



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
December 8, 2025

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title: Information Memo | Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA) Update | December 2025

This is an update on the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA). The Executive Director, Meagan Baco, will be making a brief presentation.

Work Session Item [X]
Council Meeting Item [X]

Documentation Attached:

Recommended Action:

INFORMATION ONLY: This has been provided to the Council and Community for an update on local partners' activities in Bladensburg.

SUMMARY: This is an overview of recent actions by the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA), which promotes cultural tourism and community engagement in Prince George's County, Maryland, through various projects.

Anacostia Trails Heritage Area

- Established in 2001 as a state-certified cultural tourism investment district in Prince George's County, Maryland.
- Operates as a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a full-time professional staff.
- Focuses on countywide service and partnership-driven initiatives.

Community Tourism

- Defined as travel experiences led by communities to benefit their own localities sustainably.
- Emphasizes cultural engagement and community involvement in tourism.

Projects in Bladensburg

- Coordinates investment in historical interpretation at Bladensburg Waterfront Park.
- Provides financial technical assistance for the historic Bostwick's best use.
- Markets the Anacostia watershed and trail system to broader audiences.

Notable Achievements

- Bladensburg Battlefield is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- A new National Park Service-funded report focuses on historical interpretation in the Bladensburg area.
- Financial support awarded to the initiative "This Could Go Boom."

Prince George's 250

- Offers genealogy resources and historic research.
- Organizes bike tours and community block parties to engage residents and visitors.

Meagan Baco is available to provide further insights if you have any questions or would like additional details.

Budgeted Item: Yes ☐ No ☐ NA ☒

Budgeted Amount:

One-Time Cost: NA

Ongoing Cost: NA

Continued Date:

Council Priority: Yes ☐ No ☐

Approved Date: