

District Waterways Advisory Commission

Wednesday, September 16, 2026



AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Commission Logistics
3. Strategy Development Kickoff
4. Decision Matrix
5. Working Group Breakouts
6. Next Steps
7. Adjourn



Commission Logistics



Strategy Development Kickoff



Advisory Plan Development Process

We are shifting from the discovery process to strategy development phase.



Strategy Development Kickoff

We have incorporated Commissioner feedback to finalize the goals for each topic area and have developed draft strategies for each goal.

Vision

Three Goals Per Topic Area

We Are Here



Three Strategies Per Goal

Implementation Roadmap

Advisory Plan

Developing Preliminary Strategies

The Advisory Plan will provide the District with a clear, coordinated roadmap to guide waterways and waterfront uses, planning, and development.

INPUTS



Existing conditions analysis



17 engagement events
(surveys, workshops,
roadshows, and focus
groups)



Advisory Commission
engagement



Web-based input form
and email



Goals development

OUTPUT

Draft strategies that support:

- Orderly, safe, and efficient boating and recreation
- Public/private uses of property and infrastructure
- Interagency and regional coordination
- Environmental conservation and management
- Coordinated economic growth
- Safety and security
- Transportation
- Opportunities to increase local control

Stakeholder and Public Input

Additionally, we will collect stakeholder input throughout the process to shape the direction of the Advisory Plan.

INPUTS



17 engagement events
(surveys, workshops,
roadshows, and focus
groups)



Web-based input form
and email



Commission meeting
attendance

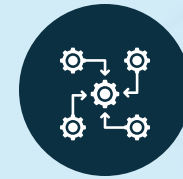


Draft plan public
comment period



2 public meetings on
Draft Advisory Plan

OUTPUT



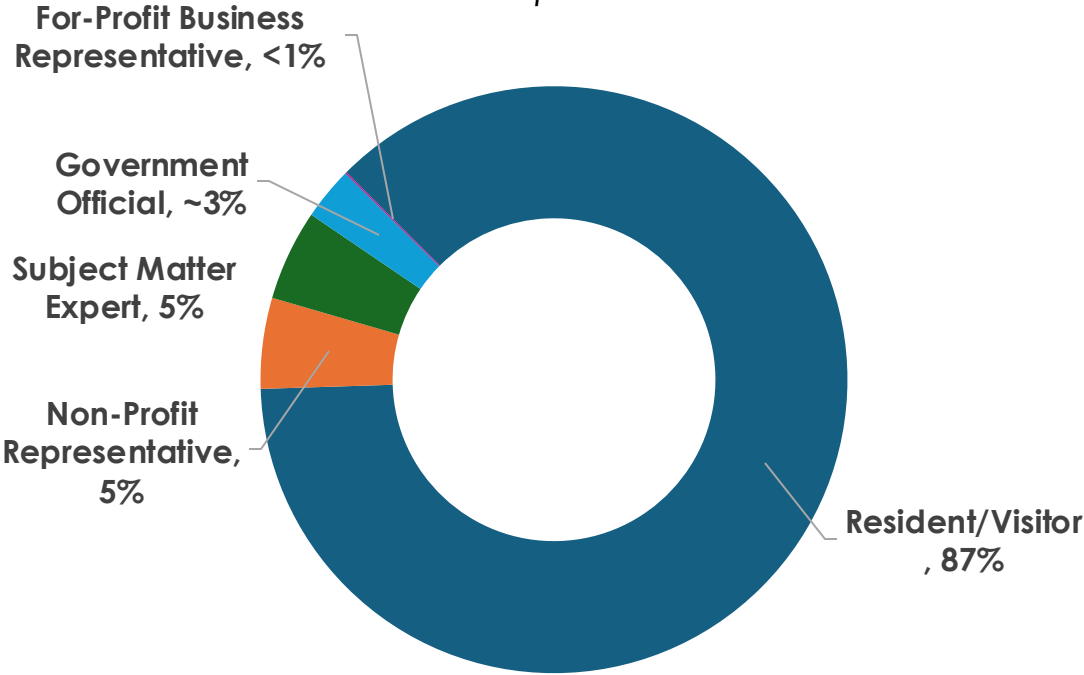
Public Engagement and Commission Meetings

- Highlights from relevant input received to date shared in Commissioner's pre-read materials
- Option for attendance
- Web-based input form and odwm@dc.gov promoted during meetings
- Written or oral public comment, as time allows

Public Survey Responses

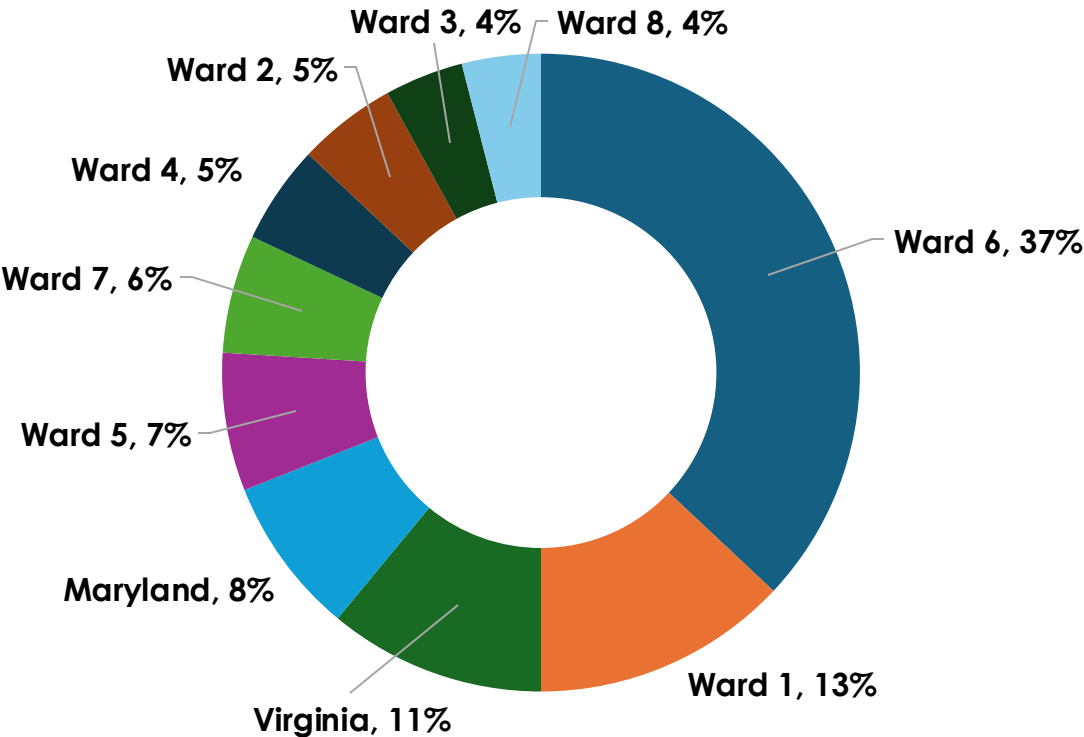
Respondents by Role (One Response Allowed)

229 Respondents



Respondents by Residence

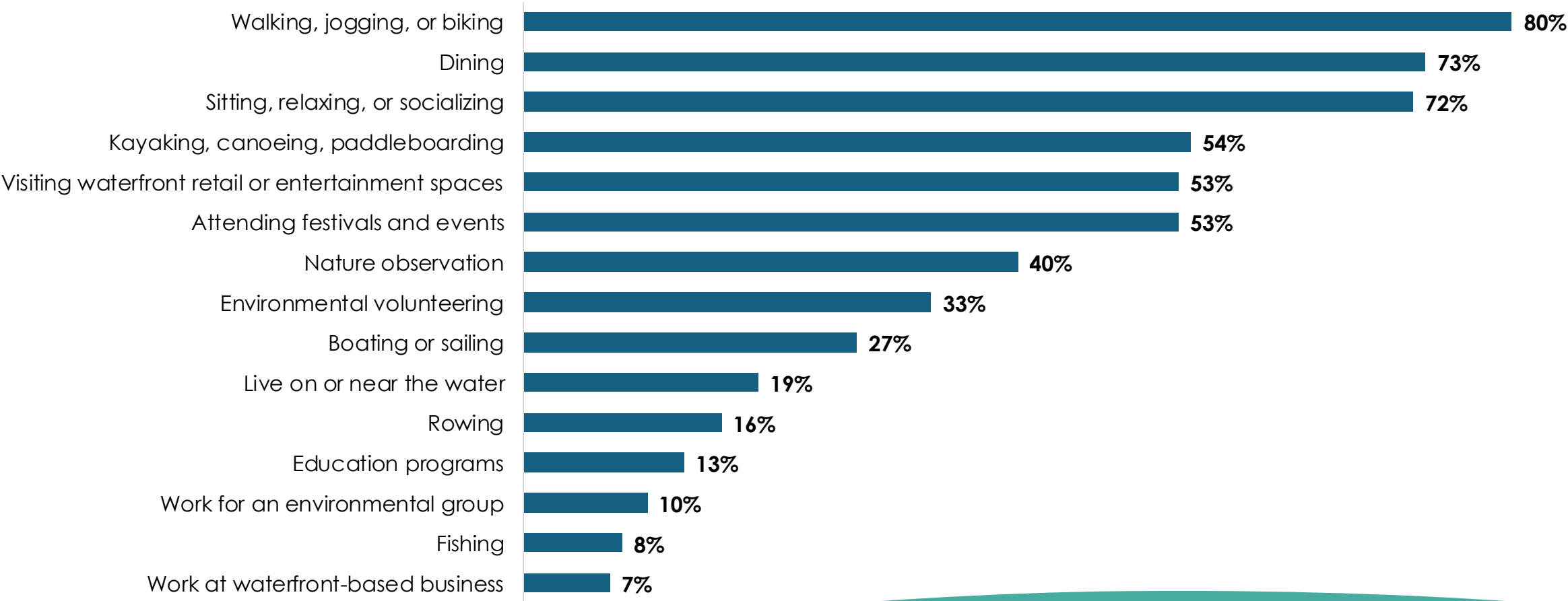
219 Respondents



Public Survey Responses

How Respondents Interact with the Waterways (Multiple Selections Allowed)

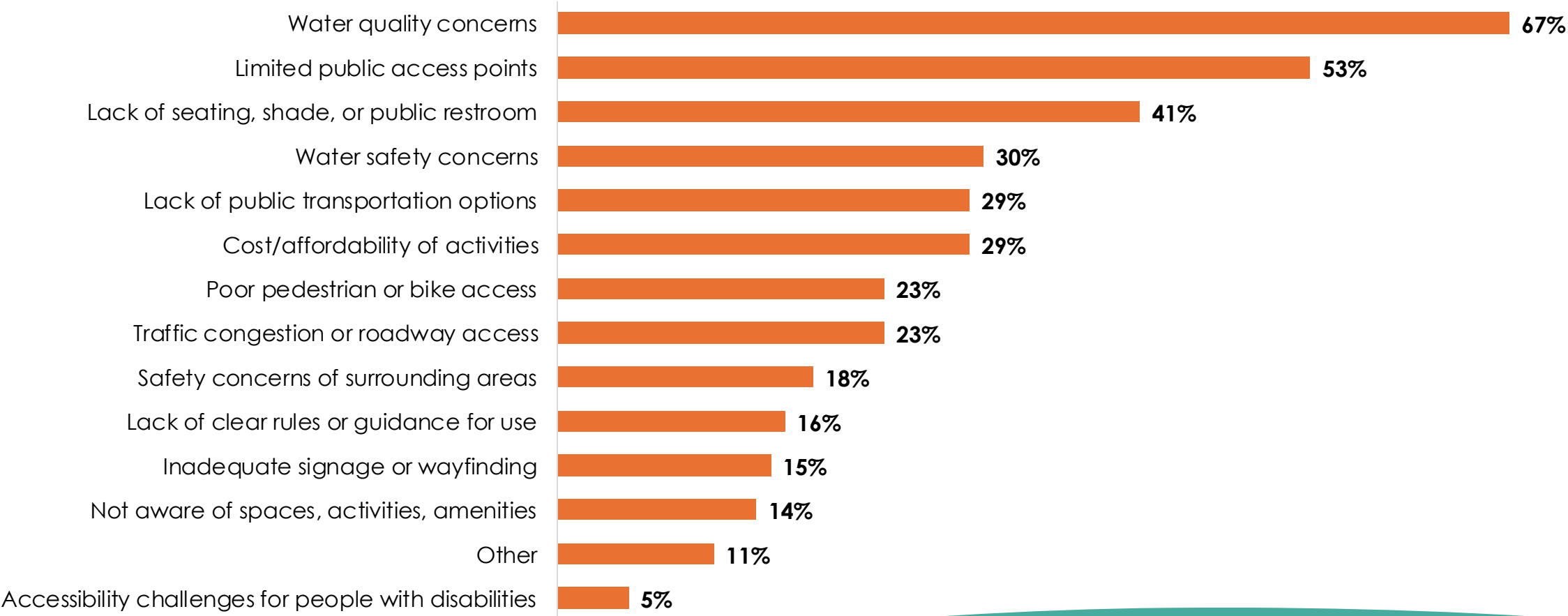
210 respondents



Public Survey Responses

Barriers to Accessing or Using the Waterways (Multiple Selections Allowed)

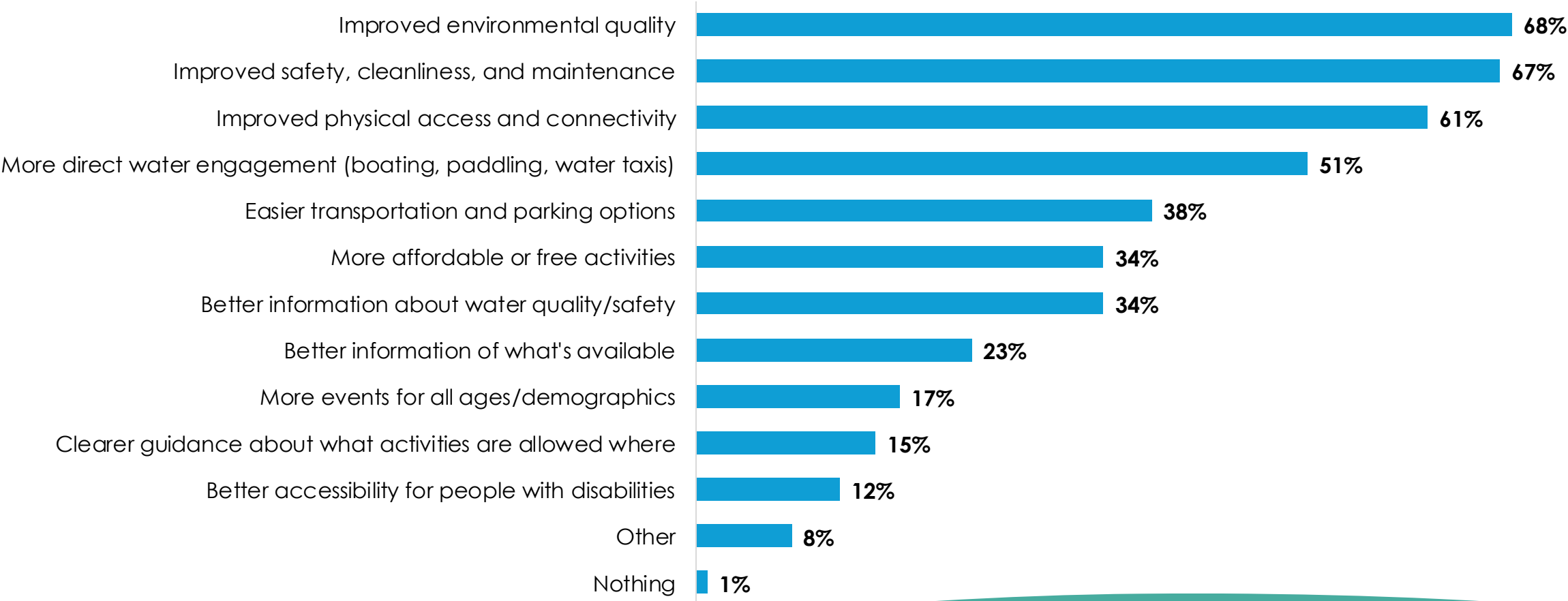
181 respondents



Public Survey Responses

Changes That Would Encourage More Frequent Use (Multiple Selections Allowed)

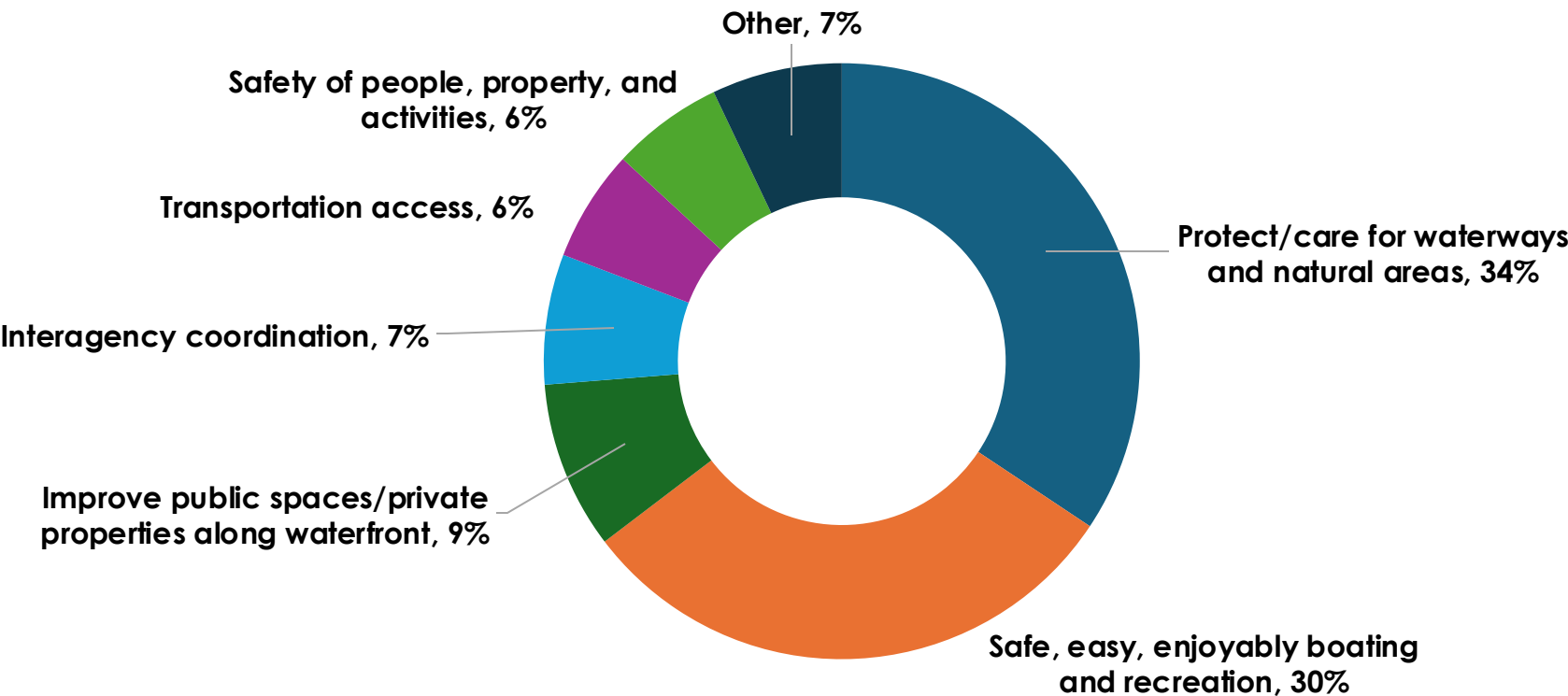
181 respondents



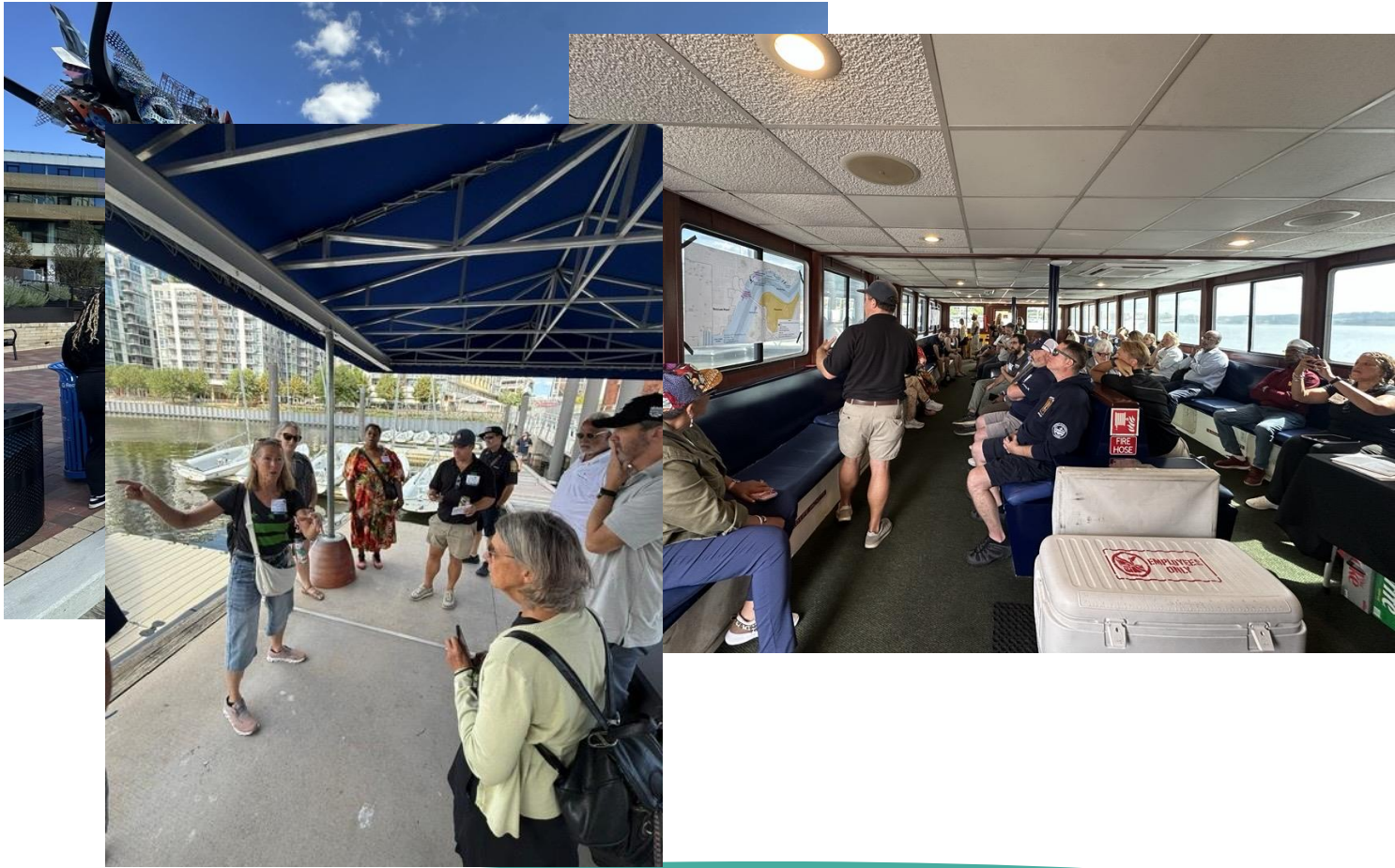
Public Survey Responses

Top Priority the District Should Pursue (only one selection allowed)

201 Respondents



Walk and Talks



Decision Matrix



Decision Matrix Role

The purpose of the decision matrix is to help Commissioners assess the feasibility and impact of each strategy. It will allow Commissioners to prioritize based on scoring.

Sept 2026 <i>Commission/WGs</i>	Oct 2026 <i>Working Groups</i>	Nov 2026 <i>Working Groups</i>	Dec 2026 <i>Working Groups</i>	Jan 2027 <i>Commission</i>
• Full Commission: Decision Matrix, Initial Strategies • Working group meeting #1 • APA NCR	• Working group meeting #1	• Working group meeting #2	• Working group meeting #2	• Full Commission: Implementation Analysis & Updated Goals and Strategies (mid-late month) • Plan outline

Apply
Decision Matrix

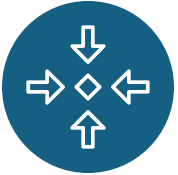


Decision Matrix Criteria

The decision matrix will help prioritize the strategies based on four criteria:



Level of Impact on Goals: How significant of an **impact** will this strategy have on meeting goal(s) of the Advisory Plan? Will the impact be **durable** or **short-lived**? Will impact happen **quickly** or **over time**?



Authority and Motivation: What is necessary to **implement** this strategy? Do the relevant actors have the **authority/jurisdiction** needed? Are the necessary lead actors and collaborators **willing** to take action? Is there **opposition** that will threaten ability to execute?



Cost: What **financial resources** are required to implement this strategy? What are the **upfront** costs (operating and capital)? Does this strategy incur **ongoing** costs? Is there a **cost of inaction** or costs that would be mitigated if this strategy is pursued?



Ability to Operate and Maintain: Is there sufficient **capacity to sustain** this strategy over time? Is there an **identified owner** or responsible entity for ongoing operations and maintenance? Is **funding** available to sustain it long-term?

Decision Matrix Criteria

Feasibility				
Variables		Low Score	Medium Score	High Score
Level of Impact on Goals		Marginal or indirect contribution to the broader goal; effects are short-lived	Somewhat advances one or more goals; durability of impact is uncertain	Effects are durable and structural rather than temporary
Authority and Motivation		Authority is unclear or contested; authorizing entity is unwilling to act.	Requires coordination across two or more actors/jurisdictions; willingness to act is uncertain.	Clear jurisdiction and resources; willingness to act; little to no organized opposition.
Cost		Moderate to high upfront costs with ongoing financial commitment	Low-moderate upfront costs with no or low ongoing financial commitment	Low upfront capital and no recurring financial obligation
Ability to Operate and Maintain		No clear responsible entity for long-term O&M	An owner is identified but O&M capacity is uncertain	Demonstrated institutional capacity to sustain the strategy long-term

Decision Matrix Scoring & Process

There are two scoring options to help prioritize strategies:

Directional Scoring

Assigning a qualitative ranking on for each scored variable

Authority and Mobilization	Level of Impact	Cost	Ability to Operate and Maintain
Low	High	Medium	Low

Point Scoring

Assigning a numeric value for each variable (and potentially weighting variables)

Authority and Mobilization	Level of Impact	Cost	Ability to Operate and Maintain
1	3	2	1

Using the scoring and group discretion, the Commission will **identify the priority strategies**

Draft Decision Matrix – Example Scoring

Least favorable    Most favorable

Topic Area Name	Authority and Mobilization	Level of Impact	Cost	Ability to Operate and Maintain
Goal 1				
Strategy 1	1	3	2	1
Strategy 2	3	1	1	1
Strategy 3	2	3	3	3
Goal 2				
Strategy 1	1	1	1	1
Strategy 2	2	1	3	2
Strategy 3	3	2	2	3
Goal 3				
Strategy 1	2	3	1	2
Strategy 2	3	2	1	1
Strategy 3	3	3	3	3

Working Group Breakouts



Commission Working Group Topics | Overview

**Safety on the Waterways:
Regulations & Enforcement**

Ferry & Transportation Gaps

Boating & Recreation

Infrastructure & Recreation

Environmental Conservation

**Waterways Management and
Governance**

Commission Working Groups

Why Do This

- Tap the expertise of commissioners to develop well informed recommendations
- Accelerate advisory plan development (goals and strategies)

The Charge

- Refine strategies related to topics that comprise the Advisory Plan
- Assess implementation feasibility of the strategies
- Recommend at least three priority strategies

Structure

- 4-8 commissioners in each working group
- Meet twice (virtually) between September-December
- Supported by HR&A consultant team or DOEE staff

Activity

PROMPT:

- What strategies should be added? Which should be removed?

Instructions:

1. Organize into your working groups. Be read for individual reflection and working group discussion (30 min)
2. Walk around to other working groups and provide input on the preliminary strategies (20 minutes)
3. Report out (20 minutes)



Image Credit: Greg Kullman

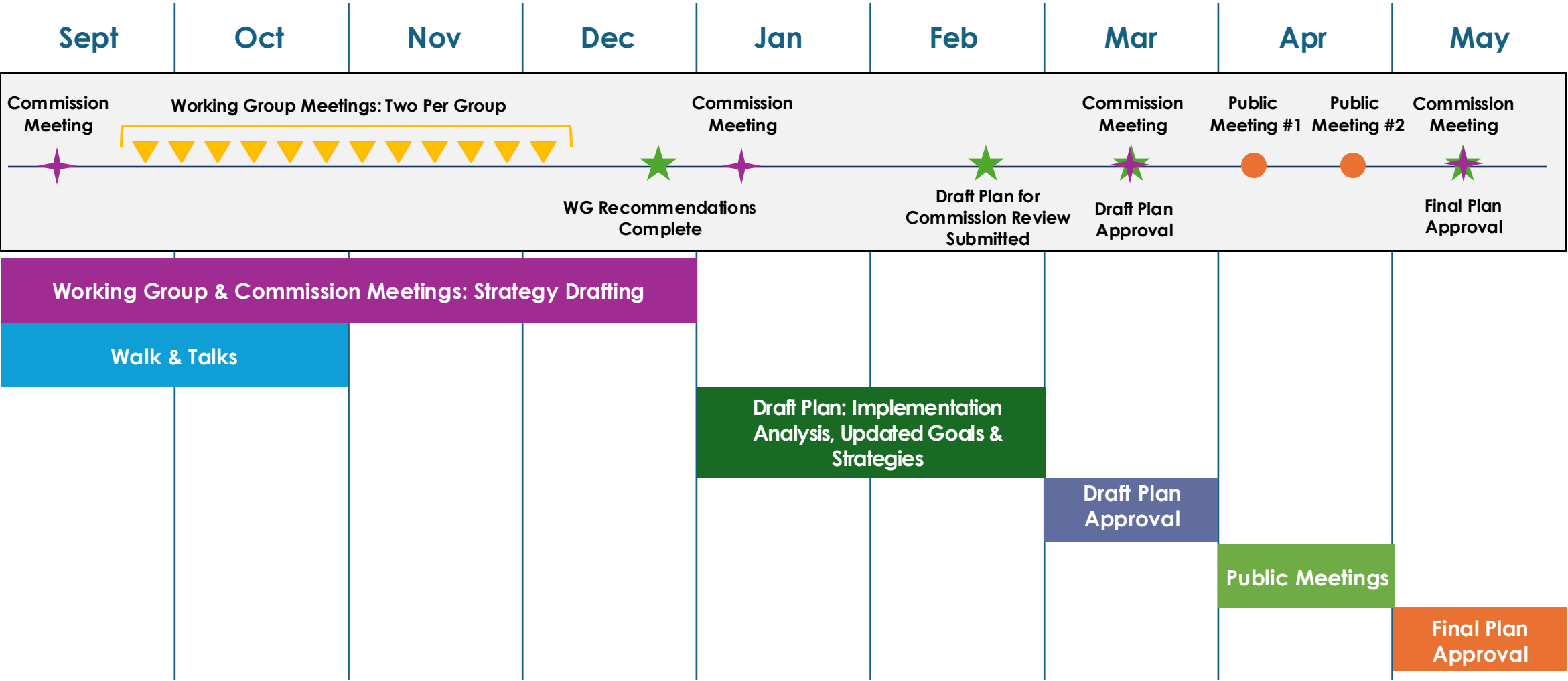
Working Group Assignments

Safety on the Waterways: Regulations and Enforcement	• Michael Puglisi • Diane Groomes • CJ Isbell • Darryl Madden	• Andrew Horros • Kate Newkirk • Doug Bullock
Infrastructure & Recreation	• Riley Piva • Hootan Kaboli • Ebony Payne	• Kristina Noell • Gilles Stucker • Robin McKinney
Waterways Management and Governance	• Tom Skinner • Melissa Bird • Rachel Clark	• Danielle Gurkin • Jason Kopp
Environmental Conservation and Management	• Patrick Campbell • Trey Sherard	• Matt Ries • Alexandra Lampson
Boating and Recreation	• Gretchen Mikeska • Jorge Galindo • Tim Johnson	• Eric Lindheimer • Charles Lindsay
Ferry and Transportation Gaps	• Diane Sullivan • Ryan Washington • Ted Jutras • Nate Handy	• Kirti Rajpurohit • Col. Newson • Capt. Garrett Houston

Next Steps



Schedule



Next Steps

1. Look out for working group pre-read assignments
2. Review pre-read materials ahead of first working group meeting
3. Next full Commission meeting: January 2027



Working Group Schedule

Safety on the Waterways: Regulations and Enforcement

Oct 16: 1pm -2:30pm

Nov 19: 1pm - 2:30 pm

Infrastructure & Recreation

Oct 23: 1pm - 2:30pm

Nov 17: 2:30 pm - 4pm

Waterways Management and Governance

Oct 20: 10:30am - 12 pm

Dec 3: 1:30 pm - 3 pm

Environmental Conservation and Management

Oct 13: 12:30pm - 2pm

Nov 10: 12:30pm - 2pm

Boating and Recreation

Sept 22: 11am - 12:30pm

Nov 4: 11 - 12:30pm

Ferry and Transportation Gaps

Oct 8: 1:00 - 2:30pm

Nov 12: 1 pm - 2:30pm

Adjourn



District Waterways Advisory Commission

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

