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Contact: Katie Liming (NPS), <u>Katelyn_liming@nps.gov</u>, 202-619-7156

Lauren Boston (Georgetown Heritage), press@georgetownheritage.org, 202-298-9222 x215

C&O Canal wall stabilization begins in Georgetown

WASHINGTON — The National Park Service (NPS) and Georgetown Heritage have begun work to stabilize a Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (C&O Canal) canal wall near Grace St. and Wisconsin Ave. in Georgetown.

The work to stabilize the canal wall is necessary to both preserve the wall and allow for the future operation of a canal boat in Georgetown. The new boat is currently under construction and is set to arrive in Georgetown following the completion of the wall stabilization. The south side canal wall just west of Wisconsin Avenue will be stabilized with an interim steel structure until a permanent repair is completed in the future. Construction activities are anticipated to continue through spring 2021.

This project is part of a multi-year effort to preserve and restore the C&O Canal in Georgetown. The <u>Georgetown Canal Plan</u> was recently approved by the NPS and prepared in partnership with Georgetown Heritage with support from the District of Columbia and the Georgetown Business Improvement District. Over the next few years, Georgetown Heritage will be launching a capital campaign to raise the funds for the implementation of the Georgetown Canal Plan, as well as an endowment fund to ensure the park is well maintained for many generations to come. The plan includes improvements beyond deferred maintenance, including increased accessibility, educational programs, landscaping, safety features and other projects that enhance the experience for park visitors and neighbors along the first mile of the canal.

For more information about Georgetown Heritage and the NPS' shared vision to restore and revitalize the first mile of the canal, visit <u>www.georgetownheritage.org.</u>

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About the C&O Canal: The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park preserves and interprets the historical, natural and recreational resources of the C&O Canal. Over 5 million

visitors a year enjoy the opportunities for recreation and understanding that the park has to offer. For more information, visit the park's website at <u>www.nps.gov/choh</u>.

About Georgetown Heritage: Georgetown Heritage is the nonprofit partner of the C&O Canal NHP in Georgetown, and was created by community leaders to partner with the National Park Service to restore, revitalize and reimagine the first mile of the C&O Canal NHP and other National Park assets in Georgetown. Learn more at <u>www.georgetownheritage.org</u>.