



# POTOMAC RIVER TUNNEL

DC Water's Clean Rivers Project

West Potomac Park

Fact Sheet

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Potomac River Tunnel is the next major phase of the DC Clean Rivers Project. The project consists of a large-diameter deep sewer tunnel, diversion facilities, drop shafts, and support structures to capture flows from existing combined sewer overflows (CSOs) along the Potomac River and convey them to the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project is needed to reduce CSOs that contribute to water quality impairment of the Potomac River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay; and to comply with the 2005 Federal Consent Decree entered by DC Water, the District of Columbia, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the US Department of Justice, as amended in January 2016.

CSOs are released into the Potomac River from CSO Outfalls during rainfalls that exceed the capacity of the system. CSOs impair water quality by increasing water bacteria levels, contributing to low dissolved oxygen impacting aquatic life, and increasing the amount of trash in waterways. An estimated 654 million gallons of CSOs currently enter the Potomac River in a year of average rainfall. The proposed controls are estimated to reduce the volume of CSOs to the Potomac River by 93% and reduce their frequency from approximately 74 events to 4 events in a year of average rainfall.

The Potomac River Tunnel Construction is anticipated to begin in Early 2024 and end in 2030.

## ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

### WEST POTOMAC PARK



#### CONSTRUCTION START

Early 2024

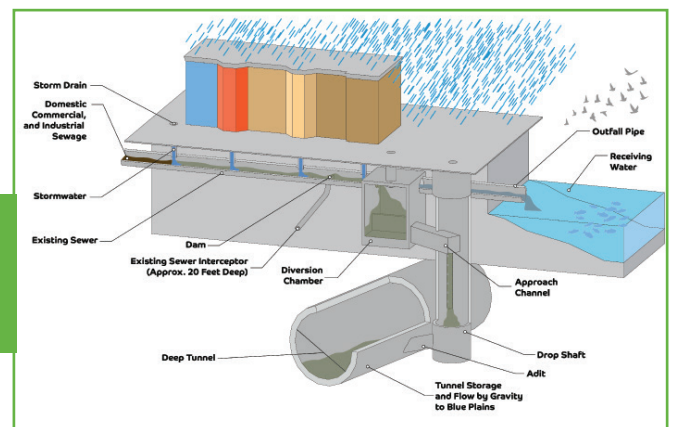


#### ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION

2030

## SITE OVERVIEW

This site is located along the bank of the Potomac River and across Ohio Drive SW at West Potomac Park Field #7. The West Potomac Park construction site will include the mining shaft where the Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) will be launched, staff offices and parking, and an emergency tunnel overflow structure.






## WEST POTOMAC PARK SITE LAYOUT

### SCOPE OF WORK

- Installation of construction staging and fencing
- Temporarily close Ohio Dr SW and construct temporary bypass road for Ohio Dr SW (After Cherry Blossom Festival)
- Tree removal and site clearing
- Construction of overflow structure
- Construction of 60' mining shaft, adits, diversions and other facilities
- Restoration and landscaping

### WORK HOURS

 7:00 am – 7:00 pm for surface activities

 Tunnel Boring Machine, Shaft and Tunnel work hours are 24/7

### PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Project Email:  
[dcpotomacrivertunnel@dcwater.com](mailto:dcpotomacrivertunnel@dcwater.com)

Project Website:  
[www.dewater.com/prt](http://www.dewater.com/prt)

Dedicated Project Hotline:  
 202-972-1388

DC Water 24-hour Emergency:  
 202-612-3400



### ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION PHASES



#### Phase 1

- Install fencing and staging area
- Protection of the force mains and trees
- Tree removal and site clearance
- Start relocated Ohio Dr construction and begin temporary Bridge construction
- Begin site grading, platforms and internal roadway construction



#### Phase 2

- Closure of Ohio Dr SW - (Closure to occur after Cherry Blossom Festival and temporary bypass road for Ohio Dr SW to be open within 4 months after closure)
- Conduct roadwork and traffic signalization
- Construction of sedimentation basins
- Construct Shafts support of excavation
- Construction of emergency overflow foundations
- Preparation for tunnel boring machine operations
- Hauling of materials



#### Phase 3

- Installation of project offices on site
- Tunnel Boring Machine assembly
- Installation of Water Treatment Plant
- Conduct tunneling activities
- Conveyors in place
- Begin structural work for shaft and near surface structure



#### Restoration Phase

- Site restoration and landscaping