



## About Building Bridges Across the River at THEARC

The 11th Street Bridge Park is a project of Building Bridges Across the River (BBAR) at THEARC. THEARC is home to ten of Washington, DC's best nonprofit agencies who work collaboratively under BBAR's leadership to provide cultural arts, social services, health care, recreation and educational programs. During 2011, THEARC provided more than \$11 million worth of programs and services to more than 80,000 students, clients and patrons.

## Expected Opening Date: 2022

The 11th Street Bridge Park will be roughly the same size as three football fields placed end-to-end.

Adjacent Neighborhoods: Capitol Hill, Navy Yard, Anacostia and Fairlawn

Population living within 2 miles of the Bridge Park: 76,000 residents

*Renderings copyright of OMA + OLIN*

## Cross the Bridge

The need is documented. The desire has been expressed. The community support is in place. We are now seeking philanthropic leaders to champion this exciting opportunity and inspire others with an innovative vision of community development that leverages DC's natural, cultural, and human resources to move this incredible project forward.

If you would like to lead transformational change in the nation's capital, please contact Scott Kratz, Director, 11th Street Bridge Park at [scott@bridgepark.org](mailto:scott@bridgepark.org) or by phone at (202) 889-5901.

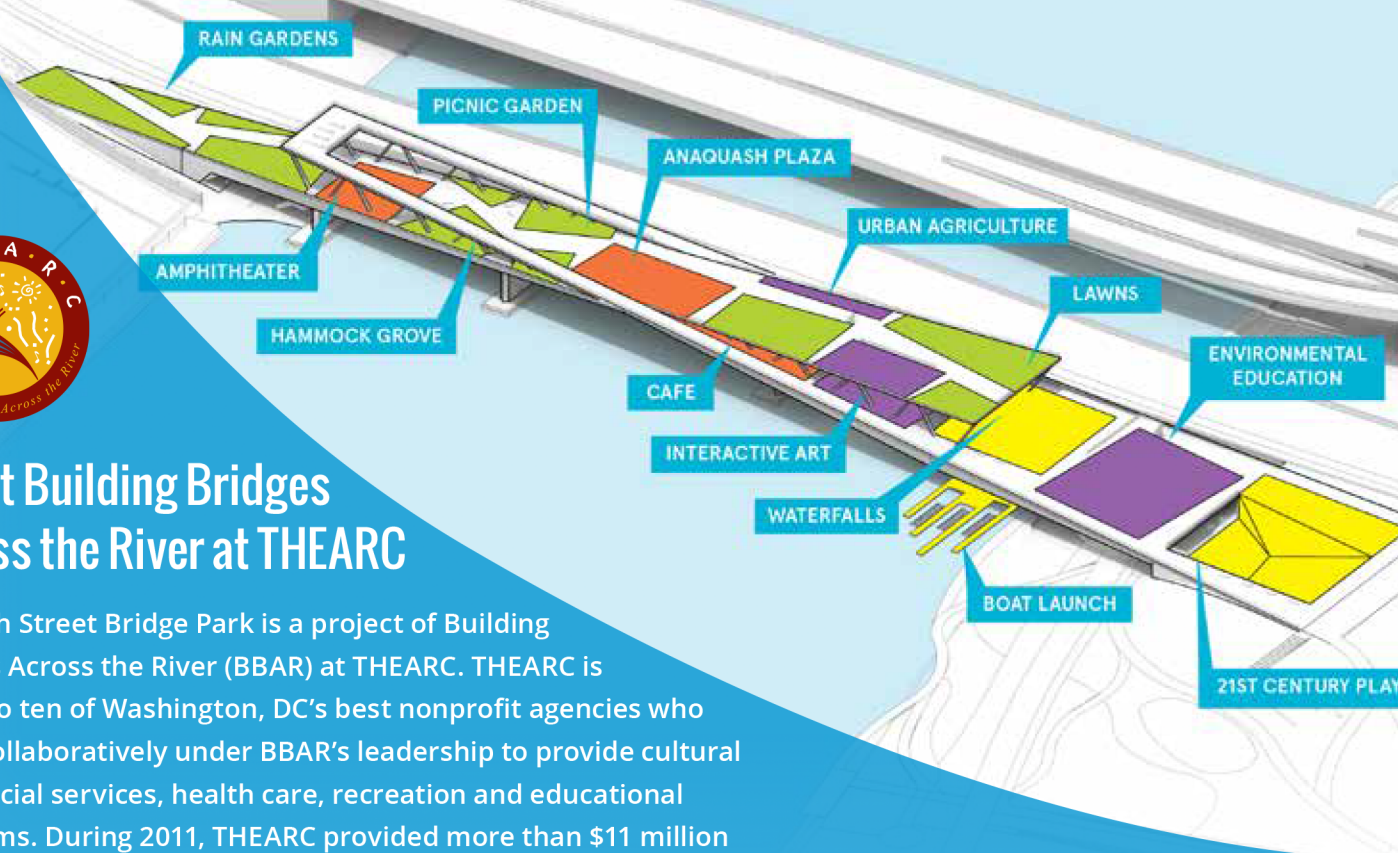
Help us build a bridge to tomorrow!

visit [www.bridgepark.org](http://www.bridgepark.org) for more information



The 11th Street Bridge Park will span the capital's cityscape - a soaring structure that will engage the local community and bring residents together from across the city.

Outdoor performance spaces. Playgrounds for all ages and abilities. Environmental education center inspiring the next generation of river stewards. Urban agriculture. Public art. Cafe. Kayak and paddle boat launches on the river below.



# Bridging DC





## A New Architectural Icon in the Nation's Capital

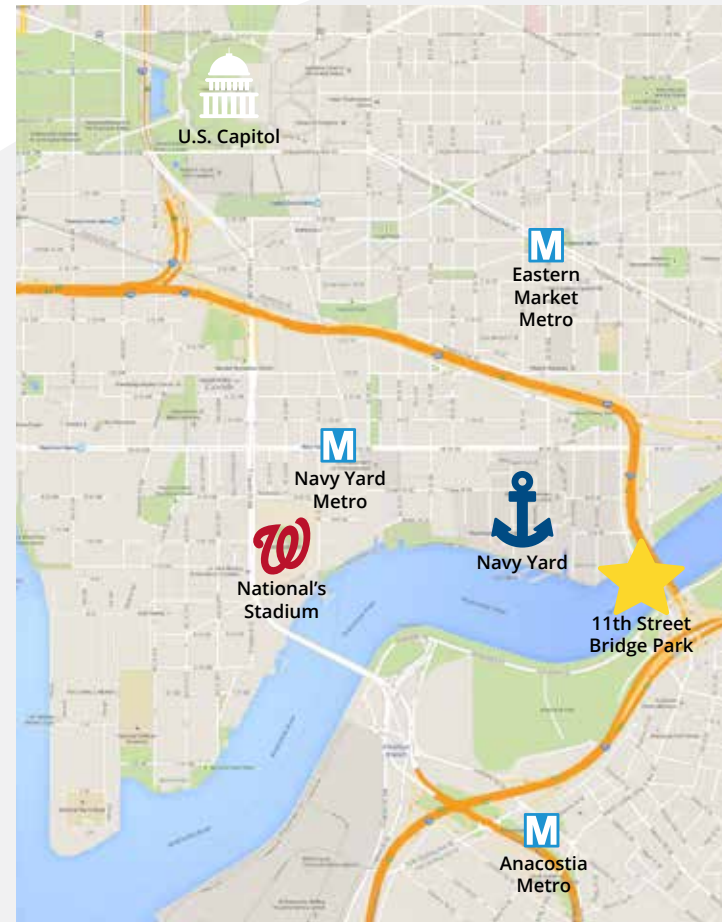
As the old 11th Street river bridges that connect Washington, DC's Capitol Hill and historic Anacostia neighborhoods are being replaced, the District government and a local nonprofit organization, Building Bridges Across the River at THEARC, will transform the aged infrastructure into the city's first elevated park: a new venue for healthy recreation, environmental education and the arts.

Bound by the Washington Navy Yard on one side and the National Park Service's Anacostia Park on the other, the Bridge Park will be a destination for some, a pedestrian or bicycle route for others linking to the existing network of riverwalk trails and, for the city, an iconic architectural symbol across the Anacostia River.

We are proposing to create a place unlike any other in Washington, DC – one that supports the community's physical, environmental, cultural and economic health.

**"I think the bridge is going to bring a lot of people together who normally don't cross paths."**

*-Tendani Mplubusi-El,  
Ward 8 artist and resident*



## The community wants the 11th Street Bridge Park!

Over 450 community meetings have been held since early 2012 – in large, government-sponsored public forums and smaller gatherings – and there has been an enthusiastic response from residents on both sides of the Anacostia River and throughout the region. Community inspired programming ideas such as an outdoor amphitheatre, environmental education center, kayak / canoe launches, intergenerational play space, urban agriculture, and public art installations have been incorporated into the design. This unique park will provide visitors of all ages the ability to interact with the river, nature, art, the rich history of surrounding neighborhoods, entertainment and each other.

## Creating an architectural icon

A nation-wide competition was launched in 2014 soliciting 11th Street Bridge Park designs from architects, landscape architects and structural engineers from across the country. After a seven month design competition, the design team of OMA+OLIN was unanimously selected in October 2014. OMA designer Jason Long stated, "We wanted the bridge to have a civic importance. It holds its own against very monumental elements within D.C.—but at the same time it's very approachable." National Public Radio described the design concept as an "inventive reuse of old infrastructure that could help to revitalize a long-underserved part of the city."

## Media Buzz

"The park would become a recreation area of national significance." – New York Times

"Cities around the nation have tried a variety of approaches to revitalizing their urban cores. Some have turned to repurposing old infrastructure to breathe new life into neighborhoods." – National Public Radio's "All Things Considered"

"The 11th Street Bridge Park is part of an increasing awareness among city leaders nationwide about the degree to which urban design affects health." – Washington Post

## The 11th Street Bridge Park has four goals:

### Bridging Communities

The Anacostia River has divided communities for generations. The 11th Street Bridge Park will be a place where both sides of the river can gather, have shared experiences and build social capital.

### Economy

Key economic indicators for the two neighborhoods reflect a longstanding and growing disparity across the capital region. By creating a regional destination, the Bridge Park can become a magnet for new businesses on both sides of the Anacostia River.

### Environment

Like many urban watersheds, the Anacostia River has long been ignored. The District of Columbia is working to clean it, but to get people to care about the Anacostia River we first need to get them down to water.

### Health

The communities along the Anacostia River have the highest rates of adult obesity in the nation's capital. Studies tell us that neighborhood parks increase residents' weekly physical activity and support a healthy community.