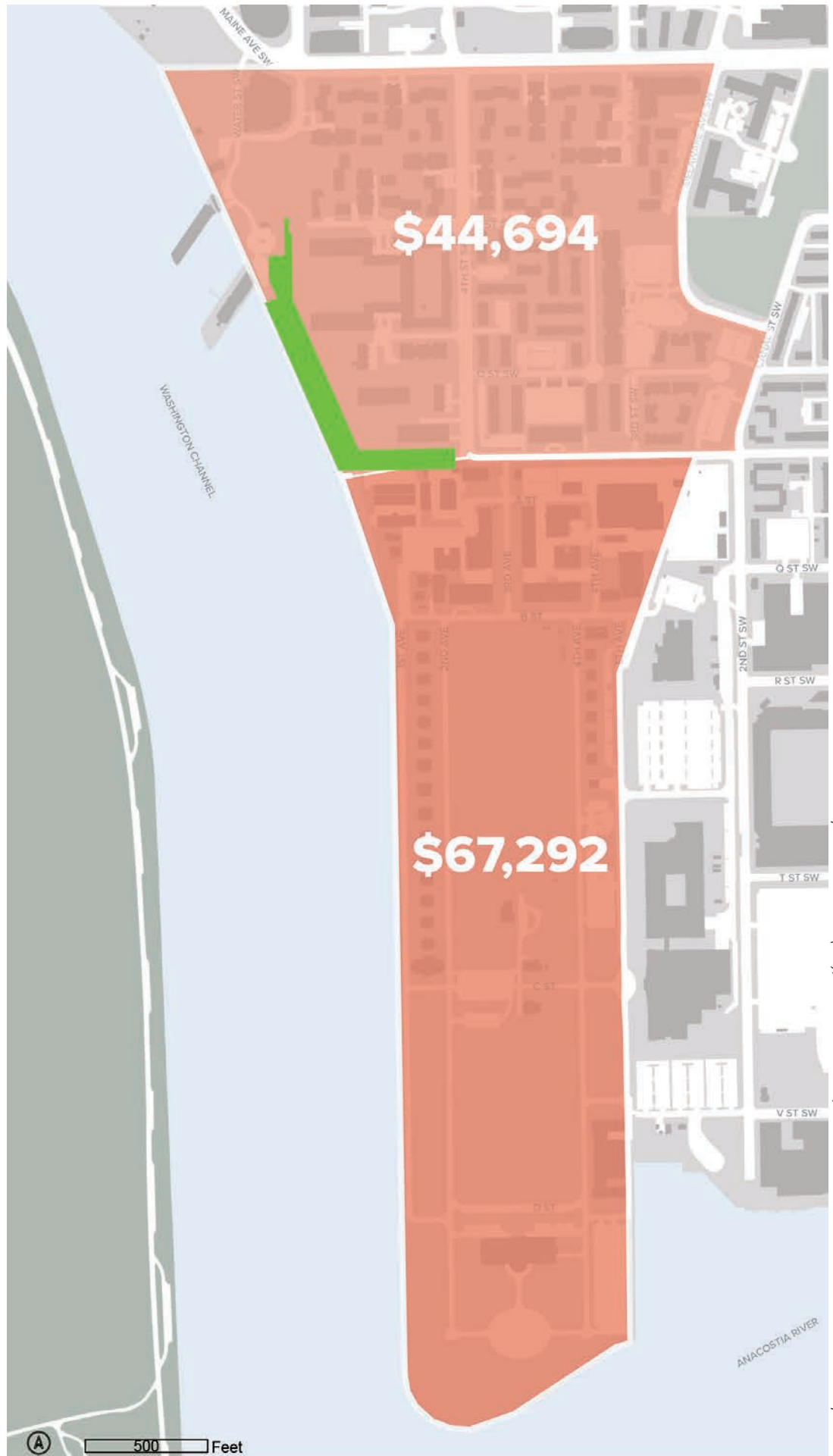
Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), American Community Survey (ACS) 2014-2018 (5-Year Estimates), U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer



Household Income by Census Tract, 2000

Transparency based on income level.

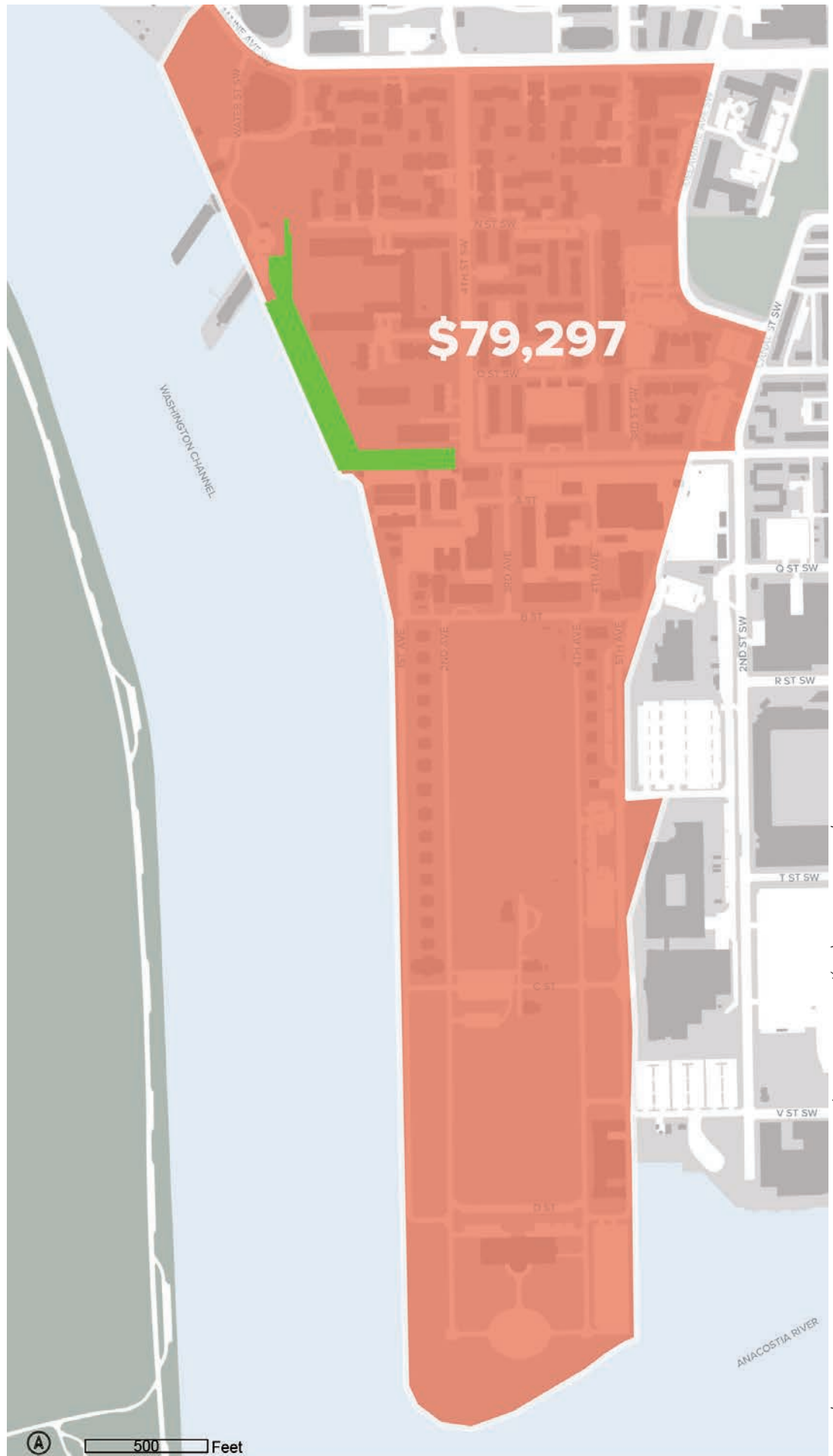
The median household income of residents around Titanic Memorial Park increased by roughly 90% between 2000 and 2018. This change over time is slightly lower than the increase during that same period for Washington, D.C. overall (103%). The median household income of the Titanic Memorial Park area in 2018 is on par with that of the rest of the District.



Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2000, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Household Income by Census Tract, 2010

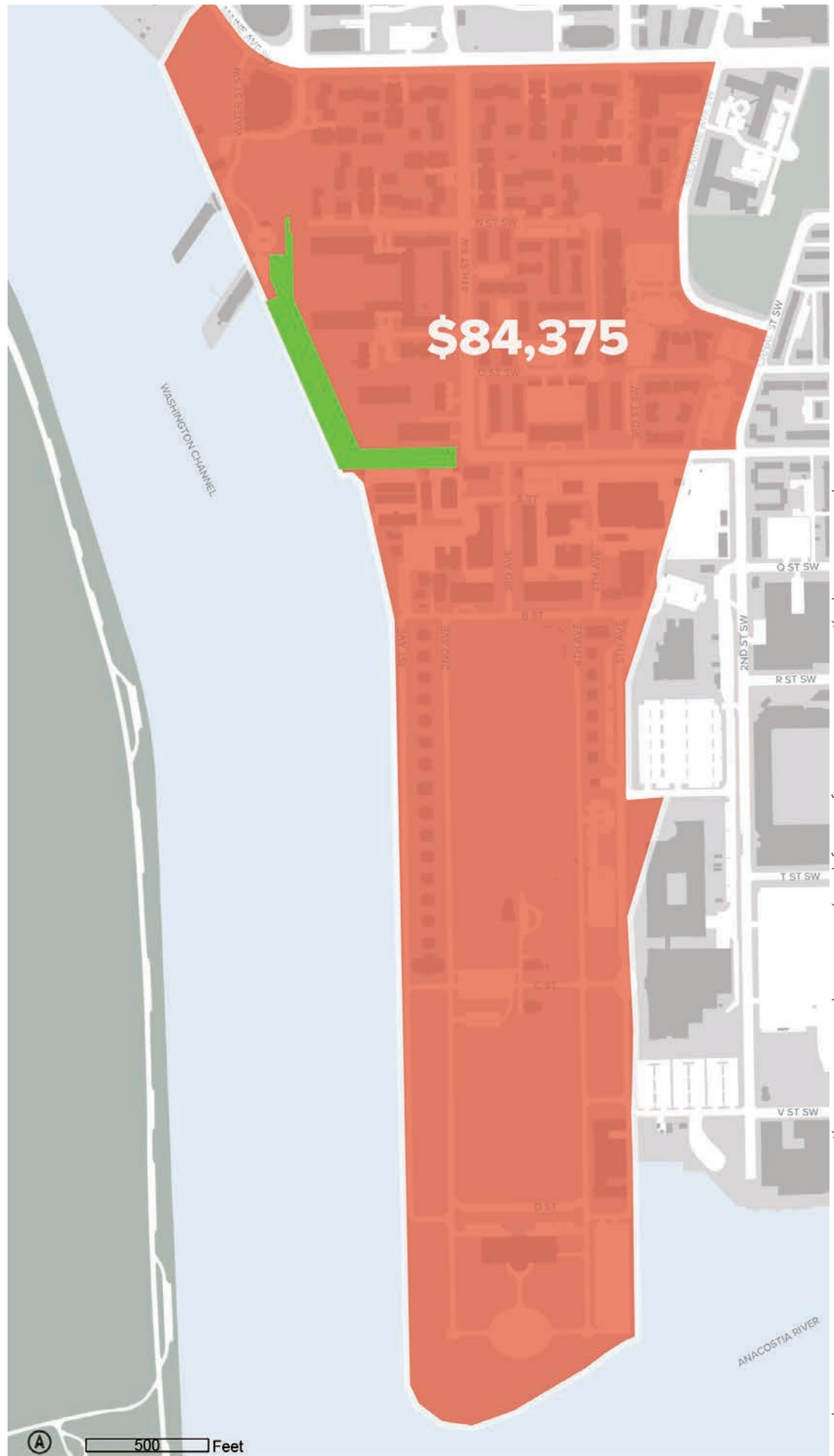
Transparency based on income level.



Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer

Household Income by Census Tract, 2018

Transparency based on income level.



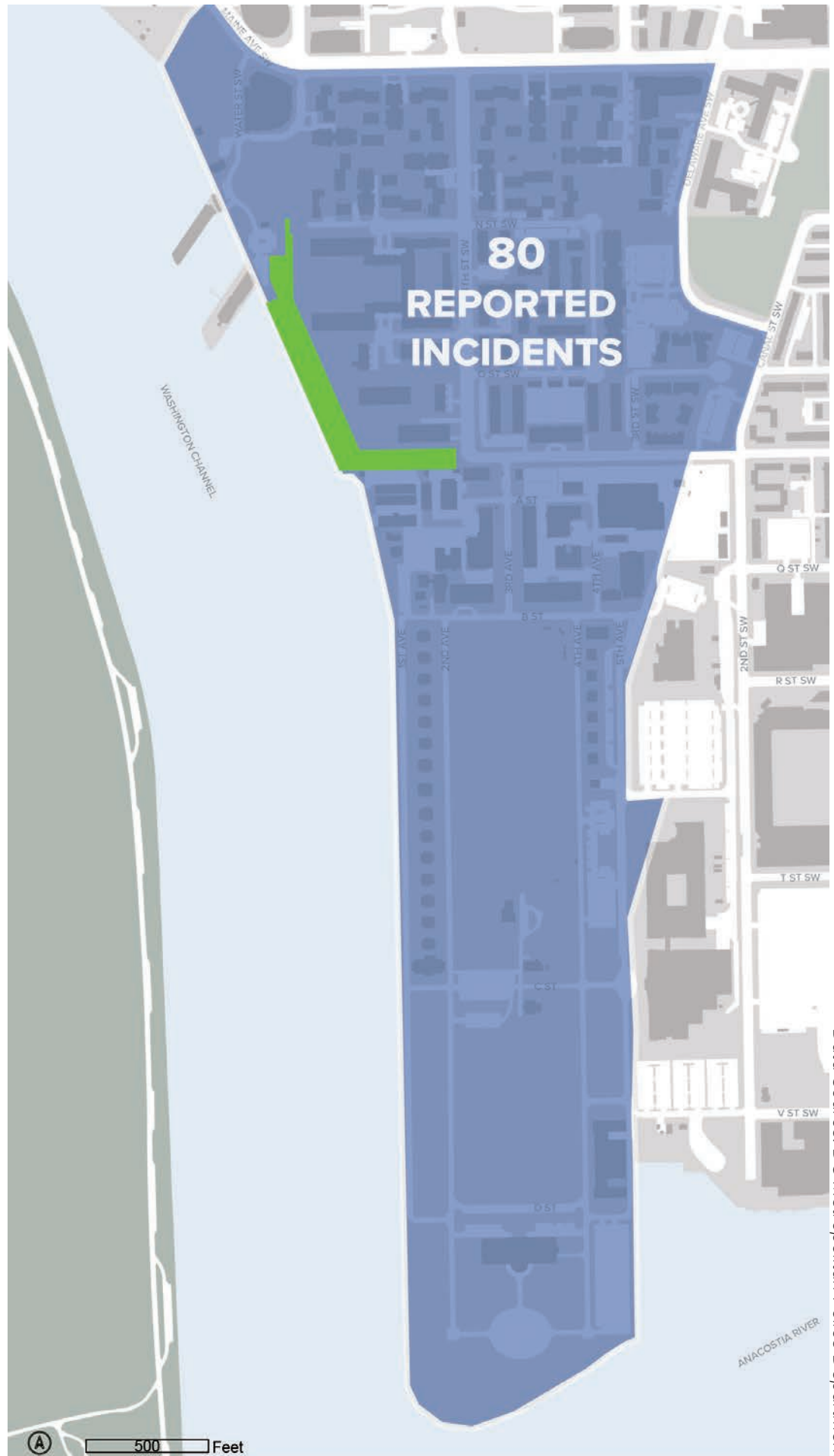
Data Source: Social Explorer Tables (SE), American Community Survey (ACS) 2014-2018 (5-Year Estimates), U.S. Census Bureau and Social Explorer



Reported Incidents by Census Tract, 2010

Transparency represents number of incidents.

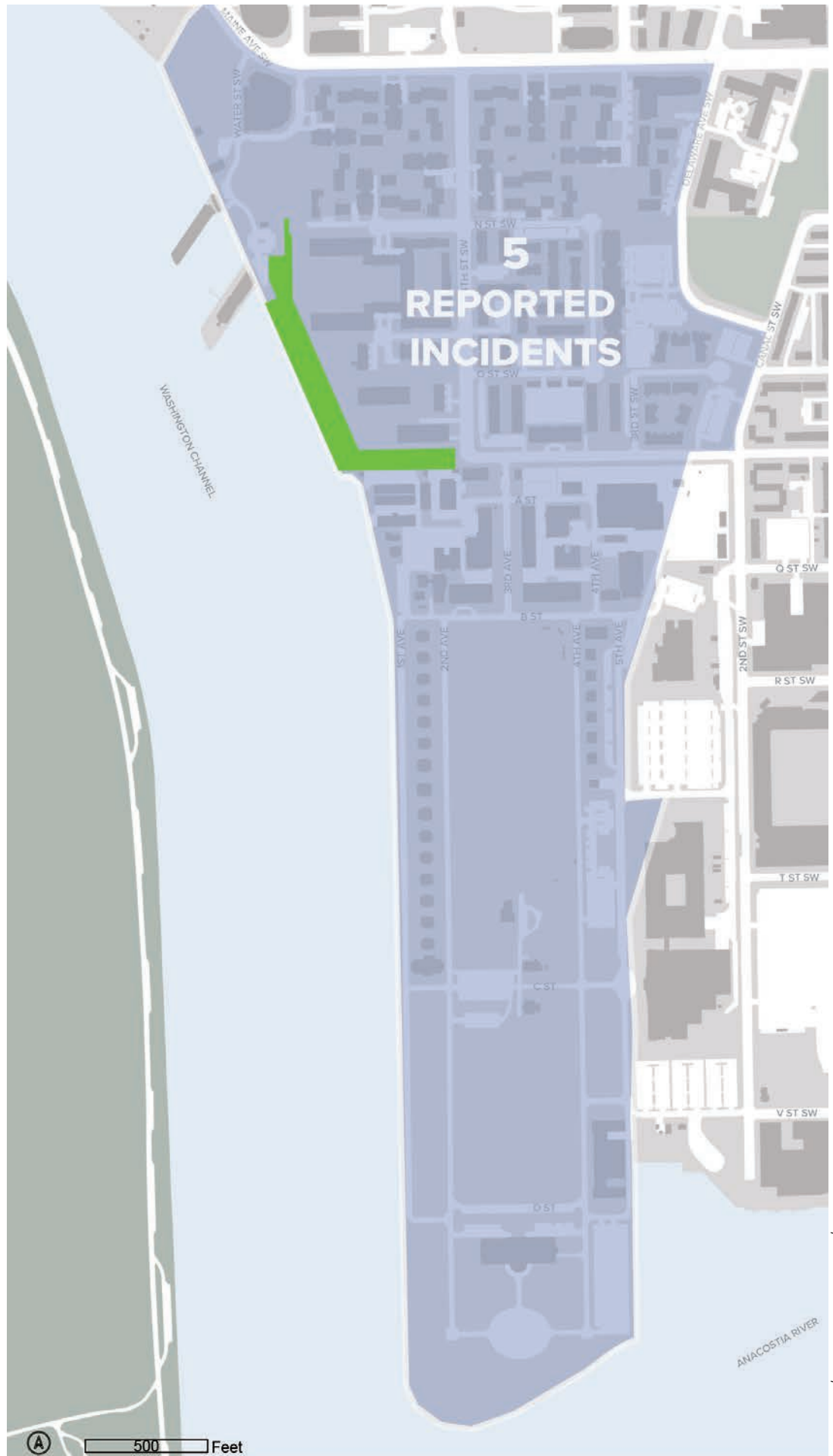
This data is from the DC Metropolitan Police Department's crime database. (It does not include data from U.S. Park Police, which has jurisdiction over the park itself.) It describes the number of reported crime incidents in the census tract around Titanic Memorial Park for 2019 and 2010. In that span of nearly a decade, the number of reported incidents dropped dramatically from 80 to 5.



Data Source: DC Metropolitan Police Department

Reported Incidents by Census Tract, 2019

Transparency represents number of incidents.



Data Source: DC Metropolitan Police Department

500 Feet

Police Service Areas

The park is in Police Service Area (PSA) 103 and adjacent to PSA 105. On nearby M Street SW is the Metropolitan Police Department's District 1 headquarters, one of two major stations within District 1.¹



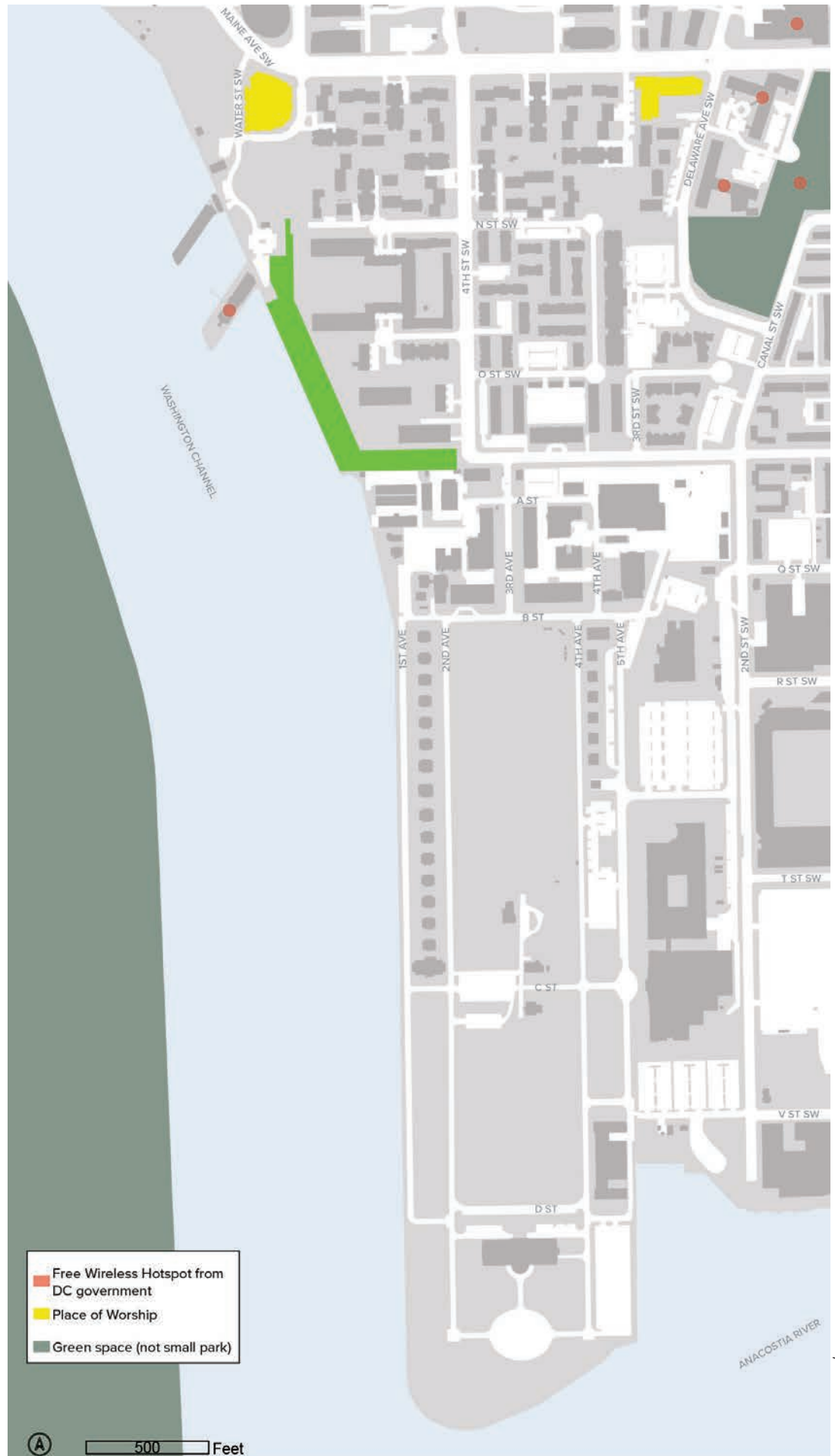
¹ <https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-first-district>



Civic Infrastructure

Civic institutions are less plentiful in this part of Washington, DC. The institutions examined were: public and charter schools; community gardens; libraries; places of worship; wireless hotspots; and green spaces. As the map indicates, much of this infrastructure does not exist in the area around the park.

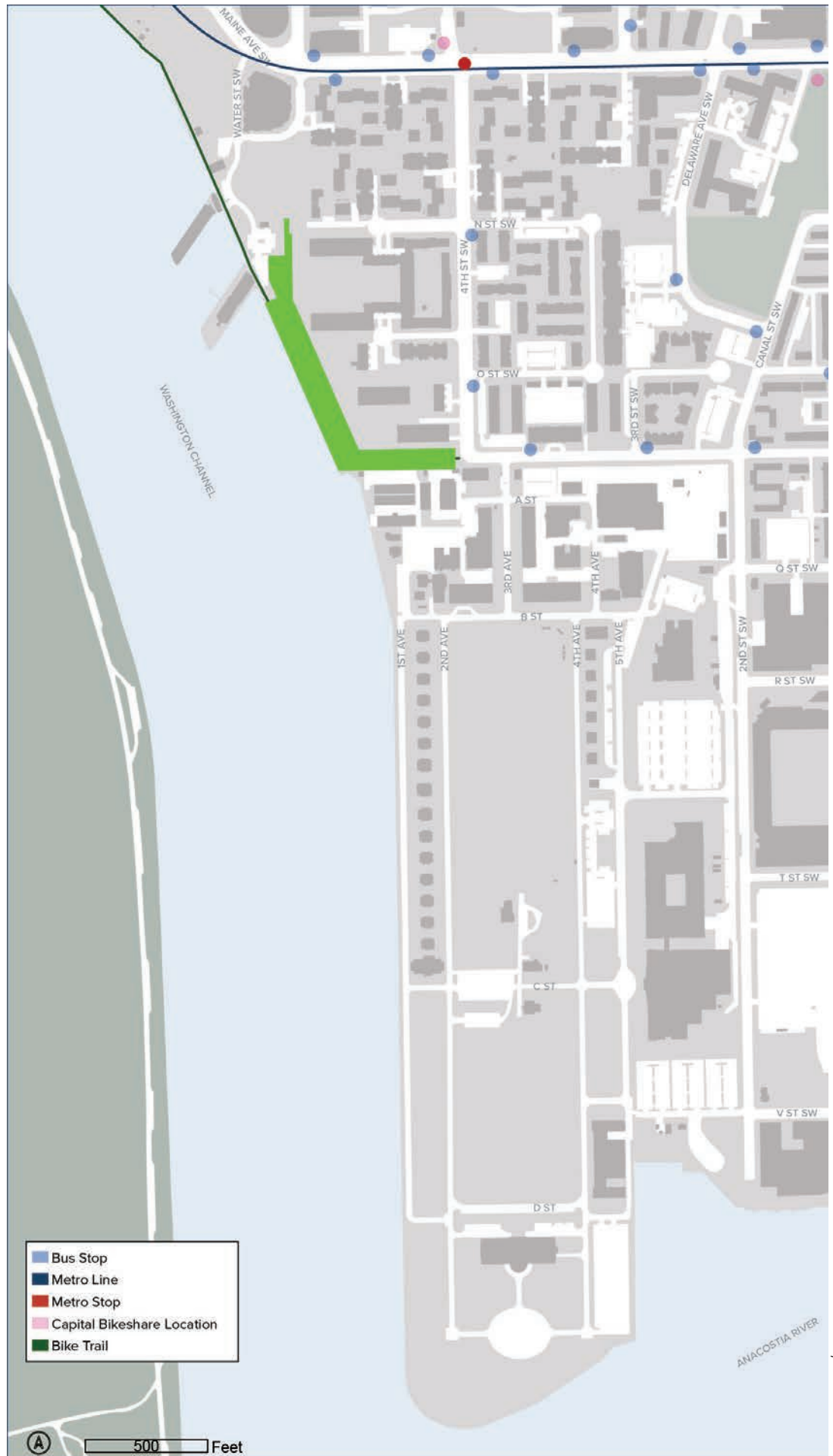
Green spaces are somewhat easily accessible. There are several places of worship to the north. The District of Columbia government's DC Net Program provides free public Wi-Fi in both indoor and outdoor community anchor locations, including public schools, libraries, recreation centers, senior centers, parks, social service sites, and on the National Mall. These amenities help residents engage with their community and enhance their experience in public spaces. There is one wireless hotspot in the immediate vicinity of Titanic Memorial Park, at the Washington, D.C. Police Harbor Patrol facility. There are several others within walking distance, especially to the north and east.



Data Source: OpenDataDC

Public Transportation + Capital Bikeshare Docks

The Titanic Memorial Park area is well-connected to public transit. There are several bus stops along P and 4th Streets SW. M Street SW is the main transit hub of the area; it has several bus stops, two Capital Bikeshare docking stations, and the Waterfront Station Metro stop. Within the cultural landscape itself, a bike trail runs the length of the park and continues along the waterfront to the north.



Park Service Area

Developed by The Trust for Public Land, ParkServe maps the service areas of parks across the country to better understand the number of people who live within a 10-minute walk (“the service area”) of a park. This map indicates the area served by Titanic Memorial Park. There are approximately 11,500 people served by Titanic Memorial Park. It is important to note that residents in the area also benefit from several other parks within walking distance—each of which has its own service area—indicating that residents in this area are relatively well-served by green space.



Walk Score

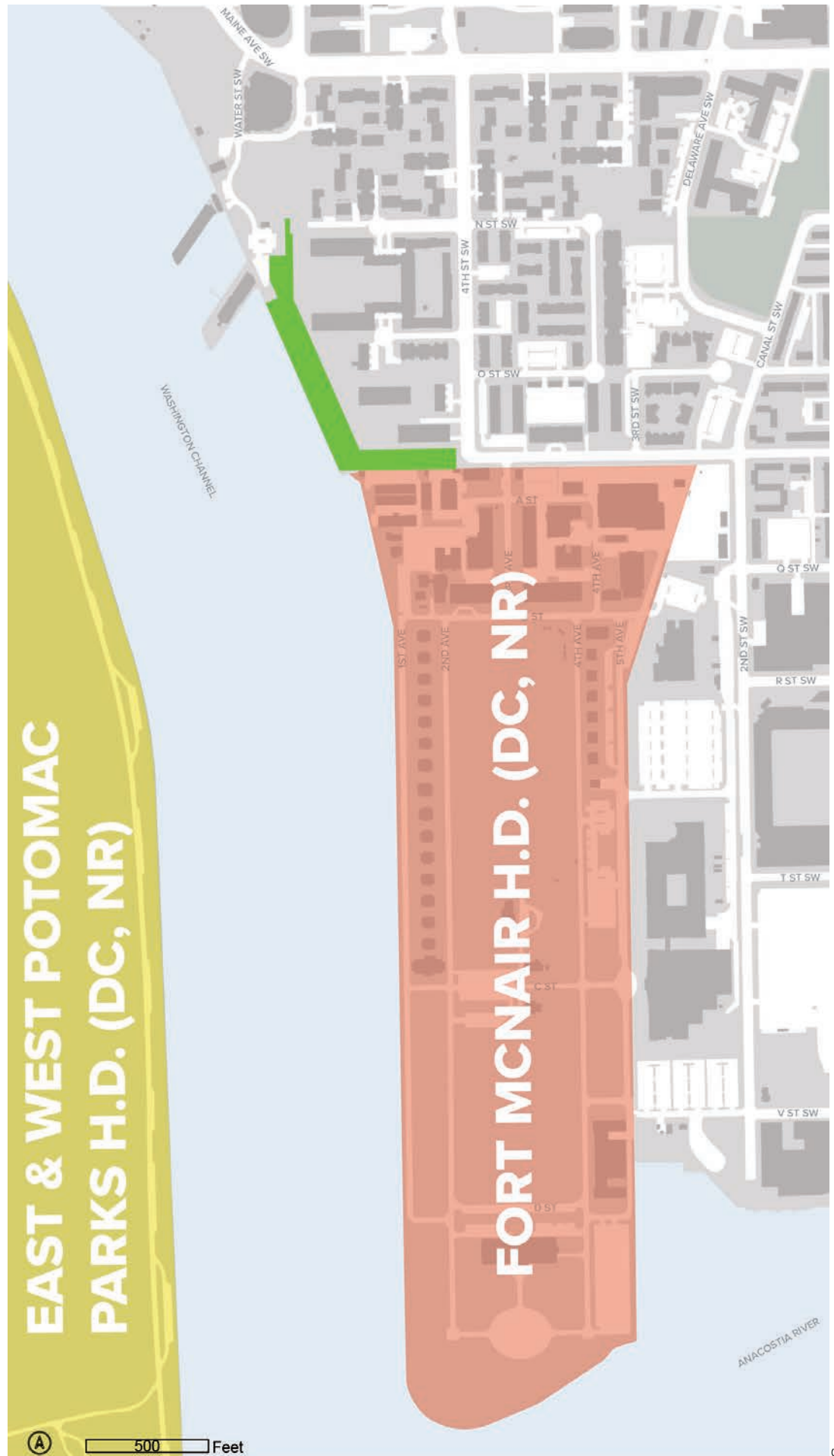
Walk Score measures the walkability of specific locations by analyzing hundreds of walking routes to nearby amenities, such as grocery stores, schools, workplaces, and public spaces. Amenities within a five-minute walk (1/4 mile) are given maximum points, and a decay function is used to give points to more distant amenities. A Walk Score of 90 or above indicates that daily errands can be accomplished on foot, whereas a score of 0-24 denotes minimum walkability and that few or no errands can be accomplished on foot.

In the walksheds surrounding Titanic Memorial Park, walk scores are generally higher north of the park and decline significantly as one travels south. This may be attributed to the fact that the Fort McNair area to the south of the park is largely made up of university buildings, and is more likely to lack general amenities for the public. Even in areas with higher walk scores, there remain activities that cannot be completed on foot, as indicated by the area's maximum score of 80.



Nearby Historic Districts

There are two historic districts near Titanic Memorial Park: the Fort McNair Historic District, which is listed on the D.C. Historic Register and the National Register, and the East and West Potomac Parks Historic District across the Washington Channel, listed on the National and D.C. Historic Registers.



Data Source: DC Office of Planning

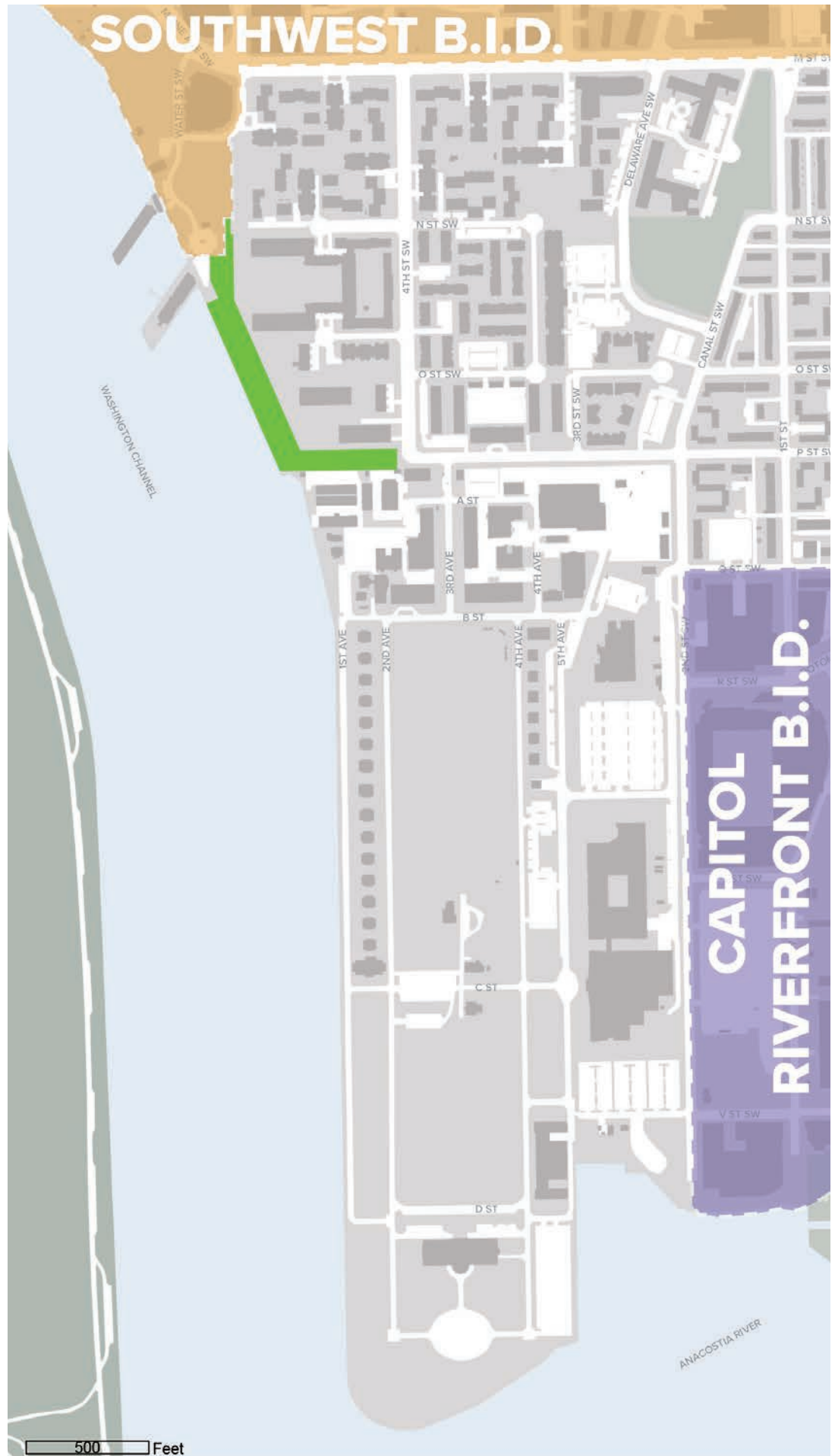
Nearby Business Improvement Districts

There are two business improvement districts (BIDs) in the vicinity of Titanic Memorial Park. The Southwest BID touches the northern end of the cultural landscape and stretches north to Independence Avenue. The BID hosts community events; works with area institutions to run the SW Neighborhood Shuttle; makes public space improvements such as furniture, planters, and banners; and conducts landscaping and street cleaning maintenance.¹

The Capitol Riverfront BID, located southeast of Titanic Memorial Park and stretching along the Anacostia River, conducts street cleaning and public space maintenance; leads public relations and marketing efforts; hosts community-building events and programming; and promotes economic development in the riverfront area.²

1 <https://www.swbid.org/>

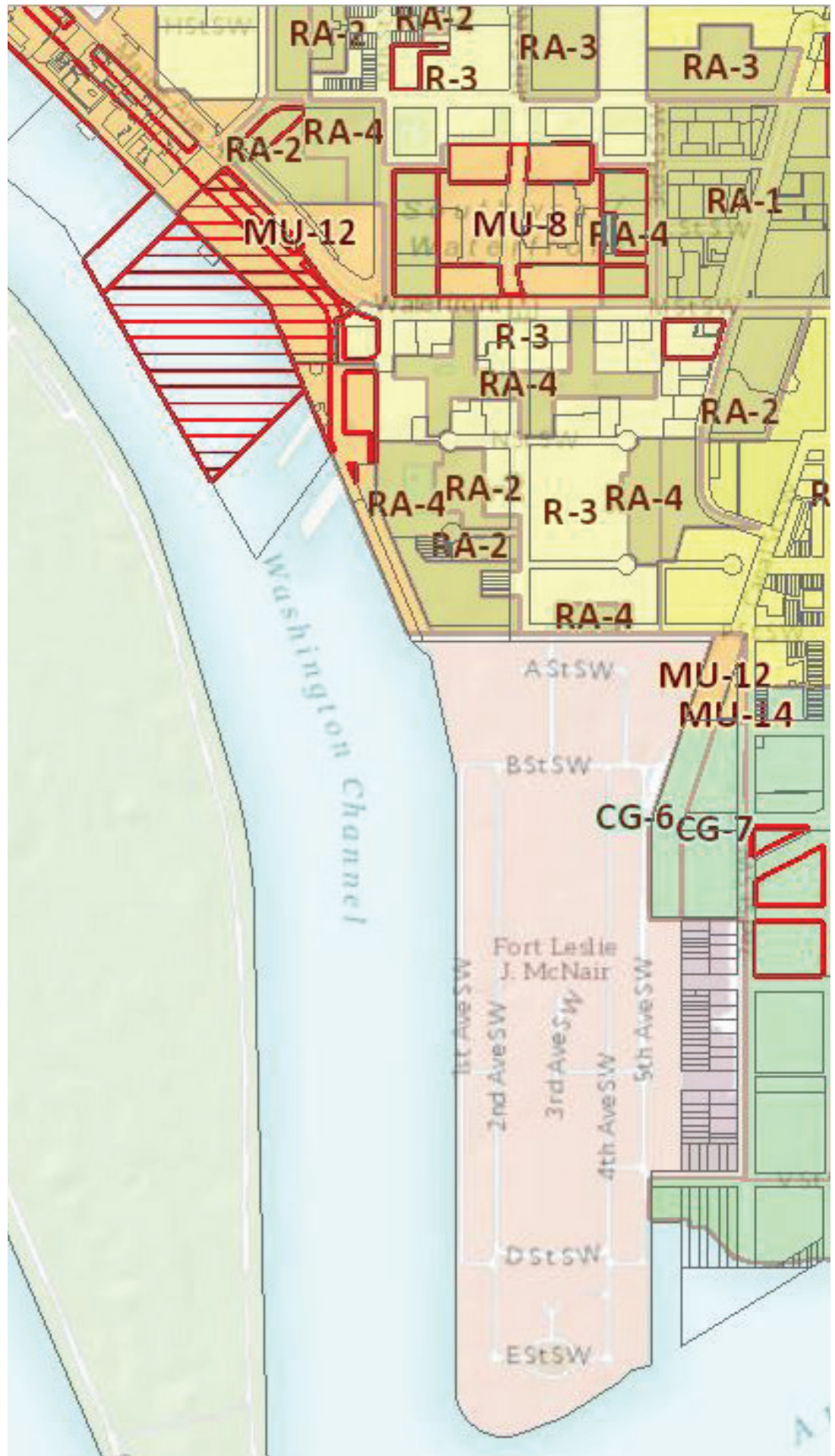
2 <https://www.capitolriverfront.org/about/about-the-bid/what-we-do>



Data Source: DC BID Council

Zoning Context

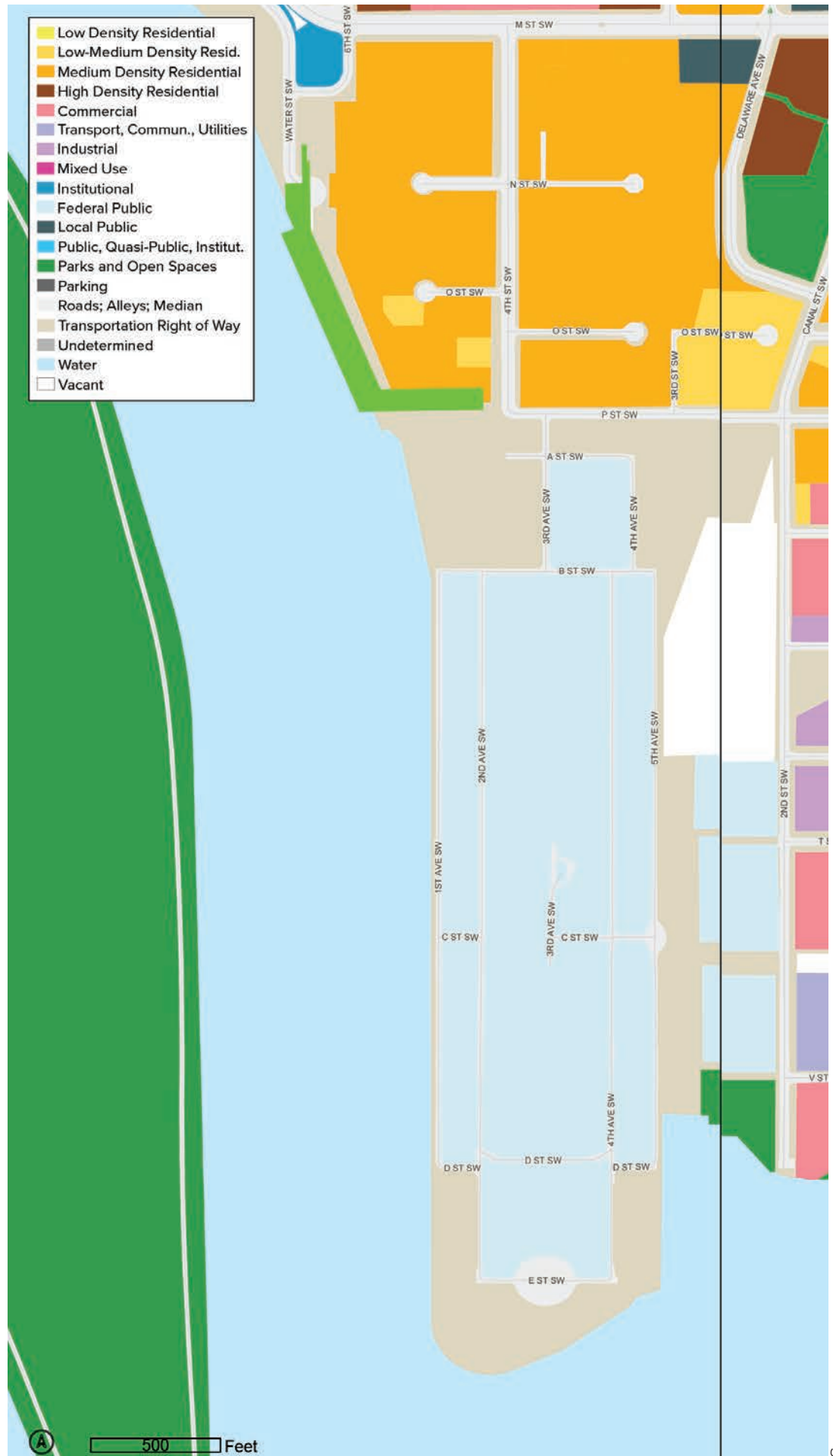
This map's zoning overlay was developed by the DC Office of Zoning.



Data Source: DC Office of Zoning

Land Use Context

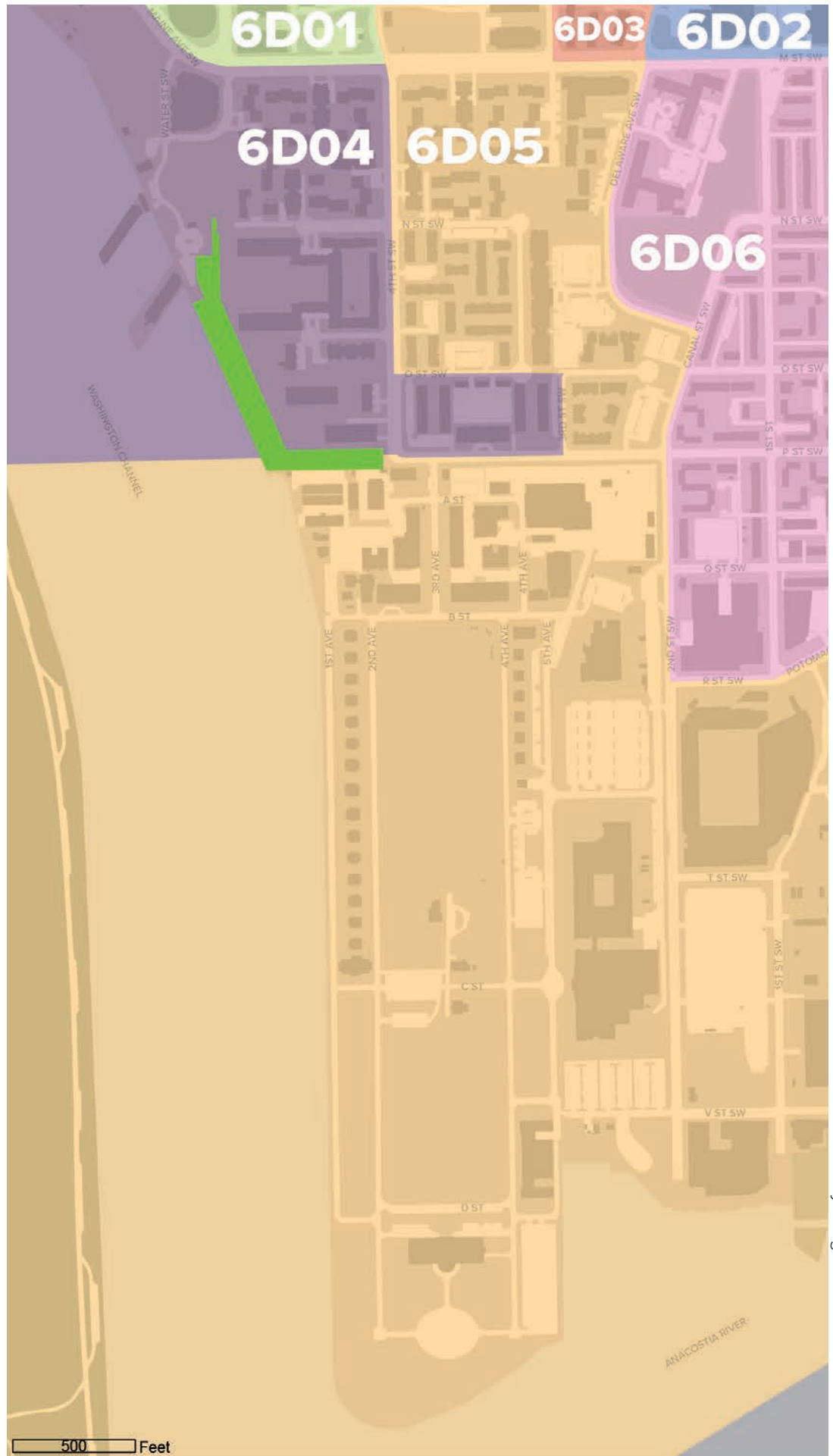
This map's land use overlay was developed by the DC Office of Planning.



Data Source: DC Office of Planning

Single Member Districts

Titanic Memorial Park and its surrounding context are within the boundaries of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D. Its Single Member District (SMD) is 6D04 and is adjacent to SMD 6D05.



Data Source: District of Columbia Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions




5 Virtual Walk-Through

This virtual walk-through was designed as a remote alternative to a transect walk/site visit, due to the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. For this walk-through, we relied on seven videos that were recorded in advance, at each of the locations noted on the map below. Each video was brief (approximately 60 seconds) and included a 360-degree view of the park from that vantage point. We then video-conferenced with Corinne Irwin, Chair of the Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park, and “walked” through the park, video by video. On the next page, see her observations on specific features, values, experiences, and uses within the park—all captured in response to these walk-through videos.

One key finding of this approach is that it worked! The virtual walk-through proved to be a reasonable substitute for an in-person transect walk of the park, delivering insights on specific features and experiences to help us learn more about stakeholder values for the park. Other key themes that emerged from our conversation (and are mapped on the following pages) include:

- The site’s vague boundaries raise questions of stewardship and ownership among the park’s users and neighbors;
- Park visitors notice the issues of deferred maintenance, but still generally appreciate the Mid-century Modern design (in other words, they do not equate poor conditions with poor design); and
- The park offers an oasis of calm and quiet in a changing neighborhood context.





In the era of COVID-19, it is much easier to social distance at the park than it is at The Wharf. Unlike the Wharf, no one drives to the park as a destination. It seems to only be local residents who are using the park.

The Harbor Patrol is involved in patrolling the area. Irwin continues to describe the presence and role of Harbor patrol. She mentions that park users are “happy to have them there, but the Harbor Patrol has no jurisdiction in the park. They don’t do any arrests.” In her experience, people overall feel this is a very safe park.

Irwin mentions that she, “loves when boats are in the channel.” She describes the park as “a very peaceful oasis in her city.”

Now that the northern play area has been re-tiled, it is being used more for yoga and other gatherings (outside of COVID).

In her years of visiting the park, Irwin has never seen the seawall breached by the channel or any resultant flooding.

The Friends group does receive a lot of interest from people who are interested in the Titanic itself. She mentioned that, “We usually do something to commemorate the sinking.” She recalls the “huge commemoration in 2012, with tea lights and photo montage,” all sponsored by the SW neighborhood group. This event came up (unprompted) in our stakeholder interviews and survey as well.

The Titanic Memorial sculpture is popular among casual visitors, who re-enact “the Rose pose” (from the movie *Titanic*) for photographs. However, the sculpture does not feel integrated into the larger landscape of the park: it feels “more incidental,” despite the fact that the sculpture was part of the park from its inception in the mid-20th century. She states that, “If the statue wasn’t there, the park would still feel the same.”

In the northern part of the park that was de-accessioned for The Wharf, Irwin describes it as “a nice barrier between the neighborhood and the new commercial development.”

She assumes most members of the Friends group do not “have the preservation mindset as much.” There is a contingent of folks that thinks the Mid-Century Modern design is ugly. However, others see developers as a threat to the landscape and, by extension, its design.

On the lawn where half belongs to the NPS and the other half belongs to Riverside Condos, earlier this year the condos put up signs barring dogs, which has caused some tension in the community. Despite this, there are very few conflicts between organizations in terms of conflicting maintenance practices.

“The garden areas need help.” Last summer the Friends did a restoration pruning of the azalea bush based on the mid-century design. At the time of our interview, the Friends group was planning to plant a new demonstration bed.

“The trees are just fabulous,” and highly valued by park users and neighbors. Irwin has not seen any trees replaced during her years of visiting the park.

The pavers in the south play area arose several times as one of the most significant issues in the park, according to Irwin. The issue has become more clear during the COVID-19 pandemic, as more children play in the park.

She describes the parks as “a pretty significant bike commuter route.” There is a curb-separated bike lane. The sidewalks are wide, so bike and pedestrian uses don’t typically conflict.

Irwin would like to see a pedestrian connection between the park and Fort McNair (assuming security issues could be addressed).

6 Photo Mapping Analysis

The COVID-19 pandemic precluded us from conducting a traditional on-site clipboard survey of park visitors. As a proxy for the type of personal insights and experiences that a clipboard survey would provide, we created a new REAP method that we refer to as photo mapping analysis.

As an indicator of broader public use of the park (beyond those stakeholders we interviewed and/or surveyed), we conducted an analysis of photographs posted online that were:

- 1) publicly available on Google Maps and Instagram,
- 2) geotagged with the park's location, and/or
- 3) hashtagged with an identifying label (e.g. #TitanicMemorial)

We found a total of 604 photographs that met these conditions, with dates that spanned from June 2011 through July 2020 (the conclusion of our data collection period). Our team assessed each photograph to determine its location, viewshed, subject(s), and time of day.

This analysis offers a better understanding (at a distance) of how this park is experienced by visitors, beyond any users we may see on any particular visit. Of course, this analysis skews toward those who use these platforms and choose to post in these ways. Despite these caveats, we can still begin to interpret answers to several questions about how visitors experience this space:















- **When do they choose to visit the park?**
- **Where do they choose to spend their time?**
- **What parts of the park do they value and/or call attention to?**
- **How do they choose to spend their time in the park?**
- **How do they see the park, in relation to its context?**

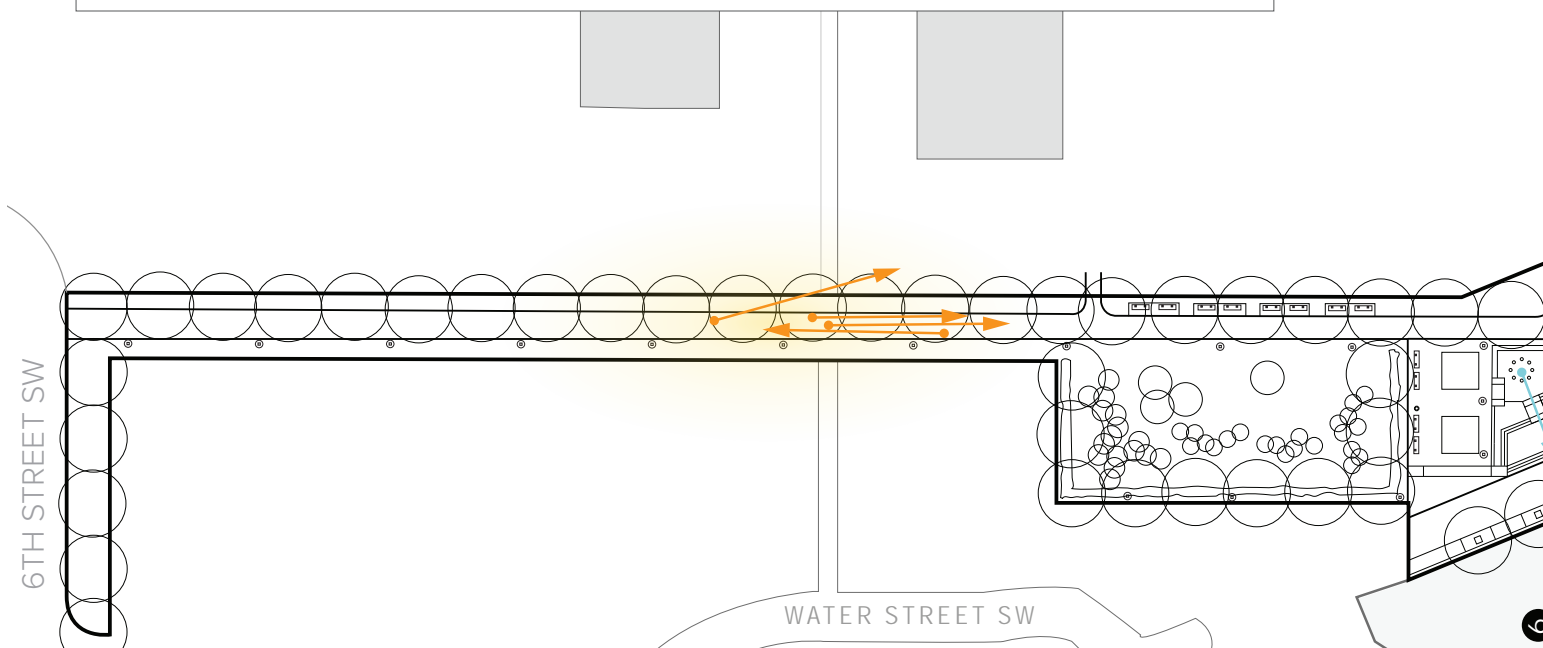
See the following pages for our analysis of these questions.

This map represents an analysis of 604 photographs that were publicly available via internet search on the Google Maps and Instagram platforms, and were geotagged with the park's location or hashtagged with the park's name. The dates of the photos span from June 2011 to July 2020; online data collection was carried out in July 2020.

Approximate locations and angles of each photograph were mapped. Analysis grouped them to indicate the views within the park (**orange arrows**), views from the park to the surrounding neighborhood (**teal arrows**), or views from the park to the water (**dark blue arrows**). Areas where many photographs were concentrated are represented by "heat mapping" shades (in **yellow**), indicating intensity of the number of views. For visual clarity, all 604 views are not individually represented on the map; dominant locations/angles are noted by arrows representing a number of photographs as well as the relative depth of field for each perspective.

Titanic Memorial Ethnography Photo Mapping

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|-----------|
|  | Photo views into/within the park |  | Light |
|  | Photo views out to neighborhood context |  | Bench |
|  | Photo views from the water |  | Trash can |
|  | Photo concentration nodes |  | Tree |
|  | Titanic Memorial sculpture | | |
|  | Fort McNair | | |
|  | Shaded promenade/ allée | | |
|  | Sculptural landscape | | |
|  | View of the waterway | | |
|  | View towards the Washington Monument | | |



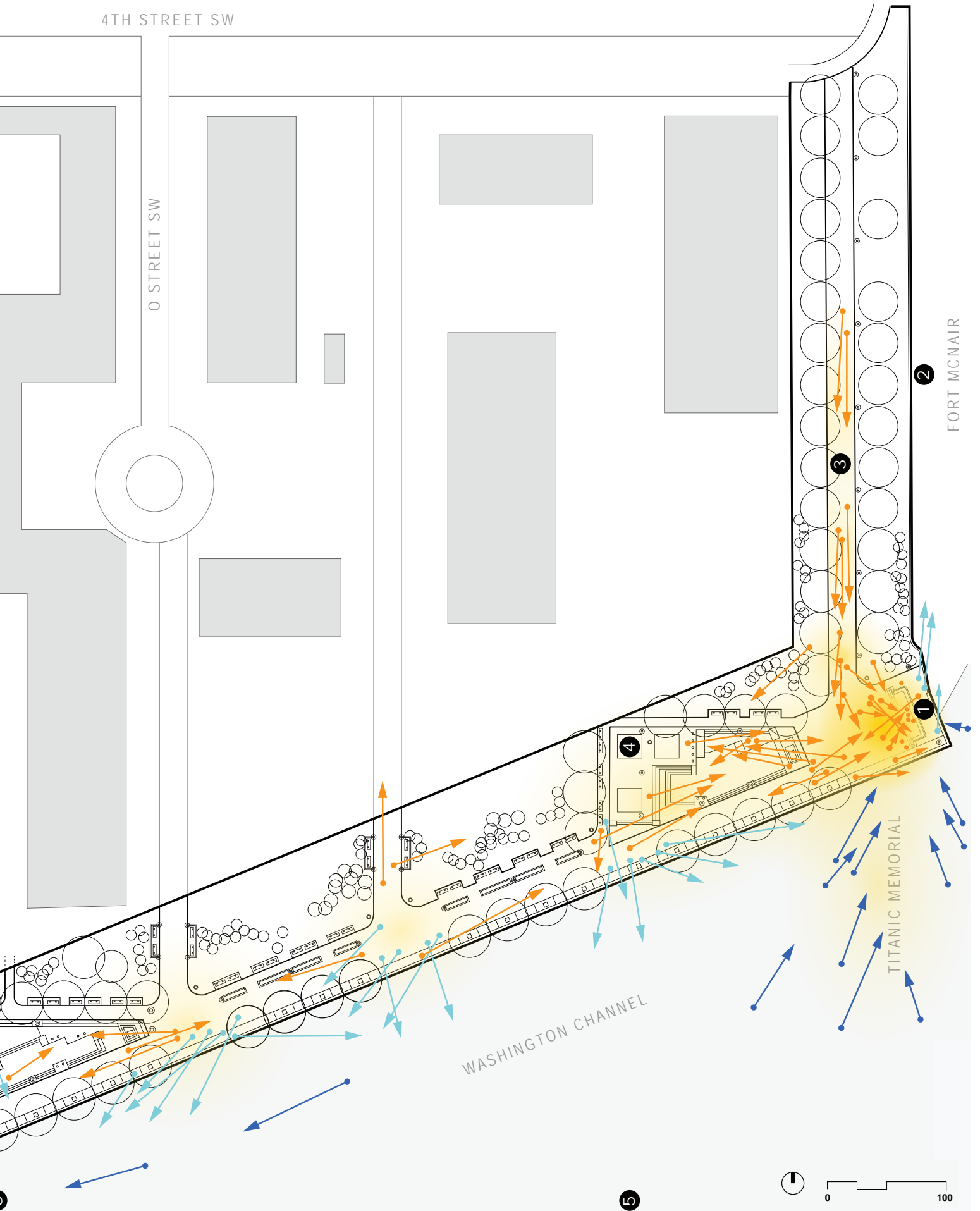
4TH STREET SW

O STREET SW

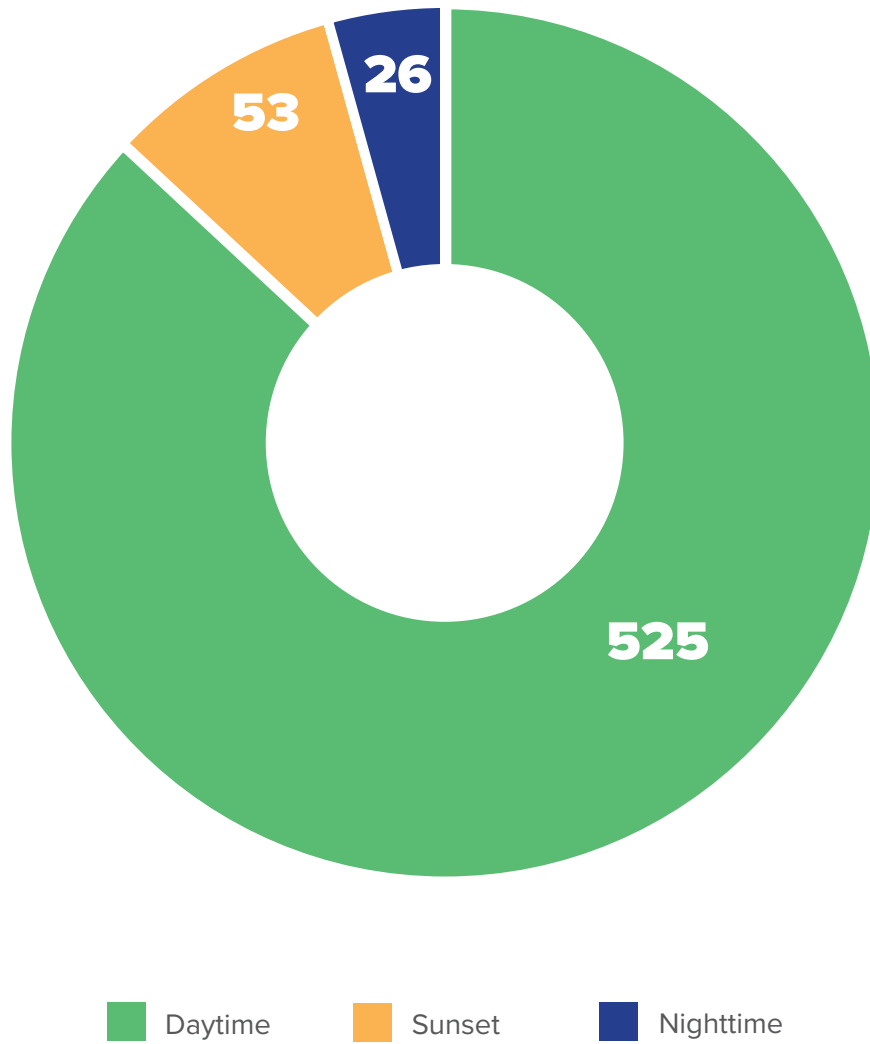
FORT MCNAIR

TITANIC MEMORIAL

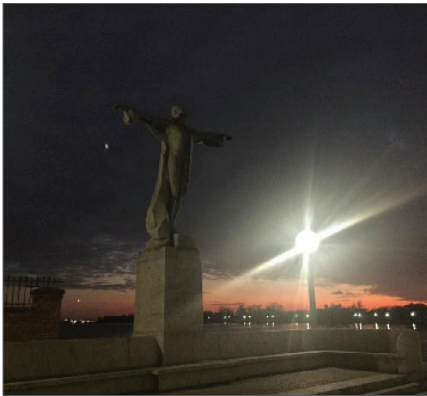
WASHINGTON CHANNEL



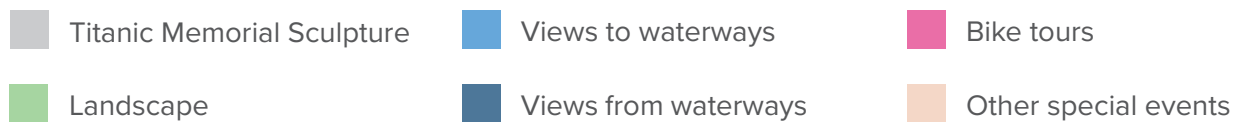
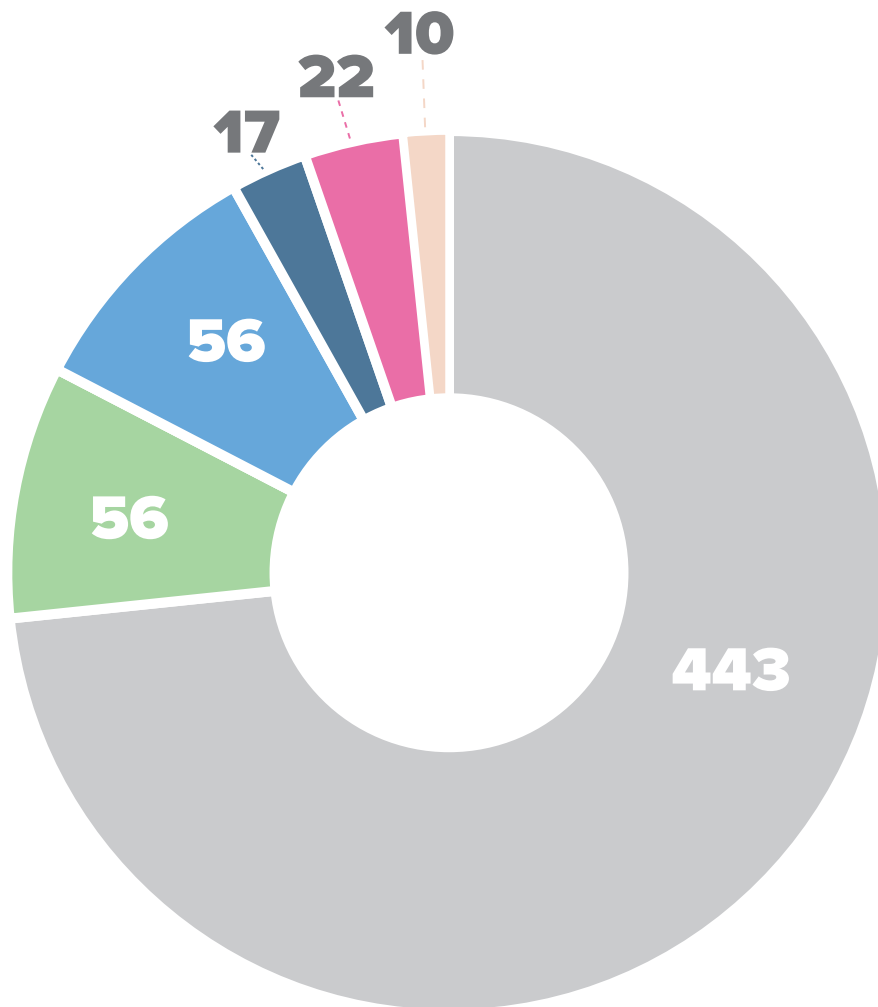
Photos by Time of Day



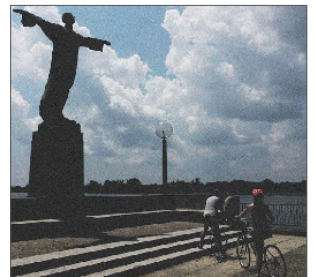
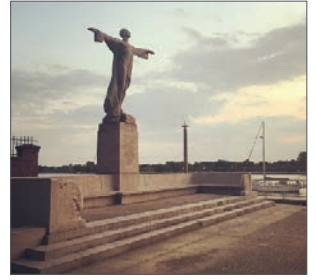
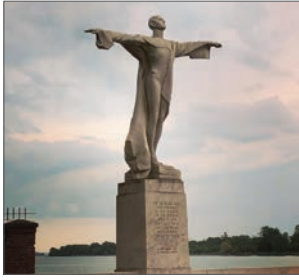
Of the 604 photographs that were geotagged/hashtagged in association with this landscape, most photographs were taken during daylight hours (see examples at right). Approximately 10% of the photographs were taken at sunset: the park faces west, offering sunset views over the Washington Channel, which is a relatively rare opportunity in Washington, DC.



Photos by Subject



Perhaps unsurprisingly, nearly three-quarters of the photographs focus on the Titanic Memorial sculpture and its immediate context on the plaza. Other popular views include the park's landscape features and views of the Washington Channel. The photographs demonstrate that the landscape design—and its incorporation of the sculpture—significantly influences the processional experience, views and vistas, and captured memory of the cultural landscape.



7 Stakeholder Interviews

In order to gain first-hand perspective on the use and perception of the park, we interviewed a series of 6 stakeholders, identified based on their affiliation with the park, their connection as a near neighbor, and/or their association with the park in a professional capacity. (For a list of the interviewees, see the appendix.) Across all of our stakeholder interviews, several themes emerged. We have organized these takeaways into the following categories, to compare with the stakeholder survey findings (see page 63): Identity + Association; Access; Activity + Use; and Stewardship.

Identity + Association

The park is seen first and foremost as an amenity for local residents, rather than a destination park for a broader public. It is a hidden gem of sorts for those who live nearby.

According to the people we interviewed, there is general confusion among park users about the boundaries of the NPS-owned property and the privately-held land of adjacent owners, including the nearby condominiums, the Wharf and its park spaces, etc. This contributes to a muddled park identity (beyond the Titanic Memorial itself) and can lead to confusion over maintenance practices/complaints, permitted activities, etc.

The stakeholders expressed support for the presence of the DC Harbor Patrol, and the positive impact that the police presence can have on the park. (Note: Our interviews were conducted in July and August 2020, as debates about policing practices were at the forefront of American public discourse.)

Access

Stakeholders generally agreed that people move to the neighborhood in order to have access to the water and to the area's parkland (including Titanic Memorial Park). This consensus is useful for the caretakers of the park, since it indicates that local residents share a primary interest in the presence and vitality of the park and its waterfront context.

Activity + Use

The park is considered by most to be a "passive park," used for sitting on benches, fishing, etc., rather than for active recreation such as playing sports, etc. The park is used by walkers, runners, and cyclists, but primarily as a through-way between neighborhoods.

The park is heavily used by dog-walkers. To the extent that there is confusion over park boundaries, this can contribute to some conflict over where dog-walking is permitted, on-leash or off-leash.

Stakeholders have mixed opinions about the landscape's trademark "activity wells" (the sunken courtyards and plazas). Some interviewees claimed that they are actively used, while others reported that they had never seen these areas in use.

Commemorations of the sinking of the Titanic hold a strong place in the collective memory of this space: in particular, interviewees share memories of the centennial tribute in 2012, which was organized by community members, as well as the annual Men's Titanic Society events.

The park has historically hosted, or been associated with, various cultural events for Southwest DC, including the Cherry Blossom Festival, the Chihuahua Race, and others. There is some conflict over the organizing history and current status of these events: some stakeholders believe that these events have been co-opted by the activities of The Wharf, but others disputed that perspective. These dissonant accounts may speak to larger issues of trust between the park's stakeholders.

Stewardship

Stakeholders differed in their opinions on the role and importance of historic preservation in this park: some value the historic design of the Modernist landscape, while others expressed their belief that the park should be redesigned to serve the (current) needs of the local community. For those interested in this kind of redesign, alterations might include more open green space, different features and amenities, etc.

Interviewees feel that the Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park group has visibly improved the park's amenities, including the benches and lights. However, they still see room for improvement (from the Friends group and/or the National Park Service) in terms of the sidewalks and "activity well" plazas.

Stakeholders recognize that the history of this particular park is linked with the larger narrative of urban renewal in Southwest DC—both positively and negatively.

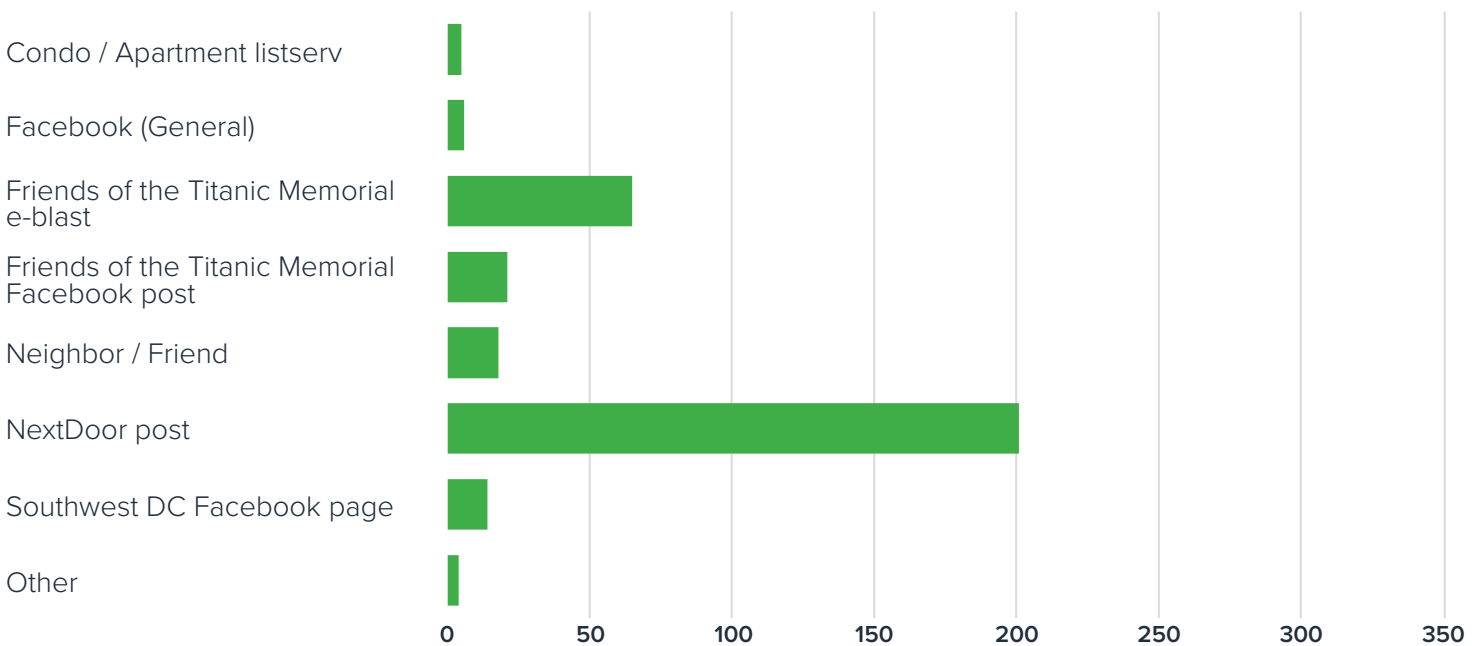
8 Stakeholder Survey

We distributed this survey to park users and neighbors via Corinne Irwin, chair of the Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park. Ms. Irwin circulated it to: adjacent condo/apartment buildings, the Friends of the Titanic Memorial listserv and Facebook page; and the local NextDoor channel. Based on responses to our first question (see below), the survey was also apparently distributed via the Southwest DC Facebook page, in addition to any informal sharing among friends and neighbors. We recognize that this survey did not reach park users and neighbors who do not follow these particular communication channels. We received 334 responses overall.

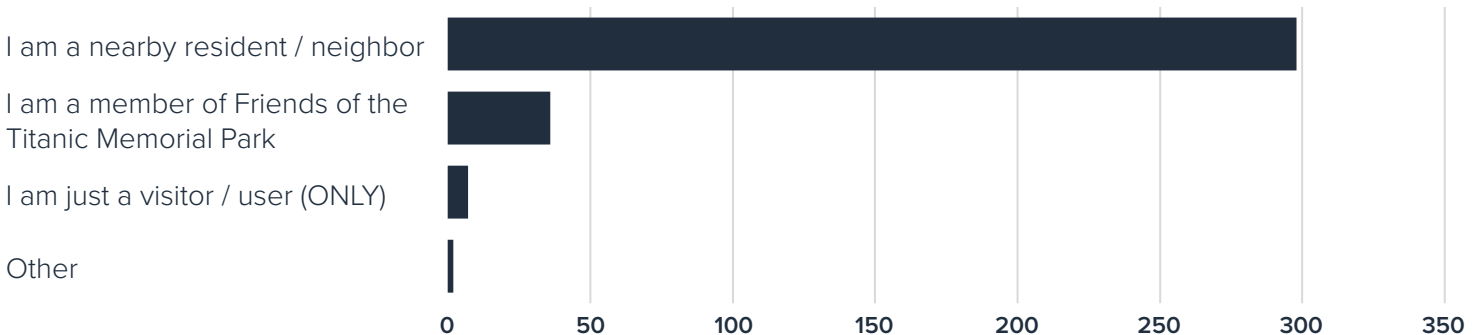
The survey is organized into the following areas of inquiry: Identity + Association; Access; Activity + Use; and Stewardship.



How did you hear about this survey?

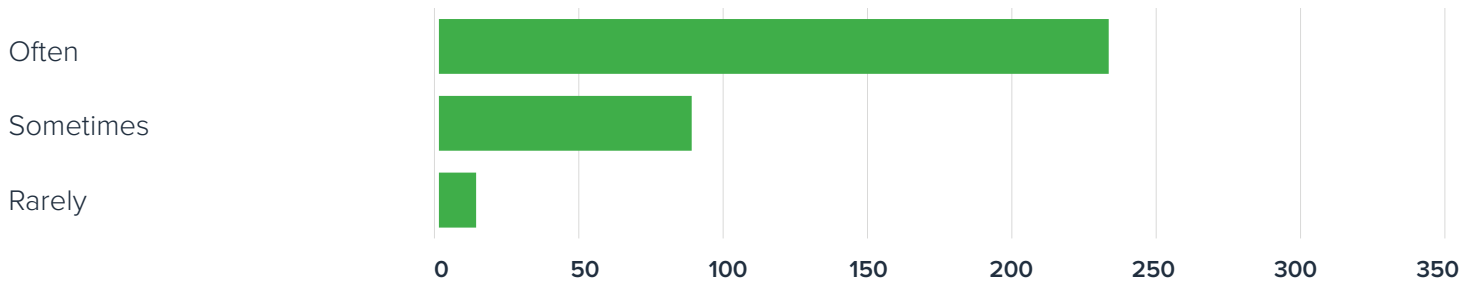


How are you associated with the park? *(select all that apply)*

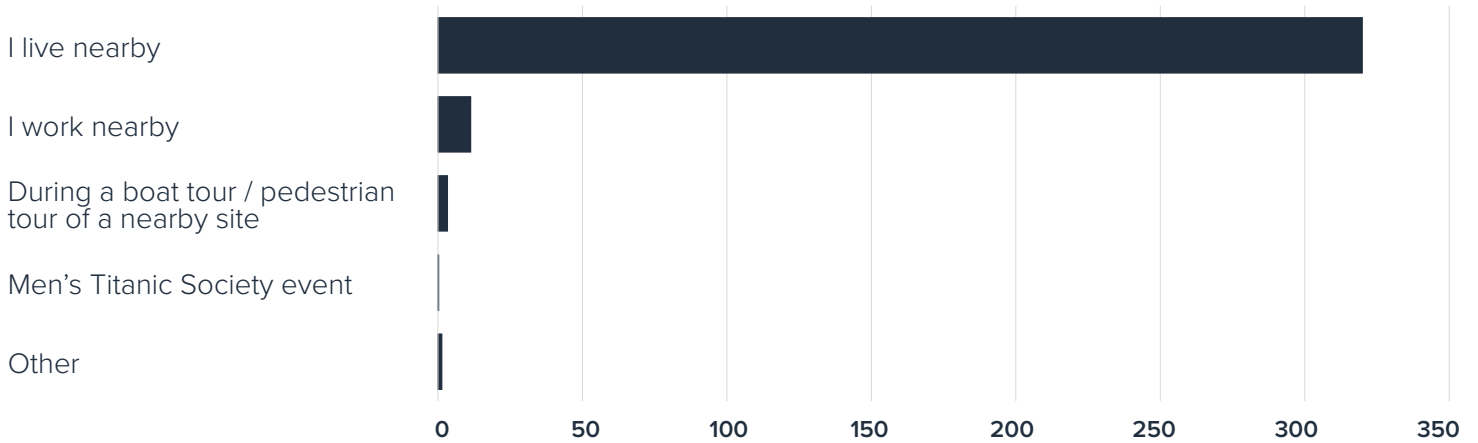


Identity + Association (continued)

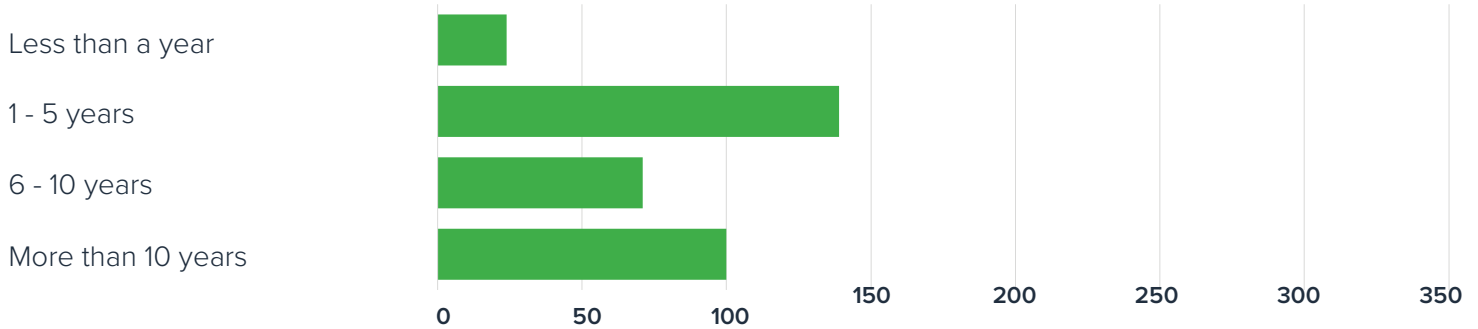
How often do you visit the park?



Why did you first visit the park?



How long have you been visiting the park?



“ The [area] is wealthier and less diverse. ”
Member of FoTM who has visited for 6-10 years

“ The area is more affluent and more diverse. ”
Neighbor who has visited for 6-10 years

“ It has changed from drug gangs to being able to live and walk around the waterfront. ”
Park user who has visited for more than 10 years

“ To the dismay of many neighbors, gentrification rambles onward. ”
Local resident who has visited for between 1-5 years

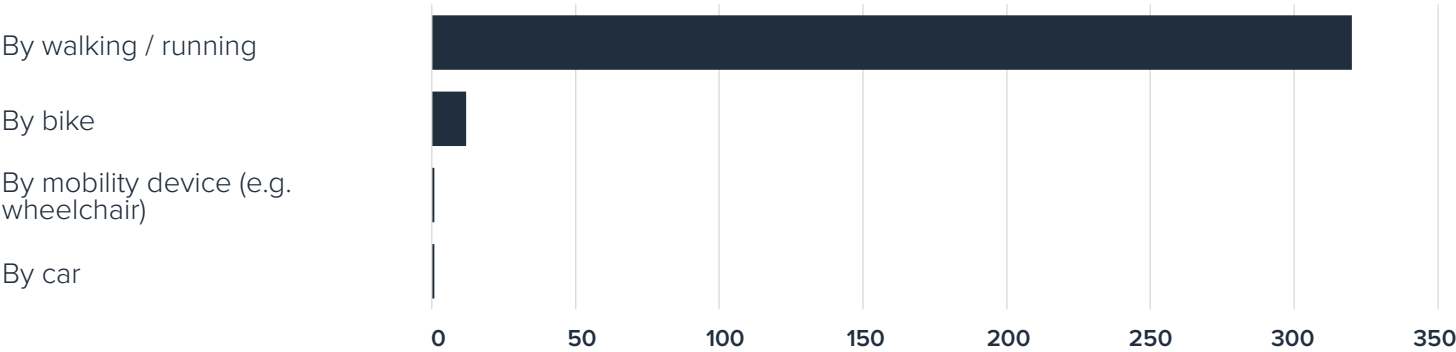
What changes have you noticed during that time?

“ The park has been deteriorating steadily. The neighborhood has stayed the same. ”
Neighbor who has visited for between 1-5 years

“ It's looking much better in the park overall. Benches are no longer falling apart. Overgrown shrubs are pruned. The faded NPS signs have been removed in recent years. ”
FoTM member who has visited for between 6-10 years



When visiting the park, how do you usually get there?



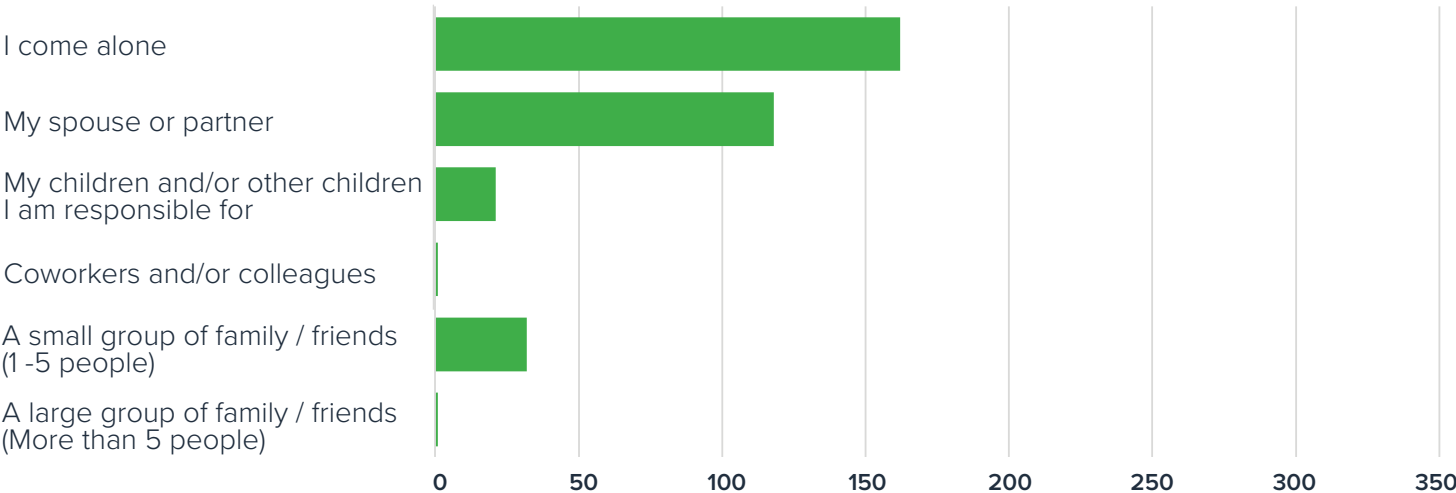
“

The park is very accessible. Some pavement is bad and difficult to maneuver, but access is great to it.

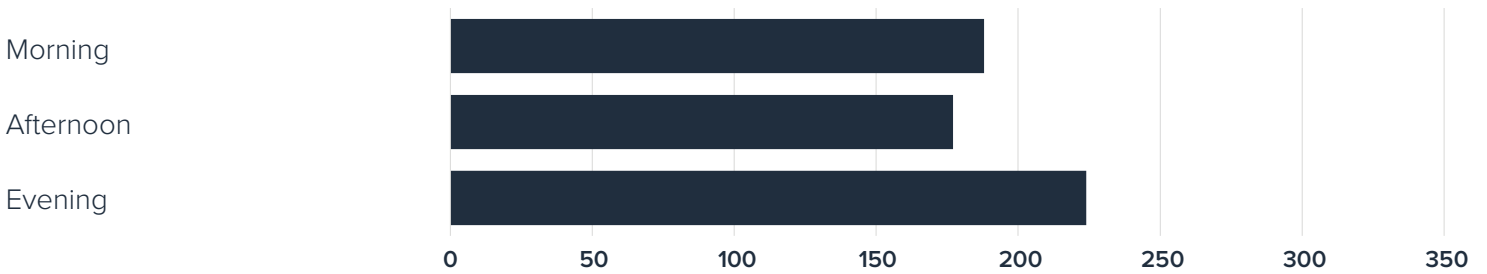
Local resident who has been visiting for more than 10 years and arrives via mobility device

”

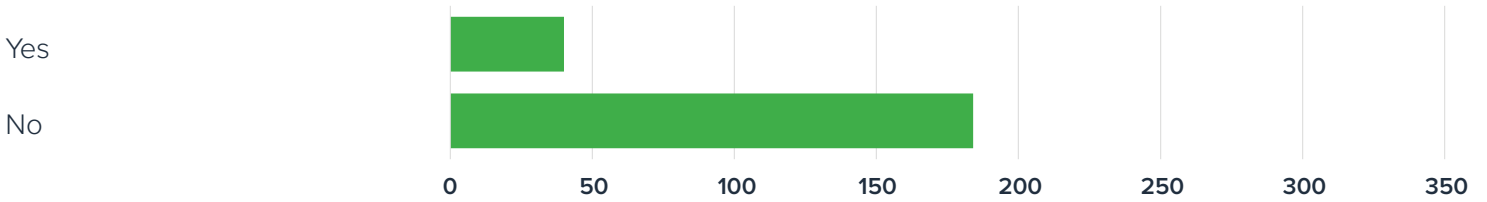
When you visit the park, who are you typically with?



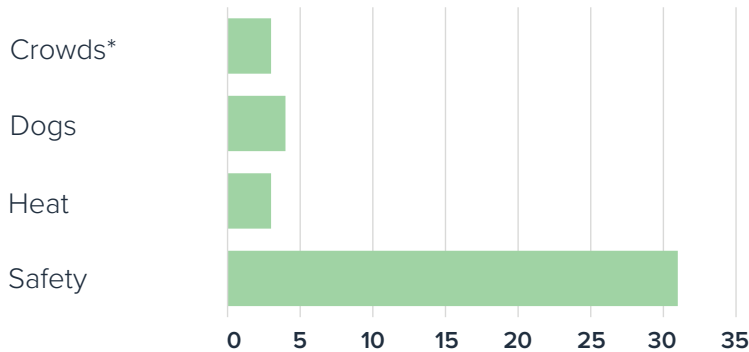
What time(s) of day do you typically visit? (select all that apply)



Are there any times you avoid visiting?



For those who said they avoid the park at certain times of day, their concerns are related to:



* The survey was administered during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some (but not all) respondents who were concerned about crowds made specific mention of the risk of crowds due to COVID-19.

“

I avoid early mornings and early evenings because of the amount of off-leash dogs.

Neighbor who has been visiting for 6-10 years

”

“

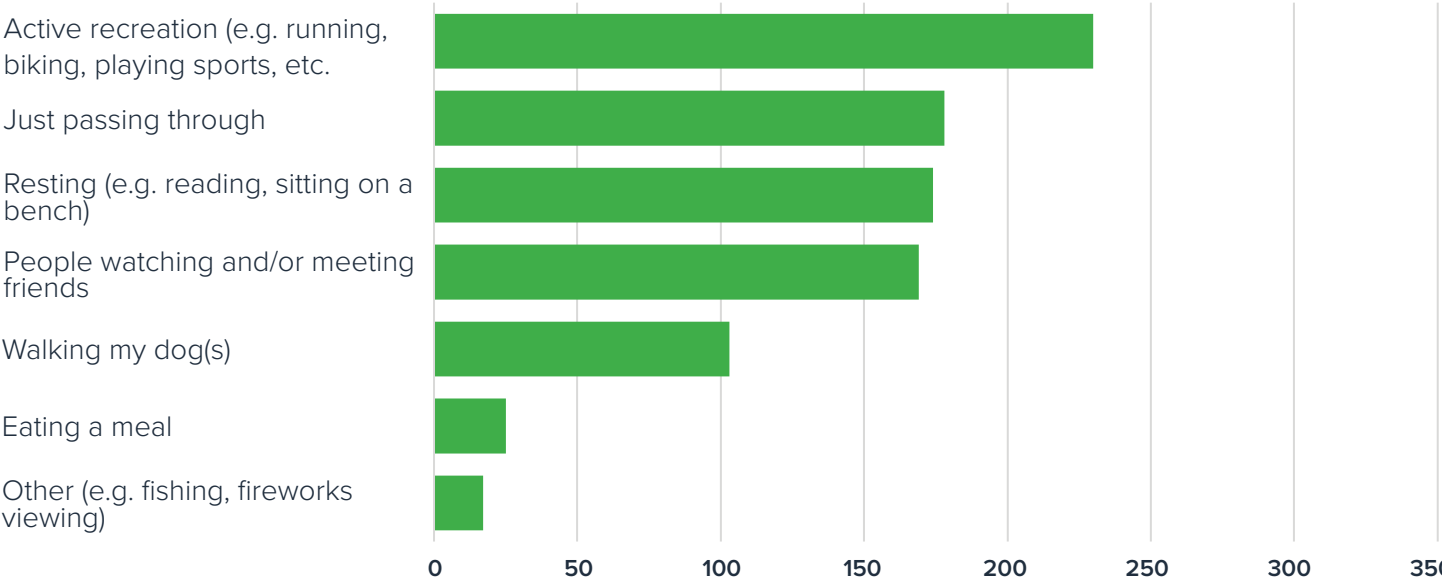
I do not visit [in the evening] because of crime/potential crime, juvenile petty crimes. I don't feel it is lit well enough.

Park user who has been visiting for 1-5 years

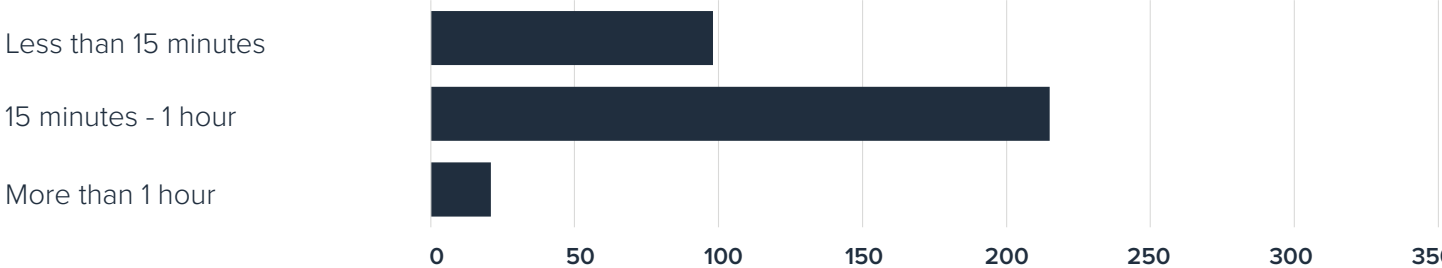
”



How do you spend your time in the park? *(select all that apply)*



How much time do you usually spend in the park?



“

It's hard to spend too much time there in the summer, since it's so hot. ”

Member of FoTM who has been visiting for 1-5 years

“

Hanging out in the warmer months and walking through in the colder months ”

Local resident and FoTM member who has been visiting for 1-5 years

How does your use of the park change based on the season?

“

In spring and fall I enjoy reading in the park. In summer, it may be too hot to sit and read, but I enjoy walking near the water. I spend less time there in the winter, but it is still my preferred local place for a stroll. ”

Local resident who has been visiting for 6-10 years

**Report little to no change / all-season use:
95 of 355 respondents**

If you were to meet someone at the park, where would you tell them to meet you?

At the Wharf / Waterfront Park:
11 / 355 responses

Along the waterfront:
15 / 355 responses

“ At the “weirdest statue in DC,” the Titanic Memorial. ”

At the Titanic Memorial
sculpture or plaza:
202 / 355 responses

Near the Harbor Police station:
10 / 355 responses

A map of a city block with a grid of streets. A green shaded area is on the left side. Three callout boxes with dashed lines point to specific locations: 'Near the Harbor Police station' (top left), 'Azalea bushes' (middle left), and 'On one of the park walkways' (bottom left). Street names 'N ST SW', '4TH ST SW', 'O ST SW', and 'A ST' are visible on the right side of the map.

Azalea bushes:
1 / 355 responses

On one of the park walkways:
3 / 355 responses

4TH ST SW

N ST SW

O ST SW

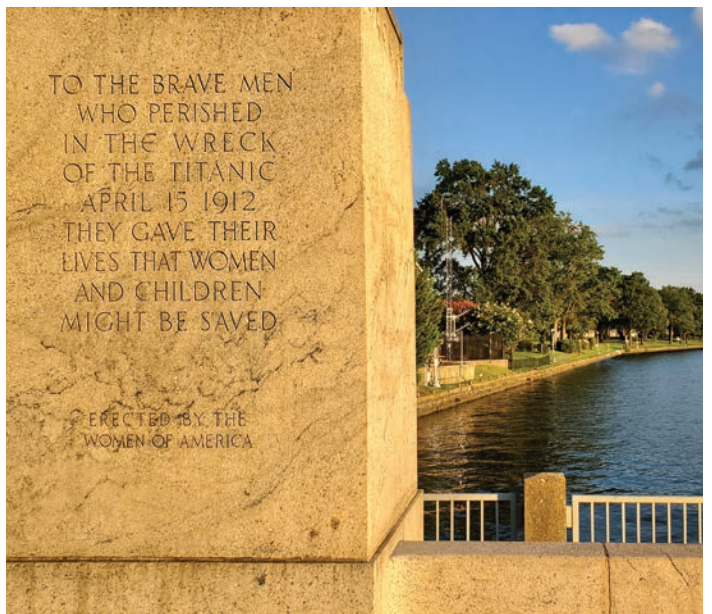
A ST

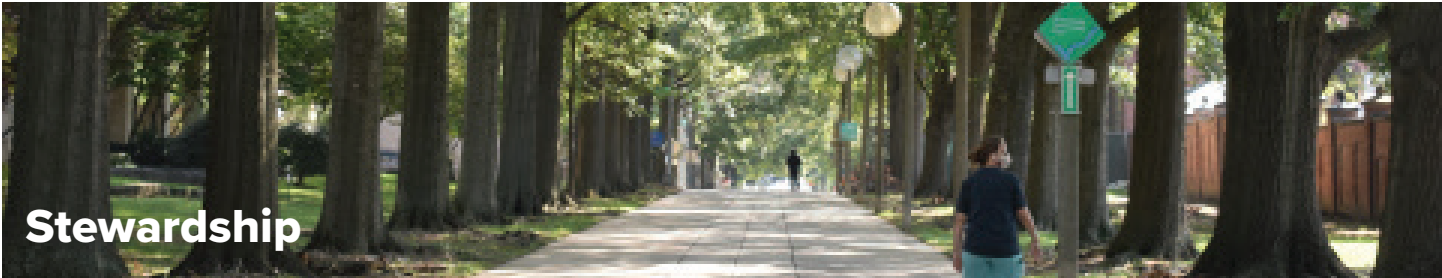


Do you have any favorite photos of the park that you'd like to share?

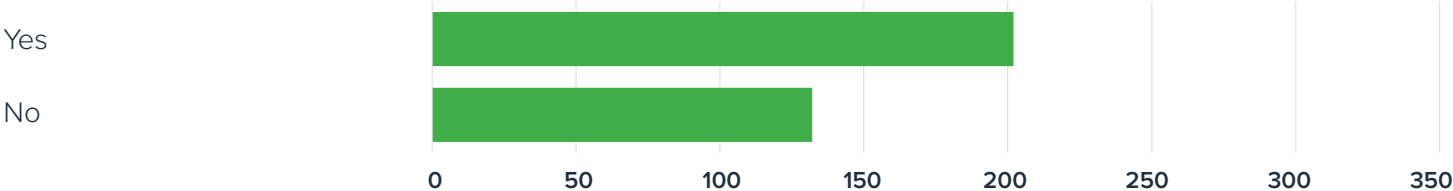
237 photos submitted



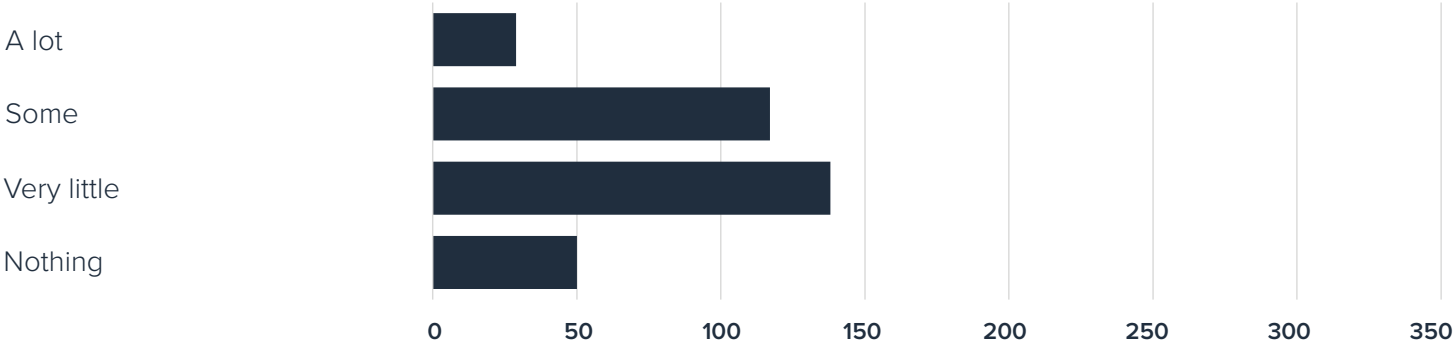




Were you aware that this public space is owned by the National Park Service?



How much do you know about the park's history?



If you would like to share a story about the park, its history, or your own history at the park, please do so.

“

I have early memories of going to the park with my family when we lived on O Street. We could walk out our back door and walk there with breakfast in a picnic basket, including a pot of tea. We would sit on the concrete plaza steps. I remember it being quiet and sunny and without many people. I do not remember ever playing there alone or unsupervised.

Neighbor who has been visiting for more than 10 years

”

“

My understanding is that the marina next to the park is the point at which many ships carrying enslaved persons were unloaded. I think the park would be a good place to honor victims of the slave trade.

Local resident who has been visiting for 1-5 years

”

“

We have hosted two Titanic parties on the anniversary of the sinking. We're fascinated by the Titanic story. We love having the Titanic statue as a feature behind our apartment building. Also love the water views.

Member of FoTM who has been visiting for more than 10 years

”

If you could change one thing about the park, what would it be and why?



**A playground or more equipment for children:
3 / 355 responses**

**Better / Brighter lighting:
17 / 355 responses**

**More flowers:
7 / 355 responses**

**Interpretive signage:
3 / 355 responses**

A map of a city block with several streets labeled: N ST SW, 4TH ST SW, O ST SW, and A ST. A green shaded area is located in the bottom-left corner. Four callout boxes with dashed blue lines point to specific areas on the map. The callout boxes contain the following text:

- Better trash management: 9 / 355 responses
- More benches: 19 / 355 responses
- Enclosed dog park: 11 / 355 responses
- Repair plaza paving: 36 / 355 responses

More benches:
19 / 355 responses

Enclosed dog park:
11 / 355 responses

Repair plaza paving:
36 / 355 responses

N ST SW

4TH ST SW

O ST SW

A ST

What aspects of the park would you **NOT** want to change?

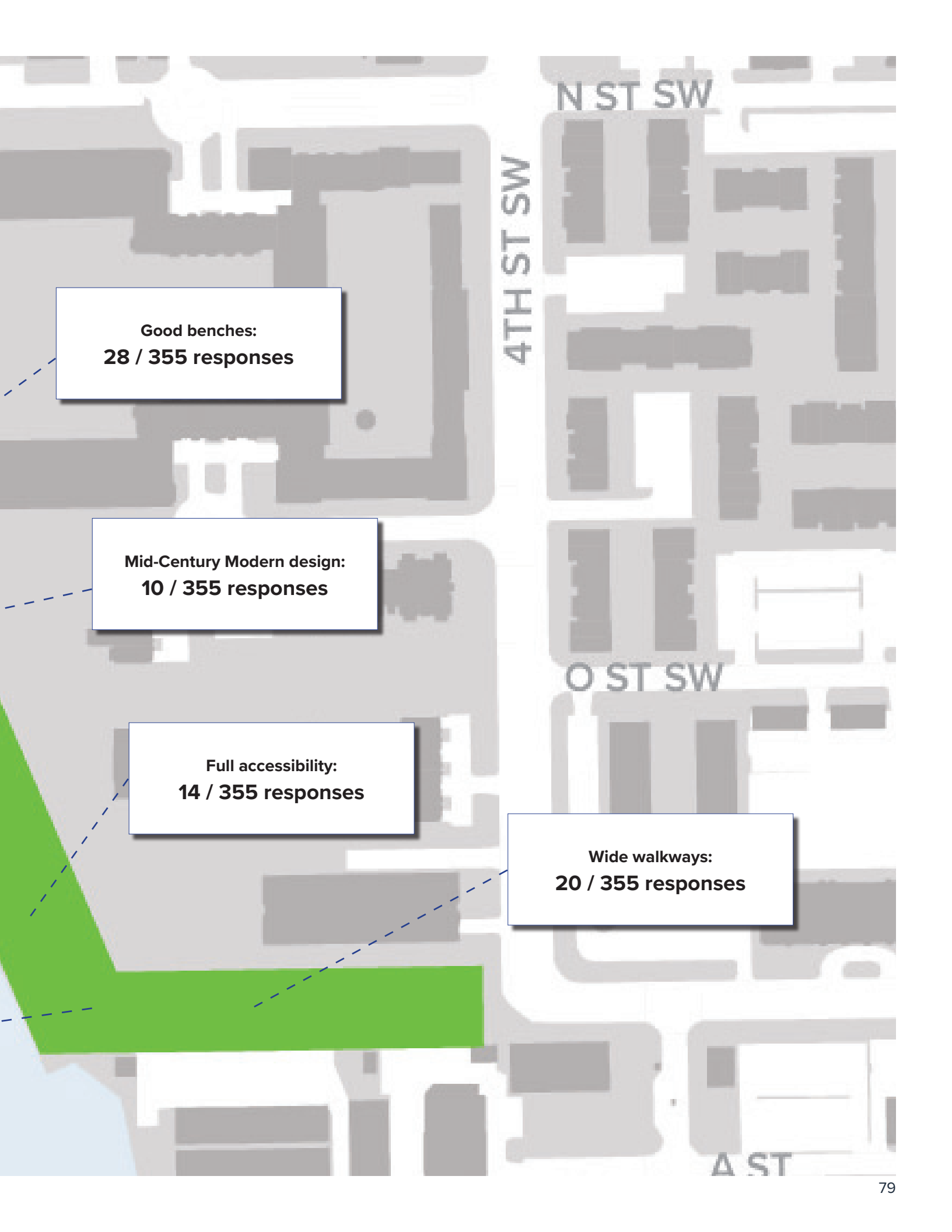


Lightposts:
7 / 355 responses

Views to the water:
18 / 355 responses

Shade trees:
63 / 355 responses

Memorial location + design:
48 / 355 responses



N ST SW

4TH ST SW

O ST SW

A ST

Good benches:
28 / 355 responses

Mid-Century Modern design:
10 / 355 responses

Full accessibility:
14 / 355 responses

Wide walkways:
20 / 355 responses

“

It is a wonderful place to pass the time and the seasons. It is 10 degrees cooler than the surrounding city. It is a comfortable gathering place that is a pleasant, joyful surprise when first encountered.

”

Park user who has been visiting for 1-5 years

“

This area of DC has many retired and older people; the state of disrepair on the concrete promenade is quite unsafe for them.

”

Local resident who has been visiting for 1-5 years

What else should we know about the park, based on your experience?

“

It's a hidden gem and should be preserved at all costs.

”

Neighbor who has been visiting for 1-5 years

“

The naming, ownership, and management of the NPS park and adjacent areas are somewhat confusing, yet functionally matters very little to day-to-day users of the park.

”

Park user who has been visiting for 1-5 years

“

It is one of the last true community spaces in Southwest DC that is not immediately threatened by gentrification.

”

FoTM who has been visiting for 1-5 years

“

With the brand new parks adjacent, its worn-down appearance is on full display.

”

Park user who has been visiting for 1-5 years

“

I'm not even sure of the boundaries of the park. I just thought it was the monument at the end of the park?

”

Local resident who has been visiting for more than 10 years

“

There is a lot of disappearing history in the Southwest, dating back to previous stages of urban renewal in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s.

”

Neighbor who has been visiting for more than 10 years

9 Conclusions + Recommendations

Based on this REAP analysis, we can draw the following conclusions about the ethnographic aspects of the Titanic Memorial Park:

This park is deeply valued by community members. We were astonished by the circulation and response rate of our online survey. It was a clear demonstration of the investment community members have in this space.

The park's primary audience is local residents. The stakeholder interviews, online survey, and virtual walk-through all agreed that this park primarily serves local residents—in particular, residents of the neighboring high-rise apartment and condominium buildings. Only 1 of our survey respondents indicated that they also work near the park.) This is in keeping with the overall residential character of Southwest DC since the mid-20th century. The park's primary stakeholders, therefore, are those users who see the park day in and day out, through months, seasons, years, and even pandemics.

The immediate context of the park has undergone dramatic change in the past two decades. The neighborhood around the park in Southwest DC has become younger, whiter, and wealthier in recent decades. Fewer households have children, and the area experienced fewer reported incidents of crime in the last ten years. These demographic transformations (which echo much of Washington, DC overall) have implications for the identity, use, and users of this park. In

The park is seen as more of a “hidden gem” than a destination park. Based on its scale, this park could not be considered a “pocket park.” However, it is not a “charismatic park” like Rock Creek Park or West Potomac Park that draws long-distance visitors on reputation or word-of-mouth alone. Rather, it is a park that people tend to discover and experience on a quieter basis.

The park's accessibility is an asset. Although certain parts of the park are in poor condition, deterring use by wheelchairs or other mobility devices, this park is generally very accessible, offering a public invitation from the street to the waterfront.

The park's waterfront context is a prevailing reason for its popularity. Titanic

Memorial Park extends along the Washington Channel's shoreline. It faces west, offering pristine views of the sunset over the water, and is a welcome open space along a waterfront that is seeing extensive development.

The Titanic Memorial sculpture remains an attraction for some users, but it is not vital to all stakeholders. The sculpture is a landmark within the park, orienting visitors and lending its identity to the park around it. But where some park users are drawn to the park for the sculpture as a particular destination, others see the sculpture as an incidental part of their park experience (and may even resent the tours/special event crowds that the sculpture attracts).

As the neighborhood changes, this park offers a respite. The park's accessibility is an asset. As The Wharf and other development projects transform the Southwest, the Titanic Memorial Park is at a remove from the noise and bustle of the surrounding neighborhood. It is worth noting that some neighbors fear for its future in this context.

Park users are most concerned about the condition of the landscape. Feelings about the park's Mid-Century Modernist design are mixed, but would perhaps be improved if the landscape were in better repair: park users share concerns about the deteriorated pavers and dim lighting, both of which can deter community use.

Stakeholders appreciate the park's partnership with the Friends of the Titanic Memorial. The friends group has an active following, and has partnered with the National Park Service on projects that have had a real, tangible impact on the park. There is value in this partnership, if both entities can work to their strengths as a stable institution (National Park Service) and a grassroots volunteer-driven organization (Friends of the Titanic Memorial).

The parks' boundaries are unclear. The park is physically linked with the street grid, adjacent private property, and other waterfront parks. This can be an asset, in terms of knitting the park together with its context. However, in the absence of any clear wayfinding or interpretive elements, the park risks anonymity, with no identity as its own place.

Visitors appreciate the Titanic Memorial sculpture and park—but have little on-site opportunity to learn about either.

There is little interpretation within the park to offer any history of the site, the landscape design, the Titanic Memorial sculpture, or the relationship between all of these elements. In the absence of any interpretive elements, the park offers beautiful scenery without sharing any deeper understanding of this place.

Going forward, we recommend that the National Park Service consider new ways to bolster the park as a community-facing asset.

Realign the parks with new community-facing uses. Since the publication of the L’Enfant Plan in 1791, DC’s many small parks have been set aside as public reservations for recreational use and open space. These include, of course, parks like the Titanic Memorial Park that were created over subsequent centuries and independent of (but related to) the L’Enfant Plan. There are myriad opportunities to reimagine how these small parks fulfill contemporary public functions without sacrificing the integrity of their historical and aesthetic values:

...Could the National Park Service introduce new modes to convey the park’s identity, as a means to communicate the landscape’s independence from and connection with surrounding community and adjacent green spaces?

...Could NPS introduce more moments of discovery within the park, building on the sense of discovery of the park itself?

...Could it feature more artwork that serves a public good?

...Could it incorporate new botanical experiments or community gardens, to reinvigorate its function as green infrastructure along the waterfront?

...Could it host more features for passive recreation (e.g. game tables), to encourage visitors to continue to enjoy the quiet assets of the park?

...Could the park experiment with new modes of interpretation that re-establish the links between the landscape and the memorial?

...Could park repairs and improvements encourage more play space to serve all ages?

Further community planning work with the stakeholders identified in this REAP could help **prioritize and co-design some of these potential enhancements.**

The Titanic Memorial Park in particular presents an opportunity to **interpret and communicate more effectively the previous histories of this land**, adding a more purposeful contemporary commemorative function to the park’s design and memorial, acknowledging how the current landscape came to be.



10

Appendices

10a. REAP Bibliography

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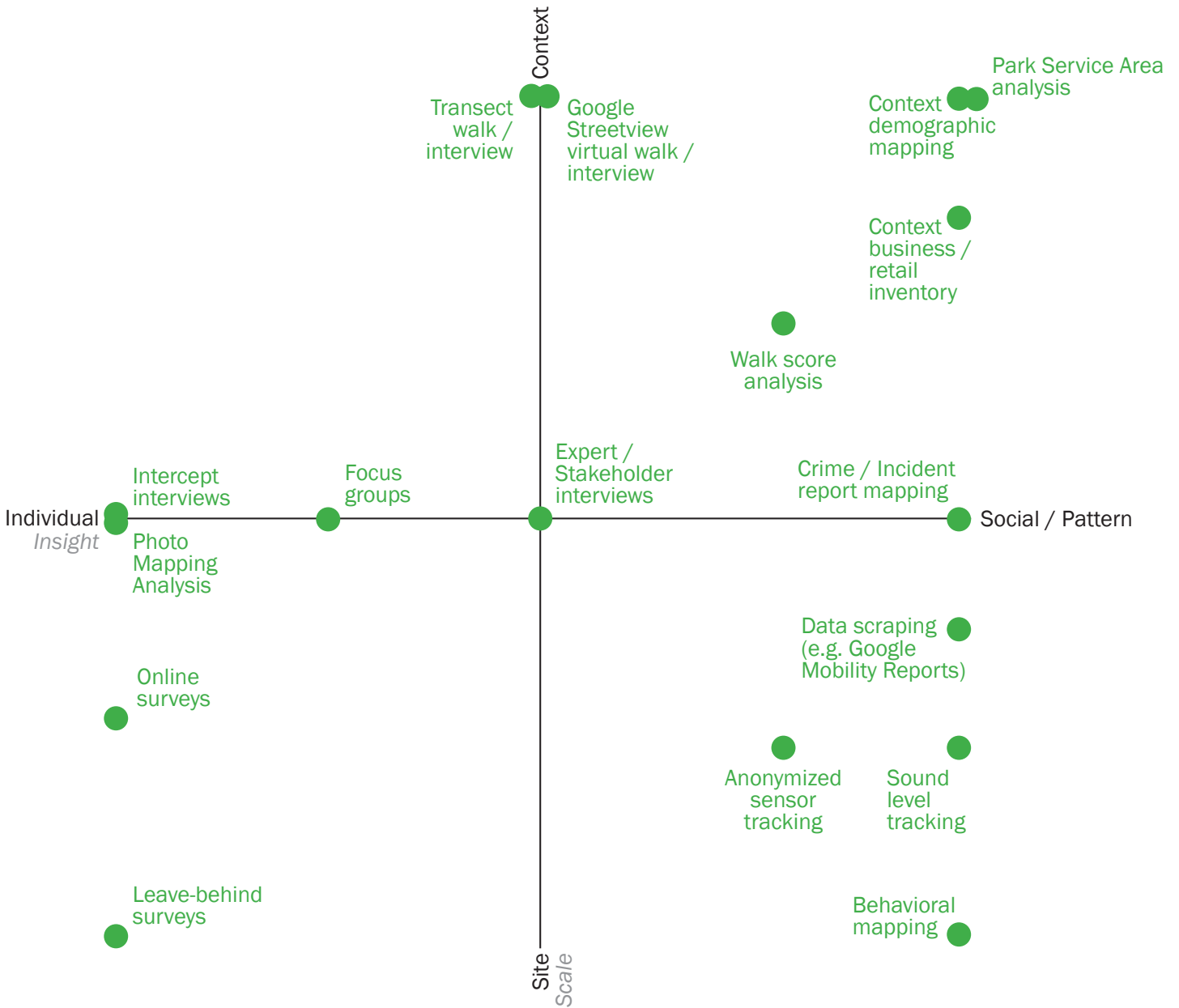
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A scenic view of a waterfront. In the foreground, a paved walkway runs along the water's edge, bordered by a metal railing. Large, leafy trees are on the left side, casting shadows on the path. In the middle ground, a calm body of water reflects the sky. A sailboat is visible on the water in the distance. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

10b. REAP Methodology Matrix

REAP Analysis: Methods + Objectives

DC Small Parks Project



REAP Analysis: Methods + Objectives

Virtual/Remote Opportunities



REAP Analysis: Methods + Objectives

Confirmed Approaches for Titanic Memorial Park REAP



A photograph of a paved path in a park-like setting. A person wearing a blue shirt, pink pants, and a hat is pushing a stroller away from the camera. The path is lined with trees and a fence is visible in the background. The text "10c. List of Stakeholder Interviews" is overlaid on the image.

10c. List of Stakeholder Interviews

Corinne Irwin

Chair

Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park

Judy Judd-Price

Board Member

Riverside Condominiums

Andy Litsky

Vice Chair, ANC 6D

District of Columbia

Patrick Revord

Director of Community Engagement

The Wharf

Kelly Whitton

Cultural Resources Manager

Fort McNair / U.S. Joint Base Meyer - Henderson Hall

Nancy Witherell

Harbour Square resident

A photograph of a university campus. The foreground is dominated by a series of wide, low stone steps or platforms. Several tall, slender stone pillars are spaced out across the scene. In the background, a dense canopy of large, mature trees with green leaves covers the sky. A person in a blue shirt and white pants is walking away from the camera in the distance. The overall atmosphere is serene and academic.

10d. Stakeholder Survey Questions

1. How did you hear about this survey? *(select all that apply)*:
 - a. Friends of the Titanic Memorial e-blast
 - b. Friends of the Titanic Memorial Facebook post
 - c. NextDoor post
 - d. Other: _____

2. How are you associated with the park *(select all that apply)*:
 - a. I am just a visitor/user
 - b. I am a member of the Friends of the Titanic Memorial Park
 - c. I am a nearby resident or neighbor
 - d. Other: _____

3. How often do you visit Titanic Memorial park? *(select one)*
 - a. Rarely
 - b. Sometimes
 - c. Often

4. Why did you first visit the park? *(select all that apply)*
 - a. I live nearby
 - b. I work nearby
 - c. Other: _____

5. How long have you been visiting the park? *(select one)*
 - a. Less than a year
 - b. 1-5 years
 - c. 6-10 years
 - d. More than 10 years

6. How have you seen the park/neighborhood change in that time? *(open answer)*

7. When visiting the park, how do you usually get there? *(select one)*
 - a. By walking/running
 - b. By mobility device (e.g. wheelchair)
 - c. By bike
 - d. By public transportation
 - e. By car
 - f. By rideshare (Uber, Lyft, etc.)
 - g. Other: _____

8. If you use a mobility device (e.g. wheelchair), how accessible is your journey? Please share any observations on access to and/or within the park. *(open answer)*

9. When you visit the park, who are you typically with? *(select one)*
 - a. I come alone
 - b. My spouse or partner
 - c. My children (and/or other children that I am responsible for)
 - d. A small group of family or friends (1-5 people)
 - e. A large group of family or friends (more than 5 people)
 - f. Coworkers and/or colleagues

10. What time(s) of day do you typically visit? *(select all that apply)*
 - a. Morning
 - b. Afternoon
 - c. Evening

11. Are there any times you avoid visiting? *(select one)*
 - a. No
 - b. Yes

12. If there is a time of day you avoid visiting, what time of day do you avoid and why? *(open answer)*

13. How do you spend your time in the park? *(select all that apply)*
 - a. Active recreation (e.g. running, walking, biking, playing sports, and/or other forms of exercise/play)
 - b. People watching and/or meeting friends
 - c. Walking my dog(s)
 - d. Resting (e.g. reading, sitting on a bench)
 - e. Eating a meal
 - f. Fishing
 - g. Just passing through
 - h. Other: _____

14. How much time do you usually spend in the park? *(select one)*
 - a. Less than 15 minutes (I am just passing through)
 - b. 15 mins - 1 hr
 - c. More than an hour

15. How does your use of the park change based on the season? *(open answer)*

16. If you were to meet someone at the park, where would you tell them to meet you? *(open answer)*

17. Were you aware that this public space is owned by the National Park Service? *(select one)*

- a. Yes
- b. No

18. What areas of the park do you spend the most time in? *(open answer)*

19. Upload any favorite photos of the park. They will not be shared on any public platforms; we are interested in what parts of the park are popular for public use and memory. *(upload file)*

20. If you could change one thing about the park, what would it be and why? *(open answer)*

21. What aspects of the park would you NOT want to change? *(open answer)*

22. How much do you know about the park's history? *(select one)*

- a. Nothing
- b. Very little
- c. Some
- d. A lot

23. If you would like to share a story about the park, its history, or your own history at the park, please do so below. *(open answer)*

24. What else should we know about the park, based on your experience? *(open answer)*



