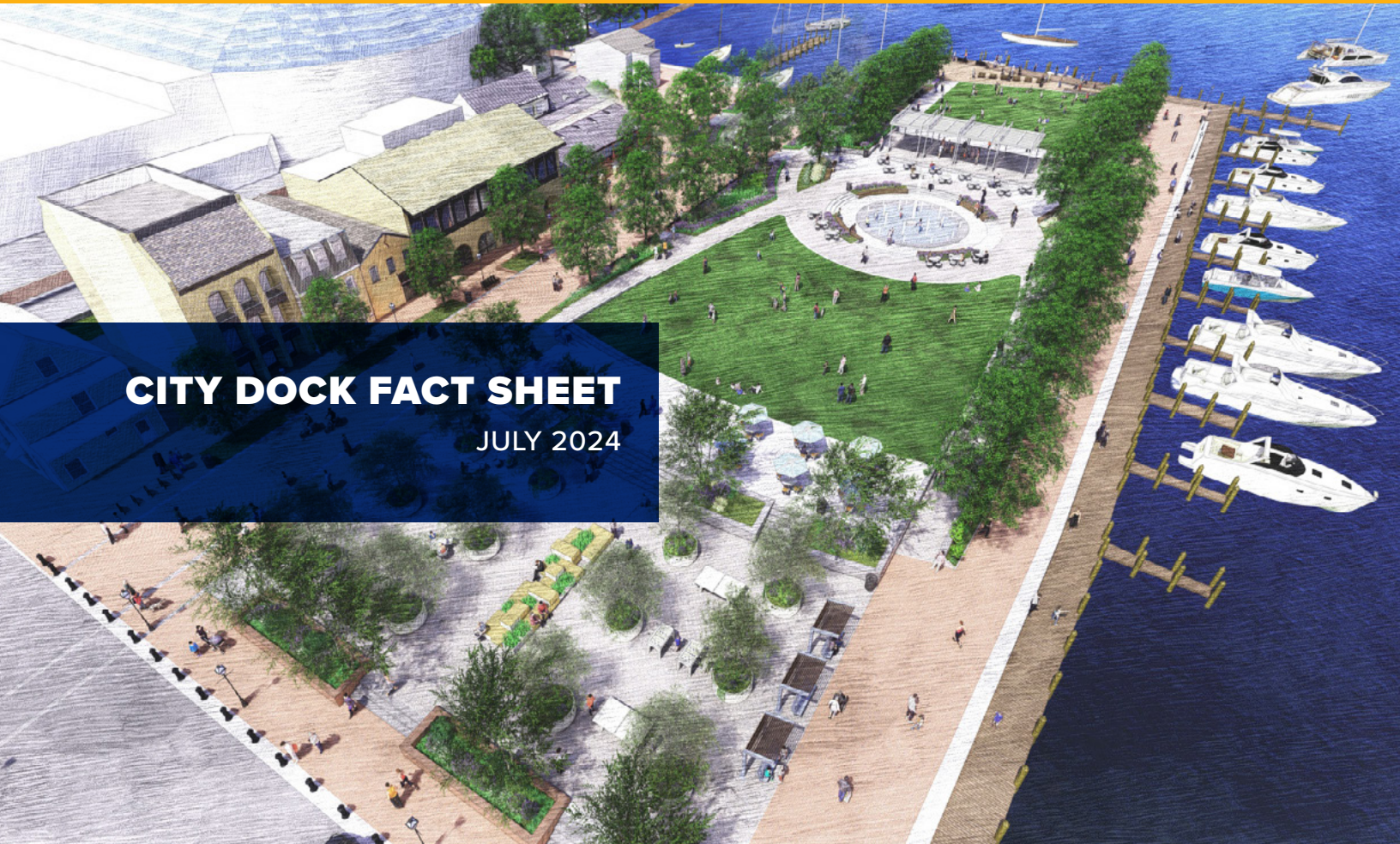


# CITY DOCK UPDATE

July 15, 2024



Dear City Dock Action Committee Members,

The City of Annapolis has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create a 'jewel of a park' on our waterfront while simultaneously protecting our downtown from flooding. Creating a world class public gathering space that addresses the urgent issue of rising waters is a win-win for everyone.

Because so many of you have shared your thoughts over the course of this project, plans have continued to evolve and improve. Thank you to everyone who attended our May 30 presentation at City Dock where we received more great feedback which is now being incorporated to further enhance this project.

The great news is that we remain on track to begin construction in late Fall (2024). Even better news is that - thanks to an innovative public-private partnership, the hard work of our grant writing team, and the support of our State and Federal partners – **more than 94 percent of the City Dock Park Resiliency Project and Welcome Center is funded.**

## City Dock Resiliency Project: Meeting the Urgent Challenge of Downtown Flooding

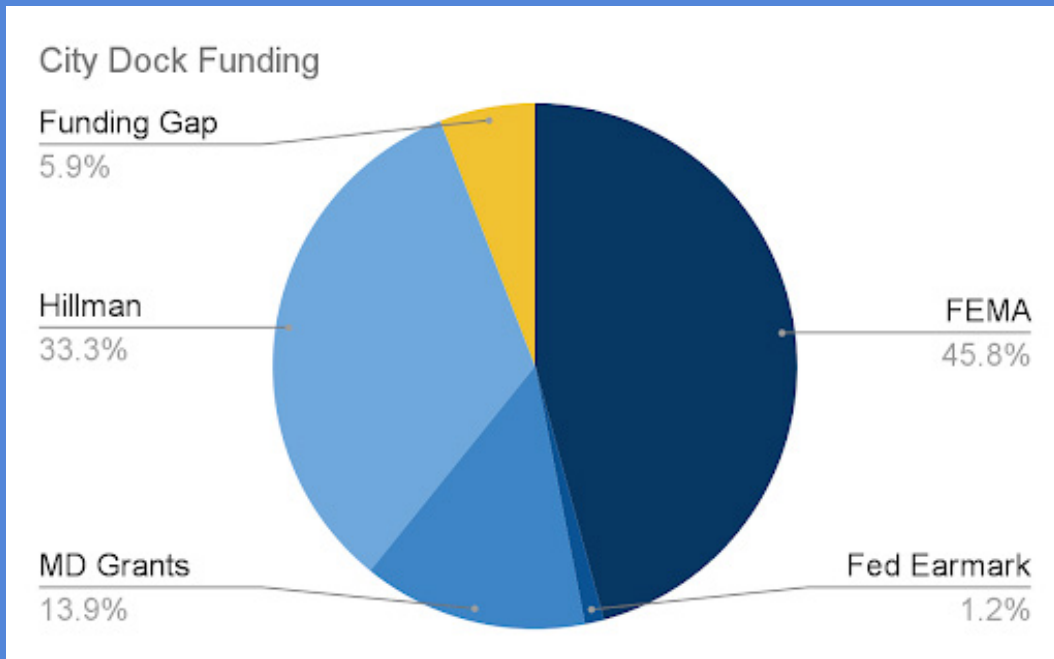
The concept for this nationally recognized resilience project is simple:

- Build the infrastructure to protect downtown businesses and residents from immediate threats of flooding with a raised, two acre park and deployable floodgates;
- Celebrate our rich and diverse history through a Cultural Legacy Walk;
- Create a smaller Harbormaster headquarters on the waterfront to offer the public direct access to the water while providing safety on our waterways;
- Restore and activate the historic Burtis House with new ADA accommodations (elevator, restrooms);
- Connect the Maritime Welcome Center and Burtis to a new and resilient Prince George St. Park; and,
- Fund this urgently needed resiliency project through innovative sources that do not further tap the city taxpayers.



*In this newsletter, we would like to share more of the facts about the City Dock Resiliency Project and the progress that is already underway to ensure that you have the most up-to-date information.*

# 1. HOW IS THE CITY DOCK RESILIENCY PROJECT BEING FUNDED?



City Dock project construction costs: \$72.1M\*

The City Dock Park Resiliency Project is currently 94.1 percent funded.

\$72,100,000 construction costs include:

- The costs of raising City Dock Park eight feet, installing flood barriers and gates, realigning storm drains on upper Dock Street and developing the Prince George St. Park; and,
- \$8.6M for the Maritime Welcome Center.

City Dock Project funding sources (\$68M):

- \$24M Concession Payment (Parking bonds generated from Hillman Garage reconstruction)
- \$33M FEMA Grant (MD Disaster Allocation 2020)
- \$850K + \$300K Congressional Earmarks (in addition to \$6.74M in Earmarks used for Compromise St.)
- \$10M Capital Grant from the State of Maryland

An additional \$3.46M in Congressional earmarked funding from DHS is pending review.

## Compromise Street

In addition to the work on the City Dock Resiliency Project, the City is simultaneously addressing flooding on the Compromise Street side of the Dock. For that project, \$16.2M of the anticipated \$18M construction cost has been secured (93 percent funded).

Most of the funding listed above is restricted for use to address resiliency in downtown.

*\*All figures are current as of July 1, 2024 and reflect current construction conditions*

# 2. SITE PLAN APPROVALS

In the Spring of 2024, the Annapolis Planning Commission and the Annapolis Historic Preservation Commission [video archive at [City of Annapolis YouTube](#)] undertook an extensive review of the site plan for the City Dock Resiliency Project. Both Commissions issued unanimous approvals.

On September 10, the Historic Preservation Commission will review the cultural legacy components of the project and will look at the design of the electrical pergolas (replacing the current brick “bird house” on Dock Street), event stage, and fountain. View the Historic Preservation Commission [\[Agenda Center\]](#).

**Status of Construction:** Construction on the park is set to begin after the Fall Annapolis Boat Show 2024.

### 3. CITY DOCK PARK FEATURES



**Resiliency and Flood Protection:** The elevated City Dock Park will greatly reduce future downtown flooding by removing the existing sea of black-top at City Dock and raising the ground level to an elevation of Eight (8) Feet above Sea Level. Other essential resiliency features include deployable (mechanical) flood gates and pop-up flood gates (buoyed by rising water levels). These elements will provide much-needed flood protection for downtown Annapolis from Gate Zero at the United States Naval Academy to Compromise Street (where additional flood protection measures will be installed).

In addition, the City is working with private waterfront property owners on the Compromise Street side to design and deploy flood protection measures that align with the City's resilience strategies. This approach will offer continuous protection for the downtown area.

**A Two Acre Park for Everyone:** The City Dock Park offers over two acres of active park space with sweeping views to the Severn River and Chesapeake Bay for the entire community to enjoy.

The park will feature benches, tables, swings, a shade pavilion, splash fountain, lighting and a lush public space to enjoy family activities from picnics to outdoor movie nights. A wide promenade along the waterfront will lead to a newly designed Susan Campbell Park. Much of the park infrastructure has been incorporated into the structures that will showcase Annapolis' cultural legacy, including a 'Legacy Walk' with interactive displays to honor our city's diverse history.

### 4. HARBORMASTER HEADQUARTERS & BURTIS HOUSE

**Waterfront Access and Safety:** The proposed Maritime Welcome Center/Harbormaster Headquarters will serve as a waterfront hub for residents and visitors alike while making historic Burtis House accessible to all. These headquarters will replace the current Annapolis Harbormaster building being demolished to make room for the City Dock resiliency project. The new Harbormaster Headquarters will be located directly on the waterfront in order to monitor all aspects of boating and marina activity while ensuring maritime safety on Annapolis' waterways.



**We Heard You! Maritime Welcome Center Redesigned:** Responding to a wide range of comments received during almost 100 community outreach meetings, the Maritime Welcome Center has been redesigned to reduce the building size while reorienting the building to directly engage the water. This smaller two-story structure, with a 2,278 SF footprint, will accommodate all the water-dependent functions and public space necessary for Harbormaster operations.

This newly designed space will be a place for everyone in our community to experience the water - especially residents who do not currently have this opportunity. There will be recreational opportunities, space to conduct boater safety and environmental education, as well as public bathrooms and boater facilities. A second floor balcony area will be open to the public to relax and enjoy the breathtaking views.



**Making Burtis House Accessible:** For the first time, the Burtis House will become a publicly accessible building. The Maritime Welcome Center will provide access to the Burtis House including an ADA compliant entrance, restrooms, and elevators. Both buildings will open onto the newly designed and flood-protected Prince George St. Park.

We particularly want to thank the CDAC Design Committee for their expertise and ongoing contributions which have greatly enriched the design for the Maritime Welcome Center with its connection to Burtis House

The cost for the Maritime Welcome Center/ Harbormaster building is \$8.6 million (*City funding: Concession payment from the rebuild of Hillman Garage*).



## 4. NEXT STEPS

*Join Us as We Move Forward!*

Thanks to your continued commitment and engagement, this community space is finally coming to fruition! Stay tuned for notifications about City Dock project meetings in September, including the September 10 Historic Preservation Commission hearing.



On behalf of Mayor Buckley, the Annapolis City Council, City Manager Mallinoff and Public Works Director Vogel, we would like to thank all of you for working together to create a town square meeting place that serves all locals, and where we can celebrate our shared experiences!

**Eileen Fogarty**, City Dock Project Coordinator

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