

The Committee of 100

on the Federal City



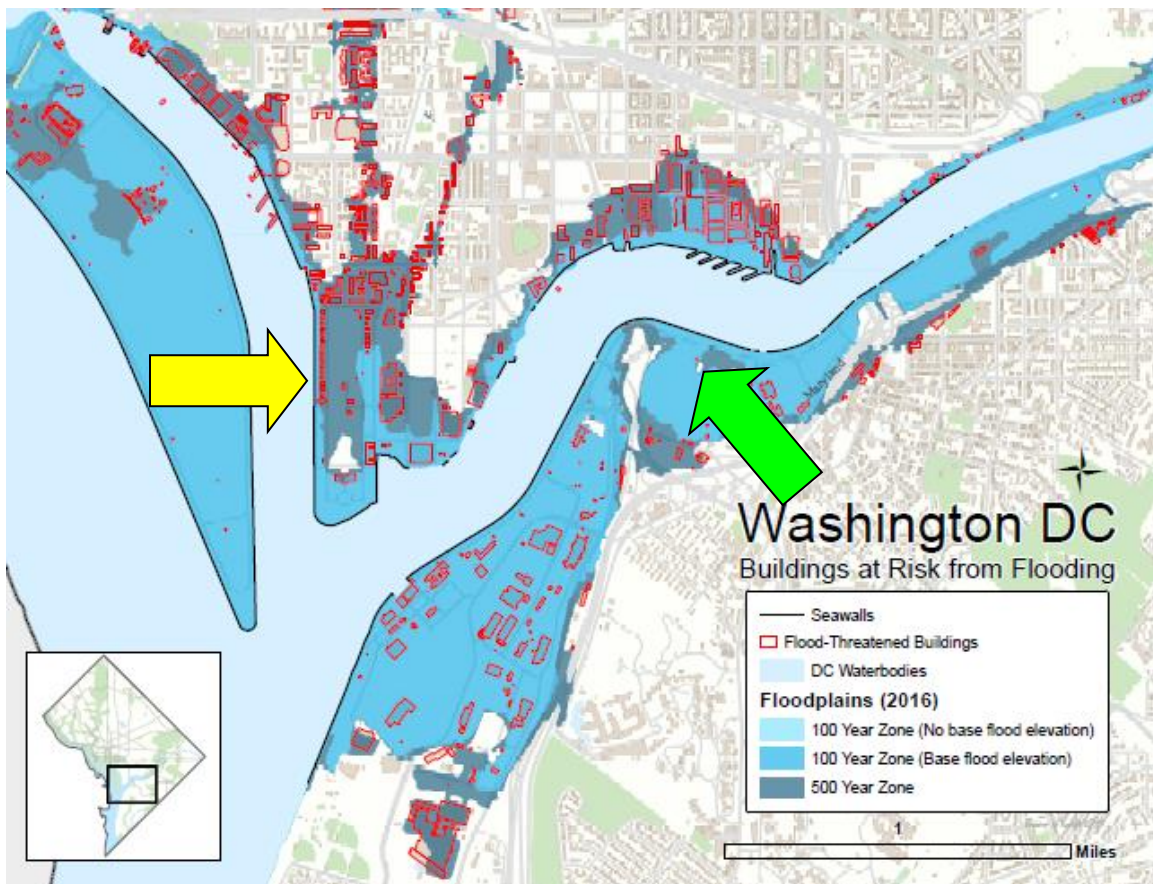
Executive Summary - Building in DC's Flood Plains

Big new developments are planned in the city and many of them will be in flood plains. We need to know:

- 1) exactly where the flood plains are, and
- 2) if and how buildings in flood plains can be protected, and what are the best flood plain land uses.

For example, multiple new buildings are planned for Buzzard Point. (Audi Field is outside the flood plains.) Federal legislation authorizes District government to obtain title to Poplar Point. Buzzard Point and Poplar Point almost entirely within the 100-year and 500-year flood plains.

Flood plains (2016) in medium blue (100-year flood plain) and dark blue (500-year flood plain). The yellow arrow shows Buzzard Point, and the green arrow shows Poplar Point.



1) Locating exactly where the flood plains are.

FEMA's data show the flood plains as shown on the map above. So that planners can readily locate the flood plains, the 100-year and 500-year flood plains should appear on the Generalized Policy Map and the Future Land Use Map.

2) If and how buildings in flood plains can be protected, and what are the best flood plain land uses.

- Option 1: Build a wall/berm along certain sections of the Anacostia River and place new development behind the berm.
- Option 2: Raise flood-prone areas elevation to be above the 500-year level.
- Option 3: Require land uses in flood plains that can easily survive flooding.
- Option 4: Build all structures in the flood plain using flood-resistant materials and designs. Option 4 must be required, not optional.