

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Sherri Cunningham

[scunningham@nomabid.org](mailto:scunningham@nomabid.org)

202-440-0954



### **NOMA PARKS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES “SWAMPOODLE TERRACE” AS NAME SELECTED BY COMMUNITY FOR NEW PARK AT NORTHWEST CORNER OF 3<sup>RD</sup> & L STREETS NE**

*Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen to introduce legislation to make Swampoodle Terrace the official name. Construction is currently underway.*

**March 14, 2022 (Washington, DC)** — After seeking community input on what should be the permanent name for the new park coming to the northwest corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> & L Streets NE in NoMa and then putting the top three naming options to a public vote, the NoMa Parks Foundation (NPF) announced today that the winning name is “Swampoodle Terrace.”

Nearly 900 votes were cast online during the six-week community naming process which included the community suggestion round and the community voting round. “Swampoodle Terrace” received the most votes, surpassing the other two options by a more than 20% margin.

“The community’s choice of ‘Swampoodle Terrace’ is completely fitting for our new park. The park’s design repeats many elements of its companion, Swampoodle Park, but it also includes a beautiful, terraced garden”, said Sandy Wilkes, Board Chair of the NoMa Parks Foundation. “We thank the community for its tremendous enthusiasm and active engagement in the naming process, and we want to extend our deep appreciation to Mayor Bowser and our DC government partners for their continuing support of the NoMa Parks initiative.”

The land for Swampoodle Terrace was purchased on behalf of the District and developed by NPF using grant funds provided by the city. Like other parks built by NPF, Swampoodle Terrace is owned by the District and is part of the inventory of public spaces managed by the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).

“We thank the NoMa Parks Foundation for leading this community naming process and delivering another park for the benefit of all DC residents,” says Delano Hunter, DPR Director. “Improving community well-being by increasing access to public green spaces has been a high priority for Mayor Bowser since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. Swampoodle Terrace will provide a great place for community members to gather and enjoy time outdoors with neighbors.”

Now that the community voting process is complete, Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen will introduce legislation to officially recognize the name “Swampoodle Terrace”.

“I’m thrilled to welcome this much-needed park to NoMa and Ward 6 and thank all of the Ward 6 neighbors who took time to suggest names and vote,” said Councilmember Charles Allen. “I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Council and Mayor Bowser to get formal approval of this fitting new name and to the opening of Swampoodle Terrace this fall.”

NPF first focused on acquiring the 5,800 square foot parcel at the northwest corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and L streets NE immediately after acquiring the site for Swampoodle Park at the southwest corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and L streets NE. It wasn't until 2020 that Douglas Development became willing to sell the property. The acquisition was the fourth such land acquisition by the NPF. This and other projects of NPF are the product of the public-private partnership established in 2014 between NPF and the District government to identify opportunities, acquire land, design, and create parks for the formerly park- deficient NoMa neighborhood.

Swampoodle Terrace is being designed by District landscape architecture firm Lee and Associates. With construction currently underway, Swampoodle Terrace is expected to be open to the public in late 2022. NPF will share updates on Swampoodle Terrace construction and opportunities for continuing community involvement with NoMa parks at [www.nomaparks.org](http://www.nomaparks.org).

For more information about the NoMa Parks Foundation, visit [nomaparks.org](http://nomaparks.org) and sign up for our newsletter. Follow the NoMa Parks Foundation on Twitter ([@NoMaParksDC](https://twitter.com/NoMaParksDC)) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nomaparks).

\* \* \*

#### **About NoMa Parks**

The NoMa Parks Foundation, an affiliate of the NoMa Business Improvement District (BID), was founded in 2012 to establish permanent, public outdoor spaces in NoMa that are attractive, sustainable, and welcoming places for people to refresh, play, and connect, now and for generations to come. The rapid transformation of this part of Washington, DC, just blocks north of the US Capitol, into a mixed-use, urban neighborhood has highlighted the importance of creating great public spaces. Because the area suffered from a dearth of publicly accessible parks and plazas, the NoMa Parks Foundation and the District Government began their public-private partnership in 2014 to create parks and great public spaces in NoMa.

Over the last 10 years, the NoMa Parks Foundation has delivered four parks – Alethia Tanner Park (March 2020); Lightweave Underpass Art Park (2019); Rain Underpass Art Park (2018); and Swampoodle Park (2018). Additionally, the NoMa Parks Foundation has: partnered with the District Government to design three new parks at the intersection of New York and Florida Avenues NE (“Virtual Circle”); worked with developers to assure the availability of publicly accessible private spaces like the NoMa Meander; and established public space design guidelines to assure that private owners provide park-like public spaces when developing new projects in NoMa. For more information about the NoMa Parks Foundation, visit [nomaparks.org](http://nomaparks.org) and sign up for our newsletter. Follow us on Twitter ([@NoMaParksDC](https://twitter.com/NoMaParksDC)) and like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nomaparks).

#### **About the NoMa BID**

The NoMa Business Improvement District (BID) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to be a steward and champion of the neighborhood of NoMa. The NoMa BID encompasses 35 blocks just north of Union Station in Northeast Washington, DC. The NoMa BID is among the fastest-growing neighborhoods in Washington, DC, and is comprised of more than 16 million square feet of new development, with more than 30 million additional square feet of mixed used development planned. There are more than 42,000 households within a ½ mile radius of the BID, who are served by the amenities in the commercial core of NoMa. The area is supported by unparalleled public transportation access with two Red Line Metro stations, and VRE, MARC and Amtrak connections at Union Station. The “Walkscore” for the neighborhood is 92, and the neighborhood has 22 LEED-certified and Energy Star buildings. For more information, visit [nomabid.org](http://nomabid.org) and [sign up for our newsletter](#). Follow us on Twitter ([@NoMaBID](https://twitter.com/NoMaBID)), Instagram ([@noma.bid](https://www.instagram.com/noma.bid)) and LinkedIn ([/noma-business-improvement-district](https://www.linkedin.com/company/noma-business-improvement-district)) and like us on Facebook ([/NoMaBID](https://www.facebook.com/NoMaBID)).