



## 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.

<b>Budgeted Item:</b> Yes [ ] No [ ] NA X <b>Budgeted Amount:</b> <b>One-Time Cost:</b> NA <b>Ongoing Cost:</b> NA	<b>Continued Date:</b>
<b>Council Priority:</b> Yes [ ] No [ ]	<b>Approved Date:</b>